

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, October 23, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 094 ♦ 1 of 24

- 1- Rix Apartment for Rent
- 1- Harry Implement
- 1- Today's Information
- 1- Recycling Trailers in Groton
- 2- Classifieds
- 2- Andover Bar & Grill
- 2- Lost Cat
- 2- Harry Implement Help Wanted Ad
- 3- Groton MathCounts Competition
- 3- Fjeldheim for County Commission
- 4- Kiwanis News
- 4- NorthWestern Energy issues scam alert
- 4- Dennert for County Commissioner
- 5- Sanford Ad
- 6- Proclaiming the news of Statehood
- 6- Greenfield for District 2 Senate
- 9- Today in Weather History
- 9- Greenfield for Dist. 2 House
- 10- Weather Page
- 11- Local Weather
- 11- National Weather Map
- 12- Daily Devotional
- 13 - News from the Associated Press

Thursday, October 23

School Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, yogurt, juice, milk, fruit.

School Lunch: Chicken patty on hamburger bun, oven fries, tossed greens, fruit.

Senior Menu: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, brownie, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Duane Kurtz • Carrie Cole • Melodee Lane • Brooklin Nordine • Tricia Kurth • Whitney Krueger • Shay Rossow • Kassie Dunbar • Randy Stanley

7:00pm: FB hosts Sisseton

Friday, October 24

Senior Menu: Breaded codfish, parsley buttered potatoes, creamy coleslaw, orange sherbet, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Robbie Thurston • Darac Harry • Barb Leshner • Beth Ankeny • Nick Weber • Karla Davidson

8:00am: Faculty Inservice - NO SCHOOL

5:00pm: JH VB at Britton

6:30pm: C/JV VB at Britton followed by varsity match

Saturday, October 25

ACT Testing at GHS

Robotics at GHS GYM

State Cross Country at Huron

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

Harry Implement

"Family Owned & Operated Since 1935!"



(605) 395-6421

Ferney

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **OPEN**

OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is back 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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Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, October 23, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 094 ♦ 2 of 24



REWARD

Lost neutered male cat, white with gray, pink nose, blue eyes, belongs to Shaun Wanner Family on the west side of Groton. Call 290-7723

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

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.

SERVICE TECH

Farm Equipment Tech needed for repair and service of Case IH and Massey Ferguson farm equipment. Sponsored training, excellent benefit package and the possibility for advancement. Contact Steve at 605-395-6421 or email resume to s.harry@harrysinc.com.

Harry Implement Inc.

PO Box 841
Ferney, SD
57439



Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, October 23, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 094 ♦ 3 of 24

8th Grade MathCounts places first at Groton competition

The Groton Area Invitational MathCounts Competition was held on Wednesday, October 1, 2014 in the high school gym. 108 students from eight Aberdeen area schools (Britton-Hecla, Frederick, Holgate, Northwestern, Roncalli, Simmons, Warner, and Groton) participated in the event, which was sponsored by 3M of Aberdeen. Kaitlyn Anderson, Micah Poor, AnneMarie Smith, and Cassandra Townsend won the eighth grade team competition. In the individual eighth grade portion of the competition, AnneMarie Smith earned the first place award and Micah Poor was awarded second place. Kaycie Hawkins placed



Front row, left to right: 1st place - Groton - Kaitlyn Anderson, Micah Poor, AnneMarie Smith, Cassandra Townsend
Back row, left to right: 2nd place - Warner - Ashley Fischbach, Keeley Fischbach, Rebecca Kiesz, Laurie Rogers

fourth in the individual seventh grade competition.

MathCounts is a nationwide coaching and competition program for middle school students that promotes excellence in mathematics. Area competitions consisting of several types of tests are held monthly. The next junior high competition will be the Roncalli Invitational MathCounts Competition on Wednesday, November 5.



Kaycie Hawkins, Groton, placed fourth in the seventh grade individual competition.



Doug Fjeldheim
County Commission

A devoted FAMILY MAN, a FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE leader, and a Commissioner who will make decisions based on COMMON SENSE.

With over 28 years of management experience, I am familiar with county finances, having served as Westport Township Clerk since 2003. As your next County Commissioner, I pledge to be prudent with how the tax dollars of Brown County are spent!

Paid for by Fjeldheim for County Commission

Groton Kiwanis Club

Groton Kiwanis Club member, Lee Schinkel, was in charge of the program for the club's weekly dinner meeting. Lee was in St. Cloud, Minn., visiting family but had arranged for Anna Schwan, GHS principal; to come and present two GHS foreign exchange students, for the program. They were Magnus Jensen, from Denmark, and Martin Rygg, from Norway.

NorthWestern Energy Issues New Alert about Collection Scams; Missoula, Billings are Latest Targets

Butte, Mont. – Oct. 22, 2014 – NorthWestern Energy is again warning customers about a scam involving collection on allegedly overdue utility bills. Lodging establishments are the most recent targets of the ongoing scam activity reported in Missoula, Billings and likely other communities.

One Missoula lodging establishment reported paying the scammers \$3,000 in the last few days. At least a half-dozen lodging businesses have reported receiving suspicious collection calls in the same period.

The phone callers typically seek immediate payment of "overdue" utility bills, often demanding credit-card numbers or other form of payment that can be quickly converted to cash. In recent incidents, callers have asked for prepaid debit cards issued by retailers, payment via PayPal or other form of payment that prevents recovery of money by scam victims.

NorthWestern reminds customers to be vigilant when it comes to anyone seeking payment information on utility bills, either in person or via the telephone or Internet. The phone callers can be convincing. They might use "spoofing" software that lets them falsely display the name and phone number of the utility company on the recipient's Caller ID.

NorthWestern will provide several past-due notices before terminating service. If you get a cancellation notification, always verify it by dialing the customer service number on your utility bill. Don't supply any personal information unless you are sure you are indeed working with the utility. NorthWestern never asks customers to use a prepaid debit card for payment.

Customers with questions or concerns about potential scams should contact NorthWestern Energy to report possible scams or questionable or business offers. Montana customers can contact NorthWestern at (888) 467-2669. In Nebraska and South Dakota, customers should call (800) 245-6977.

Elect
H. Paul Dennert
For Brown County Commissioner

Will work for cities, towns, villages
and rural Brown County
Lifetime Resident

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November
4th!

SD-1855085R
Paid for by Dennert for Co. Commissioner



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- Diabetic wounds
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sanfordaberdeen.org



James S. Johnston, DPM



Patrick Kelly, MD

SANFORD
Aberdeen

Proclaiming the News of Statehood

"We are a State."

The Yankton Press and Dakotan delivered the news that statehood had been achieved in a series of one-column headlines in its Saturday evening, Nov. 2, 1889, edition.

