

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, September 15, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 058 ♦ 1 of 16

The JV football game scheduled for 5pm on Monday at Sisseton has been moved to 6pm. A scheduling conflict at Sisseton is the reason for the change in time.

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

- 1- Rix Apartment for Rent
- 1- Olde Bank Floral
- 1- Today's Information
- 1- Recycling Trailers in Groton
- 2- The Church Sign
- 2- Classifieds
- 3- Abeln Memorial Golf Tourney
- 4- Andover Bar & Grill
- 4- Today in Weather History
- 5- Weather Page
- 6- Local Weather
- 6- National Weather Map
- 7- Daily Devotional
- 8- News from the Associated Press

15

School Breakfast: French toast on stick, fruit, juice, milk, cereal.

School Lunch: Popcorn chicken, oven tots, tossed greens, fresh and canned fruit.

Senior Menu: Goulash, Green Beans, Apple Crisp, Whole Wheat Bread.

Birthday: Mason Madsen

6:30am: ELC Bible Study

10:00am: Boys Golf at Madison

6:00pm: JV FB at Sisseton

5:30pm: Groton Garden Club meeting at Linda Anderson's Home

7:00pm: City Council meeting

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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

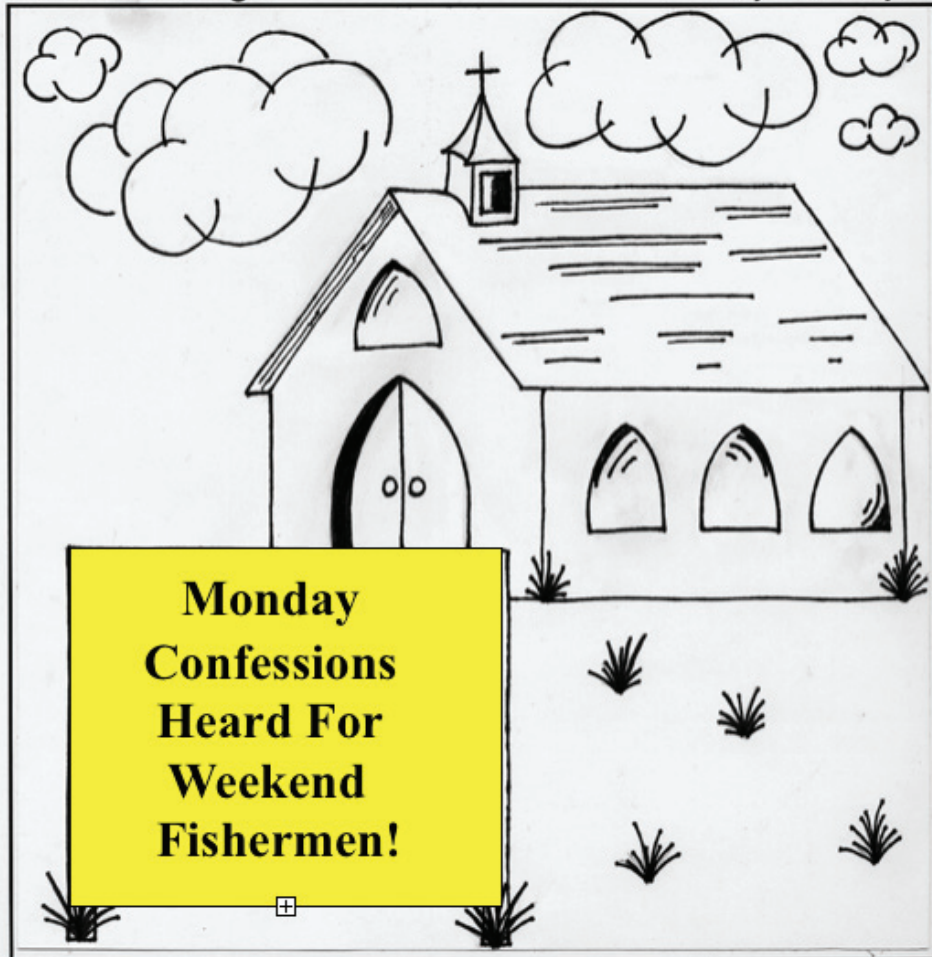
Roger: 605/397-7118

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, September 15, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 058 ♦ 2 of 16

The Church Sign

by Jeff Hayes



Classifieds

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.

