

MIDWEST DIGEST

New Sioux Falls Sewer Pipe In Operation

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Sioux Falls officials on Wednesday said a new sewer pipe replacing one that collapsed in early August was in operation.

The collapse of the sewer line on Aug. 4 forced the city to pump raw sewage into the Big Sioux River while temporary repairs were made.

The city says the project to install the new 850-foot section of pipe was completed about two weeks ahead of schedule.

The temporary bypass system that was put in place after the collapse is to be disassembled starting next week.

S.D. Unemployment Rate Sees Slight Rise

PIERRE (AP) — Federal labor officials estimate that South Dakota's preliminary unemployment rate increased slightly to 4.5 percent in August from July's 4.4 percent.

State Labor Secretary Pam Roberts said Wednesday that she didn't consider the increase significant. The total labor force remained stable at 443,000 workers, and the August 2010 unemployment remained lower than the August 2009 rate of 4.8 percent.

South Dakota's unemployment also remained less than half the national rate of 9.6 percent in August. The national rate increased from July's 9.5 percent.

S.D. Man Sentenced In Artifacts Case

PIERRE (AP) — A Fort Pierre man who pleaded guilty in federal court to trafficking in archaeological resources has been sentenced to eight months in federal prison.

KCCR says 61-year-old Scott Matteson will be on supervised release for three years following his prison term.

Matteson was accused of illegally taking and trading American Indian artifacts and old military items dug up on public land and Indian land along the Missouri River.

Court documents say the items ranged from stone tools to cannon balls.

Accessory In Shooting Gets Prison Time

RAPID CITY (AP) — A Rapid City man who admitted hiding a gun used in a shooting at a basketball tournament has been given a five-year prison term for violating probation.

KEVN says 21-year-old Joel Little was on probation after pleading guilty earlier this year to a charge of accessory to aggravated assault in a shooting during the Lakota Nation Invitational last December.

He was sentenced to 70 days in jail and five years of probation under that plea agreement with prosecutors. Little initially had been charged with being an accessory to attempted murder in the shooting of 20-year-old Shane Bordeaux.

Another man, Simon Torres, is accused of shooting and critically injuring Bordeaux. He's scheduled for trial later this month on an attempted murder charge. He also has pleaded not guilty to witness tampering.

Neb. Board Rejects Legalizing Marijuana

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska's pharmacy licensing board has rejected a request to reclassify marijuana so that it can be used for medicinal purposes.

State Pharmacy Board Chairman Richard Zarek of Gothenburg said Wednesday that any decision to reclassify marijuana so it can be prescribed for certain medical conditions is up the federal Food and Drug Administration. As a result, the Nebraska Board of Pharmacy declined to act on the matter this week.

Advocates of medicinal marijuana showed up at the board's meeting in July to push for the change. They say medicinal marijuana can be used to help treat bipolar and attention-deficit disorders and combat nausea from chemotherapy, among other uses.

Critics say other medications are available for those ailments.

Neb. Cattle Thief Gets 6-10 Years In Prison

CHADRON, Neb. (AP) — A 30-year-old man accused of stealing cattle in the Panhandle and selling them at a livestock auction in eastern Nebraska has been given 6-to-10 years in prison.

At sentencing Tuesday in Dawes County District Court, Jake Otte also was ordered to pay restitution of around \$17,000.

He had pleaded guilty to two counts of theft. Court records say the first crime occurred in December 2008, the other in October 2009.

The cattle belonged to different people who employed Otte at the time.

He was given three-to-five years on each count, to be served consecutively.

Otte said in court Tuesday that he was truly sorry for what he did.

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Heidepriem: Cut Government To Aid Education

BY WAYNE ORTMAN
Associated Press Writer

SIoux FALLS — The state can provide more money for education by cutting the size of government and making other changes to address a budget deficit that's "nearing the strangulation point," Democratic governor candidate Scott Heidepriem said Wednesday.

He repeated what has become a campaign theme: state government has grown at the same time the percentage of the state budget devoted to K-12 education has decreased during the eight years of Republican Gov. Mike Rounds and Lt. Gov. Dennis Daugaard.

Heidepriem faces Daugaard in the November election. Rounds

cannot run for re-election because of term limits.

