

Prison

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Santana-Gregory repeatedly refused instructions from police to step out of the victim's vehicle and to roll down the window. He eventually exited the vehicle after being told he was being charged with obstructing an officer.

On Feb. 15, Santana-Gregory posted 10% of \$50,000 bail.

On Feb. 21, police were dispatched to an apartment on Riverside Boulevard after a caller reported hearing a physical disturbance.

Responding officers could hear crying and yelling in Spanish as they approached the apartment door. A Spanish-speaking officer heard the victim yelling, "Let me go, please. ... Please don't kill me."

Santana-Gregory refused to let police inside the apartment, and officers forced their way inside, brought Santana-Gregory to the ground and placed him in handcuffs.

The victim later told police that Santana-Gregory had stood in front of the door and wouldn't let her leave. Santana-Gregory also said he would kill the woman if she let officers inside.

He was arrested and had his bail set at \$250,000.

Santana-Gregory, when asked by Kube on Thursday why he kept assaulting the victim, said he was not in his right mind.

"Things spiraled out of control. I should have reacted differently," he said. "I'm very sorry for that."

Santana-Gregory was under the influence during both incidents, he said, adding that he had struggled with substance abuse and alcohol addiction for a long time, with heroin and methamphetamine being his drugs of choice.

He told Kube that his drug use contributed to his criminal history, which includes convictions for burglary, theft, robbery, battery and larceny.

As part of the plea agreement in Santana-Gregory's case, prosecutors stayed silent as to a sentencing recommendation.

Chelsey Hartner, deputy Madison Coun-

ty public defender, said drugs and alcohol have significantly affected Santana-Gregory's life, including during the incidents for which he was being sentenced.

"So, not trying to just excuse his behavior, but it's certainly something he can work on that hopefully would help him to be more law-abiding in the future," Hartner said.

Because two of Santana-Gregory's convictions are Class 3A felonies (attempted second-degree assault and first-degree false imprisonment), he would be required by statute to serve a term of postrelease supervision if the judge imposed a sentence of incarceration.

Hartner asked Kube to sentence Santana-Gregory to probation, adding that he could engage in probation's programming immediately instead of after he is released from prison. Santana-Gregory was open to programming recommendations and would comply with probation requirements, Hartner said.

"He's been in jail a long time and has had a long time to think about this," she said. "And he'd really like to take some steps to address his issues with substance use and his behavior."

Santana-Gregory apologized "to the people of Madison County for my disregard of the law" and to the victim for the pain and harm he's caused her. He also thanked the victim for her unconditional love and support.

"I learned that I can't control what other people think and say, but I can control two things — the way I react and my emotions," he said. "And by doing that, I can make decisions with better judgments. Because as we all know, every action has a consequence. ... And I pray to God that he continues to bless me with more knowledge, wisdom and understanding so I can continue to grow and just be a better person in life."

Kube acknowledged Santana-Gregory's yearning to better control his actions. But the problem, the judge said, is that when someone is addicted to drugs and is under the influence, reactions can't be controlled. "And that's what you have a hard time

doing — not only do you have a hard time controlling your reactions, those reactions are violent," Kube said. "And this happened on two occasions within three weeks of each other."

The victim and the public are in need of protection from Santana-Gregory, the judge said, until he can address his addictions. Kube added that there was a high likelihood that Santana-Gregory would re-offend.

Santana-Gregory's sentence includes 2 years each for attempted assault and false imprisonment and 1 year for obstructing an officer. He also was ordered to be on postrelease supervision for 24 months.

Others were sentenced Thursday for the following:

Driving under the influence — third offense
 ■ Kenneth J. Rath, 73, Pierce, 180 days in the Madison County Jail with credit for 1 day served, license revoked for 15 years, \$1,000, costs.

Aiding consumption of a felony
 ■ Pamela L. Burns, 29, 509 Lincoln St., 90 days in the Madison County Jail with credit for 31 days served, 18 months' probation, costs.

Revocation of probation on the conviction of possession of methamphetamine
 ■ Amber Redwing, 31, Madison County Jail, 1 year in the Nebraska Department of Corrections with credit for 85 days served, costs.

Others appeared for arraignments on the following charges:

Possession of methamphetamine
 ■ Timothy R. Jensen, 34, 4601 S. First St., Lot 7, pleaded not guilty.

