

Groton Daily Independent

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The site for the JV Football game vs Red/Dol on Monday, Sept 29th is now at DOLAND!

12

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School Breakfast: Egg omelet, cereal, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Nacho grande, carrots and dip, fresh and canned fruit, garlic toast.

Senior Menu: Breaded Codfish, Parsley Buttered Potatoes, Creamy Coleslaw, Orange Sherbet, Whole Wheat Bread.

Birthdays: • Cliff Pray • Doug Krueger • Thomas Yarborough • Alexa Nilsson • Craig Harms • Jared Poppen

1:00pm: BAE Golfing

4:00pm: Girls soccer at West Central

7:00pm: Football hosts Mobridge-Pollock

JOHNSON AGENCY

Real Estate & Insurance

Jay Johnson, Broker

www.johnsonagencygroton.com

102 N Main St.

Office: 605/397-2424

Groton, SD 57445

Home: 605/397-8565



The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **CLOSED**

Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is at 10 East Railroad Ave. Don't forget, there is also a dumpster at the city shop for aluminum cans with the proceeds going to the pool.

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Two bedroom apartment in the Rix Apartments (former city apartments) at 407 N Garfield

FOR RENT

Attached garage.

Major appliances included.

\$700 per month

Roger: 605/397-7118

Netters have clean sweep over Roncalli

Groton won all three matches last night as the Lady Tigers defeated Aberdeen Roncalli in volleyball action played in Groton. Groton won three varsity games by identical scores of 25-19. Groton won the junior varsity match, 26-24 and 25-22, and the Tigers won the C match, 2-1, by game scores of 18-25, 25-21 and 15-7.

In serving, Groton was 64 of 73 with eight ace serves. Courtney Kurtz was 26 of 28 with six ace serves and Audrey Wanner was 10 of 12 with two ace serves.

In sets, Groton was 73 of 73 with 20 assists. Kurtz had 69 sets with 19 assists.

Groton was 84 of 96 in spikes with 21 kills. Josie Doeden was 23 of 26 with seven kills, Ashley Gibbs was 15 of 18 with five kills and Wanner was 14 of 17 with four kills.

Groton had five blocks with Doeden and Tori Bjerke each having two and Kurtz one.



Ashley Gibbs and Josie Doeden teamed to block a Roncalli shot at the net.



Courtney Kurtz had 69 of the team's 73 sets.



Kasey Waage led the Tigers in digs with 25.

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Chelsea Hanson is the new volleyball coach for Groton Area.

Chelsea Hanson is the new volleyball coach and she had the following comments about the match last night:

“We played hard, it’s always going to be a fun atmosphere to play in when we play Roncalli and the girls had fun and did what they had to do to win.”

When asked about the forceful hitting and being aggressive at the net, Hanson said, “We definitely have some power in our front row, we work a lot in practice on limiting easy balls over the net and were getting better at that.”

What have been your strong points up to this point.

“We have been really scrappy on defense so far this season, we have a lot of athleticism on the court and that shows in the back row. We tell the girls never to give up on a ball.”

What are areas that you need working on?

“We’re still an inexperienced team. Only a few of these girls played varsity last year and most of them haven’t played together as a team so we still have to get in sync on the court. I’m happy with the direction we’re going in, you can only get experience one way. We also need to limit our hitting errors and giving the other team free points.”

Who are going to be the toughest opponents this year?

“We have a tough couple of weeks ahead of us. We go out to Moberg on Tuesday and they will give us a good match. We also have Milbank and Clark who will be big conference/region opponents. We have a competitive schedule and I expect a lot of teams to give us their best game.”

Groton had 86 digs with Kasey Waage have 25, Wanner 18, Gibbs 15 and Kurtz 14.

Groton is now 3-0 on the season and 2-0 in the conference and will travel to Moberg on Tuesday.

Roncalli was 45 of 56 in serves with two ace serves. Keary Spraw was nine of 11 with two ace serves.

In sets, Roncalli was 92 of 93 with 19 assists. Rachel Kokales was 60 of 61 with nine assists and MacKenzie Martin was 32 of 32 with 10 assists.

Roncalli was 108 of 130 in spikes with 19 kills. Spraw was 17 of 22 with six kills and Hailey Kline was 27 of 35 with five kills.

Roncalli had three blocks and 152 digs with Devin Livermont having 45 digs and Haile Kline having 44.

Roncalli is 1-1 on the conference and will play Summit on Monday.

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For Rent

ONE AND TWO bedroom apartment for rent. HDS subsidized. Rent includes utilities and heat. No smoking. Pets okay. Contact Darlene Daly at 605/397-8131.

For Sale

FOR SALE: 1984 1/2 ton Ford pickup, rusty but runs good. \$600 or best offer. Honda riding lawn mower with bagger. Works good. \$550 or best offer. Call 397-2783 or 290-5546.

Smith Open House

An Open House Bridal Shower honoring Laura Smith (bride to be of Taylor Anderson) will be held on Saturday, September 20th from 9:00-11:00am at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church.

St. John's Luncheon

St. John's Lutheran Church is having its annual soup, sandwich, and pie luncheon (\$2.00 each) on Thursday, September 11th, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. along with crafts and a bake sale. Supplemental funds have been applied for from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

FRIDAY IS
FRIED CHICKEN DAY

Served with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Serving 5-9 p.m.

ANDOVER
BAR & GRILL

WE'VE GOT WINGS!
Every Wednesday!

120 S Main St. • 298-5252

The advertisement features a central illustration of a fried chicken drumstick. Below it, there is a red starburst containing the text 'Serving 5-9 p.m.'. To the left, there is a graphic of wings with the text 'WE'VE GOT WINGS! Every Wednesday!'. To the right, there is a logo for 'ANDOVER BAR & GRILL' featuring a grill, a beer, and flames. At the bottom, the address and phone number '120 S Main St. • 298-5252' are displayed.

Today in Weather History

1931: On this day in 1931, near record or record heat came to an end across central and northeast South Dakota as well as west central Minnesota. From September 9th through the 12th, many record highs were set at Aberdeen, Kennebec, Mobridge, Timber Lake, Watertown, and Wheaton. High temperatures during this four-day period ranged from 95 degrees to 109 degrees. Aberdeen rose to 107 degrees on the 10th, Kennebec rose to 109 on the 9th, Mobridge rose to 105 on the 9th, Timber Lake's high was 106 on the 9th, Watertown rose to 104 on the 10th, and Wheaton rose to 108 degrees on the 10th.