The headlines read:

"We are a State"

"The Proclamation Issued for South and North Dakota"

"Two New States Shining from the Firmament of the Union"

"Ring the Bells and Shoot the Cannon – E Pluribus Unum"

"A Brief announcement of the Glorious News, but it is Enough."

The four-line story that followed, with a dateline of Washington, read: "President Harrison has issued his proclamation admitting North Dakota and South Dakota to the union."

"The proclamation ... is the final act which admits these new states into the Union," stated an article from the Sioux City Journal that appeared in the Black Hills Weekly Times, published in Deadwood.

"It has been a long and a serious struggle which the people of the northwestern territories, especially the people of South Dakota, have had to fight in order to secure their plain rights."

The Territory of Dakota was established on March 2, 1861. The statehood movement is said to have begun in Yankton, the territorial capital, during a Thanksgiving dinner discussion in 1879. The Democratic-controlled U.S. House of Representatives rejected bills for statehood, as they feared new western states would send Republican senators and representatives to Washington, D.C. Pro-statehood Republican Benjamin Harrison was elected president and Republicans gained control of both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in 1888. The Enabling Act signed by President Grover Cleveland on Feb. 22, 1889, allowed lame duck Democrats to get some credit for allowing the new states. The legislation autho-

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- ★ Pro-Life
- ★ Fiscal Conservative

Vision and Values
for
SOUTH DAKOTA

Brock Greenfield has 14 years of experience promoting strong South Dakota values and fiscal conservatism!

Brock Greenfield
District 2 State Senate

Still going to bat for District 2!

Paid for by Greenfield Campaign Committee
507 North Smith Street, Clark, SD 57225



Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, October 23, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 094 ♦ 7 of 24

alized constitutional conventions for North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington and Montana. This set the stage for statehood.

"Write it South Dakota after this" was the announcement in a column headlined "Local and General" in the Nov. 2, 1889, Pierre Daily Capital.

The three-column headline in the Nov. 5 Pierre Daily Capital read, "Uncle Sam's New Twins. By Official Proclamation North Dakota and South Dakota Are Provided with Snug Quarters in the Household of the United States."

The Sioux Falls Argus-Leader used an abbreviated version of the same headlines in proclaiming the news of statehood. The Aberdeen Daily News headline read, in part, "Hand in Hand the Two Dakotas Enter the Circle of Sister States. Never Were Grander Empires Added to the Domain of Our Government. Stars as Bright as Any in the Flag They Will Surely Shine Forever." The articles that followed in all three papers included a dispatch from U.S. Secretary of State James Blaine to the governors of North Dakota and South Dakota that the two states had been admitted to the Union and the text of the president's proclamations.

The news that South Dakota was now a state was cause for celebration in Pierre. Arthur Mellette had been elected the first state governor and Pierre chosen the temporary capital in an election on Oct. 1, 1889. The cannon commenced to roar, the band played and a bonfire was built with flames shooting 20 feet in the air during Pierre's celebration. The new state's first governor was the first speaker at the event.

Pierre was not the only community to greet the news of statehood with rejoicing.

As reported in the Aberdeen Daily News, residents of Pembina, N.D., "went wild here tonight over the news of the president's proclamation of admission of the two Dakotas. An immense bonfire was built and speeches were made by sev-



An Original Autograph Telegram sent to the Governors of North Dakota and South Dakota notifying them of The Admission of the two states into the Union in November 2, 1889 by Secretary of State James G. Blaine.

The last Act in the admission of the two Dakotas in the union was completed at the White House at three o'clock and forty minutes this afternoon by the President Benjamin Harrison signing at that moment the two states.

The article on Prohibition submitted separately in each state was adopted in both. The article providing for minority representation in South Dakota was rejected by the people.

This is the first instance in the history of the National Government of twin states. North and South Dakota entered the Union at same moment.

James G. Blaine

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, October 23, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 094 ♦ 8 of 24

eral prominent citizens.”

As to which of the Dakota proclamations was signed first, no one knew. An article in the Nov. 7, 1889, Pierre Daily Capital explained that when the president received the two proclamations on Saturday, Nov. 2, the question of which should be admitted first to the Union came up.

“After some debate the two documents, unlooked at, were laid face downward on the desk on a sheet of paper and then they were shuffled together. When this stage of the game had been reached the proclamations were turned face upward and protected by the sheet of paper upon which they had been laid. The sheet was slipped aside until the blank spaces for the presidential signature was exposed; the autograph was appended to each, the ink allowed to dry, the proclamations turned over once more and again vigorously shuffled. The two Dakotas were admitted to the Union of states, and although one was ahead of the other just the length of time it took the president to write his name, history will never be able to record the name of the leader.”

An article in the Faulk County Times, published in Faulkton, on Nov. 7, 1889, made the case for South Dakota being declared the 39th state and North Dakota the 40th.

“South Dakota is and should be the 39th state. Though North Dakota was also proclaimed to be a state on Saturday, her state government was not inaugurated till Monday Nov. 4th. And her people justly claim her to be the 40th state. South Dakota made the fight that prepared the way for North Dakota, Montana and Washington to become states and she well merits the leadership indicated by being the first of the four entitled to the Star of Statehood – the 39th Star, which will, in time, become one of the first magnitude.”

This argument did not come to fruition. North Dakota is considered the 39th state and South Dakota the 40th based on alphabetical order.

This moment in South Dakota history is provided by the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation, the nonprofit fundraising partner of the South Dakota State Historical Society. Find us on the web at www.sdhsf.org. Contact us at info@sdhsf.org to submit a story idea.

Today in Weather History

1995: A major fall storm hit Central and Northeast South Dakota and dropped from four inches to one foot of wet snow. The heavy wet snow combined with strong winds gusting up to 50 mph snapped several thousand power poles and downed hundreds of miles of line in the counties of Buffalo, Hand, Spink, Roberts and Grant. In Day and Lyman Counties, a few poles were downed with some short lived power outages. Marshall County had no reports of damage or power outages. Several thousand people were left without power for several hours up to several days. Power was not restored to some people until the fourth of November. Portions of Interstate 90 and Interstate 29 were closed from the evening of the 23rd until the morning of the 24th leaving hundreds of motorists stranded. There were also numerous school delays and closings. Many trees and some crops were also damaged as a result of the weight of the snow and high winds. Some snowfall amounts included, 4 inches near Reliance, at Doland, and near Victor, 5 inches southeast of Stephan and at Sisseton, 6 inches south of Ree Heights and at Eden, eight inches at Waubay and Grenville, 9 inches at Clear Lake, 10 inches at Watertown, and 12 inches at Summit and Milbank. This was the third damaging storm to the rural electric cooperatives this year and has been called the worst natural disaster in the history of the rural electrics. Total damage estimate for the state rural electrics was \$9.5 million.