Abeln Memorial 16th Annual Tourney

Championship Flight

63- Randy and Sue Stanley, Doug and Vicki Jorgenson
63- Jeremy Smith, Ian Rose, Jake Unzen.
64- Joel and Tina Guthmiller, Reid and Nicole Johnson
68- Don Abeln, Philip Abeln, Isaac Abeln, Tony Abeln.
68- Craig Dunker, Jared Flihs, Bob Walter, Brock Sandness

First Flight

68- Steve and Betty Dunker, Chad Ellingson, Haeley, Rheault.
69- Lorin and Julie Flihs, Jonathan and Mandlyn Flihs
71-Craig Sternhagen, Tom Sternhagen, Emily Larson, Jackson Waage
71- Ray and Cyndy Larson, Mic and Jen Daggett
72- Rod and Arlys Kluess, Tami and Rich Zimney

Women's Closest to the Pin: Emily Larson

Men's Closest to the Pin: Craig Dunker

Men's Longest Putt: Steve Dunker



Championship Flight Winners: Doug and Vicki Jorgenson on the left and Randy and Sue Stanley on the right.



First Flight Winners: Steve and Betty Dunker on the left and Chad Ellingson and Haeley Rheault on the right.

Today in Weather History

1977: Sioux Falls residents received a rude awakening during the morning hours as thunderstorms rolled through the city. Over two and one-half inches of rain fell in the city in an hour and 15 minutes. The large amount of rain in a short period of time led to street flooding in some areas. Lightning strikes from the storms also started several small fires.

1752 - A great hurricane produced a tide along the South Carolina coast which nearly inundated downtown Charleston. However, just before the tide reached the city, a shift in the wind caused the water level to drop five feet in ten minutes. (David Ludlum)

1910 - Rains of .27 inch on the 14th and .73 inch on the 15th were the earliest and heaviest of record for Fresno CA, which, along with much of California, experiences a ""rainy season"" in the winter. (The Weather Channel)

1939 - The temperature at Detroit MI soared to 100 degrees to establish a record for September. (The Weather Channel)

1982 - A snowstorm over Wyoming produced 16.9 inches at Lander to establish a 24 hour record for September for that location. (13th-15th) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - The first snow of the season was observed at the Winter Park ski resort in Colorado early in the day. Eight inches of snow was reported at the Summit of Mount Evans, along with wind gusts to 61 mph. Early morning thunderstorms in Texas produced up to six inches of rain in Real County. Two occupants of a car drowned, and the other six occupants were injured as it was swept into Camp Wood Creek, near the town of Leakey. Late afternoon and evening thunderstorms produced severe weather in central and northeastern Oklahoma. Wind gusts to 70 mph and golf ball size hail were reported around Oklahoma City OK. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thunderstorms brought much needed rains to parts of the central U.S. Rainfall totals of 2.87 inches at Sioux City IA and 4.59 inches at Kansas City MO were records for the date. Up to eight inches of rain deluged the Kansas City area, nearly as much rain as was received the previous eight months. Hurricane Gilbert, meanwhile, slowly churned toward the U.S./Mexican border. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Showers and thunderstorms produced locally heavy rain in the Central Appalachians. Virgie VA received 2.60 inches of rain during the evening hours, and Bartlett TN was deluged with 2.75 inches in just ninety minutes. Heavy rain left five cars partially submerged in high water in a parking lot at Bulls Gap TN. Thunderstorms over central North Carolina drenched the Fayetteville area with four to eight inches

of rain between 8 PM and midnight. Flash flooding, and a couple of dam breaks, claimed the lives of two persons, and caused ten million dollars damage. Hugo, churning over the waters of the Caribbean, strengthened to the category of a very dangerous hurricane, packing winds of 150 mph. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)



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FRIED CHICKEN DAY

Served with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Serving 5-9 p.m.








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Groton Daily Independent






Monday, September 15, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 058 ♦ 5 of 16

TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	TUESDAY NIGHT	WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY NIGHT	THURSDAY
						
Sunny High: 63 °F	Mostly Clear Low: 40 °F	Sunny High: 71 °F	Mostly Clear Low: 45 °F	Sunny High: 74 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 54 °F	Partly Sunny High: 74 °F

 Warming Trend Through The Work Week

Thunderstorms Possible By Friday

weather.gov/Aberdeen  National Weather Service Aberdeen  @NWSAberdeen

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				
Clear Highs: Low – Mid 60s	Clear Highs: 70s	Clear Highs: 70s	Mostly Cloudy Highs: 70s – Low 80s	Chance of Thunderstorms Highs: Upper 70s & Low 80s

Dry conditions can be expected over the next few days, along with a steady warm up. Thunderstorms are possible by the end of the work week.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, September 15, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 058 ♦ 6 of 16

Yesterday's Weather

High: 60.3°F at 5:12 PM

Low: 32.1°F at 6:21 AM

High Gust: 11 mph at 5:36 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 100° in 1948, 1955

