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Man Sentenced For Stealing Old Flag

PIERRE (AP) — A former employee in South Dakota's secretary of state's office has pleaded guilty to stealing a centuryold state flag and been given a suspended jail sentence.

Attorney General Marty Jackley says 26-year-old Garrett Devries pleaded guilty to misdemeanor theft and was sentenced to 30 days in jail, with all of the time suspended if he stays out of trouble for a year. Devries also must publicly apologize, pay court costs and \$1,500 toward upkeep of the flag.

The flag that dates to Deadwood's Old West days had been displayed on a stand inside the secretary of state's office through numerous administrations.

Officials noticed it was missing earlier this year. Investigators recovered it Oct. 8 in Washington, D.C., where Devries has been working for a Republican research company.

Man Gets More Than 100 Years In Jail

HASTINGS, Neb. (AP) — A southern Nebraska man has again been sentenced to more than 100 years in prison for killing his 2-year-old grandson.

Fifty-one-year-old Peter Draper was sentenced Monday morning in Adams County District Court. He was given 60 years for intentional child abuse resulting in death and 49-50 years for intentional child abuse resulting in serious injury. Judge Stephen Illingworth ordered that the sentences be served consecutively. Illingworth meted out the same sentences after Draper's first trial.

The state Supreme Court in January overturned the Naponee man's 2013 convictions in the death of Joseph Rinehart Jr. and granted him a new trial. The little boy died April 30, 2012.

Draper had appealed on the grounds that his wife should not have been allowed to be called as a witness for the prosecution.

Mental Illness Task Force Endorsed

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard says he supports a mental illness task force proposed by the state's top judge.

judge. Daugaard says he's concerned about how long people charged with crimes are spending in jail awaiting mental health evaluations.

The Argus Leader recently reported a backlog of mental competency evaluations of criminal suspects is taxing county budgets and raising concerns about the rights of defendants. There were 147 requests in state court for mental competency exams in fiscal 2015, and the state's mental hospital conducts only 36 each year.

State Supreme Court Chief Justice David Gilbertson announced the formation of the task force Friday, to look into how mental illness is affecting the court system. Members will include law officers, prosecutors, county officials, mental health professionals, social services officials and court officials.

Trial Set For Man Accused Of NE Assault

CHADRON, Neb. (AP) — A trial is scheduled to begin with jury selection on Jan. 28 for a Tennessee man accused of sexually assaulting a student at Chadron State College in northwest Nebraska last year.

Online court records say 20-year-old Timothy Jungquist, of Nashville, has pleaded not guilty to felony charges of false imprisonment and forcible sexual assault.

² Chadron radio station KCSR reports that a student contacted Chadron police on Oct. 7, 2014, saying she'd been sexually assaulted two days earlier in Andrews Hall on the campus. Jungquist was arrested the following day but has since been freed on bond. He also was a Chadron State student at the time.

Police Investigating Two Stabbings In SF

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — Authorities are investigating two stabbings that occurred within an hour of each other in Sioux Falls.

KELO-TV reports that the first stabbing was reported to police at about 9:30 Sunday. The victim was transported to a hospital, where his or her condition wasn't immediately known.

The second stabbing happened shortly after 10 p.m. Sunday in the parking lot of a grocery store. The victim was taken to a hospital with injuries that police didn't consider to

Athletic Commission Wants Fee Increase To Cover Fighting Events

BY BOB MERCER State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE – The South Dakota Athletic Commission decided Monday to ask the Legislature to raise the fee for overseeing mixed martial arts, kickboxing and boxing events.

Current state law allows the commission to collect five percent of the gross revenue at an event, with a minimum fee of \$1,000.

The commission wants the minimum fee to be \$3,000. That is the approximate cost for regulating an event, according to the commission's executive secretary, Jennifer Stalley.

The legislation proposed by the commission Monday would allow the commission to charge up to \$5,000 as the minimum fee.

The commission previously proposed amending one of its rules to change from \$1,000 to \$3,000.

But the Legislative Research Council's review discovered the \$3,000 would have exceeded the \$1,000 that was set in law two years ago when the commission was created.

The commission held a public hearing Monday on 10 other sets of rule changes.

No one testified in person or by telephone. The only comment came by email Sunday night from the South Dakota Chiropractors Association. The organization's top officers, president Quentin Thompson of Mitchell and past president Greg Lowenberg of Rapid City, asked that chiropractors be allowed to participate in prefight physicals and serve ringside as physicians.