1882 - Hot and dry winds caused tree foliage in eastern Kansas to wither and crumble. (David Ludlum)

1977 - Thunderstorms deluged the Kansas City area with torrential rains in the early morning hours, and then again that evening. Some places were deluged with more than six inches of rain twice that day, with up to 18 inches of rain reported at Independence MO. Flooding claimed the lives of 25 persons. The Country Club Plaza area was hardest hit. 2000 vehicles had to be towed following the storm, 150 of which had to be pulled out of Brush Creek, which runs through the Plaza area. (The Kansas City Weather Almanac)

1979 - Hurricane Frederick smashed into the Mobile Bay area of Alabama packing 132 mph winds. Winds gusts to 145 mph were reported as the eye of the hurricane moved over Dauphin Island AL, just west of Mobile. Frederick produced a fifteen foot storm surge near the mouth of Mobile Bay. The hurricane was the costliest in U.S. history causing 2.3 billion dollars damage. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Showers and thunderstorms produced heavy rain which caused flooding in North Carolina, West Virginia, Virginia and Pennsylvania. Parts of Virginia received 3 to 4 inches of rain in just two hours early in the day. Later in the day, three to five inch rains deluged Cumberland County of south central Pennsylvania. Evening thunderstorms produced seven inches of rain at Marysville PA, most of which fell in three hours time. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








1988 - An afternoon tornado spawned a tornado which skipped across northern sections of Indianapolis IN damaging roofs and automobiles. It was the first tornado in central Indiana in September in nearly forty years of records. Hurricane Gilbert plowed across the island of Jamaica, and by the end of the day was headed for the Cayman Islands, packing winds of 125 mph. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)


1989 - Snow whitened the mountains and foothills of northeastern Colorado, with eight inches reported at Buckhorn Mountain, west of Fort Collins. Two to three inches fell around Denver, causing great havoc during the evening rush hour. Thunderstorms produced severe weather in the Southern Plains Region between mid afternoon and early the next morning. Thunderstorms produced hail three inches in diameter at Roswell NM, and wind gusts greater than 98 mph at Henryetta OK. Thunderstorms also produced torrential rains, with more than seven inches at Scotland TX, and more than six inches at Yukon OK. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2013: Torrential rains began on the evening of the 11th along the Colorado Front Range and continued into the 12th. By the 13th some locations, such as Boulder, received more rain in 3 days than ever before in any previous month. The resultant flooding was catastrophic and resulted in the loss of nine lives and millions of dollars in property damage.


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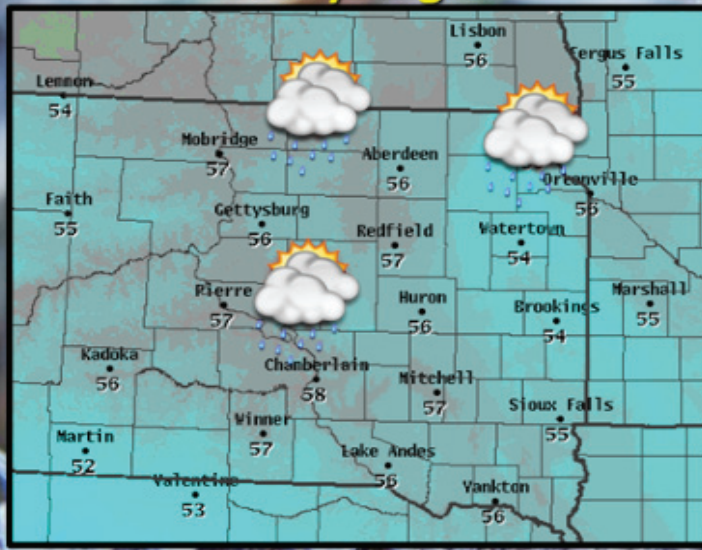
TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SATURDAY NIGHT	SUNDAY	SUNDAY NIGHT	MONDAY
						
20%						
Isolated Showers High: 56 °F	Patchy Frost Low: 34 °F	Morning Frost High: 63 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 41 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 64 °F	Mostly Clear Low: 39 °F	Sunny High: 65 °F



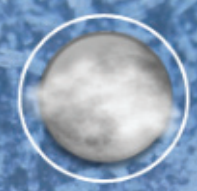
Isolated Light Showers Today Patchy Frost Again Saturday Morning



Todays Highs




Tonight




Lows:
30s

Saturday



Highs:
60s

Sunday



Highs:
60s

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

weather.gov/Aberdeen
f National Weather Service Aberdeen
@NWSAberdeen
Updated: 9/12/2014 4:18 AM Central

High pressure continues to drift south. Aside from a few sprinkles today, most of the area will remain dry. Temperatures will dip back towards freezing early Saturday before readings get back closer to normal.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 53.2°F at 2:42 PM

Low: 41.6°F at 11:22 PM

High Gust: 19 mph at 12:42 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 97° in 1931