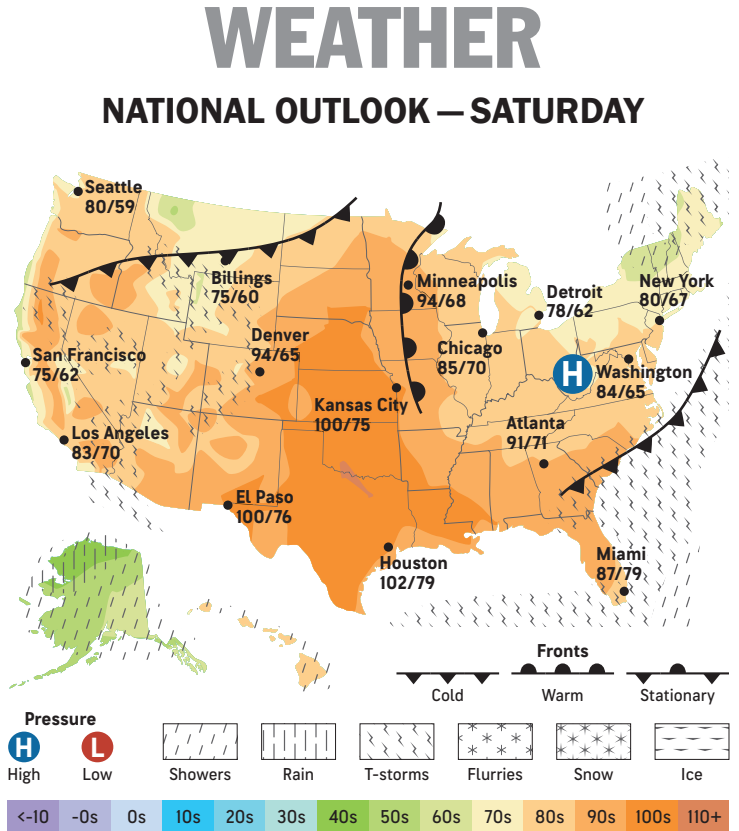
■ Dustin L. Power, 41, Madison County Jail, pleaded not guilty.
 ■ Tifani M. Power, 37, 111 N. Ninth St., pleaded not guilty.

Probation violation on the conviction of attempted possession of buprenorphine
 ■ Derrick J. Phillips, 28, 816 Forest Drive, pleaded no contest.

Possession of methamphetamine, possession of a deadly weapon by a prohibited person, driving under the influence, reckless driving
 ■ Ronald A. Pitts, 67, 412 W. Northwestern Ave., failed to appear. Kube revoked Pitts' bail and ordered for a warrant to be issued for his arrest.

Possession of fentanyl, possession of oxycodone, negligent child abuse
 ■ Kirsten M. Taylor, 26, Omaha, pleaded not guilty to each charge.

Possession of cocaine
 ■ Kayla L. Wattier, 31, 509 Lincoln Ave., pleaded not guilty.



FRIDAY

Across the nation

City	Hi	Lo	Prc
Albuquerque	95	68	2%
Anchorage	68	49	22%
Atlanta	84	65	0%
Baltimore	91	73	6%
Billings	103	73	29%
Boston	70	66	98%
Cheyenne	83	66	24%
Chicago	81	59	0%
Cleveland	80	62	0%
Dallas	109	82	3%
Denver	94	69	29%
Des Moines	85	57	5%
Detroit	78	57	0%
Duluth	74	50	8%
Honolulu	91	76	69%
Houston	101	79	5%
Indianapolis	77	57	0%
Kansas City	85	61	2%
Las Vegas	106	85	32%
Los Angeles	85	63	2%
Miami	89	80	77%
Milwaukee	83	59	0%
Minneapolis	87	56	13%
Nashville	84	66	1%
New Orleans	99	83	4%
New York	79	73	58%
Oklahoma City	98	70	2%
Orlando	94	76	82%
Philadelphia	90	73	42%
Phoenix	113	90	55%
Salt Lake City	98	74	27%
San Antonio	106	75	2%
San Diego	74	66	7%
San Francisco	68	62	40%
Seattle-Tacoma	91	59	6%
Sioux Falls	91	57	12%
St. Louis	87	58	0%
Washington	90	71	4%
Wichita	90	61	2%

THURSDAY

Across the state

City	Hi	Lo	Prc
Ainsworth	80	62	
Albion	75	55	
Broken Bow	84	58	
Chadron	90	64	
Columbus	77	54	
Falls City	81	53	
Grand Island	83	60	
Hastings	82	59	
Imperial	86	61	
Kearney	81	58	
Lincoln	82	53	
McCook	85	62	
Norfolk	79	58	
North Platte	83	60	
Omaha	78	56	
O'Neill	76	60	
Scottsbluff	94	64	
Valentine	82	62	
Valley	78	59	
Wayne	76	55	