1761 - A hurricane struck southeastern New England. It was the most violent in thirty years. Thousands of trees blocked roads in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. (David Ludlum)

1843 - "Indian Summer" was routed by cold and snow that brought sleighing from the Poconos to Vermont. A foot of snow blanketed Haverhill NH and Newberry VT, and 18 to 24 inches were reported in some of the higher elevations. Snow stayed on the ground until the next spring. (22nd-23rd) (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders - 1987) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thirteen cities in the southeastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. It marked the sixth record low of the month for Greer SC and Columbia SC, and the ninth of the month for Montgomery AL. Showers and thunderstorms deluged Corpus Christi TX with five inches of rain. Winnemucca NV reported their first measurable rain in ninety-two days, while Yakima WA reported a record 96 days in a row without measurable rainfall. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Denver, CO, reported their first freeze of the autumn, and Chicago, IL, reported their first snow. In Texas, afternoon highs of 93 degrees at Austin and San Antonio were records for the date. (The National Weather Summary)



A WISE CHOICE. A STRONG VOICE.

LANA GREENFIELD was a teacher for 37 years, is an owner of two small businesses, a land owner, wife of 45 years, proud mother and grandmother.

She promotes conservative and strict interpretation of our Constitution, small businesses, strong education, and South Dakota family values.








ENDORSEMENTS:

- ★ Family Heritage Alliance
- ★ The National Rifle Association
- ★ South Dakota Right to Life

LANA
GREENFIELD
DISTRICT 2
FOR HOUSE

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, October 23, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 094 ♦ 10 of 24

TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	FRIDAY NIGHT	SATURDAY	SATURDAY NIGHT	SUNDAY
						
Patchy Fog High: 72 °F	Mostly Clear Low: 40 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 74 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 38 °F	Sunny High: 64 °F	Mostly Clear Low: 39 °F	Breezy High: 65 °F

Mild & Dry Through The Weekend

Favorable Viewing Conditions Expected For The Partial Solar Eclipse Today

Pierre, SD			Aberdeen, SD		
<p>75° 40° Mostly Clear S 11</p>			<p>72° 38° Mostly Clear SW 14</p>		
Fri	Sat	Sun	Fri	Sat	Sun
					
Breezy		Breezy	Breezy		Breezy
79° 40° NW 16	71° 45° E 11	70° 44° S 15	75° 38° W 19	65° 40° NW 12	65° 43° S 15
<p>October 23, 2014 National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD www.weather.gov/Aberdeen</p>			<p>binocular projection binoculars image of Sun on screen keep cap on unused side to Sun courtesy of the Society for Popular Astronomy</p> 		

Mild and dry weather will provide for favorable solar eclipse viewing conditions this afternoon. It will continue to be nice for the area into the weekend.

Groton Daily Independent

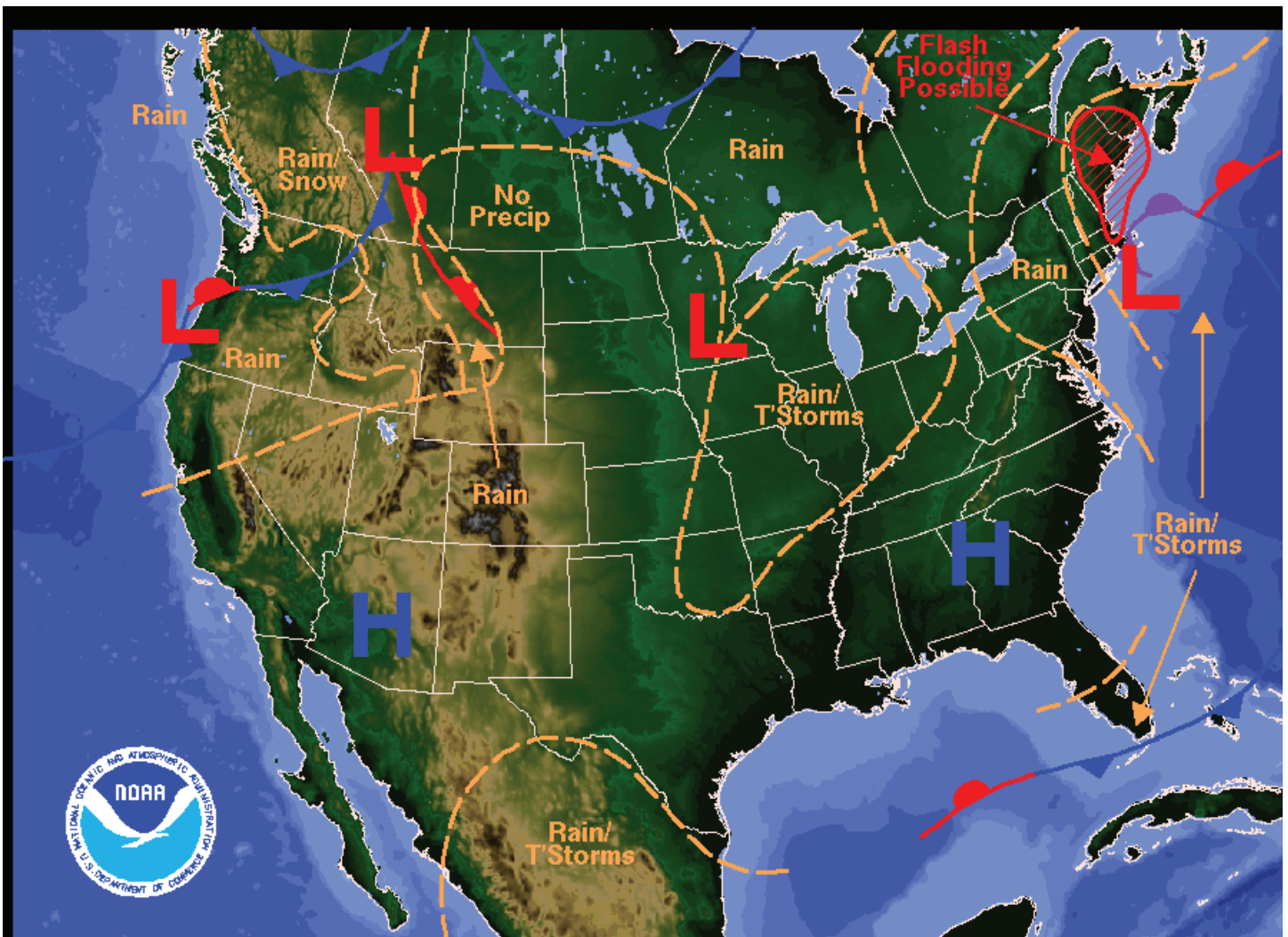
Thursday, October 23, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 094 ♦ 11 of 24

Yesterday's Weather

High: 64.8°F at 12:18 AM
Low: 44.7°F at 10:57 PM
High Gust: 38 mph at 4:30 AM
Precip: 0.18

Today's Info

Record High: 80° in 1963
Record Low: 5° in 1895
Average High: 54°F
Average Low: 30°F
Average Precip in Oct.: 1.55
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.29
Average Precip to date: 20.03
Precip Year to Date: 13.23
Sunset Tonight: 6:35 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:02 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Thu, Oct 23, 2014, issued 3:22 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



WHAT'S IN YOUR EYE?