Record Low: 24° in 1902

Average High: 74°F

Average Low: 47°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 0.83

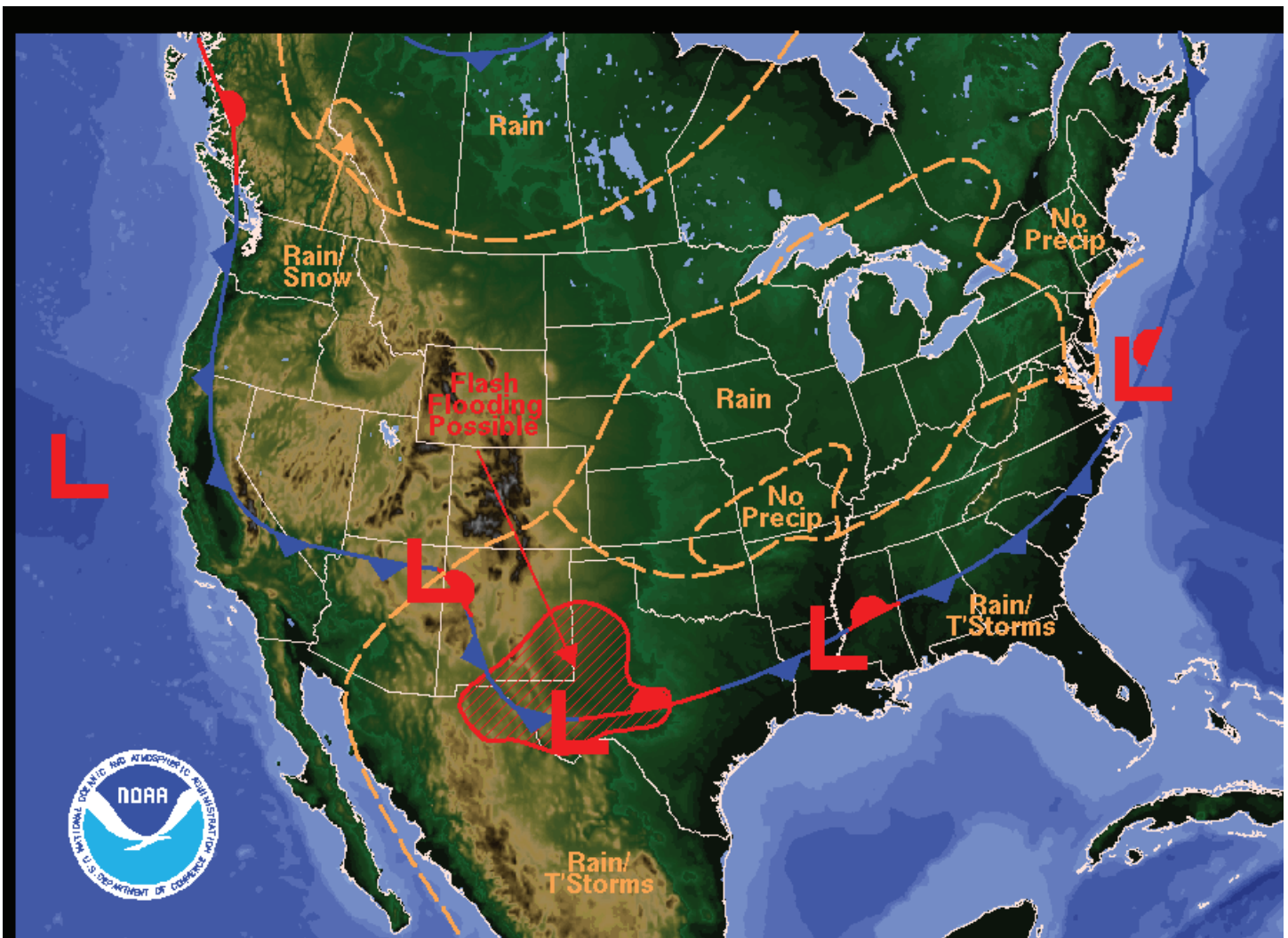
Precip to date in Sept.: 0.26

Average Precip to date: 17.12

Precip Year to Date: 12.18

Sunset Tonight: 7:50 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:10 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Fri, Sep 12, 2014, issued 2:25 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mc Reynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



LOOK AT IT THIS WAY.....

"One thing for certain about you, Guido," he said as he looked at my messy desk, "you don't have OCD!"

"What do you mean, I don't have OCD?" I asked.

"Well, if you had an obsessive compulsive disorder you would be arranging and rearranging your desk to make it neat and orderly. Then you would do it over and over again. But, it's not neat, never has been and probably never will be. I'll bet that your drawers are the same."

Realizing that he was right, I decided not to argue with him. He was a psychologist and I was embarrassed.

Many people do arrange and then rearrange things. Some people do things over and over again to make sure that everything is perfect, or as close to perfect as it can be. They check and then recheck what they have already checked. Being around people who have habits like that make me feel guilty. They have to do things right!

But there is a vast difference between doing things right and doing the right things. We can waste an entire day arranging and then rearranging food in our homes while our neighbor goes hungry. Or, we may arrange and then rearrange our cramped closets when we know there are people who are cold and have no warm clothes. We may be doing things right but we are certainly not doing the right things.

Righteousness in God's Word is a combination of both behaviors. Not only do we want to do things right as He commands us to do in His Word, but we also we want to do the right things that will please and honor Him.

Prayer: Help us, Father, to be aware about how we do "righteousness." May our lives meet Your expectations. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 1:3 for receiving instruction in prudent behavior, doing what is right and just and fair;

Natives to ask questions of US Senate candidates

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Three of the four U.S. Senate candidates in South Dakota plan to discuss American Indian issues in their latest meeting.

Native Sun News and the United Tribes Technical College in Rapid City are sponsoring Friday's debate at the school's Black Hills Learning Center.

Native American students and faculty will ask questions of Democrat Rick Weiland and independent candidates Larry Pressler and Gordon Howie. Republican Mike Rounds does not plan to take part.

The debate starts at 6 p.m. Mountain time.

Unclear future for guarantee games in playoff era

STEVE MEGARGEE, AP Sports Writer

These first few weeks of the college football season feature dozens of so-called "guarantee games" with smaller programs collecting big paychecks by hitting the road for games against major-conference teams.

For instance, South Carolina State's trip to Clemson last week resulted in a 73-7 loss and a \$275,000 payment. UC Davis is getting \$350,000 for its season-opening visit to Stanford that resulted in a 45-0 trouncing. Sam Houston State got blown out 56-0 at LSU last week but is receiving \$500,000.

There's no guarantee these types of games — at least the ones involving Football Championship Sub-division programs — will be as common in the College Football Playoff era.

The Big Ten already is discouraging its teams from scheduling FCS foes, though not penalizing those that do. The Southeastern Conference and Atlantic Coast Conference want their schools to play at least one nonconference game against a team from the Power Five leagues.

"We're already, what's the old saying, preparing for the worst and hoping for the best," Chattanooga athletic director David Blackburn said. "We are having those conversations, trying to be educated as much as we can to find out where in the landscape of college football that is headed."

These games produce big money for FCS athletic departments, which posted median total revenues of \$14.7 million in 2013, according to NCAA data. Occasionally, they also result in big wins.

North Dakota State, winner of the last three FCS championships, beat Iowa State in its season opener and is getting paid \$350,000 for making the trip. The Bison have won their last five games against Football Bowl Subdivision schools. McNeese State received \$415,000 to play at Nebraska last week and lost 31-24 only after giving up a tiebreaking touchdown with 20 seconds left.

"Obviously it's a positive from a financial standpoint, but I've always taken it as a positive from a competitive standpoint," McNeese State coach Matt Viator said. "And I think it enhances the student-athlete experience at McNeese to have (this) opportunity. We open with Nebraska this year. We're at LSU to start the next season. I mean, wow, it's two of the best venues you can play at in college football."

Viator and his colleagues hope these games won't become tougher to schedule. The marketplace suggests major-conference programs would rather play guarantee games against lower-level FBS programs than FCS schools. Ohio State athletic director Gene Smith explained why the Big Ten doesn't want its schools playing FCS teams.

