ON THE WEB: www.yankton.net NEWSROOM: News@yankton.net

SD Marriage Ban Stays Unchanged

PIERRE (AP) — The state attorney general says South Dakota will continue to defend its constitutional ban on same-sex marriage despite a decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to not hear the issue.

Marty Jackley says the state still believes marriage should be defined by South Dakota voters and not by the federal courts. Jackley says the state's "longstanding tradition" will now be tested in federal district court and likely the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Six same-sex couples challenged the state's ban in federal court in May with Minneapolis attorney Josh Newville. Newville questioned Tuesday whether South Dakota wants to be remembered as one of the last state's in the country to legalize same-sex marriage.

Oral arguments are expected to be scheduled soon on the state's motion to dismiss the lawsuit.

Vet Confirms 2 Cases Of Swine Disease

PIERRE (AP) — South Dakota veterinary officials say two more farms have confirmed cases of a potentially deadly swine virus, bringing the state total to 38 farms.

deadly swine virus, bringing the state total to 38 farms. The South Dakota Animal Industry Board held a conference call Tuesday for its October meeting. Staff Veterinarian Dr. Todd Tedrow says two new hog farms in the state have confirmed cases of Swine Enteric Coronavirus Diseases.

Most of the SECD cases in the state are the porcine epidemic diarrhea virus. State Veterinarian Dr. Dustin Oedekoven says one is the porcine delta coronavirus.

Oedekoven says South Dakota has had considerably fewer cases than surrounding states like Minnesota and Iowa. But he says the spread of the PED virus is still a concern because it can spread easily and can be deadly to piglets.

Small Plane Lands In Field By Glenham

GLENHAM (AP) — The Federal Aviation Administration says no one was injured when a small passenger plane from Aberdeen landed in a field while on its way to Mobridge on Tuesday morning.

FAA spokeswoman Elizabeth Cory says the Piper 31 aircraft had two passengers and landed in a field this morning one mile south of the town of Glenham. She didn't specify why the plane went down.

The FAA is still investigating the incident. Cory says she expects to have more details later Tuesday afternoon.

Lincoln Man Gets Prison For Shooting

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A Lincoln man has been sentenced to more than 12 years in prison for shooting at a man over a girl.

The *Lincoln Journal Star* reports 21-year-old Rocky Truong was sentenced Tuesday on charges that included attempted use of a firearm to commit a felony. He will be given credit for more than 140 days served in jail.

Authorities say Truong met a man in May to fist fight over a woman they both liked. Truong was accused of firing several shots at his rival and chasing him. The man was not hurt but later reported the incident to police.

Truong said during his sentencing that he takes full responsibility for his actions and was not "in the right state of mind."

Rounds: There Was No Talk Of Lawsuit

MITCHELL (AP) — The brother of former Gov. Mike Rounds was in charge of overseeing lawsuits against South Dakota during the time a lawsuit was filed over the state's handling of an investment-for-green-card program.

Dennis Rounds tells The Daily Republic he doesn't remember the particular lawsuit. He also says he didn't work directly for his brother, but instead reported to the commissioner for the Bureau of Administration, who reported to the governor's chief of staff.

Mike Rounds is a candidate for U.S. Senate. He has said that as governor he wasn't personally aware of the 2009 breach-of-contract lawsuit filed by a California company that had an agreement to recruit investors in China for South Dakota projects.

EB-5 California Arbitrator Dismisses EB-5 Lawsuit For South Dakota

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A lawsuit brought against South Dakota six years ago related to the state's embattled visa program designed to lure wealthy immigrants to invest in state projects has been dismissed.

On Tuesday, the South Dakota Board of Regents announced that a California arbitrator dismissed the breach-of-contract lawsuit initially brought against the state in 2008 by California-based Darley International.

Darley filed the lawsuit against the South Dakota International Business Institute, whose employee Joop Bollen administered the EB-5 visa program while he worked for the public institute at Northern State University. Darley had an agreement to recruit investors in China for South Dakota projects and argued that Bollen and SDIBI violated that agreement by ending it in 2008.

Arbitrator Robert A. Baines found that the SDIBI had the power to legally terminate its agreement and there was no breach of contract when SDIBI ended the arrangement in January 2008, the Board of Regents said Tuesday in a news release. All claims brought by Darly have been dismissed, the regents said.

The EB-5 program and the lawsuit have become a key political issue in the state over the past several months as the midterm elections near.

South Dakota's Democratic Party has accused Bollen of dragging the state into a costly lawsuit and argues that he should not have filed documents on behalf of the state during the early stages of the lawsuit. The lawsuit began while Mike Rounds, who's running for U.S. Senate, was governor. Whether Rounds knew of the lawsuit has become an issue in his current campaign. He has said he was not personally aware of the lawsuit when it was filed.