Record Low: 28° in 1964, 1916

Average High: 73°F

Average Low: 46°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 1.05

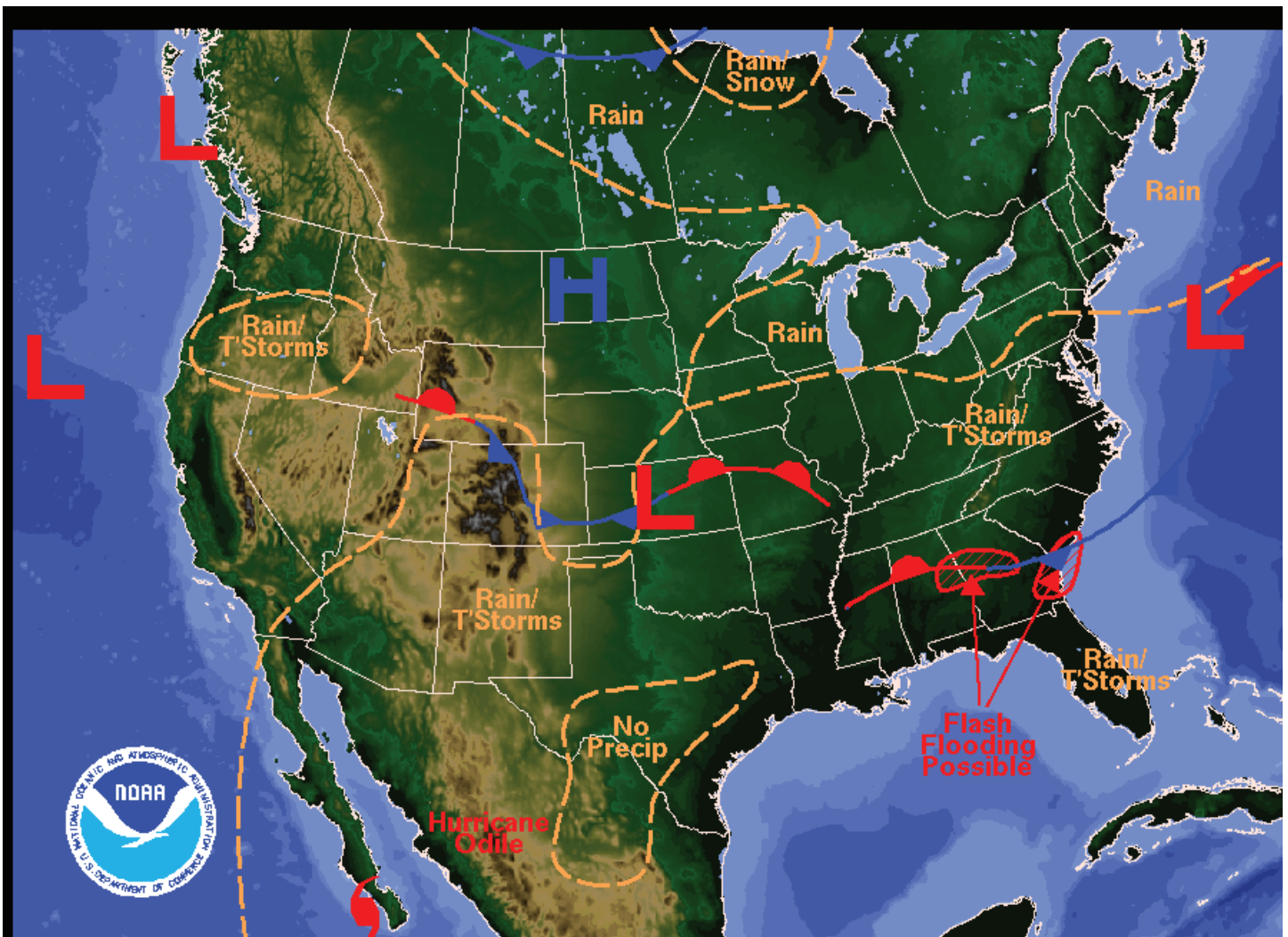
Precip to date in Sept.: 0.26

Average Precip to date: 17.34

Precip Year to Date: 12.18

Sunset Tonight: 7:45 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:13 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, Sep 15, 2014, issued 2:41 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



HOW TO RECOGNIZE A FOOL

No one that I know wants to be called a "fool." But, this term is used fifty times in Proverbs so God must want us to know who qualifies for this title and how those who are "fools" can develop a new identity.