"It's twofold," Smith said. "Part of it was strength of schedule. We're trying to improve our nonconference strength of schedule. And the other part was television. We have been wildly successful with our

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television package. And as we move toward renegotiation for future years, we want to make sure that we have the most attractive nonconference schedules that we can have, and FBS schools are looked upon more favorably by television."

The preference to play lower-level FBS programs instead of FCS schools is reflected in the marketplace. For example, Tennessee has nonconference home games this season with Utah State, Arkansas State and Chattanooga. Tennessee is paying \$1 million to Arkansas State, \$950,000 to Utah State and just \$450,000 to Chattanooga, the lone FCS program of the three.

Arizona athletic director Greg Byrne said the cost of scheduling guarantee games with other FBS programs has "skyrocketed."

"We've got colleagues in the MAC and the Sun Belt and Conference USA that aren't even willing to talk for less than a million dollars," said Ron Prettyman, athletic director at FCS program Indiana State. "In the past, they were getting between \$500,000 to \$700,000 for those same games."

Conference schedules also could have an impact on the future of guarantee games. The Pac-12 and Big 12 already play nine conference games and the Big Ten is making that transition in 2016. Blackburn wonders whether FCS programs could get hurt if the Pac-12, SEC and Big Ten require larger league schedules to add programming to their respective conference networks.

"The SEC right now plays eight conference games," Blackburn said. "Our fear is one day they're going to say you've got to play nine or 10 league games. Then that could cut us out."

With five major conferences competing for four playoff spots, the leagues could be tempted to boost schedule strength by avoiding FCS teams. FCS athletic directors note only the top programs in those conferences are going to be annual playoff contenders, and that other schools may look out for their own interests. Prettyman said that "for a school like Indiana, the game with Indiana State could be the difference between them making a bowl or not."

"They're going to look at the strength of schedule for the FBS playoff, (but) how many teams realistically in a given year are going to be thinking about that?" Western Carolina athletic director Randy Eaton said. "Just think of the SEC. You've kind of got your top five teams that are always going to be there. What about the (others)? Do they really care if they play an FCS team or not?"

And if power schools don't schedule FCS programs as often, FCS schools can instead line up lower-payday games with FBS teams from outside the major conferences.

"For me, there's no concern," Savannah State athletic director Sterling Steward said. "There are 128 FBS teams. There are only four positions in the playoffs. The strength of schedule's only going to be (relevant) for the top 15 in the AP or the coaches' poll. Those other schools... they still need those games to play. Hopefully, they'll understand and look to play us."

South Dakota State athletic director Justin Sell agreed.

"I think it's worth keeping an eye on, but we don't lose a lot of sleep over it," he said.

Thursday's Scores The Associated Press

VOLLEYBALL

Alcester-Hudson def. Akron-Westfield, Iowa, 25-19, 25-20, 17-25, 25-15

Andes Central def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-17, 25-10, 25-11

Bison def. Tiospaye Topa, 25-10, 25-15, 25-13

Bon Homme def. Platte-Geddes, 25-14, 25-17, 25-15

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Bridgewater-Emery def. Irene-Wakonda, 25-16, 27-25, 25-15
Centerville def. Avon, 26-24, 14-25, 19-25, 25-12, 15-13
Colman-Egan def. Castlewood, 14-25, 25-21, 25-21, 16-25, 15-13
Custer def. St. Thomas More, 25-15, 25-12, 25-21
Dakota Christian def. Sunshine Bible Academy, 25-17, 25-21, 21-25, 25-14
Dakota Valley def. Beresford, 25-21, 25-19, 25-20
DeSmet def. Estelline, 22-25, 25-12, 25-15, 25-20
Deubrook def. Oldham-Ramona/Rutland, 25-16, 25-18, 25-15
Douglas def. Hot Springs, 25-7, 21-25, 25-16, 25-19
Elk Point-Jefferson def. Canton, 25-14, 25-18, 25-18
Elkton-Lake Benton def. Arlington, 25-18, 25-20, 25-23
Ethan def. Menno, 25-9, 25-18, 25-19
Eureka/Bowdle def. McLaughlin, 17-25, 26-24, 25-21, 25-18
Florence/Henry def. Langford, 25-13, 23-25, 25-15, 25-14
Freeman Academy def. Hendricks, Minn., 25-12, 25-15, 25-8
Gayville-Volin def. Freeman, 25-14, 25-12, 25-18
Groton Area def. Aberdeen Roncalli, 25-19, 25-19, 25-19
Herreid/Selby Area def. Timber Lake, 24-26, 25-21, 25-14, 25-12
Highmore-Harold def. Iroquois, 25-19, 25-14, 25-15
Hitchcock-Tulare def. Wolsey-Wessington, 25-17, 25-9, 25-13
Huron def. Brandon Valley, 25-22, 25-20, 25-19
Kimball/White Lake def. Tripp-Delmont/Armour, 25-8, 25-14, 21-25, 25-17
Lake Preston def. Dell Rapids St. Mary, 25-22, 25-22, 25-9
Lead-Deadwood def. Hill City, 25-13, 25-16, 23-25, 27-25
Leola/Frederick def. Aberdeen Christian, 25-5, 25-14, 25-11
Lyman def. New Underwood, 25-12, 25-17, 25-18
Madison def. Lennox, 25-18, 25-14, 25-10
Marshall, Minn. def. Sioux Falls Roosevelt, 25-12, 27-25, 25-17
Milbank def. Clark/Willow Lake, 25-19, 25-18, 30-28
Miller def. Ipswich, 26-24, 25-15, 25-18
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Hanson, 23-25, 17-25, 25-22, 25-17, 15-11
Pierre def. Sturgis, 23-25, 25-17, 25-15, 25-19
Pine Ridge def. Todd County, 25-11, 25-14, 25-10
Potter County def. Faulkton, 25-19, 25-23, 25-21
Red Cloud def. Little Wound, 25-15, 25-22, 16-25, 25-23
Redfield/Doland def. Hamlin, 25-15, 25-23, 25-14
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket def. Mitchell Christian, 25-18, 25-17, 25-19
Scotland def. Canistota, 25-16, 25-27, 25-11, 23-25, 15-8
Sioux Falls Christian def. West Central, 22-25, 25-18, 25-22, 25-18
Sioux Falls Lincoln def. Harrisburg, 25-20, 24-26, 25-20, 25-19
Sisseton def. Deuel, 25-23, 25-9, 25-11
Spearfish def. Belle Fourche, 25-13, 21-25, 25-18, 25-18
St. Francis Indian def. Marty Indian, 25-19, 25-17, 25-16
St. Mary's, Neb. def. South Central, 25-8, 25-8, 25-16
Tea Area def. Dell Rapids, 25-19, 25-19, 24-26, 25-17