Rounds said Tuesday that he "feels vindicated" in light of the announcement

"Today's decision proves what I've been saying all along — that everything my opponents have been saying about EB-5 are lies, innuendo, and nonsense misinformation," he said in a news release.

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The Democratic Party called on the Board of Regents Tuesday to pursue legal action against Bollen for the cost of the lawsuit's legal fees, which they estimate to be \$500,000.

Zach Crago, the executive director of the state Democratic Party, also requested the Board of Regents release all documents related to the nowclosed litigation.

"It is my hope that the Board of Regents will comply right away with the previous requests of state legislators, the press, and the public to release these documents since their previous conditions have been lifted," Crago said in a release.

Bollen has agreed to respond to questions from a legislative committee regarding the EB-5 program in the state but has declined to comment to media as the news has unfolded.

SDPB Begins Debate Series

BY BOB MERCER

State Capitol Bureau

For voters who want to be better informed about their choices in the Nov. 4 elections this year, South Dakota Public Television is one place to check Thursday nights this month.

SDPTV hosts the three candidates for governor in a 60-minute forum this Thursday starting at 8 p.m. CT / 7 p.m. MT.

The show will be simulcast live on the Internet at www.sdpb.org/.

It will re-broadcast on South Dakota Public Radio's midday program Friday at noon CT / 11 a.m. MT and will be repeated on TV at 1 p.m. CT / noon CT Sunday.

Stephanie Rissler will be in the moderator's chair again for all four of the shows in the South Dakota Public Broadcasting debate series.

We asked the veteran journalist a few questions in advance of her return to the political stage this week.

Q: How do you select your questions?

A: Debate partners SDPB, AARP South Dakota and the (South Dakota) Newspaper Association ask their members to submit questions, which we've been collecting From the list of questions submitted from all three organizations — as a group, we decide which questions to ask.

Q: Do the candidates know from you/SDPB in advance the general topics that will be covered? A: No. the candidates do

not know the questions or even the topics that will be asked.

Q: How many years have you been hosting debates and have you noticed any changes?

A: I have produced debates for SDPB since 2000. I have not noticed any major changes in the years I've either produced and/or moderated debates.

Some years attract more attention than others. All of the candidates seem to be appreciative of the opportunity and are well prepared and understand the rules and format when they arrive.

Because of the increase in the number of candidates, both during our primary debates and regular debates, we have noticed it lowers the number of questions we are able to ask during the debate.

SDPB has made adjustments, for example, during the primary debate when we

dates, we opted to run a 90 minute debate rather than a 60 minute debate. We've done this in years past too. All debates in October will run 60 minutes.

AT A GLANCE

Here are the dates for the four SDPB debates this October:

 Oct. 9 — Governor candidates Republican incumbent Dennis Daugaard, Democrat Susan Wismer and independent Michael Myers.
Oct. 16 — U.S. House of Representatives candidates Republican incumbent Kristi Noem and Democrat Corinna Robinson.

• Oct. 23 — U.S. Senate candidates Democrat Rick Weiland, Republican Mike Rounds, independent Larry Pressler and independent Gordon Howie. (Democratic incumbent Tim Johnson is retiring.)

• Oct. 30 — Three statewide contests for Public Utilities Commission, attorney general and secretary of state and three ballot measures will be covered.

All four start at 8 p.m. CT / 7 p.m. MT on TV and Internet (www.sdpb.org <http://www.sdpb.org>). They will be aired on public radio the next day at noon CT / 11 MT and repeat on TV the following Sunday at 1 p.m. CT

Judge Dismisses EPA Lawsuit

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A federal judge has dismissed Nebraska's lawsuit against the federal Environmental Protection Agency over greenhouse gas standards for new power plants.

Nebraska Attorney General Jon Bruning filed the lawsuit in January, saying "the impossible standards imposed by the EPA will ensure no new power plants are built in Nebraska."

The EPA's proposed rule would set limits on the amount of carbon dioxide new plants will be allowed to emit, essentially requiring any new coal plants to install expensive carboncapture technology. The rule has drawn strong criticism from many Republicans, especially in conservative states such as

Nebraska. Nebraska Attorney General Jon Bruning filed the lawsuit in January, saying "the impossible standards imposed by the EPA will ensure no new power plants are built in Nebraska." But on Monday, U.S. Dis-

But on Monday, U.S. District Judge John Gerrard granted the EPA's request to dismiss the case, saying Nebraska "jumped the gun" with the lawsuit, because the EPA rule has not been finalized.

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