They cited a state law that says chiropractors hold "all the privileges granted other physicians or healers pertaining to the public health, including the privilege of taking a complete, detailed and accurate history for the purposes of doing a physical examination for participation in high school or other athletics..."

other athletics..." Thompson and Lowenberg included a July 3, 2014, letter from Mark Bledsoe, president for the state Board of Chiropractic Examiners that said the board examined the athletic commission's rules and determined that chiropractors should receive the same authority as doctors of medicine and doctors of osteopathy.

The athletic commission members voted 4-0 Monday to reject the chiropractors' request.

Commission chairman Mike Kilmer of Belle Fourche said there isn't a state in the nation that accepts the use of chiropractors as ringside physicians.

Kilmer, president of South Dakota USA Boxing, found agreement from another commission member, Lee Lohff of Yankton. Lohff is a former mixed-martial arts fighter and U.S. Army Airborne Ranger, who now is a lawyer and business analyst.

"That was our opinion at the end of the last meeting and my opinion remains the same now," Lohff said.

The commission gave approval to adding nurse practitioners and physician assistants to the list of medical providers authorized to conduct physicals for fighters seeking licenses.

Among other rule changes approved Monday are requiring an event applicant to submit a security plan and applications must be submitted at least 30 days, rather than the current 14 days, prior to an event.

The rule changes still need clearance from the Legislature's Rules Review Committee to take effect.

In other action, the commission granted a one-year exemption again to South Dakota USA Boxing, with Kilmer abstaining from the discussion and vote; and approved an application for a Feb. 27, 2016 event promoted by Fury Fights.

A Fury Fights event in Brookings received approval in 2014 but the event wasn't held because a sponsor couldn't be found, according to Stalley.

She said she recently met with the Watertown city council last week.

The commission's approval Monday requires the promoter post a \$20,000 bond or irrevocable letter of credit and the Watertown city government provide a letter saying the event meets municipal requirements.



be life-threatening.

Police say it's unclear whether the stabbings are related. No suspect information had been released as of early Monday morning.

Man Died After Rolling ATV In Nebraska

WEEPING WATER, Neb. (AP) — Authorities say a 53-yearold man has died after rolling his all-terrain vehicle in eastern Nebraska.

The Cass County Sheriff's Department says the accident was reported a little after 9 a.m. Sunday and occurred about 1½ miles southwest of Weeping Water. Sheriff William Brueggemann says in a news release that Kurtis Bauers, of Weeping Water, lost control of his four-wheel ATV and it rolled at least twice.

The sheriff says Bauers died just after arriving at a Lincoln hospital.

Man Gets 30 Months In Assault Incident

PIERRE (AP) — A 19-year-old man who admitted assaulting a man on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation has been sentenced to more than two years in prison.

U.S. District Judge Roberto Lange has ordered Dezmond Two Hearts, of Eagle Butte, to spend 30 months in prison, followed by two years of supervised release. Two Hearts pleaded guilty in August to assault with a dangerous weapon and aiding and abetting.

The office of U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says that on March 6, Two Hearts and his co-defendant took turns assaulting the man after he told them he did not have money to lend them. Authorities say Two Hearts kicked and stomped the victim in the face and head area with shod feet.

Two Hearts is under the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service.

\$2M Powerball Ticket Sold In Raymond

RAYMOND, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska Lottery says someone has won a \$2 million Powerball prize.

The *Lincoln Journal Star* reports that the ticket for Saturday night's drawing was sold at Toni's Corner in Raymond.

The winner has yet to claim the prize.

Driver Died In Collision Near Holdrege

HOLDREGE, Neb. (AP) — Authorities say a Bertrand man has died in a collision with a semitrailer in south-central Nebraska's Phelps County.

The accident occurred around 5:30 p.m. Saturday. The Nebraska State Patrol says the collision occurred on Nebraska Highway 183, about three miles north of Holdrege.

The patrol identified the vehicle driver who died as 60-year-old Randall Kuck. The semitrailer driver suffered only minor injuries.

The accident is being investigated.

Landowners To Learn About Conservation

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — More than 56 meetings about the conservation reserve program will be held across Nebraska to answer landowner questions and offer a chance to sign up.

The federal conservation reserve program pays farmers to take environmentally sensitive land out of production.

The meetings will be held between Dec. 1 and Feb. 26 when the federal land conservation program is open for new signups.

More details are available at local USDA service centers or from Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever.