

MIDWEST DIGEST

Training Grenades Found At S.D. Dump

RAPID CITY (AP) — Workers at the Rapid City Landfill got a scare when they discovered what appeared to be three grenades on a recycling center conveyor belt.

The Rapid City Police Department says officers were called shortly after 1 p.m. Wednesday when workers discovered the devices. Police say the conveyor belt was shut down and the building was evacuated.

An explosive ordnance disposal team from Ellsworth Air Force Base near Rapid City was contacted. The team checked out the grenades and discovered they were training rounds.

The team destroyed the training grenades at the landfill. No one was hurt.

Off-Duty Sheriff's Sergeant Hurt In Fall

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — An off-duty Lancaster County Sheriff's Office sergeant has been hospitalized after a 10- to 15-foot fall onto a concrete surface, landing face-first.

The *Lincoln Journal Star* says 52-year-old Sgt. Mike Novacek fell Tuesday from a ladder on his property outside Lincoln.

Chief Deputy William Jarrett says Novacek was admitted to a Lincoln hospital's intensive care unit and will likely be hospitalized for several days.

Jarrett says Novacek broke his nose, two ribs, his right wrist and the orbital bone on the left side of his face. He has been with the sheriff's office for more than 20 years.

Another Charged In Death Of Neb. 4-Year-Old

KEARNEY, Neb. (AP) — Another man has been charged in the child-abuse death of a 4-year-old boy in south-central Nebraska.

The case was filed last week in Kearney County Court against 23-year-old Dustin Scoville.

He's the third person charged with aiding and abetting child abuse that resulted in the death of Landon Payne last December. The others are 36-year-old Sharon Turnell and her husband, 37-year-old Charles Turnell, of rural Minden. Sharon Turnell was Landon's aunt.

According to an arrest warrant affidavit, other children in the rural Minden home told investigators that Scoville had often punched Landon in the head.

Scoville is serving time in the Buffalo County jail for driving offenses. His attorney did not immediately return a call Wednesday.

United Tribes Tribal Leaders Summit Begins

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The 14th annual United Tribes Tribal Leaders Summit got under way Wednesday in North Dakota, with Gov. John Hoeven and North Dakota Rep. Earl Pomeroy the featured speakers.

The event at the Bismarck Civic Center runs through Friday, with topics ranging from renewable energy to federal Indian policy to tribal health initiatives. About 500 tribal leaders are expected to attend.

The United Tribes of North Dakota board and the Great Plains Tribal Chairman's Association plan meetings on Friday.

The conference is held along with the United Tribes International Powwow, which attracts participants from across the country. The Grand Entry is 7 p.m. Thursday at Lone Star Arena on the grounds of United Tribes Technical College.

■ Get Updates At Yankton Online (www.yankton.net)

Omaha Police: Vehicle Stolen With Boy Inside

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha police say a man stole a vehicle while a 2-year-old boy was inside, but that the thief took the boy out of the car within minutes and left him unharmed in a front lawn.

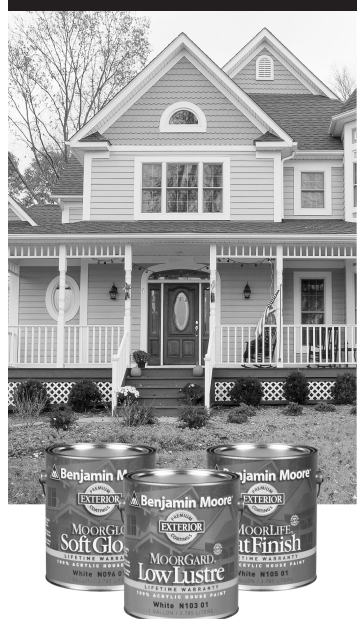
Police tell Omaha television station KETV that the boy's father, Daniel Brown, had been driving the sport utility vehicle when he stopped a friend's house to borrow a drill. He left the vehicle running and went inside for a few minutes, and when he came outside, the SUV was gone.

Police say the thief drove a few blocks, then stopped the SUV, took the boy out and left him in his car seat by the street.

A resident spotted the boy and called police.

The police crime lab took a bicycle from the scene. Police are trying to determine if the thief was on the bicycle when he stole the SUV.

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Judge Picks Fremont Query For Neb. Court

BY **TIMBERLY ROSS**
Associated Press Writer

OMAHA, Neb. — A federal judge wants the Nebraska Supreme Court to rule whether municipalities can enact restrictions on where people can live or work before she addresses a lawsuit challenging one city's ordinance barring illegal immigrants from renting or working there.

U.S. District Judge Laurie Smith Camp said in a court filing Tuesday that she'll ask the high court to consider whether cities have such power before she addresses a federal lawsuit filed against the city of Fremont by the American Civil Liberties Union of Nebraska and the Mexican American Legal Defense & Educational

Fund, also known as MALDEF. The groups, whose lawsuits have been combined, say the voter-approved ordinance is discriminatory and contrary to what is allowed by state law.

Smith Camp gave attorneys in the case until Sept. 21 to pay a docket fee to the high court, after which she'll submit the question.

Smith Camp has said she wasn't sure which court should hear the lawsuits because they suggest the ordinance violates both state and federal laws. She asked attorneys to craft the language of a question to be answered by the high court that would indicate whether the ordinance is valid under state law.

The question she chose was the one submitted by Fremont's

attorney and selected as an alternate by the ACLU and MALDEF. Those groups first proposed asking whether Fremont had the authority under state law to enact the ban, court filings show.

Fremont voters approved the ordinance in June. It would require employers to use a federal online system that checks whether a person is permitted to work in the U.S.

It also would require people seeking to rent property to apply for a \$5 permit at City Hall. Those who said they were citizens would receive a permit and

would not have to provide documents proving legal status. Those who said they weren't citizens would receive permits, but their legal status would be checked. If they're found to be in the country illegally and are unable to resolve their status, they would be forced to leave the property.

Landlords who knowingly rent to illegal immigrants could be subject to \$100 fines.

Faced with expensive legal challenges, the city council has suspended the ban until its legality is decided in court.

Neb. Offers Foreign-Language Web Pages

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — State officials want foreign tourists to know there's more to Nebraska than fields of corn and soybeans along Interstate 80.

There's history everywhere, and real cowboys still round up cattle in the rolling hills.

Not wanting the state's delights to get lost in language barriers, Nebraska officials used a \$56,000 federal grant to pay for a redesign of the state's Nebraska Byways brochure and creation of brochure Web pages for downloading in English, Spanish, French and German.

The brochure includes information on nine trips along U.S. and state highways that course through rural areas of Nebraska.

State officials say they don't know how many people from other countries drive through Nebraska, but a record number of hits on the state's tourism website provides a clue: Web visits are most frequent from people in Canada, the United

Kingdom, Germany, Ireland and France.


Matt Gersib, public relations manager at Snitily Carr Advertising Agency, said the decision to create French and German versions of the website was guided by that information. He said the Spanish version was created for Nebraska residents whose first language is Spanish.

Snitily Carr was hired by the Nebraska Economic Development Department's Division of Travel and Tourism for the brochure and Web work.

"There are so many travelers who never get off the interstate. Our byways are such a neat resource," Gersib told the *Lincoln Journal Star*.

"The literature is an appeal to travelers to go a few miles off I-80 and see what a beautiful place Nebraska is, and we want to be able to say that in their native language," Gersib said.


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