

Groton Daily Independent

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Birthdays: Glenn Cooper • Landon Jondahl
• Amber Meister Miller
Anniversaries: Mike & Sherri Profeta • Fred & Elaine Wolken
Debate and Oral Interp at Aberdeen Central High School
Robotics at Eureka High School (Eureka VEX Tournament)

Mark Malmberg, DDS

19 North 6th St.

Oakes, N.D.

701-742-3401



FRIDAY IS
FRIED CHICKEN DAY

Served with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Serving
5-9 p.m.

WE'VE GOT WINGS!

Every Wednesday!



120 S Main St. • 298-5252

**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.

Groton City Council Agenda

November 17, 2014 – 7pm

- 1) 7pm Employee Meetings
- 2) Minutes
- 3) Bills
- 4) Department Reports
- 5) 7:15pm 2014 (C&G) Special Assessment Roll Hearing
- 6) 2nd Reading Ordinance 700, Water Rates
- 7) Nuisance Property Cleanup Results
- 8) Airport Runway Improvements
- 9) Jail – Surplus?
- 10) Election School – Pierre -Dec 11
- 11) Exe Session – Personnel
- 12) 2nd Reading Ordinance 699 – 2015 Salary Ordinance

And Any Other Business that may come before the Council



Olde Bank Floral
'N More

**HOLIDAY
OPEN
HOUSE**

101 N. Main St., Groton ~ 397-8650
www.oldebankfloral.com

Thursday, Nov. 20, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wine Tasting Day

Friday, Nov. 21, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 22, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

10% discount
on regular priced merchandise
(some exclusions apply)

40% off
all kitchen merchandise
Door prize drawing daily
Food samples

Extended Holiday Hours
Thursdays: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Serving Wine Every Thursday
Sundays: Noon to 4 p.m.

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Cultural Heritage Center annual holiday open house set for Nov. 28

PIERRE, S.D. -- The annual holiday open house of the South Dakota State Historical Society will be held Friday, Nov. 28. The event runs from 12-4:30 p.m. CST, at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

The largest event of the year, the 2014 theme of the open house is "A Prairie Christmas." The lobby will be decorated to have a prairie look with branches and wreaths.

Visitors will have the opportunity to purchase Laura Ingalls Wilder's "Pioneer Girl: The Annotated Autobiography." The much-anticipated book, published by the South Dakota Historical Society Press, contains hundreds of annotations, images and other materials that accompany Wilder's original manuscript "Pioneer Girl."

The open house features free museum admission to the new exhibit "Play Ball! The National Pastime in South Dakota." There will also be holiday treats and entertainment including living-history demonstrations and Santa Claus will be on hand for photographs. The Heritage Store will offer unique gifts.

Visitors are encouraged to bring canned goods to donate to the local food pantry.

"Our day-after-Thanksgiving holiday open house has become a local tradition," said Jay D. Vogt, society director. "Hundreds of people visit the Cultural Heritage Center each year during the event, and we hope people will attend and bring their friends!"

Nov. 28 will also be the beginning of the museum being open extended hours throughout the holidays. Hours until Dec. 23 will be 9 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 1-4:30 p.m. on Sundays. The center is closed Christmas Day.

Classifieds

Togel Bridal Shower

Come and Go Bridal Shower for Megan Togel, bride-to-be of Logan Clemensen, November 15, 2014, 10:00-11:30 A.M. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ferney, SD. The couple is registered at Target and Inspire.

Apartments 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.

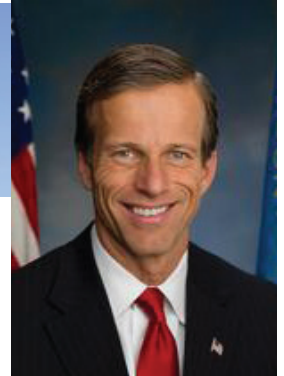
House for Rent

Two-bedroom house in Groton. Full basement, breezeway, attached garage, large yard. Wheelchair accessible. Furnished, appliances included. \$700/month. Less with lease. (941) 525-4515.

Apartment For Rent

One bedroom apartment for rent. Main street ground level. Washer dryer and dishwasher big walk in closet 550 utilities included 400 if you pay your own

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



Working to Address South Dakota's Transportation Needs

Life in South Dakota's wide open spaces means the nearest hospital or airport can be many miles away. It also means that adequate funding and sound infrastructure are critical to maintaining roads, bridges, railroads, and airports throughout our state. The stability provided by long-term federal transportation policy gives states and localities the tools they need to prioritize targeted transportation investments. Maintaining a national transportation system keeps roads safe for South Dakota families and ensures efficient movement of the commercial vehicles vital to a host of South Dakota industries.

This past week, I was pleased to host U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx in South Dakota to discuss a variety of transportation issues. We spent the day highlighting transportation priorities in South Dakota and the importance of an efficient transportation system. We started the morning in Rapid City where Secretary Foxx, Governor Dugaard, and I participated in a roundtable meeting with a number of South Dakotans to discuss the importance of transportation and the impact it has on South Dakota's and the nation's economy, particularly as it relates to the state's largest industry, agriculture. As we have witnessed since late last year, the inability of shippers and ag producers to secure rail cars and locomotives to get their products to market in a timely manner has a significant impact on our state.