In laying out his ideas on finding more money for schools, Heidepriem said he favors recapturing \$10.5 million in tax rebates given for the TransCanada Keystone XL oil pipeline, curbing travel, selling state-owned airplanes, and eliminating "phantom" state jobs that are funded but not filled.

"It is essential that we make those changes before we can reinvest in education," he said.

Heidepriem said the percentage of state spending on education has fallen from 38.4 percent to 30.9 percent under the Rounds-Daugaard administration and the number of full-time equivalent state jobs has

increased from 12,952 to 14,465.

Heidepriem said he wants to boost the education funding percentage back to 38.4 percent.

"That's going to mean we have to reduce the size of spending in the rest of state government, but after all, why does state government exist if not to adequately care for the children of this state," he said.

Tony Venhuizen, campaign manager for Daugaard, said spending for education has actually increased but the amount as a percentage of total spending decreased because Medicaid spending has risen dramatically. He said many of the new jobs are in higher education and show up as state jobs but are paid by

federal research grants or other outside sources.

Heidepriem said Daugaard would serve as a "caretaker" governor continuing current policies.

Venhuizen said Daugaard has his own ideas and doesn't always agree with Rounds.

"Governor Rounds is the last eight years and Dennis is talking about the next four or eight years," Venhuizen said.

Heidepriem said he would ask the Legislature to adopt an education spending bill by the midpoint of the session. "Then we would build the rest of the state government budget around education, recognizing that the Constitution of this state talks repeatedly about education and how important it is."

S.D. Ranchers Worry About AF Training Plan

RAPID CITY (AP) — Ranchers and others say they are worried about an Air Force plan to quadruple the size of the area it uses to train pilots flying B-1 and B-52 bombers stationed in the Dakotas.

The military this week began a series of 18 meetings to get public comment in South Dakota, North Dakota, Wyoming and Montana on the plan for the Powder River Training Complex to expand the training area from 7,000 to 28,000 square miles.

At the first meeting Tuesday in Rapid City, ranchers said they are worried about their ability to use planes to check herds and spray crops, and about noise

from training exercises.

"We treasure our peace and quiet," said Marvin Kammerer, who ranches near Ellsworth Air Force Base in southwest South Dakota. "If it's so safe, then why don't they just fly over Rapid City at midnight and let them hear the sound of freedom?"

Ray Jilek, the chief pilot at Eagle Aviation in Spearfish, said the Air Force plan would at times redirect his commercial flights to and from Billings, Mont.

"This effectively will cripple aviation in our area," he told the *Rapid City Journal* after Tuesday's hearing. "I'm concerned that they haven't even

considered the business traveler who will wait an extra four hours."

Col. Jeffrey Talaferro, commander of Ellsworth's 28th Bomb Wing, said the same number of training flights currently flown would be spread over a larger area.

"When I first started flying the B-1 in 1990, we bombed from less than a mile away, and now, threats reach out over a couple of hundred miles," he said. "It's about creating more realistic setups for our airmen."

"I think the key message is we are going to continue to be good neighbors, just like we are in our current airspace," Talaferro said.

Others at Tuesday's meeting said they are worried about plans to begin training with flares and chaff, according to television station KEVN-TV. Flares are used to distract heat-seeking missiles. Chaff is tiny, aluminum-coated material which, after blocking radar, would fall to the ground.

The Air Force says neither material would pose a safety hazard, and that the use of flares would be suspended in areas where wildfires are a threat.

The military late last month issued a nearly 500-page draft environmental impact statement on its plan. No date has been announced for a final decision on the expansion.

Nearly \$1.55M In Damage At Research Center

MEAD, Neb. (AP) — The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is totaling up agricultural damage caused by high winds and hail that ripped through eastern and south-central Nebraska earlier this week.

Hail up to 2 inches in diameter was reported Monday, as well as winds topping an estimated 80 mph.

On Tuesday, the director of UNL's agricultural research center estimated nearly \$1.55 million in damage to crops, buildings and vehicles from the storms. The center covers 9,700 acres near Mead in Saunders County and has nearly 400 workers.

Center director Mark Schroeder told the *Lincoln Journal Star* "the good news is no one was hurt. We can replace buildings and fix build-

ings."