To begin with, the word used here for "fool" has nothing to do with one's mental capacity. It would not be God-like to call someone a "fool" if they had no control over their thoughts and behavior. Instead, it has to do with a person's chosen outlook on life. This person's view is set and nothing or no one will ever be able to change it.

This "fool" is one who has no desire to invest any time in searching for wisdom. It's thought to be some type of product that can be purchased in a book store. Solomon makes this clear when he wrote, "Why does a fool offer the sage a fee, when he has no mind to learn." We can't buy wisdom!

Since true, reliable and dependable wisdom comes from God, it must then be spiritual and not mental. A fool has no reverence or respect for truth. Unfortunately, the "fool" is very comfortable with things as they are. This person refuses to "fear the Lord" and rejects His counsel. The "fool" is satisfied to live life without God.

Whatever we know of God, think of God, understand about God and believe about God comes to us from God revealing Himself to us. Atheists deny God and agnostics say they are searching for proof of God. Until a person is willing and open to see God as He has revealed Himself in His world, His Word and His Son, he will remain a fool.

Prayer: Lord, open the eyes of those who refuse to see, and the ears of those who refuse to hear Your Wisdom. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Tickets for Capitol symphony show now available

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Free tickets will be available Monday for the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra performance in the state Capitol as part of the 125th anniversary of statehood.

It will be held Saturday, Nov. 1, in the rotunda and also includes the dedication and lighting ceremony for the newly restored stained glass in the Capitol.

Limited general admission seats in the rotunda and hallways on the second floor require a ticket that's available online at www.pierretickets.com.

Standing room only will be available on the marble grand staircase and in the balconies above the rotunda floor.

South Dakota bucks trend of dwindling sales tax

CARSON WALKER, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A rise in income inequality appears to be negatively affecting tax revenues in South Dakota and other states, according to a new report from the credit rating agency Standard & Poor's.

The report said South Dakota's average annual tax revenue growth has slowed over recent decades. From the 1950s through the 1970s, the state averaged more than 6.6 percent annual growth; but since 2009, that has fallen to 3.4 percent average growth, the study found.

South Dakota, which is among the top 10 states most dependent on sales tax as its main revenue source for state government, has seen its sales and use tax revenue climb from \$577 million in 2006 to a projected \$851 million in the current budget year.

Income inequality, or the wealth gap, has grown wider in recent years. Income growth has accelerated for the affluent but stagnated for most other people. That's a problem for states that rely heavily on sales tax for revenue as consumers become increasingly reluctant to spend.

Attempts to levy a personal and corporate income tax in South Dakota have failed in the past. Any attempt to revive those ideas is unlikely to have the support of Gov. Dennis Daugaard, who doesn't support any tax increases, his spokesman Tony Venhuizen said.

"The governor believes the best way to increase revenue is not to raise taxes. It is to grow the economy, and that's what we're trying to do," Venhuizen said.

South Dakota likely derives more revenue from its sales tax than some other states because it is also assessed on services like attorney fees and plumbers, not just goods, said Pat Costello, commissioner of the Governor's Office of Economic Development.

Venhuizen said that approach makes for a more stable source of revenue. More than half of this year's projected \$1.4 billion in general fund receipts come from the sales and use tax.

Jason Dilges, commissioner of Finance and Management, said South Dakota's millions of tourists help fund state government through the sales tax, tourism tax and gas tax.

Most economic activity comes from consumer spending, a key driver of growth.

But consumers have become increasingly reluctant to spend as median incomes have barely increased over three decades and remain lower than they were in 2007 when the Great Recession began, S&P found. Median household incomes, adjusted for inflation, were \$54,045 in July, about 4.6 percent lower than they were in July.

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, September 15, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 058 ♦ 9 of 16

By contrast, the top 1 percent of earners has prospered for more than 30 years. Adjusted for inflation, their average incomes have nearly tripled to \$1.26 million since 1979, according to the IRS. S&P notes that wealthier individuals tend to spend less of their money, meaning that most states are unlikely to see much of an increase in sales tax collections.

In South Dakota, estimated annual income ranges from \$12,772 for the bottom fifth of the population to \$148,877 for the top fifth; income for the middle 20 percent of the state is an estimated \$48,536, according to 2012 Census Bureau figures, with the top 5 percent averaging \$256,559.

