

Woman Arrested After Threatening Cop

WATERTOWN (AP) — A Nebraska woman faces multiple charges after allegedly pulling a fake handgun on a police officer following a car crash in the South Dakota city of Watertown.

Authorities say 39-year-old Jennifer Wunderlich, of Omaha, Nebraska, hit a stopped car from behind at an intersection late Thursday, and was combative with the officer who responded to the crash.

Wunderlich allegedly pulled the fake gun on the officer, and the officer subdued her with a stun gun and arrested her. She faces several charges including drunken driving, aggravated assault on an officer and vehicular battery. It wasn't immediately clear if she had an attorney.

Police say the man in the vehicle that was struck was taken to a hospital with injuries not considered life-threatening.

Bishop's Stolen Cross Has Turned Up

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The Lincoln Diocese says the ornamental cross reported stolen from the home of Bishop James Conley has been found on the bishop's property.

The gold pectoral cross was found Thursday. Diocese spokesman JD Flynn wouldn't say exactly where the cross was recovered, citing the police investigation and a desire for the privacy of those involved. He says the gold pectoral cross is irreplaceable because it was a gift from Pope Benedict XVI. It's valued at about \$1,000.

It was reported stolen on Oct. 10. Police say a house alarm was tripped, a door had pry marks and a window was broken. Only the cross was taken. The bishop wasn't home at the time.

No arrests have been reported.

115-Year Building In Freeman Caves In

FREEMAN (AP) — No one was hurt when a 115-year-old building in Freeman partially collapsed.

Police Chief Casey Cummings tells the *Argus Leader* that the structure known as the Schamber Building was not being used. He says "it finally just gave way."

The building caved in about 1 a.m. Thursday, leaving just side walls standing. The City Council conducted an emergency vote to approve demolition.

The area around the building was blocked off in the interest of safety until the work can be done. State officials were to inspect the building Friday for asbestos and other hazards, after which it will be torn down.

4 City Council Members Survive Recall

NELIGH, Neb. (AP) — None of the four Neligh (NEE'-lee) City Council members have been recalled in the special election.

Thursday's unofficial results from Antelope County show 203 people voted to recall Ted Hughes but 344 voted against the idea; 164 voters wanted to recall Leonard Miller, but 383 voted no; 178 voters wanted to recall Stephanie Wanek, but 369 voted no; and 202 voters wanted Dale Wilkinson recalled, but 346 voters said no.

The recall petition affidavits cited the council members' support for annexing some property without regard for future costs.

No petition was turned in on Mayor Joe Hartz.

Vehicle Crashes Into Kmart Store

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Sioux Falls police have arrested several people in a confrontation that ended with a car crashing into a Kmart store.

Sgt. Adam Petersen says two adults and several minors were arrested on drug charges after the incident late Thursday afternoon, and the investigation is continuing.

Police say an altercation in the Kmart parking lot culminated with a vehicle ramming another, and the ramming vehicle continuing on and crashing through a wall and into Kmart's garden center area.

No one in the vehicles or the building was hurt.

Authorities ID Victims Of NE Collision

FREMONT, Neb. (AP) — Authorities say a married couple were killed in the fiery collision between their sport utility vehicle and a semitrailer hauling a combine just west of Fremont.

The *Fremont Tribune* reports that the two people killed were identified Thursday as 28-year-old Jorge Medina, of Schuyler, and his wife, 26-year-old Liliana Chavez-Ortiz, of South Sioux City.

The crash occurred around 11:35 a.m. Wednesday on U.S. Highway 30. Authorities say the SUV crossed the center line and rammed into the truck driven by 53-year-old Vernon White, of Ringsted, Iowa. He was rescued from the cab and flown to an Omaha hospital for treatment. Medina and Chavez-Ortiz were pronounced dead at the scene.

Fort Pierre Has SD Teacher Of The Year

FORT PIERRE (AP) — Fort Pierre elementary school teacher Sarah Lutz has been named South Dakota's 2016 Teacher of the Year.

Lutz is a third-grade teacher at Stanley County Elementary and a member of the school's leadership team. She also serves as a volunteer coach for the Girls on the Run program, and is credited with developing family nights to promote parent involvement.

A statewide panel of educators selected Lutz from among five regional finalists. The award was announced Thursday night.

Lutz receives a \$5,000 cash award, a \$6,300 technology package and a \$1,000 honorarium from the South Dakota Board of Regents to present a series of professional development seminars for aspiring teachers. She also is now a candidate for the National Teacher of the Year award.

Task Force Makes Progress On New River Basin Districts

BY BOB MERCER
Slate Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — The Legislature's task force reached agreements Friday on setting boundaries for South Dakota's new river basin natural resources districts.

The panel made one specific change merging a piece of one district into three other districts and adopted a general principal for setting the borders between districts.

The river basin districts would cover all of South Dakota and each would have a council to develop a water management plan for its area. The concept is better management of water issues across county lines and throughout an entire watershed.

South Dakota already has a variety of other types of political subdivisions dealing with water, such as water development districts for conservation, development and management of water resources along a specific river or region, and the state-wide conservancy district for construction of water facilities.

The river-basin task force members on Friday recommended eliminating a long sliver of the Lower Missouri district in southeastern-most South Dakota.

That segment would be added instead into the adjacent James, Vermillion and Big Sioux districts where those three watersheds reach the Missouri River.

Borders between districts should be based on townships rather than census blocks, the panel also decided.

A township that covers multiple

watersheds will be assigned as a whole to the district for the watershed that contains more than 50 percent of the township.

Dave Ortbahn, a senior analyst for the Legislative Research Council, presented the first drafts of maps for the nine districts. He said the agency's mapping software broke down before he could complete the work.

He suggested using townships. "That's going to be a lot easier to describe in statute where the boundaries are," Ortbahn said. "It will also help out on the voting districts. Most voting districts are based on townships."

The Legislature established the system of river basin natural resource districts during the 2015 session.

But to get the concept into law, legislators removed many specifics, such as taxing authority and the number of elected representatives on each district's council.

Developing those details will be the task force's role instead. Its eight members will serve as a sounding board and as a liaison to the Legislature through the end of 2018.

The council members would be elected for the first time in 2018.

The immediate work for the task force is fine-tuning the boundaries for the nine districts, creating three sub-districts "nearly equal" in population within each district, and recommending how many voting representatives should be elected from each sub-district to that district's council.

Six council members was the opening suggestion Friday from former Rep. Kim

Vanneman, R-Ideal. She said each district's citizens might have their own ideas in the months ahead about the number needed for their watershed.

Vanneman served on the original task force that developed the legislation during the past few years. She is chairwoman for the current task force.

Ortbahn said he plans to ask the Secretary of State election staff to review the final draft of the map.

"That's a really good idea," Vanneman said. "That is a big part of it. We all have to work together and make this happen."

The township approach can be successful, according to Jay Gilbertson of Brookings. He is executive director for the East Dakota Water Development District.

"We've used it since the late fifties (1950s). It seems to work," Gilbertson said.

The new state law also calls for a pilot project to be conducted in northeastern South Dakota for the Red and Minnesota rivers watershed. Still unclear is what that might be. The task force meets for the final time this year Nov. 23 to review proposed legislation.

"If it's not going to happen, let's make that clear," Sen. Jason Frerichs, D-Wilmot, said about the Red-Minnesota rivers project.

Frerichs recommended bringing a Nebraska water expert to meet with the task force and suggested working with the Red River Basin commission from North Dakota, Manitoba and Minnesota.

State Lawmakers Tour Pot Farm On Flandreau Reservation

BY REGINA GARCIA CANO
Associated Press

FLANDREAU — Five state lawmakers toured the indoor pot farm on Friday that will supply the main attraction of the nation's first marijuana resort, which is being built on the land of the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe in South Dakota.

The bipartisan group visited the marijuana-growing facility and the under-construction recreational smoking lounge at the tribe's invitation. The visit included a discussion in which tribal leaders and executives of the marijuana consulting firm they're partners with answered several questions from lawmakers primarily dealing with the steps the tribe is taking to ensure that pot does not make its way into the rest of the state, where its consumption and possession remains illegal.

"When you hear about the facility, you just think of what you've seen on TV, but that's why I came on today's tour to see it firsthand," Republican state Rep. Mathew Wollmann said after the tour. "I was very impressed with the facility that they have here. It kind of blew my mind exactly how they plan to operate, how they plan to keep it as secluded as possible and just give individuals an opportunity to partake in an activity, but not have everyone around them be in danger."

Santee Sioux leaders plan to grow their own pot and sell it in a smoking lounge that includes a nightclub, bar and food service, and eventually, an outdoor music venue. The resort will also include private rooms where people whose doctors have recommended the use of marijuana will be able to consume pot comfortably without having to take

part in the entertainment part of the lounge.