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Tri-Valley def. Vermillion, 20-25, 25-18, 25-21, 25-21
Wagner def. Gregory, 25-15, 25-23, 25-19
Wall def. Kadoka Area, 25-13, 25-13, 28-26, 25-6
Warner def. Northwestern, 25-20, 25-13, 25-21
Watertown def. Mitchell, 25-14, 25-12, 25-9
Waubay def. Waverly-South Shore, 25-20, 14-25, 18-25, 25-12, 17-15
Webster def. Britton-Hecla, 25-21, 25-14, 25-20
White River def. Bennett County, 27-25, 21-25, 25-17, 25-15
Wynot, Neb. def. Viborg-Hurley, 25-13, 25-17, 25-14
Big East Conference Tournament
First Round
Chester def. Garretson, 25-14, 25-17, 25-9
McCook Central/Montrose def. Flandreau, 25-15, 26-24, 25-20
Parker def. Howard, 25-12, 25-11, 25-16
Sioux Valley def. Baltic, 25-19, 25-20, 25-22
Consolation Semifinal
Flandreau def. Garretson, 25-14, 25-22, 25-15
Howard def. Baltic, 25-20, 19-25, 25-18, 26-28, 21-19
Semifinals
Chester def. McCook Central/Montrose, 25-14, 25-14, 25-14
Parker def. Sioux Valley, 25-13, 25-15, 25-13

Wisner says she'd fire anyone who knew about fraud

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Democrat running for South Dakota governor said Thursday that, if elected, she would fire anyone in state government who knew about reported fraud in the EB-5 investment program.

Rep. Susan Wisner, of Britton, said she would also sue to get money from the former administrator of the program, Joop Bollen, which should go to the state.

Wisner also said that though she earlier offered to let another Democrat sit in for her spot on the Government Operations and Audit Committee at the next meeting on Sept. 24 to avoid a distraction, she "will be that person" who pursues answers.

Wisner's statements come a day after state Democratic Party executive director Zach Crago accused some current and former state leaders of keeping secret a lawsuit currently in arbitration in California related to the program. South Dakota was sued in the breach of contract lawsuit, which alleges that Bollen acted without authority in recruiting through the EB-5 program.

Crago said Bollen hid the lawsuit from his bosses at Northern State University and the South Dakota Board of Regents, and then they and state leaders kept it from the public when they finally found out.

Attorney General Marty Jackley sent documentation to reporters showing that general details of the lawsuit had been included in 2010 and 2011 reports to lawmakers.

Crago said taxpayers might have to pay out millions of dollars, but the lawyer handling the case in California said the risk for the state losing was low because "the claim of damages is speculative and the underlying claims are uncertain."

Bollen has declined to comment.

Democrats have tried to link problems with the program to former Republican Gov. Mike Rounds, who

is running for the state's open Senate seat, and current GOP Gov. Dennis Daugaard, both of whom have said they were unaware of any wrongdoing and have cooperated with investigators. Daugaard is seeking re-election.

USDA boosts corn, soybean harvest to new records

DAVID PITT, Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — The nation's corn and soybean farmers will bring in by far the largest harvest ever this year, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said Thursday in a new report.

Corn farmers are expected to harvest nearly 14.4 billion bushels of corn, up from last year's 13.9 billion bushel record. The yield of 172 bushels per acre is significantly higher than the previous record set in 2009 of 165 bushels per acre.

Record yields will be set in 18 states, the USDA said, and 10 states including Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska, the top three producers, have the highest number of ears per corn stalk ever.

A massive harvest has been expected this year as adequate rain and cool temperatures made for favorable growing conditions. The expectations have driven corn and soybean prices significantly lower, but that isn't expected to make much of a short-time difference in consumer food prices. However, since the grains are staples in livestock feed, lower prices could eventually lead to a decline in the cost of beef, pork, chicken and milk.

The soybean harvest estimate also moved upward to a record of 3.9 billion bushels. The previous record was 3.4 billion bushels in 2009. The per-acre yield is now estimated at record 46.6 bushels per acre, beating the 2009 record of 44 bushels per acre.

After meeting all current demands for corn — including exports and use for animal feed, ethanol and food ingredients — the USDA estimated 2 billion bushels of corn would remain in stock. That's the highest ending stock in a decade.

The report estimated ending soybean stocks at 475 million bushels, the highest since 2006.

Another positive of the USDA report is that it also predicts record demand for corn and soybeans, said Chad Hart, an agriculture economist with Iowa State University.

That means farmers must keep a close eye on the markets and watch opportunities to sell, he said. Slight movements of pennies per bushel can make a difference in the year's income.

Despite the strong forecast, concerns have grown in recent days that early cold weather is creeping into the upper Midwest too soon as some crops are maturing later this year because a wet spring delayed planting in northern states.

"It's a huge concern," said Ryan Buck, who grows corn and soybeans on about 1,000 acres near Red Wing in southeast Minnesota. "We need all of three weeks yet of warm weather. If we can string together some good weather here the potential is definitely there. The crop looks good, but we just need time."

A hard freeze, temperatures at 28 degrees or below for at least four hours, causes significant damage to crops.

Most of the concern is focused on Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Iowa remains the top corn producer, expecting 2.4 billion bushels, up 13 percent from last year. Production in Illinois is estimated to be 9 percent higher at 2.3 billion bushels and Nebraska remains third in production with a 1.6 billion bushel estimate, down 3.5 percent from last year's crop.

For soybeans, Illinois is the top producer, with an estimated crop of nearly 563 million bushels, up 21 percent. Iowa is second highest producer with 512 million bushels, up 24 percent from a year ago, fol-

lowed by Minnesota at 312 million bushels, a 15 percent increase over last year.

NDSU pulls study cited in hearings on rail delays

DAVE KOLPACK, Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — A North Dakota State University study cited by public officials in hearings on rail shipment delays has been withdrawn as an official publication of the university over doubts about its estimates of lost farm income.

The report, which was requested by North Dakota Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, said shipping delays on the BNSF and Canadian Pacific railways have resulted in at least \$67 million in lost farm income on crops sold between January and April 2014. North Dakota Gov. Jack Dalrymple highlighted numbers from the study in his testimony before National Surface Transportation Board last week in Fargo.