Schroeder estimated \$800,000 in crop damage, \$500,000 in building damage and \$250,000 in vehicle losses.

The crop damage may not be high enough to ensure coverage under the university's catastrophic insurance plan, Schroeder said, but the other damage likely will be covered. The center's main building had a broken window and roof damage, Schroeder said, and the animal buildings had several broken windows and damaged siding and roofs.

"The sound of breaking windows was unnerving," Schroeder said.

Two horses were injured when wind toppled the open-front portable building they were in. Schroeder said a veterinarian euthanized them

Monday night.

Damage to electrical and phone services forced some schools and businesses to close Tuesday. Among them were schools in the Elmwood-Murdock and Syracuse districts.

In the south-central Nebraska town of Wilcox, Fire

Chief Mark Twohig told the Kearney Hub that hail broke windows, damaged siding and dented shingles in buildings all over town.

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OBITUARIES

Mildred Krause

Mildred Olive Krause, 84, died Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at Wakonda Heritage Manor.

Mildred Schrooten was born November 26, 1925 in Fedora, SD to Arnold and Pauline (Weathers) Schrooten. She graduated from Argonne, High School in 1944. She later attended Western Iowa Tech, where she received her Nursing Degree. She married Melvin Krause on June 17, 1944 in Miner County. She was employed as an LPN at Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton for 15 years.

Mildred enjoyed quilting, knitting, crocheting and enjoyed reading and listening to music.

Survivors include Ray (Sharlen) Krause, Joanne (Ralph) Wamsher, grandchildren; Angela Krause, Michael (Rachelle) Krause, Nancy Krause, Daniel Krause, Karen Johnson, Gayle (Jasen) Weber; Great Grandchildren; Ryan Johnson, Cain Krause, Calvin Krause, Declan Weber, daughter in law Martha Krause, two sisters; Judith Bickett, Gola Hunter.

Preceded in death by her husband, one son Bill, one daughter

Susan, parents, two brothers and one sister.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m. Saturday, September 18, 2010 at the United Methodist Church in Irene, SD. Graveside services will be at 1:30 at Graceland Cemetery at Howard, SD.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, September 17 at the Hansen Funeral Home in Irene.

The family requests that memorials be directed towards the Wakonda United Methodist Church or the Wakonda Heritage Manor.

For obituary and online condolences please visit hansenfuneralhome.com.

Yankton Press & Dakotan
September 16, 2010

Michael Johnson

VERMILLION — Michael W. Johnson, 51, of Vermillion, SD passed away Monday, September 13 at the Mercy Medical Center in Sioux City, IA from results of a fall at work.

Mike was born October 14, 1958 in Salt Lake City, UT to Delmar (Bud) and Vera (Mayer) Johnson. He attended school in the Vermillion area, and joined the U.S. Army at age 17. Mike married Lisa Petersen on February 7, 1976 and spent 10 years in the Army prior to returning to Vermillion.

Mike worked for the Johnson Feed Inc. in Canton, SD as a wash bay attendant, and was currently working at their North Sioux City location. Mike loved and was very proud of his family and grandchildren. Mike was an avid NASCAR fan and was very proud of his work.

He is survived by his wife Lisa and mother Vera both of Vermillion, two sons: Jeremy-stationed in Travis AFB in Fairfield, CA and Travis & Alisha of Vermillion and a daughter Bobby Jo (Jason) Husby of Vermillion. Three brothers: Gary (Julie) Johnson of Wakonda, SD, Ronnie Johnson of Vermillion and Greg Johnson of Burbank, SD and two sisters: Cheryl Seney of Burbank and Janet Carlisle and

friend Don Brose of Alcester, SD. He is also survived by seven grandchildren: Jacob and Shelby Husby, Chace and Connor Johnson, Tegan and Talon Johnson and Kaylie Mortensen.

He was preceded in death by his father Bud Johnson and his brother in law David Seney.

Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. Saturday, September 18 at the United Church of Christ in Vermillion, with burial to follow in the Bluffview Cemetery in Vermillion. Visitation will begin at 5:00 p.m. Friday, September 17 with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m., all at the church. Online condolences and obituary: hansenfuneralhome.com.

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September 16, 2010

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