"Lord," he prayed over me, "take care of Larry. He's the 'apple' of Your eye."

Although I was semiconscious, the word "apple" echoed in my ear and came back to my mind again and again. What did he mean, "An apple in God's eye?" Didn't God have other things to look after that were much more important than an apple?

A few days later the man who prayed this prayer came to visit me. Fortunately, what some thought was a heart attack was an uncomfortable case of indigestion. All was well physically, but, my mind still wondered about the "apple." So I asked.

"What did you mean when you prayed, 'He's the apple of Your eye'? I'm curious about what an apple and I have in common, especially in God's eye."

"Well," he said, clearing his throat, "in Proverbs there is a phrase that says, 'Guard my teachings as the apple of your eye.'"

After a moment of deep thought, he added, "The apple of your eye actually means 'the little man in your eye.' If you gaze or stare intently at someone," he said, "you can see the reflection of that person in the pupil of your eye. So, it means that whatever someone is staring at must be carefully protected because it is precious in the eye of the beholder."

"Larry," he continued, "you are very precious to the Lord and I wanted Him to protect and guard you because it was something I couldn't do, but He could."

Prayer: Lord, all of Your children are equally precious to You. We are so grateful that You have no favorites. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 7:2 Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye.

News from the Associated Press

Minimum-security inmate missing in Rapid City

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Authorities are searching for an inmate who walked away from a minimum-security prison in Rapid City.

State Corrections Department officials says Jay Dooley was last seen Wednesday night.

Dooley had been serving a three-year sentence for damaging property in Pennington County.

SD's Creativity Assoc. affiliate director retires

GROTON, S.D. (AP) — The affiliate director of South Dakota's Creativity Association is retiring after more than two decades on the job.

The Groton Daily Independent reports that Cozy Dorton will retire at the end of this schools year.

The association oversees South Dakota's Destination Imagination program, which offers K-12 and college students after-school activities to help develop their creativity and strengthen their teamwork and problem-solving skills.

Dorton says students continue to participate in the program because they notice the activities have helped them improve their self-confidence and encourage them to try new things.

Dorton says this academic year will be one of "grieving..and of gratitude" because of her planned retirement.

State looking for Lewis and Clark Marina operator

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — The state of South Dakota is looking for a new manager for its marina at the popular Lewis and Clark Recreation Area near Yankton.

A revised prospectus for operation of Lewis and Clark Marina is through the Department of Game, Fish and Parks in Pierre or online at [http://gfp.sd.gov/state-parks/directory/Lewis and Clark](http://gfp.sd.gov/state-parks/directory/Lewis%20and%20Clark).

The agreement requires the operator to provide services that include a marina, full restaurant service, boat repair and service department, retail goods and boat fuel.

Proposals are due Dec. 8.

Turkey licenses left in north central North Dakota

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The North Dakota Game and Fish Department says fall turkey licenses remain in Unit 25.

The unit covers McHenry County and portions of Pierce and Ward counties, in the north central part of the state.

The remaining licenses are for hunters who do not have a license, or for those who want additional licenses. Hunters are allowed a maximum of 15 licenses for the fall season, which is open through Jan. 4.

Resident and nonresident hunters can apply online or print out a mail application at the Game and Fish website: www.gf.nd.gov .

More than \$560K spent on doctor ballot measure ads

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Activists on both sides of the "any willing provider" ballot measure that would

give South Dakota patients more choice of in-network doctors say the issue is too complicated for sound bites, but have still spent more than \$560,000 on television ad to sway voters ahead of Election Day.

Under the proposal, Initiated Measure 17, doctors who agree to conditions set by insurers can join the insurers' preferred providers, or in-network, list. Patients are usually charged less for using preferred providers than doctors outside their network.

Opponents say the plan would increase health care costs, and have spent at least \$294,000 airing 668 TV ads urging voters to oppose the measure, according to data released by the Center for Public Integrity on Thursday.

Proponents have spent at least \$267,000 airing 787 ads, according to the analysis.

The Center for Public Integrity reviewed data about political advertising on national cable and broadcast television in each of the country's 210 media markets. The organization used research from Kantar Media/CMAG, which tracks political advertising and offers a widely accepted estimate of the money spent to air each spot between Jan. 1, 2013, and Monday.

These figures only represent part of the money spent on political advertising. They do not include the money spent on ads on radio, online and direct mail, nor do the numbers reflect ads that aired on local cable systems. The estimates also do not account for the cost of making the ads.

South Dakota Chamber of Commerce and Industry President David Owen, who is leading efforts by business groups and large health care organizations to oppose the measure, said the campaign has raised roughly \$700,000 to fight the physician-backed initiative. Disclosure is required by Friday. That funding has translated into yard signs, online banner advertisements, some print and radio spots and upcoming direct mail buys — costs not reported in the reviewed data.

"This is an enormously complicated and kind of unbelievably boring issue, which makes communicating in sound bites difficult," Owen said.

Supporters have spent more than \$500,000 attempting to sway voters to support the initiative and have invested in the same familiar campaign paraphernalia.

"It's actually quite a bit simpler than people are trying to portray it to be," said Dr. Stephen Eckrich, a leading supporter of the measure.

Colorado man pleads guilty to oil patch murder

MATTHEW BROWN, Associated Press

SIDNEY, Mont. (AP) — A Colorado man pleaded guilty Wednesday to the murder of a Montana teacher in an oil boom town where residents say their lives were forever altered by the crime.

Montana District Judge Richard Simonton accepted Michael Keith Spell's guilty plea on a count of deliberate homicide. A charge of attempted kidnapping was dropped as part of a deal with prosecutors.

Spell testified that Sherry Arnold, 43, was killed when he and an accomplice tried to abduct the Sidney High School math teacher while she was out for a pre-dawn jog in January 2012. He said Arnold struggled when he tried to drag her into their vehicle and that she ultimately lost consciousness.

Spell, who is mentally disabled, said he and accomplice Lester Van Waters Jr. smoked large amounts of crack cocaine leading up to the attempted abduction. Spell appeared unable Wednesday to recall events in detail.

"I'm not sure who killed her. It could have been either one," he said. "All I can say is I'm sorry and ashamed of what I did."