NORFOLK	NEBRASKA
Thursday's high temperature 79 Record: 105 in 1936	Friday morning's low temperature 58 Record: 43 in 1943
Thursday's high temperature 94 Scottsbluff	Friday morning's low temperature 50 Tekamah



	9	4	5	
8		7		5
			9	8
	5	6	9	7
3	2	7		8
			4	
5	3			
		5	1	
	4	9		6
				3

Difficulty: ★★ ★ ★ 8/18

SUDOKU: HOW TO PLAY

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9-by-9 grid with several given numbers.

The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 box contains the same number only once.

ONLINE EXTRA
LATEST NEWS ALERTS

Be the first to know the news in Norfolk and the surrounding area by downloading the Daily News' app, signing up for the daily newsletter or following on social media.



- CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS**
- ▶ Actor Robert Redford is 87.
 - ▶ Country singer Steve Wilkinson of The Wilkinson is 68.
 - ▶ Comedian-actor Denis Leary is 66.
 - ▶ Actor Craig Bierko ("Sex and the City," "The Long Kiss Goodnight") is 59.
 - ▶ Rapper Masta Killa of Wu-Tang Clan is 54.
 - ▶ Actor Christian Slater is 54.
 - ▶ Actor Malcolm-Jamal Warner is 53.
 - ▶ Actor Kaitlin Olson ("The Mick," "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia") is 48.
 - ▶ Comedian Andy Samberg ("Brooklyn Nine-Nine," "Saturday Night Live") is 45.
 - ▶ Actor Maia Mitchell ("The Fosters") is 30.

Essential

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U.S. Rep. Mike Flood of Norfolk said there are certain institutions — like public schools and newspapers — that sometimes are taken for granted. That shouldn't be the case, he said.

"It's incumbent if we want to be in a part of the country that holds its own and continues to thrive, we need to ensure that we are investing in institutions like the Norfolk Daily News to make sure that we have open and free dialogue about what's best for the future of our community."

As co-owner and founder of Flood Communications, the congressman said he is concerned with the growing number of news deserts across Nebraska and elsewhere. They're defined as places where there is no newspaper or other media to report on the local happenings, including decisions made by city councils, school boards or county boards.

"Business owners, the public, they don't realize what they've lost until it is gone," Flood said of the decline or demise of media outlets in some communities and counties. "And then they crave the idea of someone telling their story because when you tell their story, it's like they matter. They are important enough to be recognized for something. You lose that community spirit when it is gone."

AS A PUBLIC OFFICIAL, Flood said, he especially appreciates the Daily News. In part that's because "30-second sound bites," which broadcast media often feature, can't adequately explain a complex issue or story.

As an example, Flood said that early in his years as a senator in the Nebraska Legislature, there was a need to educate the public about the importance of groundwater, including the threat that contaminants were having on water quality. A proposal was put forth to limit the number of new wells and the use of groundwater.

"The Norfolk Daily News, covering

groundwater and covering the state issues, really brought this to a head. By and large, Northeast Nebraska wasn't up to speed on well moratoriums. It was something we cared about, but it wasn't something we had ever dealt with," he said.

Flood said he remembers walking into a room at Northeast Community College filled with about 700 irrigators. They were there because they had read the thorough, explanatory stories in the Daily News.

The newspaper articles got people talking, Flood said.

"They (irrigators) got my attention and they got the attention of Deb Fischer (then a state senator) and members of the Nebraska Legislature," Flood said. "It led to a process where both sides had advocates and we had a knock-down, drag-out, two-year process that eventually led to some major changes in groundwater law in 2006 and 2007. That is not going to be remembered by a lot of people, but the Norfolk Daily News dug in to find out the issues and interview a number of people and brought the issues to the public."

BOTH MOENNING and Flood said they have concerns over the rise of social media as a substitute for news. Many people, without formal training, consider themselves "citizen journalists" on social media channels but often represent special interest groups.

"I think independent newspapers are vital to a free and fair press," Moenning said. "News reporting should be straight — in other words as impartial and fair and balanced as possible, not skewed by any particular political viewpoint. I think concerns that special-interest journalism are leading to further polarization in society are legitimate."

Efforts to censor news content should set off alarms, too, he said.

