

# Argus Leader

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## Letter: Will S.D. get behind democratic nominee?

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**T**his native son was filled with pride to hear the voices, "From the great state of South Dakota, land of Mount Rushmore ... ," cast the votes which put Hillary Clinton over the threshold to become the Democratic presidential nominee at Philadelphia's Convention Hall. (["SD Dems clinch nomination for Clinton," Argus Leader, July 27](#)).

Dana Ferguson last May had written that: "As many Republicans recoil from their party's presumed nominee, some Democrats can imagine a scenario in which Hillary might pull off what Bill came just short of two decades ago," in winning S.D. in November. She quoted Adam Weiland, Clinton's state director: "I think with Donald Trump likely on the ticket, South Dakota could be up for grabs." (["Against Trump, could Clinton turn South Dakota blue?" Argus Leader, May 20.](#))

Although Sen. John Thune was numbered among the dozens of elected Republicans who absented themselves from their Cleveland convention, he told Minnehaha County Republicans at their big fundraising dinner last June that they must elect the billionaire reality TV star as president. A growing chorus of Republicans now lament Trump's worst of times vision for America. Some believe that if their standard bearer was hung for telling the truth, he would have died innocent.

The question remains, how long can Senator Thune refrain from denouncing this racist, sexist, demagogue who has hijacked his party? When the scab of this self-inflicted wound eventually heals, those who stood by silently will be held accountable by the people of S.D. and the nation.