Revenue from South Dakota's sales and use taxes

The Associated Press

Revenue from South Dakota's sales and use tax over the past decade:

Budget year Sales and use tax receipts

2015 \$851,345,413 (budgeted)

2014 \$823,401,593

2013 \$776,095,539

2012 \$744,413,638

2011 \$710,196,255

2010 \$652,115,527

2009 \$659,735,445

2008 \$644,596,998

2007 \$603,185,287

2006 \$576,899,817

Source: South Dakota state budgets

Where South Dakota's state revenue comes from

The Associated Press

South Dakota's general fund revenue sources:

— Sales and use tax (4 percent sales, 22-cents-per gallon gas): \$823.4 million (56 percent)

— Property tax reduction fund (49.5 percent of video lottery net machine income, other revenue): \$106.5 million (7 percent)

— Contractor's excise tax (2 percent on construction projects): \$90.4 million (6 percent)

— Insurance tax (2.5 percent of premiums on policies, plus other assessments): \$75.1 million (5 percent)

— Ongoing unclaimed property (uncashed checks, other valuables): \$59.8 million (4 percent)

— Other sources: \$198.6 million (13 percent)

— One-time receipts: \$97.2 million (7 percent)

— Obligated cash carried forward: \$25.2 million (2 percent)

— Total: \$1.48 billion

Source: 2014 state budget

Pat O'Brien in Sioux Falls for book signing

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota native and broadcaster Pat O'Brien will be in Sioux Falls this week to do a book signing for his new memoir entitled "I'll Be Right Back After This."

It tells how he grew up in Sioux Falls with an alcoholic father he rarely saw, follows his climb to the top of the sports and entertainment broadcast business and covers his alcoholism, how he nearly died and his eventual recovery.

The appearance will be hosted by Face It Together, a Sioux Falls-based company that has developed community-based substance abuse solutions.

O'Brien will be at Josiah's Coffee House from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 18.

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. HOLLANDE PRESSES FOR ACTION AGAINST MILITANTS

France's president says there's "no time to lose" in the global push to combat extremists from the Islamic State group, minus the two countries who share most of Iraq's borders.

2. MIDEAST COMPLEXITIES CONFOUND U.S. COALITION EFFORT

AP's Dan Perry finds that much of the problem lies in the region's Sunni-Shiite divide, which outsiders tend to underestimate repeatedly. MIDEAST COMPLEXITIES-ANALYSIS

3. WHAT A SCOTTISH "YES" COULD MEAN

If Scots approve independence from the U.K., the move will downgrade British influence in the European Union and force NATO planners to rethink the alliance's defense posture.

4. HOW U.S. IS WORKING TO STEP UP EBOLA AID

Delivering supplies and training doctors and nurses for volunteer work in West Africa, while making sure hospitals at home know what to do if someone travels stateside with the infection.

5. HURDLES LURK FOR OBAMA HEALTH LAW IN 2ND SIGN-UP SEASON

They'll be fewer website woes, but the 8 million people already enrolled may face higher premiums if they choose automatic renewal.

6. LOCALS, TOURISTS RIDE OUT ODILE

Residents and tourists flock to shelters and hotel conference rooms as the Category 3 hurricane makes landfall on the southern Baja California peninsula.

7. "SWATTING" PHENOMENON RANKLES POLICE

Authorities are increasingly concerned about a hoax in which video game players lash out at online opponents by making fake 911 calls that send SWAT teams to their homes.

8. WHO MADE THE BIG APPLE A THREE-TIME WINNER

Miss New York Kira Kazantsev has been named the new Miss America, marking the third consecutive year that a contestant from the Empire State was crowned.

9. POLICE DETAIN "DJANGO UNCHAINED" ACTRESS IN LA

Daniele Watts is complaining that she was handcuffed and briefly put in the back of a squad car after a public display of affection with her white companion.

10. FACE OF VIKINGS FRANCHISE ABSENT ON GAME DAY

After being charged with child abuse, star running back Adrian Peterson was benched for his team's 30-7 home loss to New England.

AP News in Brief

French president: 'No time to lose' in diplomatic push against Islamic State extremists

PARIS (AP) — With reconnaissance planes already in action, France's president said there was "no time to lose" in the global push to combat extremists from the Islamic State group as he opened an international conference to attack the problem — minus the two countries who share most of Iraq's borders.

With memories of the 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq still fresh, the U.S. has so far been alone in carrying out airstrikes and no country has offered ground troops. But French reconnaissance jets made their first sorties on Monday, French officials said. An American official said several Arab countries had offered to conduct airstrikes. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive issues.

"The terrorist threat is global and the response must be global," French President Francois Hollande said, opening a diplomatic conference Monday intended to come up with an international strategy against the group. "There is no time to lose."

Iraq's President Fouad Massoum called for a coordinated military and humanitarian approach, as well as regular strikes against territory in the hands of the extremists and the elimination of their funding.

"There can be no sanctuary," Massoum said. "We have to dry up their sources of financing."