Waters pleaded guilty last year to deliberate homicide by accountability in the case. He is awaiting sentencing.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, October 23, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 094 ♦ 15 of 24

Richland County Attorney Mike Weber recommended a 100-year prison sentence for Spell with the possibility of parole.

Attorneys for the 25-year-old man from Parachute, Colorado, said they'll ask for Spell to be sentenced to the state health department, which could allow him to serve his time in a facility for the mentally disabled.

Defense attorneys also reserved the right to ask for a lesser sentence.

If Simonton accepts the prosecution's sentencing recommendations, Spell would have to serve at least 25 percent of his time before he would be eligible for parole. Factoring in time he's already served, that means he could be eligible for release in 22 years, defense attorney Al Avigone said.

A sentencing hearing was not immediately scheduled.

Arnold's body was found more than two months after she disappeared. It was in a shallow grave in a once-quiet part of neighboring North Dakota, the center of an oil boom that has boosted the region's formerly agriculture-dependent economy but also brought social upheaval.

Hundreds of Sidney-area residents and oil field workers participated in the search for Arnold, a well-known figure in the close-knit town of about 6,200 people.

After her death, Sidney residents said they started locking their doors for the first time, newly wary of the tens of thousands of workers attracted to the Northern Plains by an energy boom that has driven a sharp increase in U.S. oil production.

Among those residents is retired librarian Lynn Donovan. She had Arnold as a student in the 1980s and worked alongside her at Sidney High School in the years leading up to the murder.

Besides locking her doors and installing a security system, Donovan said Wednesday she no longer takes early morning walks. Instead, she waits until the sun is up and avoids areas with few people.

"I guess we should have been thinking of it before. Unfortunately, that (Arnold's death) was the catalyst that hit us upside the head," Donovan said. "You don't know everybody now, which isn't a bad thing. But you do things differently."

Spell is mildly mentally disabled, according to previous testimony from experts for both the prosecution and defense. He has trouble reading and writing, and has a history of low IQ scores. Those findings prompted prosecutors to drop their pursuit of the death penalty.

The plea agreement came just two weeks after the Montana Supreme Court denied a petition from Spell to be declared unfit for trial.

Avigone noted that Spell could be eligible for parole by the time he's 47.

"That gives him a lot of hope when he's incarcerated," Avignone said, adding, "Nobody wins in a case like this."

Weiland raised most in latest fundraising period

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Democrat Rick Weiland's campaign says it has outraised Republican Mike Rounds in a tight four-way U.S. Senate race that once seemed like an easy Republican pickup.

Rounds' team estimates that he raised about \$269,000 in the latest campaign finance disclosure period. That's about \$55,000 short of the \$324,000 Weiland adviser Steve Jarding says his team collected between Oct. 1 and Oct. 15.

The final campaign finance disclosures ahead of the election are to be released on Thursday. Rounds has routinely outraised Weiland throughout the race.

Rounds still appears to have a bigger bank. The Republican's campaign says it has about \$667,000 on hand, while Jarding says Weiland has \$334,000.

Independent Larry Pressler has about \$169,000 on hand and raised about \$54,000. Independent Gordon Howie's funding wasn't immediately available Wednesday.

Poems, but few ads -- Pressler seeks Senate return

HENRY C. JACKSON, Associated Press

KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — For the homestretch of a suddenly competitive four-way Senate race here — one that could tip control of the Senate — former Sen. Larry Pressler is bringing in the best surrogate he can imagine: a 78-year-old retired FBI agent.

Democrats have dropped about \$1 million into the South Dakota Senate race, as have Republicans, and outside groups on all sides have plumped for big buys of their own. But Pressler, a Republican-turned-independent, has little money to advertise, even in a race he can plausibly win.

So, Pressler, 72, will spend key days on the trail reliving the moment he refused a bribe. With him will be retired agent John Good, who led the FBI sting in the Abscam bribery scandal in the late '70s, which led to 19 convictions, including six House members and one senator.

"He's doing this, in part, because I'm under a barrage," Pressler said in an interview with The Associated Press.

A month ago Pressler was an afterthought: a past-his-prime former senator who decided to give it one last quixotic go. Instead, Democrats and Republicans agree, he has disrupted an otherwise uncompetitive Senate race that Republicans are counting on in their push for a Senate majority. Pressler is a key player in a fluid race with former Gov. Mike Rounds, the Republican nominee; businessman Rick Weiland, the Democratic nominee; and Gordon Howie, a tea party inspired independent candidate.

There's been scant reliable polling, but the significant investments by Republicans, Democrats and several major outside groups show the race has warmed up. Most attribute that to Pressler.

In a sign of his rise, Pressler is facing attacks for the first time. Rounds has attacked Pressler's conservative credentials; Weiland has questioned whether he is liberal enough.

"I can't really buy the television time to explain that I'm a friend of both Obama and Romney, but I make my decisions of who to vote for on issues," Pressler said.

Instead, he's continued an off-beat campaign that includes poetry readings and testimonials from obscure figures like Good. His campaign message is part wistful, part wishful. He wants more comity in Washington and tells stories about his time in Congress in the 1980s and 1990s, like the one where the Democratic Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill, approached him to go on his radio show.

"I'm running a little different kind of campaign," he said.

In campaign finance reports filed Wednesday, Pressler reported having \$169,000 on hand compared to Rounds' \$667,000. Weiland reported raising about \$400,000 in the first half of October, but didn't say how much he still had. Howe's totals weren't immediately available.

Pressler has no campaign mailers, no yard signs. There's one full-time staffer plus his wife and a small cadre of volunteers. He gives out his own cell phone number and often replies himself to campaign emails.

Somehow, this approach has worked. The key question: Can he keep it up?

Both parties are closely tracking Pressler's trajectory. Republicans need to net six seats to retake the Senate. South Dakota is viewed as a must-have. The GOP views Pressler warily, and with good reason: He won't say which party he would caucus with. He has said he voted for President Barack Obama, but also hosted a fundraiser for 2012 GOP nominee Mitt Romney.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, October 23, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 094 ♦ 17 of 24

Democrats seem happy to sow chaos. Some seem content to take their chances on who the independent will caucus with.

Pressler's rise has coincided with Rounds' struggles. The former governor has been dogged by questions about a state-administered federal program that gave wealthy foreigners visas in exchange for big investments in rural South Dakota. That's allowed Pressler to pluck some typically GOP voters like Amy Schochenmaier.

The 34-year-old Pierre resident sees herself as a Republican but supports Pressler because she believes he will conduct himself as a "statesman" and "like a senator."

Rounds has responded with a withering ad aimed at wavering Republicans, highlighting issues where Pressler and Weiland share similar views.