Tribal leaders, including president Anthony Reider, stressed the reservation's ordinance dictating that the marijuana purchased at the tribe's facility is to be smoked exclusively in the resort and that under no circumstance can consumers take it home.

Every plant in Flandreau's growing facility has a barcode. After being harvested and processed, marijuana will be sold in sealed 1-gram packages for \$12.50 to \$15. Customers will be allowed to buy only 1 gram at a time, and will have to return the empty, barcoded package of their purchase in order to be able to buy another gram. The first grams will go on sale New Year's Eve.

About a dozen cameras are already recording people's moves in and around the 10,000-square-foot indoor

growing facility. A perceivable pot smell welcomed lawmakers to the farm, where they saw plants that have been growing for about three weeks.

"The tour was very helpful," said Republican state Rep. Elizabeth May. "The myth that it's going to be leaving the reservation and come into the state, that's a myth; that's not going to happen. (With) the tracking system they have, they'll know everything that they grow, sell and who's getting it. I think the fear factor will lessen once it opens."

The legalization of marijuana on the reservation came in June, months after the Justice Department outlined a new policy allowing Indian tribes, which are considered sovereign nations, to grow and sell marijuana on tribal lands under the same conditions laid out for states that have legalized the drug.

NE Students Of All Races Improve In Proficiency Tests

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nebraska students of all races showed some improvement last year on statewide tests even though 72 percent of the state's schools were declared low-performing under the federal No Child Left Behind Act, according to a report released Friday.

The results were part of the Nebraska Department of Education's annual State of the Schools report.

Nebraska Education Commissioner Matt Blomstedt praised the results, but said the state still has work to do to improve student performance and close the achievement gap.

"It is important today to recognize and acknowledge, first, the accomplishments of our students as well as their teachers and administrators who work hard to improve the

performance of every student every day," Blomstedt said in a statement.

Of all the students tested, 80 percent were deemed proficient in reading and 72 percent were considered proficient in math.

According to the report, 85 percent of white students were proficient in reading last year — up from 84 percent the previous year — and 79 percent were proficient in math, a percentage that went unchanged.

Students identified as Hispanic, American Indian, Asian, African-American, Native Hawaiian and multi-race mostly showed improvement on the tests. So did special education students, English Language Learners and those who are eligible for free and reduced lunches.

The report said 68 percent of Hispanic students met or exceeded reading standards last year, up from 64 per-

cent the previous year. For American Indian and Alaska Native students, 53 percent were proficient compared with 50 percent the prior year. Seventy-seven percent of Asian students tested as proficient, compared to 76 percent the year before.

Among African-American students, 60 percent were proficient compared to 56 percent the prior year. And 72 percent of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Island students met the standards, up from 67 percent.

In math, the report said 58 percent of Hispanic students were considered proficient, compared to 56 percent the prior year. The percentage of American Indians and Alaska natives deemed proficient held steady at 43 percent. Seventy-four percent of Asians met or exceeded standards, up from 73 percent the prior year.

Of the African-American students who took the test, 44 percent were proficient

compared to 42 percent one year earlier.

Despite their gains in reading, the percentage of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Island students slipped to 61 percent from 63 percent the year before.

According to the report, 50 percent of special education students tested proficient in reading, and 42 percent were proficient in math. Of the English Language Learners, 59 percent met or exceeded standards in reading and 49 percent tested proficiently in math.

Despite the improvements, 675 of Nebraska's 932 public schools were declared low-performing under the federal No Child Left Behind Act. Blomstedt said the law is misleading, and it's unrealistic to believe that 100 percent of students will become proficient in reading and math.



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Dr. Willman completed her residency in pediatrics at the University of Missouri in Columbia and received her medical degree from the Sanford School of Medicine at the University of South Dakota. She completed her undergraduate work at Augustana College in Sioux Falls. Dr. Willman joined Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C. September 22, 2015. She specializes in pediatric care for newborns and children up to 18 years and has expertise in caring for premature babies, providing support for parents and children to develop healthy lifestyles, and cares for acute and chronic illnesses in children. Part of her practice is the evaluation and care for physical and emotional development, including ADHD.

She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Dr. Willman and her husband, Dave, are the parents of two children and reside in Yankton.

Dr. Willman began seeing patients at the Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C. September 22, 2015.

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