Mideast's complexities confound US efforts to build a coalition against Islamic State group

The Middle East has confounded outsiders for years, so it is no surprise that another U.S.-led project with a straightforward goal — destroying a marauding organization of extremists — is bumping up against age-old rivalries and a nod-and-a-wink-style political culture.

U.S. secretary of state John Kerry has received backing for the principle of reversing the territorial gains of the Islamic State group in Iraq. But getting concrete assistance is another matter, and there is a whiff of lip service about the proceedings.

Much of the problem lies in the Muslim region's Sunni-Shiite divide, which outsiders tend to underestimate again and again — only to see it emerging as the dominant factor once more.

A Scottish 'Yes' to independence will mean an exit, at least for now, from the EU and NATO

BRUSSELS (AP) — If Scottish voters this week say Yes to independence, not only will they tear up the map of Great Britain, they'll shake the twin pillars of Western Europe's postwar prosperity and security — the European Union and the U.S.-led NATO defense alliance.

In breaking away from the rest of the United Kingdom, Scotland would automatically find itself outside both the EU and NATO, and have to reapply to join both, officials from those Brussels-based organizations have stressed.

For the EU especially, Scottish re-entry could be a long and arduous process, with other countries dead set against letting the Scots retain the privileges awarded Britain: the so-called opt-outs from being required to use the euro single currency and to join the multinational Schengen zone where internal border controls have been scrapped.

For NATO's admirals and generals, the current Scottish government's insistence on a sovereign Scotland becoming free of nuclear weapons would pose enormous strategic and operational headaches, even if a transitional grace period were agreed on. A new home port would have to be found for the Royal Navy's four Trident missile-carrying submarines and their thermonuclear warheads, currently based on the Clyde.

This "risks undermining the collective defense and deterrence of NATO allies," Britain's Ministry of Defense has said. In what might be read as a warning to the Scots, the ministry has said a nuclear-free stance could constitute a "significant" hurdle to Scotland being allowed back into NATO.

Report finds slowdown in state tax revenue as more income flows to top 1 percent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Income inequality is taking a toll on state governments.

The widening gap between the wealthiest Americans and everyone else has been matched by a slowdown in state tax revenue, according to a report being released Monday by Standard & Poor's.

Even as income for the affluent has accelerated, it's barely kept pace with inflation for most other people. That trend can mean a double-whammy for states: The wealthy often manage to shield much of their income from taxes. And they tend to spend less of it than others do, thereby limiting sales tax revenue.

As the growth of tax revenue has slowed, states have faced tensions over whether to raise taxes or cut spending to balance their budgets as required by law.

"Rising income inequality is not just a social issue," said Gabriel Petek, the S&P credit analyst who wrote the report. "It presents a very significant set of challenges for the policymakers."

Residents, tourists wait in shelters as powerful Hurricane Odile makes landfall in Mexico

CABO SAN LUCAS, Mexico (AP) — Residents and tourists hunkered down in shelters and hotel conference rooms overnight as a powerful and sprawling Hurricane Odile made landfall on the southern Baja California peninsula.

The area is home to gleaming megaresorts, tiny fishing communities and low-lying neighborhoods of flimsy homes. Forecasters predicted a dangerous storm surge with large waves as well as drenching rains capable of causing landslides and flash floods.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said satellite imagery indicates Odile's center made landfall Sunday night at about 9:45 p.m. PDT near Cabo San Lucas. It said at landfall, Odile had estimated intensity of 125 mph (205 kph), and an automated station near Cabo San Lucas reported a sustained wind of 89 mph (144 kph) with a gust to 116 mph (187 kph). The storm was moving north-northwest at 17 mph (28 kph).

By early Monday, the storm's maximum sustained winds were near 115 mph (185 kph) as it moved over the peninsula. It was centered about 140 miles (230 kilometers) east-southeast of Cabo San Lazaro.

As howling winds whipped palm trees amid pelting rain outside, people bedded down and used magazines to fan themselves in crowded, stuffy safe rooms. Some did crossword puzzles or listened to iPhones. In one hotel near San Jose del Cabo, power went out not long after nightfall and a generator was keeping minimal lights on.

HEALTHBEAT: US working to step up Ebola aid, training doctors, nurses headed to outbreak zone

WASHINGTON (AP) — The American strategy on Ebola is two-pronged: Step up desperately needed aid to West Africa and, in an unusual step, train U.S. doctors and nurses for volunteer duty in the outbreak zone. At home, the goal is to speed up medical research and put hospitals on alert should an infected traveler arrive.

With growing criticism that the world still is not acting fast enough against the surging Ebola epidemic, President Barack Obama has called the outbreak a national security priority.