Pressler has faced other questions: Press reports have focused on his post Senate-work, which included serving as a board member at Sky Capital, whose CEO was sentenced to 12 years for defrauding investors. His residency has come under question. Pressler lists the District of Columbia as his primary residence for tax reasons, but has always registered to vote from the same family farm in Humboldt, South Dakota, and rents an apartment in Sioux Falls.

Some voters, like Joey Latunski, of Clark, said they would prefer someone whose motives are more certain. The 63-year-old said he'll vote for Mike Rounds because he wants a sure vote for a Republican Senate leader. Marilyn Teske, of Fort Pierre, said she'll vote for Rick Weiland for virtually the same reason — a clear vote for Democrats.

"I would not have a lot of trust in what (Pressler) might do when he gets to the Senate," she said.

Rounds sits on \$667,000 ahead of Election Day

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Republican Mike Rounds' U.S. Senate campaign says it has \$667,000 banked in the final fundraising period disclosed ahead of the fall elections.

Rounds' camp said on Wednesday that he raised about \$269,000 between Oct. 1 and Oct. 15. Reports specifying campaign expenditures and fundraising during that period are due on Thursday.

Rounds is a former governor who's engaged in a competitive four-way contest for South Dakota's open Senate seat. Democrat Rick Weiland and independents Larry Pressler and Gordon Howie are fighting for the vacancy left by retiring Democratic U.S. Sen. Tim Johnson.

Weiland's campaign said Tuesday that he had raised about \$400,000 in the same period, but didn't say how much was in the bank. Pressler heads toward the election with roughly \$169,000 on hand. Howie's figures weren't immediately available.

Pressler has \$169,000 ahead of Senate election

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Independent Larry Pressler's U.S. Senate campaign says it has \$169,000 in the bank in the last fundraising period disclosed before Election Day.

Pressler's report to the Federal Elections Commission released Wednesday shows he raised about \$54,000 between Oct. 1 and Oct. 15. Reports detailing expenditures and money raised during that period are due on Thursday. The former Republican U.S. representative and senator loaned himself \$67,000 during the same time.

Pressler is in a close four-way contest for South Dakota's open Senate seat. Republican Mike Rounds, Democrat Rick Weiland and independent Gordon Howie and are vying for the opening left by retiring U.S. Sen. Tim Johnson, a Democrat.

Weiland's campaign said Tuesday that he had raised about \$400,000 in the same period.

Rounds' campaign didn't immediately return requests for comment Wednesday.

Large Sully County fire burns sunflowers, pasture

ONIDA, S.D. (AP) — A fire that started in a sunflower field being combined in Sully County spread quickly in gusty conditions and burned as many as 1,500 acres.

Onida Fire Chief Brian Ring tells KGFX radio that it took firefighters from five departments about five hours to put down the flames west of Onida on Tuesday. Farmers helped out by plowing a fire line, and area residents and businesses brought tankers of water to the scene.

Ring says the fire burned an area about three miles long and half a mile wide in spots. It burned the sunflower field, wheat stubble and pasture grass.

KCCR radio reports that no one was hurt and no structures were threatened.

Appeal of the late James McVay dismissed

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Supreme Court has dismissed the appeal of a convicted murderer who killed himself in prison.

James McVay was found hanging by a sheet in his State Penitentiary cell on Sept. 4. His death was ruled a suicide.

The 44-year-old McVay pleaded guilty but mentally ill to murder in the 2011 stabbing of 75-year-old Maybelle Schein and was sentenced to death.

Authorities say McVay killed Schein and stole her car as part of a plan to drive to the nation's capital and kill the president.

Attorney General Marty Jackley on Wednesday said McVay's appeal had been dismissed.

Former state worker to get transportation honor

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Pierre man who worked for the state three decades is to be inducted into the South Dakota Transportation Hall of Honor next week.

The state Department of Transportation says Tim Bjerneberg worked for the agency for 31 years. A banquet for him is scheduled Tuesday.

The deadline to get tickets is Thursday.

Extension service says aphids showing up on wheat

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — The warm fall weather is likely to blame for aphids that have been reported on winter wheat in central and southern South Dakota.

Counties where the bug has been spotted include Hand, Hanson, Davidson and Aurora.

SDSU Extension Agronomy Field Specialist Ruth Beck says the aphids carry a virus that is transferred to the wheat and can result in reduced crop yields.

She says wheat farmers should look for the bug in their fields and call the agency or treat their crops if the infestation is bad enough.

The aphids are dark-green and have a brown band across their abdomen.

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. CANADA VOWS NOT TO BE INTIMIDATED BY TERROR

Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper says the Parliament Hill shooting was a terrorist act.

2. GLIMPSES OF NORTH KOREAN LIFE CAUGHT ON RARE TRIP

Two AP reporters embark on an unprecedented tour for 1,300 miles in the isolationist nation that's one of the least-known inhabited places on the planet.

3. US TO TRACK EVERYONE COMING FROM EBOLA NATIONS

It's the latest step by federal officials to keep the disease from spreading into the country.

4. MANY DOUBT HOSPITALS CAN HANDLE EBOLA PATIENTS

An AP-GfK poll shows most Americans have some confidence that the health care system can prevent the spread of the deadly disease--they just don't think local facilities are prepared for new cases.

5. MAN CAUGHT AFTER JUMPING OVER WHITE HOUSE FENCE

The incident comes shortly after another fence jumper sprinted across the White House lawn, past armed uniformed agents and entered the mansion.

6. WHO'S FUNDING MANY STATE BALLOT INITIATIVES

Much of the ad money spent on election measures this season comes from corporations--although not in a direct way.

7. KENNY G'S SMOOTH TUNES CAUGHT IN HONG KONG CONFLICT

The jazz star had to distance himself from the democracy protests in the territory in order not to lose face with China, where he is very popular.

8. WHICH STATES ARE DENYING GAY UNIONS DESPITE COURT RULINGS

Kansas, Montana and South Carolina are refusing to allow same-sex marriage to go ahead without a specific court order directing them to do so.

9. WHAT'S BECOMING ROUTINE FOR RENTERS

Monthly surcharges for pets — anywhere from \$10 to \$50 — are quickly becoming the norm in apartments in the U.S.

10. CIGARETTE MAKER SNUFFING OUT SMOKING IN ITS WORKPLACES

The ban will take effect once Reynolds American builds indoor smoking areas for those still wanting to light up indoors, a spokesman says.

AP News in Brief

Canada's PM says shooting rampage at Parliament was terrorism; gunman and soldier are killed

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — Two deadly attacks in three days against members of the military stunned Canadians and raised fears their country was being targeted for reprisals for joining the U.S.-led air campaign against an extremist Islamic group in Iraq and Syria.

