

With his cancer gone and fall camp underway, things are back to normal for NU assistant Dewitt. *Sports*



City Sprouts interns take time away from own gardens to help Ronald McDonald House. *Midlands*

# Omaha World-Herald

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## Less use of one monitor may save CHI \$5,400 a day

Closely following national guidelines on cardiac telemetry cuts costs and improves care, system finds

By JULIE ANDERSON  
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

When it comes to medical procedures, less is sometimes better for patients — and, in some cases, for health care costs.

That's been the case with an initiative CHI Health has undertaken over the past year.

By sticking more strictly to national guidelines, the health system has reduced by about 20% the number of patients receiving cardiac telemetry, the continuous monitoring of a patient's heart rhythm in the hospital.

It's a procedure that's important for patient care, when done for the right reasons and in the right patients, said Dr. Thomas Frederickson, CHI Health's medical director.

But when it's not warranted, it can produce false findings and lead to unnecessary follow-up tests or procedures — and even extend hospital stays.

At a time of growing concern about rising health care costs, any savings that come by avoiding scans, tests and treatments that don't help patients are considered a good thing. To be sure, a hospital stay still can be expensive. That's why efforts are under way to focus on preventive care and keep peo-

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## Nebraska GOP lawmaker says party enables white supremacy

By JOSEPH MORTON  
WORLD-HERALD BUREAU

WASHINGTON — Nebraska State Sen. John McCollister is speaking out against his own Republican Party and President Donald Trump.



John McCollister

"The Republican Party is enabling white supremacy in our country," McCollister wrote on Twitter on Sunday night. "As a lifelong Republican, it pains me to say this, but it's the truth."

In a phone interview Monday, McCollister said he has been concerned about the direction of his party for some time, but the horrors of people being gunned down over the weekend represented a tipping point.

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### COVERAGE INSIDE

#### DEATH TOLL RISES

Two more succumb to injuries in Texas; many still in Ohio hospitals

#### TWO PRESIDENTS

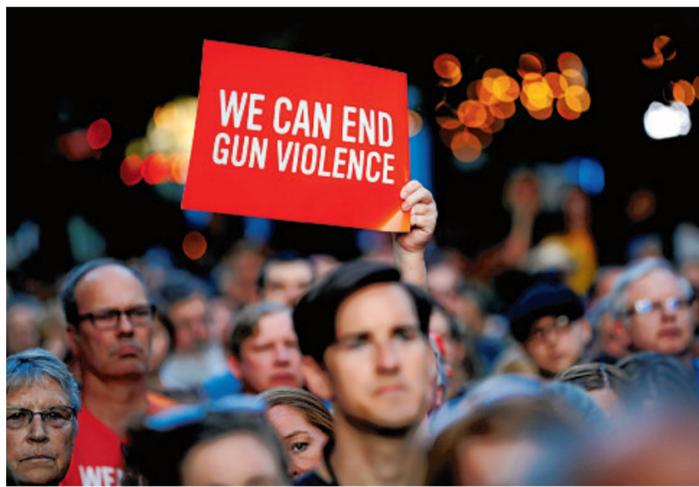
Trump rejects racism; Obama speaks of leaders who feed 'climate of fear'

#### VIDEO GAMES

They aren't linked to real-life violence, several studies have found



## Life in mass-shooting-era America: 'You can't just not go'



A vigil Sunday in Dayton, Ohio, where a masked gunman in body armor opened fire in a popular entertainment district, killing nine people and wounding dozens. At top, young baseball players remember the victims of Saturday's mass shooting in El Paso, Texas, where the death toll rose to 22 on Monday.

Weekend shootings raise questions about how fear affects our public activities

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ohio: A bar district where friends gathered for drinks on a warm Saturday night. Texas: A Walmart stocked with supplies for back-to-school shopping on an August morning. California: A family-focused festival that celebrates garlic, the local cash crop.

Two consecutive summer weekends. Less than seven days. More than 30 fellow human beings gone in moments, in public places exactly like those where huge swaths of the American population go without a second thought.

Or perhaps not. Perhaps no longer. Have we crossed into an era of second, third, even fourth thoughts?

See *Shootings: Page 5*

## Bride gets 'last wish,' thanks to strangers' kindness



Boenerges Duran kisses his wife, Melissa Jordan, at the end of the couple's wedding ceremony Monday. Jordan, 31, has end-stage kidney failure.

Dress and other items were all donated for in-hospital wedding of critically ill Omaha woman and her groom

By JULIE ANDERSON  
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Melissa Jordan and Boenerges Duran had been together for nine years, engaged for one.

Family members had been asking when they'd marry.

Then Jordan, 31, became critically ill, her condition quickly spiraling into liver and kidney failure.

Last week, Debra Reeg and a colleague decided to make the couple's dream a reality, and she did it with the kindness of strangers.

Reeg, a palliative care nurse practitioner at Creighton University Medical Center-Bergan Mercy, posted on a Facebook wedding

group she's a part of, asking if someone would be willing to donate a dress.

Within minutes, she had her first dress offer. Soon it was 30 or more. Within three hours, Reeg had offers of a cake, hairstyling and makeup help, a photographer, flowers, decorations and food.

"I was just overwhelmed by the generosity of perfect strangers who just wanted to reach out and help," Reeg said.

On Monday, members of the couple's families, including Jordan's parents and brothers from Arizona, gathered around her bed in the

See *Wedding: Page 2*

### Trade war escalates

U.S. stocks slump after China devalues its currency. *Money*

### Weather

High: 88 Low: 69  
Humid with sun, clouds Details: 4A

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