Obama is to travel to Atlanta on Tuesday to address the Ebola crisis during a visit to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the White House said. During his visit, Obama is to be briefed about the outbreak and discuss the U.S. response with officials.

The administration hasn't said how big a role the military ultimately will play — and it's not clear how quickly additional promised help will arrive in West Africa.

"This is also not everything we can and should be doing," Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., who chairs a Foreign Relations subcommittee that oversees African issues, told the Senate last week.

2 California wildfires forces hundreds to leave their homes; 21 structures burned by town

OAKHURST, Calif. (AP) — Two raging wildfires in California forced hundreds of people to evacuate their homes, including one near a lakeside resort town that burned nearly two dozen structures.

The blaze, sparked Sunday afternoon near Bass Lake in Central California, prompted authorities to evacuate about 1,000 residents out of about 400 homes, Madera County Sheriff's spokeswoman Erica Stuart said.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection said flames damaged or destroyed 21 structures. The Fresno Bee reports one neighborhood was hit especially hard, with several homes turned to ash and smoldering embers.

"This is gut-wrenching," CalFire Battalion Chief Chris Christopherson told the newspaper. "It makes you sick."

The fire started off a road outside of Oakhurst, a foothill community south of the entrance to Yosemite National Park, and made a run to Bass Lake. Stoked by winds, it quickly charred at least 320 acres, CalFire spokesman Daniel Berlant said.

Police hoax that targeted celebrities spreads to gamers seeking retaliation against opponents

DENVER (AP) — The calls to 911 raised an instant alarm: One caller said he shot his co-workers at a Colorado video game company and had hostages. Another in Florida said her father was drunk, wielding a machine gun and threatening their family.

A third caller on New York's Long Island claimed to have killed his mother and threatened to shoot first responders.

In each case, SWAT teams dispatched to the scene found no violent criminals or wounded victims — only video game players sitting at their computers, the startled victims of a hoax known as "swatting."

Authorities say the hoax that initially targeted celebrities has now become a way for players of combat-themed video games to retaliate against opponents while thousands of spectators watch. The perpetrators can watch their hijinks unfold minute by minute in a window that shows a live video image of other players.

"It's like creating your own episode of 'Cops,'" said Dr. John Grohol, a research psychologist who studies online behavior, referring to the long-running reality TV show that follows officers on patrol.

Miss New York Kira Kazantsev chosen as Miss America 2015; says red cup talent inspired by film

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — Miss New York Kira Kazantsev won the Miss America pageant Sunday night, with the help of a red plastic cup.

For her talent performance, Kazantsev sang Pharrell Williams' "Happy" while sitting cross-legged on the stage and banging a red plastic cup on the floor. That immediately touched off a furor on social media networks, where many were critical of her performance.

But Kazantsev said she was inspired by the 2012 movie "Pitch Perfect" in which Anna Kendrick's character auditions for an a capella group by performing rhythmically with a cup. She also said she did it to show future contestants they can win the Miss America pageant by performing whatever talent routine they like, regardless of what others think of it.

"The reason why I chose to do that talent is I wanted every single little girl in America to be able to see that you can do that talent — you can do whatever talent you want on national television — even with a red cup — and still be Miss America and have the time of your life," Kazantsev said. "I literally in that minute and 30 seconds had the most fun I've ever had, and that's because I stayed true to myself and I did what I wanted to do for my talent, no matter what everybody else told me, and it paid off. I'm very happy about it."

Kazantsev, who named combating sexual assault in the military as the issue about which she would want female U.S. Senators to press their male counterparts, won a \$50,000 scholarship with which she plans to attend law school.

Marriott and Maria Shriver launch campaign to encourage hotel guests to leave tips for maids

NEW YORK (AP) — Do you leave a tip in your hotel room for the maid? Marriott is launching a program with Maria Shriver to put envelopes in hotel rooms to encourage tipping.

The campaign, called "The Envelope Please," begins this week. Envelopes will be placed in 160,000 rooms in the U.S. and Canada. Some 750 to 1,000 hotels will participate from Marriott brands like Courtyard, Residence Inn, J.W. Marriott, Ritz-Carlton and Renaissance hotels.

The name of the person who cleans the room will be written on the envelope along with a message: "Our caring room attendants enjoyed making your stay warm and comfortable. Please feel free to leave a gratuity to express your appreciation for their efforts."

Shriver, who founded an organization called A Woman's Nation that aims to empower women, says many travelers don't realize tipping hotel room attendants is customary. "There's a huge education of the traveler that needs to occur," she said. "If you tell them, they ask, 'How do I do that?'" She said envelopes make it easy for guests to leave cash for the right person in a secure way.