"We will not be intimidated. Canada will never be intimidated," Prime Minister Stephen Harper vowed in a nationally televised address hours after a masked gunman killed a soldier standing guard at Ottawa's war memorial shortly before 10 a.m. on Wednesday. The suspect then stormed Parliament in a dramatic attack that was stopped cold when he was shot to death by the ceremonial sergeant-at-arms.

Harper called it the country's second terrorist attack in three days. A man Harper described as an

"ISIL-inspired terrorist" on Monday ran over two soldiers in a parking lot in Quebec, killing one and injuring another before being shot to death by police. Like the suspect from Wednesday's shooting in Ottawa, he was a recent convert to Islam.

Investigators offered little information about the gunman in Ottawa, identified as 32-year-old petty criminal Michael Zehaf-Bibeau. But Harper said: "In the days to come we will learn about the terrorist and any accomplices he may have had."

Witnesses said the soldier posted at the National War Memorial, identified as Cpl. Nathan Cirillo, was gunned down at point-blank range by a man carrying a rifle and dressed all in black, his face half-covered with a scarf. The gunman appeared to raise his arms in triumph, then entered Parliament, a few hundred yards away, where dozens of shots soon rang out, according to witnesses.

AP Exclusive: Stunning vistas and wary soldiers: A drive up N. Korea's revered Mount Paektu

LAKE CHON, North Korea (AP) — When North Korea opens its doors, it does so for a reason. So it was when the authoritarian government granted permission for a road trip so extensive that few North Koreans — let alone a pair of American journalists — could imagine taking it.

We drove 2,150 kilometers (1,336 miles) in a country that has barely 25,000 kilometers of road, and only 724 kilometers of those paved. By the time we returned to the capital a week later, our Chinese-made Great Wall SUV had a few new scratches and one less hubcap.

Our official destination was majestic Mount Paektu, with its jagged peaks surrounding a crystal-blue crater lake. North Korea is pursuing a plan to create dozens of special foreign investment and tourism zones, and this is one of the places it most wants to promote.

The easiest way to get there is to fly, but we had been granted permission to drive. This, we were told, would mean traveling through places that no foreign journalists had been allowed to see before.

Still, the trip was on North Korea's terms.

AP-GfK Poll: Some confidence health system can prevent Ebola spread, hospitals should do more

WASHINGTON (AP) — Most Americans have some confidence that the U.S. health care system will prevent Ebola from spreading in this country, but they're not so sure their local hospital can safely handle a patient, according to an Associated Press-GfK poll.

Amid worry here, most Americans say the U.S. also should be doing more to stop Ebola in West Africa. Health authorities have been clear: Until that epidemic ends, travelers could unknowingly carry the virus anywhere.

"It seems to me we have a crisis of two things. We have a crisis of science, and either people don't understand it or ... they don't believe it," said Dr. Joseph McCormick, an Ebola expert at the University of Texas School of Public Health. And, "we have a crisis in confidence in government."

Some findings from the AP-GfK poll:

HEALTH CARE GETS MIXED REVIEWS

CDC: New plan will monitor all Americans, visitors coming into US from 3 Ebola nations

ATLANTA (AP) — All travelers who come into the U.S. from three Ebola-stricken West African nations will now be monitored for three weeks, the latest step by federal officials to keep the disease from spreading into the country.

Starting Monday, anyone traveling from Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone will have to report in with health officials daily and take their temperature twice a day.

The measure applies not only to visitors from those countries but also returning American aid workers, federal health employees and journalists. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced the new step Wednesday.

CDC Director Tom Frieden said monitoring will provide an extra level of safety. Passengers already get screened and temperature checks before they leave West Africa and again when they arrive in the United States.

"We have to keep our guard up," Frieden told reporters on a conference call.

Women's World Cup next summer another chance for US soccer fanaticism to take hold

The chants of "U-S-A! U-S-A!" can rev up again next summer.

And this time, they won't conflict with the workday.

A year after the World Cup transformed millions of Americans into red-white-and-blue-wearing soccer fanatics, another chance to cheer for a national team will arrive.

The Women's World Cup kicks off in Canada in June — and if the favored U.S. advances far, expect some more massive TV audiences.

"Any time you get to wrap yourself in the flag and root with other Americans, it doesn't really matter if you know what offsides is," Fox Sports President Eric Shanks said.

State ballot initiatives see millions of dollars in political spending from corporate giants

WASHINGTON (AP) — Voters may not know it, but the millions of dollars paying for ads on ballot measures they will consider next month come from large companies and national advocacy groups.

Many of the messages are tailored to defend or expand the business interests of companies such as Coca-Cola, Monsanto and ExxonMobil, yet few have their names in the ads.

For example, \$6.4 million in ads funded by Coloradans for Better Schools is backed by the Rhode Island-based Twin Rivers Casino in favor of a ballot initiative that would expand gambling to horse tracks. Opponents, calling themselves Don't Turn Racetracks Into Casinos, are backed by a group of Colorado casinos and are helping fund \$5.7 million in ads to defend their turf.

Through Oct. 20, TV ad spending on ballot issues totaled roughly \$119 million, according to an analysis conducted by the Washington-based Center for Public Integrity, based on preliminary data from media tracking service Kantar Media/CMAG. Four of the five most expensive ballot initiatives — a process designed to give voters a direct say over public policy — feature at least one corporate patron.

Voters may not readily identify the patrons behind the hundreds of millions of dollars in ads using family farmers, concerned doctors and smiling teachers as spokespeople, as the corporations set up

outside groups with nondescript names to handle the political ads.

Massive cheating scandal at UNC scandal included athletes, fake classes and automatic grades

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — Bogus classes and automatic A's and B's are at the heart of a cheating scandal at the University of North Carolina that lasted nearly two decades, encompassing about 3,100 students — nearly half of them athletes.

At least nine university employees were fired or under disciplinary review, and the question now becomes what, if anything, the NCAA will do next. Penalties could range from fewer scholarships to vacated wins.

Most of the athletes were football players or members of the school's cherished basketball program, which won three of its five national titles during the scandal (1993, 2005, 2009).

Many at the university hoped Wainstein's eight-month investigation would bring some closure. Instead, it found more academic fraud than previous investigations by the NCAA and the school.

The UNC case stands out among academic scandals at Harvard, Duke and the Naval Academy, said Howard Gardner, a professor at Harvard's Graduate School of Education who studies cheating.

Online predator: Denver teens encouraged online to travel to Syria, official says

DENVER (AP) — The case of three teenage girls being investigated for trying to join Islamic State militants poses vexing questions for U.S. officials about the use of social media by terror groups to recruit people inside the United States, experts said Wednesday.

A Colorado school official said the Denver area girls — two sisters ages 17 and 15, and a 16-year-old friend — were victims of an online predator who encouraged them to travel overseas and eventually to Syria.