William Wilson, an NDSU professor who specializes in grain marketing and transportation, said Thursday that the study headed by crop economist Frayne Olson was done on short notice and included a couple of assumptions that were “probably not appropriate or defensible,” so the report was pulled.

Olson didn’t immediately return a message left at her home Thursday evening.

“There was nothing radically wrong with the study, but this is a study that should have taken six or 12 months,” Wilson said. “It’s a serious question, it’s a serious issue, and it’s probably deserving of a serious study.”

In the absence of one, he said, lawmakers are doing “their own back of the envelope calculating” on the impact of the backlogs.

“What the number is, I don’t know, but given the political sensitivity of this and prospectively even the legal sensitivity, we did what we did,” Wilson said.

Producers say the rail delays are cutting into profits that are already dwindling because of low commodity prices due to bumper crops. The railroads say they’re trying to catch up to a backlog caused by brutal winter weather and bottlenecks in Chicago.

Zak Andersen, spokesman for BNSF, said he doesn’t know the specifics of the study, but calls it a complicated issue because of numerous factors that include rail service, weather, export vs. domestic demand, crop size and quality.

“It is hard to isolate the impact of one specific piece on the overall market,” Andersen said.

Wilson said in the long run it might not be worth it to argue about dollar value.

“I know people want to throw out numbers and stuff, but the smart money should be figuring out what do we do looking forward,” he said. “That’s a more challenging task. That’s where we should be spending our intellectual capital.”

South Dakota State Fair exceeds attendance goal

HURON, S.D. (AP) — Officials say attendance at the South Dakota State Fair topped 200,000 people. The five-day fair was held Aug. 28 through Sept. 1 in Huron. The final attendance tally was 210,465, which was up 15 percent from last year’s event.

Fair officials say the number of campers was up 20 percent and the sale of grandstand tickets was up 26 percent over last year.

Fair manager Jerome Hertel says exceeding the goal of 200,000 people shows that the event is an “agricultural and entertainment destination.”

Western South Dakota county warns of phone scam

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Pennington County sheriff's office is warning of a telephone scam. Authorities say a caller is posing as a member of the warrants division and telling people they have to make a payment to avoid being arrested for failing to report for jury duty.

The person has identified himself on several occasions as Lt. Tom Andrews. There is no such person in the department.

Officials say the sheriff's department does not ask for payments over the phone to clear warrants.

SD delegation urges FEMA to act quickly on maps

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota congressional delegation is asking the Federal Emergency Management Agency to develop a new flood map for Sioux Falls as soon as possible.

The request comes after the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released a report that accredited a \$65 million levee system in Sioux Falls meant to help protect about 1,600 residents and businesses.

Sioux Falls Director of Public Works Mark Cotter says it takes FEMA an average of three years to complete new flood maps.

The delegation says in a letter to FEMA Director William Fugate that any unnecessary administrative delays in adopting an updated map will result in "prolonged and avoidable financial hardships" on some Sioux Falls residents.

A FEMA spokesman did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

10 Things to Know for Today

The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. PISTORIUS RECEIVES GUILTY VERDICT

The judge in the murder trial against the double-amputee athlete convicts him of culpable homicide, or negligent killing, in the shooting death of girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp, which can carry a sentence up to 15 years in prison.

2. ESCAPED SCHOOL SHOOTER CAPTURED

Authorities apprehend the convicted killer of three Ohio students, 19-year-old T.J. Lane. Two prisoners who fled with him are also back in custody.

3. CAN OBAMA PROSECUTE WAR ON ISLAMIC STATE GROUP WITHOUT CONGRESS' CONSENT?

Critics say the president's decision to authorize U.S. airstrikes inside Syria, along with expanded strikes in Iraq, has short-circuited the congressional oversight that he once championed.

4. ETHNIC FIGHTING IN CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC KILLS 5,000 SINCE DECEMBER

AP's tally represents more than double the death toll of at least 2,000 cited by the United Nations, underscoring how a U.N. mission is coming too late for thousands.

5. EVIDENCE GROWING HAMAS USED RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN WAR

While admitting "mistakes," the group says it had little choice in Gaza's crowded urban landscape and took safeguards to keep people away from the fighting.

6. WHO IS LIKELY TO DRAW CHEERS IN IOWA

Hillary Clinton returns to the state for the first time since an "excruciating" night in 2008, not quite yet running for president but sure to be offered a warm welcome by Democrats hoping she will.

7. DOCUMENTS SHOW GOVERNMENT TOOK HARD LINE IN EXPANDING SPY PROGRAM

The Bush administration threatened to fine Yahoo \$250,000 a day unless it turned over online infor-

mation.

8. SCOTTISH CELEBRITIES TAKE SIDES ON INDEPENDENCE

The Yes side has James Bond, but the No campaign has Harry Potter.

9. WHICH TEST MAKES SAN DIEGO CABBIES CRY FOUL

Body odor is among 52 criteria that officials at the city's airport use to judge taxi drivers, who say it smacks of prejudice and discrimination.

10. SPONSORS KEEP CLOSE WATCH ON NFL PROBE

Major brands are paying attention to make sure the organization doesn't fumble the investigation into how its executives handled evidence in the Ray Rice domestic violence case.

AP News in Brief

Cleared of murder, Oscar Pistorius is convicted of culpable homicide in girlfriend's killing

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — A South African judge on Friday found Oscar Pistorius guilty of culpable homicide, or negligent killing, in the shooting death of girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp and declared him not guilty of murder.

Judge Thokozile Masipa said there was not enough evidence to support that Pistorius knew Steenkamp was behind a locked toilet door in his home when he shot through the door in the predawn hours of Valentine's Day last year. Masipa said she found Pistorius had no intention to kill Steenkamp.

The red-robed judge ordered Pistorius, 27, to stand before she delivered the formal verdict on the multiple counts against him, and said it was a unanimous verdict, meaning she and her two legal assessors all agreed on the findings.

Unlike many other times during the trial that began in March, Pistorius showed no emotion as he stood in his dark suit with his hands crossed in front of him. The double-amputee Olympian was hugged by relatives when the judge ordered a recess soon after announcing her verdicts. A bail hearing is pending Friday afternoon.

Some legal analysts said they understood why Pistorius was found not guilty of premeditated murder but were surprised that the runner was not convicted of murder.

Just 100 yards away: Escaped killer of 3 Ohio high school students captured near prison

LIMA, Ohio (AP) — A teenager convicted of killing three Ohio high school students has been captured after escaping from prison, and two prisoners who fled with him are also back in custody.