So how much should you leave? Marriott International CEO Arne Sorenson says \$1 to \$5 per night,

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, September 15, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 058 ♦ 15 of 16

depending on room rate, with more for a high-priced suite.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Monday, September 15, the 258th day of 2014. There are 107 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On September 15, 1789, the U.S. Department of Foreign Affairs was renamed the Department of State. Author James Fenimore Cooper was born in Burlington, New Jersey.

On this date:

In 1776, British forces occupied New York City during the American Revolution.

In 1857, William Howard Taft - who served as President of the United States and as U.S. chief justice - was born in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In 1887, the city of Philadelphia launched a three-day celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Constitution of the United States.

In 1935, the Nuremberg Laws deprived German Jews of their citizenship.

In 1949, "The Lone Ranger" premiered on ABC-TV with Clayton Moore as the masked hero and Jay Silverheels as Tonto.

In 1950, during the Korean conflict, United Nations forces landed at Incheon in the south and began their drive toward Seoul (sohl).

In 1954, as raucous fans looked on, Marilyn Monroe filmed the famous billowing-skirt scene for "The Seven Year Itch" over a Lexington Ave. subway grate in Manhattan (however, little, if any, of the footage ended up in the movie; the scene was later reshot on a Hollywood set).

In 1963, four black girls were killed when a bomb went off during Sunday services at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. (Three Ku Klux Klansmen were eventually convicted for their roles in the blast.)

In 1964, the prime-time soap opera "Peyton Place" premiered on ABC-TV.

In 1972, a federal grand jury in Washington indicted seven men in connection with the Watergate break-in.

In 1989, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Robert Penn Warren, the first poet laureate of the United States, died in Stratton, Vermont, at age 84.

In 1994, a tape recording of John Lennon singing with his teen-age band, The Quarrymen, in a Liverpool club on July 6, 1957, was sold at Sotheby's for \$122,500 (it was at this gig that Lennon first met Paul McCartney).

Ten years ago: Three Americans were found guilty in Kabul, Afghanistan, of torturing Afghans in a private jail and were sentenced to prison. (Edward Caraballo, a freelance cameraman, was released in May 2006; Brent Bennett was freed in September 2006; Jack Idema, a former Green Beret, was pardoned in June 2007.) National Hockey League owners agreed to lock out the players. Johnny Ramone, guitarist and co-founder of the seminal punk band The Ramones, died in Los Angeles at age 55.

Five years ago: Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said the worst recession since the 1930s was "very likely over," although he cautioned that pain - especially for nearly 15 million unemployed Americans - would persist. An unrepentant Muntadhar al-Zeidi (MOON'-tuh-dahr ahl-zay-EE'-dee), the Iraqi reporter who'd thrown his shoes at President George W. Bush in December 2008, was freed from prison.

One year ago: Hundreds of people, black and white, many holding hands, filled the Alabama church

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, September 15, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 058 ♦ 16 of 16

that was bombed by the Ku Klux Klan 50 years earlier to mark the anniversary of the blast that killed four little girls and became a landmark moment in the civil rights struggle. Norway's Suzann Pettersen beat teen star Lydia Ko of New Zealand by two shots to win the Evian Championship and clinch the second major title of her career. Miss New York Nina Davuluri was crowned Miss America at the pageant in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Jackie Lomax, 69, a singer-songwriter who'd worked with the Beatles and had a long solo career, died in Wirral, England.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Forrest Compton is 89. Comedian Norm Crosby is 87. Actor Henry Darrow is 81. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Gaylord Perry is 76. Actress Carmen Maura is 69. Opera singer Jessye Norman is 69. Writer-director Ron Shelton is 69. Actor Tommy Lee Jones is 68. Movie director Oliver Stone is 68. Rock musician Kelly Keagy (KAY'-gee) (Night Ranger) is 62. Rock musician Mitch Dorge (Crash Test Dummies) is 54. Football Hall-of-Famer Dan Marino is 53. Actor Danny Nucci is 46. Rap DJ Kay Gee is 45. Actor Josh Charles is 43. Singer Ivette (EE'-veht) Sosa (Eden's Crush) is 38. Actor Tom Hardy is 37. Pop-rock musician Zach Filkins (OneRepublic) is 36. Actor Dave Annable is 35. Actress Amy Davidson is 35. Britain's Prince Harry is 30. TV personality Heidi Montag is 28. Actress Kate Mansi (TV: "Days of Our Lives") is 27.

Thought for Today: "The lack of a sense of history is the damnation of the modern world." - Robert Penn Warren (1905-1989).