Mia Bloom, a professor of security studies at the University of Massachusetts-Lowell, said the girls' story so far suggests how Islamic extremists have mastered social media to prey on younger and younger women with "Disney-like versions of what it is like to live in the caliphate," complete with promises of husbands and homes.

At least one of the girls was communicating with someone online who encouraged the three to travel to Syria, said Tustin Amole, a spokeswoman for the Cherry Creek School District where the girls attend high school.

Fellow high school students told school officials that the girls had been discussing travel plans over Twitter, Amole said.

Royals' bullpen blanks Giants in 7-2 victory that evens World Series as it shifts to Bay Area

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The first showdown of brilliant bullpens went to the Kansas City Royals. After Kansas City took the lead with a five-run sixth inning, the trio of Kelvin Herrera, Wade Davis and All-Star closer Greg Holland shut down the hot-hitting San Francisco Giants.

Kansas City cruised from there to a 7-2 victory Wednesday night, evening the World Series at a game apiece as it shifts to the Bay Area for the next three games.

"It's a huge luxury for me," Royals manager Ned Yost said. "After the sixth inning, my thinking is done. I don't have to mix and match."

Nope, just call on the gas.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Oct. 23, the 296th day of 2014. There are 69 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 23, 1944, the World War II Battle of Leyte (LAY'-tee) Gulf began, resulting in a major Allied victory against Japanese forces.

On this date:

In 1707, the first Parliament of Great Britain, created by the Acts of Union between England and Scotland, held its first meeting.

In 1864, forces led by Union Maj. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis repelled Confederate Maj. Gen. Sterling Price's army in the Civil War Battle of Westport in Missouri.

In 1915, tens of thousands of women marched in New York City, demanding the right to vote.

In 1935, mobster Dutch Schultz, 34, was shot and mortally wounded with three other men during a gangland hit at the Palace Chophouse in Newark, New Jersey. (Schultz died the following day.)

In 1942, during World War II, Britain launched a major offensive against Axis forces at El Alamein (el ah-lah-MAYN') in Egypt, resulting in an Allied victory.

In 1954, West Germany was invited to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which it did the following year.

In 1956, a student-sparked revolt against Hungary's Communist rule began; as the revolution spread, Soviet forces started entering the country, and the uprising was put down within weeks.

In 1972, the musical "Pippin" opened on Broadway.

In 1983, 241 U.S. service members, most of them Marines, were killed in a suicide truck-bombing at Beirut International Airport in Lebanon; a near-simultaneous attack on French forces killed 58 paratroopers.

In 1984, BBC Television reported on the famine in Ethiopia; the story, which shocked viewers, prompted rock star Bob Geldof to organize "Band Aid," a group of celebrities who recorded the song "Do They Know It's Christmas?" for charity.

In 1989, 23 people were killed in an explosion at Phillips Petroleum Co.'s chemical complex in Pasadena, Texas. In a case that inflamed racial tensions in Boston, Charles Stuart claimed that he and his pregnant wife, Carol, had been shot in their car by a black robber. (Carol Stuart and her prematurely delivered baby died; Charles Stuart later died, an apparent suicide, after he himself was implicated.)

In 2002, gunmen seized a crowded Moscow theater, taking hundreds hostage and threatening to

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, October 23, 2014 ♦ Vol. 17 - No. 094 ♦ 24 of 24

kill their captives unless the Russian army pulled out of Chechnya. (Three days later, special forces stormed the theater; 130 captives died, along with all 40 gunmen.)

Ten years ago: Gunmen ambushed a group of U.S.-trained Iraqi soldiers east of Baghdad; around 50 of the unarmed soldiers were killed execution-style. A 6.8 magnitude earthquake in northern Japan killed 40 people. Brazil launched its first rocket into space, 14 months after an accident killed 21 space agency employees. The Boston Red Sox took Game 1 of the World Series, defeating the St. Louis Cardinals 11-9. Singer Ashlee Simpson, performing on NBC's "Saturday Night Live," was tripped up when the backing track for a different song featuring her voice began to play, prompting accusations of lip-synching. Opera singer Robert Merrill, 87, died in New Rochelle, New York.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama declared the swine flu outbreak a national emergency, giving his health chief the power to let hospitals move emergency rooms offsite to speed treatment and protect noninfected patients. Bank closings for 2009 surpassed 100, hitting 106 by day's end. The NBA and the referees union agreed on a two-year contract, ending a lockout of more than a month. Character actor Lou Jacobi died in New York at age 95. Shiloh Pepin, 10, a girl who was born with fused legs, a rare condition often called "mermaid syndrome," died in Portland, Maine.

One year ago: A defensive Obama administration acknowledged its problem-plagued health insurance website didn't get enough testing before going live; it said technicians were deep into the job of fixing major computer snags, but provided no timetable. German Chancellor Angela Merkel called President Barack Obama to complain about allegations U.S. intelligence had targeted her cellphone. (The White House said it wasn't monitoring and wouldn't monitor Merkel's communications, but conspicuously didn't say they had never been monitored.) The Boston Red Sox took the World Series opener, beating the St. Louis Cardinals 8-1.

Today's Birthdays: Baseball Hall of Famer and former U.S. Senator Jim Bunning, R-Ky., is 83. Movie director Philip Kaufman is 78. Soccer great Pele (pay-lay) is 74. Rhythm-and-blues singer Barbara Ann Hawkins (The Dixie Cups) is 71. ABC News investigative reporter Brian Ross is 66. Actor Michael Rupert is 63. Movie director Ang Lee is 60. Jazz singer Dianne Reeves is 58. Country singer Dwight Yoakam is 58. Community activist Martin Luther King III is 57. Movie director Sam Raimi is 55. Parodist "Weird Al" Yankovic is 55. Rock musician Robert Trujillo (Metallica) is 50. Christian/jazz singer David Thomas (Take 6) is 48. Rock musician Brian Nevin (Big Head Todd and the Monsters) is 48. Country singer-musician Junior Bryant is 46. Actor Jon Huertas is 45. Movie director Chris Weitz is 45. CNN medical reporter Dr. Sanjay Gupta is 45. Country singer Jimmy Wayne is 42. Actress Vivian Bang is 41. Rock musician Eric Bass (Shinedown) is 40. TV personality and host Cat Deeley is 38. Actor Ryan Reynolds is 38. Rock singer Matthew Shultz (Cage the Elephant) is 31. Rhythm-and-blues singer Miguel is 29. Actress Masiela Lusha (MAH'-see-ella loo-SHA') is 29. Actress Emilia Clarke (TV: "Game of Thrones") is 28. Actress Briana Evigan is 28. Actress Jessica Stroup is 28.

Thought for Today: "Be content with what you are, and wish not change; nor dread your last day, nor long for it." - Marcus Aurelius, Roman emperor (CE 121-CE 180).