A spokeswoman for the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction says State Highway Patrol troopers found 19-year-old T.J. Lane at 1:20 a.m. Friday, hiding by a church about 100 yards away.

Authorities say the convicted Chardon High School shooter and two other prisoners had scrambled over a fence hours earlier at a state prison in Lima (LY'-muh), about 80 miles south of Toledo.

One was quickly captured. Troopers then found Lane.

Lt. Eric Caudill at the patrol's hub in Columbus says the third prisoner was found about three hours after Lane. Caudill didn't immediately have details about how or where.

AP tally: More than 5,000 dead in C. African Republic before UN peacekeeping mission comes

GUEN, Central African Republic (AP) — More than 5,000 people have died in sectarian violence in Central African Republic since December, according to an Associated Press tally, suggesting that a U.N. peacekeeping mission approved months ago is coming too late for thousands.

The AP found at least 5,186 people were killed in fighting between Muslims and Christians, based on a count of bodies and numbers gathered from survivors, priests, imams and aid workers in more than 50 of the hardest-hit communities. That's more than double the death toll of at least 2,000 cited by the United Nations in April, when it approved the mission. There has been no official count since.

U.N. peacekeepers prepare to take over from African forces on Monday, bringing about 2,000 extra troops to the country. It will fall short of the almost 7,000 more that were authorized in April, with the rest expected by early 2015. Yet violence in the Central African Republic has only spread since.

"The international community said it wanted to put a stop to the genocide that was in the making. But months later, the war has not stopped," said Joseph Bindoumi, president of the Central African Human Rights League. "On the contrary, it has gotten worse."

It has taken months simply to gather troops from different countries for the mission launch on Sept. 15, especially with poor infrastructure in landlocked terrain, said Stephane Dujarric, spokesperson for the U.N. Secretary-General.

White House confident in legal basis for expanded fight against Islamic State without Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — As a U.S. senator from Illinois running for the White House in 2007, Barack Obama sponsored a resolution to prohibit President George W. Bush's administration from taking military action against Iran unless it was explicitly authorized by Congress. His idea died in committee.

Nearly seven years later, U.S. fighter jets and unmanned drones armed with missiles have conducted under Obama's orders more than 150 airstrikes against the Islamic State group over the past five weeks in Iraq even as the White House has yet to formally ask Congress for authorization for the expanding air campaign.

Obama said in his address to the nation Wednesday that he had authorized U.S. airstrikes inside Syria for the first time, along with expanded strikes in Iraq, as part of "a steady, relentless effort" to root out Islamic State extremists. He did not say how long he expected the fighting to last.

The White House says Bush-era congressional authorizations for the war on al-Qaida and the Iraq invasion give Obama the authority to expand the fighting in Syria and Iraq without new approval by Congress under the 1973 War Powers Act. That law, passed at the height of the Vietnam War, serves as a constitutional check on the president's power to declare war without congressional consent. It requires presidents to notify Congress within 48 hours of military action and limits the use of military forces to no more than 60 days unless Congress authorizes force or declares war.

Critics say the administration's tightly crafted legal strategy has short-circuited the congressional oversight that Obama once championed. They contend that the White House's use of old authorizations as grounds for the growing air war is, at best, a legal stretch.

Evidence growing that Hamas used residential areas as cover for firing rockets at Israel

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Two weeks after the end of the Gaza war, there is growing evidence that Hamas militants used residential areas as cover for launching rockets at Israel, at least at times. Even Hamas now admits “mistakes” were made.

But Hamas says it had little choice in Gaza’s crowded urban landscape, took safeguards to keep people away from the fighting, and that a heavy-handed Israeli response is to blame for the deaths of hundreds of Palestinian civilians.

“Gaza, from Beit Hanoun in the north to Rafah in the south, is one uninterrupted urban chain that Israel has turned into a war zone,” said Ghazi Hamad, a senior Hamas official in Gaza.

Increasingly, the discussion is not about whether the Hamas rockets were fired from civilian areas, but exactly how close they were to the actual buildings.

“The Israelis kept saying rockets were fired from schools or hospitals when in fact they were fired 200 or 300 meters (yards) away. Still, there were some mistakes made and they were quickly dealt with,” Hamad told The Associated Press, offering the first acknowledgment by a Hamas official that, in some cases, militants fired rockets from or near residential areas or civilian facilities.

Ukraine government, separatist rebels exchange prisoners as part of cease-fire deal

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP) — Government and rebel forces early Friday exchanged dozens of prisoners captured during fighting in Ukraine, as part of a cease-fire agreement sealed earlier this month.

The transfer took place in the dark outside the main rebel stronghold of Donetsk under the watch of international observers.

Thirty-six Ukrainian servicemen were released after negotiations and a further 21 soldiers were freed the day before, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said.

Ukrainian forces handed over 31 pro-Russian rebels detained over the course of the five-month conflict.

A cease-fire between separatists and the Ukrainian military took effect last Friday but has already been serially violated. Shortly after the prisoner exchange, a volley of rocket fire was heard from central Donetsk.

James Bond says Aye, Harry Potter says Naw: Scottish celebrities take sides on independence

LONDON (AP) — Scotland’s independence battle is a tough one to call. The Yes side has James Bond, but the No campaign has Harry Potter.

Former 007 Sean Connery has long been a vocal Scottish nationalist — from his home in the Bahamas. Earlier this year he backed independence and the “core democratic value that the people of Scotland are the best guardians of their own future.”

In the other corner stands J.K. Rowling, Edinburgh-based creator of the boy wizard. When she said independence might be “a historically bad mistake”— and backed it up with a million-pound (\$1.6 million) donation to the No campaign — it sent a Dementor-like chill through the Yes camp.

Connery and Rowling are among many Scottish and Scotland-based stars making public interven-

tions on independence ahead of Thursday's referendum — though experts say their influence on the outcome may be limited.

Pro-independence celebs include actor Gerard Butler, members of the band Franz Ferdinand and "Trainspotting" author Irvine Welsh, who has half-joked that "the Union is nature's way of stopping the Scots ruling the world."

American detainees in North Korea pose challenge as busy US works on strategy of patience

TOKYO (AP) — A U.S. citizen arrested in North Korea for allegedly tearing up his visa and seeking asylum will go before the North's Supreme Court this weekend in a trial almost certain to end quickly with a guilty verdict. Along with two other Americans detained in the North, the young defendant says he has but one hope — for a senior U.S. statesman to come and get him out.

So far there don't seem to be any volunteers.