Flood said preventing news stories and blocking discussions about topics impor-

tant to voters is like having the government determine what news is worthy of being reported.

Flood said journalism "shares the road with every single American."

"If you support free speech, our freedom depends on facts — and facts that are checked by folks who have been trained in journalism. It is much harder than it looks," he said.

FLOOD SAID THIS same disruption that has affected the news media from social media will go on to have an impact on banks, other industries and individuals.

"The moral of the story is you are going to come out on the better side if you come out on the side of the people who want to deal in facts," he said. "People need to recognize that facts aren't free. Facts are checked by journalists and supported by subscriptions and advertisements."

Flood said he finds it frustrating when his fellow lawmakers say they don't have to answer the media's questions anymore because they will go to social media with their own message.

That's a mistake.

"People trust their local media," Flood said. "When I left for the August recess, members of the Republican Conference asked me, 'What are you going to be communicating to the media about where we are going as a country?' The media is still very important and is relied upon. People trust their local news more than they trust any other form of information."

Moenning said he knows this is a challenging time for many media outlets, including newspapers.

"But it is my hope that those newspapers who keep focusing on thorough and fair reporting, as well as community-minded journalism, will prove to be a sustainable, viable model for years to come," Moenning said. "Locally, we have a great example of this model in the Norfolk Daily News."

Resource

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"Just think of all the people impacted by legal notices alone having to do with real estate and real property," Beermann said. "Consider the family. Even just 20 years ago when you would pick up the (Omaha) World-Herald or the (Lincoln) Journal Star, there would be 35-, 45-, 50- and 60-year wedding anniversaries. Now, you are lucky to see one. Think how that robs the family now and how it will in 20 or 30 years from now."

By encouraging a variety of

opinions, newspapers also further the advancement of knowledge and advancement of truth, Beermann said.

Sometimes people express opinions that aren't completely true or false. Discussion helps to sort out what is true and what isn't, he said. Plus, when people are heard, they are less likely to engage in violence or conflict, Beermann said.

Many Americans don't realize how important newspapers are, Beermann said.

Newspapers contain the information older Americans and

others should want: Church notices, car ads, school news, obituaries, and what's happening in the nation, state and locally.

"With obituaries, are they going to need to go to 11 different mortuary sites (on the internet) and who knows how many others, if they can even find it? Will they? I don't think so. It's critically important (to keep your newspaper)," Beermann said. "By picking up the paper, I can get all that."

So what will happen in communities if they lose their newspapers?

"It will be a very serious blow to our society," Beermann said. "It won't be a society as we know it. I suppose you will have people who capture a headline here and there, but there is no way to go for the story. We already are seeing that in some cities. That's the problem today."

"It is important to get the (full) story. You get the story in the newspaper, not just the headlines. It is important we educate people. I don't think people know how important this is."

people with automated implantable cardioverter-defibrillators. Headphones and earbuds have magnets, so keep them away from your pacemaker. A person with a pacemaker should also avoid extremely powerful electronic equipment such as arc welders. Cellphones are unlikely to cause problems, but even so, don't carry it directly over your pacemaker.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I take several prescribed medications every morning, together with over-the-counter supplements. Because I have a difficult time swallowing pills, it was suggested that I use a pill crusher (for pills that the pharmacist deems

OK to crush) and to mix the crushed pills with a little applesauce (1-2 tablespoons).

It works great, but I have to wonder, is there anything taken away from the full effectiveness of all the pills, including instant interactions, when they form a powder? — E.R.

GENERALLY NOT. Drug companies take the powdered drug and squeeze it together into a pill to make it easier to take, but it's not inherently better than taking it as a powder. As you say, you need to check with the pharmacist. Some pills are designed to release medicine slowly, and that ability is lost when you crush it.



Dr. Keith Roach

department store security device or a metal detector. If you are required to undergo extra security at an airport, advise security personnel that you have a pacemaker so they can keep the handheld device away from your chest.

Strong magnets are a potential problem for those with pacemakers, but more so in

Wireless devices pose little risk to pacemaker

DEAR DR. ROACH: Do people with pacemakers need to be concerned about wireless devices? — B.L.

IN MOST CASES, there is very little risk to a pacemaker from wireless devices. However, there are some exceptions, so it is prudent to stay away from some types of devices as much as possible.

For instance, anti-theft systems in department stores and metal detectors (including portable detectors) can potentially cause electromagnetic interference with a pacemaker, so those with pacemakers are advised to spend as little time around them as possible. Don't lean against a