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LB 454

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion. Senator Chambers, your light was first. I'll recognize you first.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Since I don't have time to copy these articles and send them around, I want to read them. This first one appeared on page 1B of the Omaha World-Herald, January 3, 2006. Shooting Victim Not Expected to Survive, says the headline. Then in a subhead, 21-year-old is on life support. Then Arnold man in custody. A 21-year-old man remained on life support at a Kearney hospital Monday evening, after a shooting in this Custer County town of 630, and the town is Arnold. A 27-year-old Arnold man, Seth Strasburg, S-t-r-a-s-b-u-r-g, was in custody at the Custer County jail in Broken Bow after the shooting of Thomas Varney, V-a-r-n-e-y, early Sunday, State Patrol spokeswoman Deb Collins said. Varney was not expected to live and was placed on life support so his organs could be harvested for donation. And the NRA would probably say, see, there's a silver lining even to that cloud. Somebody is going to get some organs as a result. Let me continue. Collins said he was still on life support Monday evening. The suspect was arrested after a standoff south of Arnold. So his first crime was shooting a man, his second was being in a standoff with law enforcement, a hitherto law-abiding citizen of the kind that Senator Combs is pushing this bill for, on behalf of the NRA. The shooting occurred about 1:30 a.m. at a residence where people were gathering, Collins said. The suspect had fled before authorities arrived, Collins said. I told you these pistol carriers are cowards. He shot an unarmed man, then he took off running like a cowardly rat, a toothless rat, running! And he shot an unarmed man. The unarmed man can't shoot him; he's dying. Those are the kind of people who join the NRA and want to go around carrying these pistols. The suspect had fled before authorities arrived, Collins said. The suspect was involved in a single-vehicle accident south of town, left his vehicle and ran into some nearby brush, Collins said. Can't you see him? Shirttails flapping straight out behind him,