North Korea's state media has announced that Matthew Miller, in custody since April, will be put on trial on Sunday. The punishment could range from forgiveness and deportation to a lengthy sentence in prison with hard labor.

A trial is also expected soon for Jeffrey Fowle, who entered the North as a tourist but was arrested in May for leaving a Bible at a provincial club. The third man is Korean-American missionary Kenneth Bae, who is serving a 15-year sentence for alleged "hostile acts."

High-level visits have become the norm for securing the release of past detainees.

League sponsors weigh options as NFL begins investigation into Rice video

Major brand sponsors are watching closely to make sure the National Football League doesn't fumble the investigation into how its executives handled evidence in the Ray Rice domestic violence case.

For big companies like Anheuser-Busch, General Motors and Procter & Gamble, an NFL sponsorship is a coveted prize. The deals can cost up to \$10 million per brand, but they deliver eyeballs. An average of 17.4 million viewers watched professional football games during the 2013 season, according to Nielsen. Now that the NFL is investigating how its executives handled a video showing Baltimore running-back Ray Rice hitting his then-fiancee, sponsors are forced to balance the exposure NFL games can offer with the risk of alienating customers.

On Wednesday, the NFL said it hired former FBI Director Robert S. Mueller to lead the investigation. Commissioner Roger Goodell previously said no one at the NFL had seen the video before it surfaced on Monday, but the AP reported Wednesday that a law enforcement official sent the tape to the organization in April.

With the investigation just beginning, experts say there is little else sponsors can do but take a wait-and-see approach.

"These situations often develop and change direction very rapidly, so sponsors need to be incredibly agile," said Allen Adamson, managing director of branding firm Landor Associates. "What's true right now may not be true in two hours, so (sponsors) will have to monitor how the NFL reacts, and then how consumers react to the reactions."

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Friday, September 12, the 255th day of 2014. There are 110 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On September 12, 1914, during World War I, the First Battle of the Marne ended in an Allied victory against Germany.

On this date:

In 1814, the Battle of North Point took place in Maryland during the War of 1812 as American forces slowed British troops advancing on Baltimore.

In 1846, Elizabeth Barrett secretly married Robert Browning at St. Marylebone Church in London.

In 1938, Adolf Hitler demanded the right of self-determination for the Sudeten (soo-DAYT'-un) Germans in Czechoslovakia.

In 1944, the Second Quebec Conference opened with President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in attendance.

In 1953, Massachusetts Sen. John F. Kennedy married Jacqueline Lee Bouvier (boo-vee-AY') in Newport, Rhode Island.

In 1954, the TV show "Lassie" made its debut on CBS.

In 1960, Democratic presidential candidate John F. Kennedy addressed questions about his Roman Catholic faith, telling a Southern Baptist group, "I do not speak for my church on public matters, and the church does not speak for me."

In 1962, in a speech at Rice University in Houston, President John F. Kennedy reaffirmed his support for the manned space program, declaring: "We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard."

In 1974, Emperor Haile Selassie (HY'-lee sehl-AH'-see) was deposed by Ethiopia's military after ruling for 58 years.

In 1977, South African black student leader Steve Biko (BEE'-koh) died while in police custody, triggering an international outcry.

In 1986, Joseph Cicippio (sih-SIHP'-ee-oh), the acting comptroller at the American University in Beirut, was kidnapped (he was released in December 1991).

In 1994, a stolen, single-engine Cessna crashed into the South Lawn of the White House, coming to rest against the executive mansion; the pilot, Frank Corder, was killed.

Ten years ago: US Airways Group Inc. filed for bankruptcy protection for the second time in two years. (The following year, US Airways emerged from bankruptcy protection, clearing the way for a merger with America West Holdings Group.) Ten people were killed in an apartment fire just outside Columbus, Ohio. Hurricane Ivan battered the Cayman Islands with ferocious 150-mph winds. Roger Federer won the U.S. Open, defeating Lleyton Hewitt 6-0, 7-6 (3), 6-0. Playwright Jerome Chodorov died in Nyack, New York, at age 93.

Five years ago: Tens of thousands of protesters marched to the U.S. Capitol, showing their disdain for President Barack Obama's health care plan. The president, keeping up the drumbeat for his proposal, told a packed rally in Minneapolis, "I will not accept the status quo. Not this time. Not now." Serena Williams' U.S. Open title defense ended with a bizarre loss to Kim Clijsters (KLY'-sturz) after Williams went into a tirade against a line judge who'd called her for a foot fault; following her outburst, Williams was penalized a point for unsportsmanlike conduct, ending the match, 6-4, 7-5. Norman Borlaug, 95, the father of the "green revolution" who won the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in combating

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world hunger, died in Dallas.

One year ago: Omar Hammami, an American who became one of Somalia's most visible Islamic rebels, was killed by rivals in the al-Qaida-linked extremist group al-Shabab. The U.S. space agency NASA announced that Voyager 1, launched 36 years earlier, had crossed a new frontier, becoming the first man-made spacecraft ever to leave the solar system. American inventor Ray Dolby, 80, founder of Dolby Laboratories, died in San Francisco.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Dickie Moore ("Our Gang") is 89. Actor Freddie Jones is 87. Actor Ian Holm is 83. U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., is 75. Actress Linda Gray is 74. Singer Maria Muldaur is 72. Actor Joe Pantoliano is 63. Singer-musician Gerry Beckley (America) is 62. Original MTV VJ Nina Blackwood is 62. Rock musician Neil Peart (Rush) is 62. Actor Peter Scolaris is 59. Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback is 58. Actress Rachel Ward is 57. Actress Amy Yasbeck is 52. Rock musician Norwood Fisher (Fishbone) is 49. Actor Darren E. Burrows is 48. Rock singer-musician Ben Folds (Ben Folds Five) is 48. Actor-comedian Louis (loo-ee) C.K. is 47. Rock musician Larry LaLonde (Primus) is 46. Golfer Angel Cabrera is 45. Actor-singer Will Chase (TV: "Nashville") is 44. Actor Josh Hopkins is 44. Country singer Jennifer Nettles is 40. Rapper 2 Chainz is 37. Actor Ben McKenzie is 36. Singer Ruben Studdard is 36. Basketball player Yao Ming is 34. Singer-actress Jennifer Hudson is 33. Actress Emmy Rossum is 28. Actor Colin Ford is 18.

Thought for Today: "We must be willing to pay a price for freedom, for no price that is ever asked for it is half the cost of doing without it." - H.L. Mencken, American author and journalist (1880-1956).