We also made a stop in Chamberlain to show the secretary steps the state of South Dakota is taking to improve the state-owned rail line, providing ag producers and other shippers with expanded options to getting their grain to market. This portion of the secretary's tour underscored the positive impact federal investment combined with state and local funding has on infrastructure and economic development.

In addition to the rail discussions, we organized a briefing for Secretary Foxx with officials at Ellsworth Air Force Base. The briefing was an opportunity to underscore how the pending proposal to expand the nearby Powder River training range is critical not only for our military servicemen and women but for our nation's long-term safety and security. Secretary Foxx oversees the FAA which is currently reviewing this training expansion proposal.

Maintaining a sound and efficient transportation network in large, landmass states like South Dakota with a relatively small population is important to stimulating economic development. While we still need to make investments to maintain the thousands of miles of roads, bridges, and highways our state's residents depend upon, Secretary Foxx left South Dakota with a better understanding of our state's unique transportation challenges and the key role South Dakota plays in the national transportation system.

With my role as the next chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, which has direct oversight of the U.S. Department of Transportation, I look forward to working with Secretary Foxx and others to ensure that South Dakota's transportation needs are not overlooked.

Today in Weather History

1988: A mixture of sleet, freezing rain and snow fell from north central South Dakota into west central Minnesota before changing over to all snow by the afternoon of the 15th. Snow continued across Minnesota during the morning hours on the 16th, along with increasing winds. The strong winds and snow created near zero visibilities due to blowing snow in northwest and west central Minnesota. A 60 mph wind gust was recorded in Morris, MN. Snow and blowing snow blocked roads, caused power outages and closed schools. Snow in many locations accumulated over a sheet of ice that coated roads from preceding rainfall.

1900 - A record lake-effect snowstorm at Watertown, NY, produced 45 inches in 24 hours. The storm total was 49 inches. (14th-15th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1967 - A surprise snow and ice coating paralyzed Boston during the evening rush hour. (David Ludlum)

1987: Starting in 1987, for three straight years there were significant tornado outbreaks that occurred on November 15. Each outbreak included F3 strength tornadoes and affected at least three states.

1987 - Thunderstorms spawned twenty-two tornadoes in eastern Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma. A tornado moving out of northeastern Texas killed one person and injured ninety-six others around Shreveport LA causing more than five million dollars damage. Tornadoes in Texas claimed ten lives, and injured 191 persons. A tornado caused more than nineteen million dollars damage around Palestine TX. Severe thunderstorms spawned eighteen tornadoes in Mississippi and seven in Georgia the next day, and thunderstorms in southeastern Texas produced wind gusts to 102 mph at Galveston, and wind gusts to 110 mph at Bay City, killing one person. There were a total of forty-nine tornadoes in the south central U.S. in two days. The tornadoes claimed eleven lives, injured 303 persons, and caused more than seventy million dollars damage. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from Oklahoma and northeastern Texas to northern Indiana and southern Wisconsin from mid morning through the pre-dawn hours of the following day. Thunderstorms spawned forty-four tornadoes, including thirteen in Missouri, and there were more than two hundred reports of large hail or damaging winds. A tornado in central Arkansas hit Scott and Lonoke killing five people, injuring sixty others, and causing fifteen million dollars damage. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - A tornado hit Southside, AR, killing one person, injuring ten others, and causing more than two million dollars damage, and a tornado near Clarksville AR injured nine persons and caused more than two million dollars damage. A tornado moving through the southwest part of Topeka KS injured twenty-two persons and caused nearly four million dollars damage. A tornado near Jane MO killed one person and injured twelve others, and a tornado moving across the southwest part of O'Fallon MO injured ten persons. Severe thunderstorms also produced hail three and a half inches in diameter east of Denison TX, and wind gusts to 85 mph at Kirksville MO. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms developing along a powerful cold front began to produce severe weather in the Middle Mississippi Valley before sunrise, and by early the next morning thunderstorms had spawned seventeen tornadoes east of the Mississippi River, with a total of 350 reports of severe weather. There were one hundred reports of damaging winds in Georgia, and five tornadoes, and there were another four tornadoes in Alabama. Hardest hit was Huntsville AL where a violent tornado killed 21 persons, injured 463 others, and caused one hundred million dollars damage. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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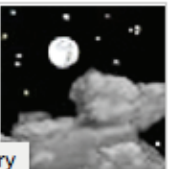

1989 - Thunderstorms in Kentucky produced hail three inches in diameter in Grayson County, and wind gusts to 110 mph at Flaherty. Thunderstorms produced severe weather in the eastern U.S. through the morning and afternoon hours. Severe thunderstorms spawned 23 tornadoes, and there were 164 reports of damaging winds. There were fourteen tornadoes in New Jersey, central and eastern New York, and eastern Pennsylvania, and 122 reports of damaging winds. A tornado at Coldenham NY killed nine school children and injured eighteen others, and thunderstorm winds gusted to 100 mph at Malvern PA. Thunderstorms spawned a total of thirty-nine tornadoes east of Great Plains in two days, and there 499 reports of large hail and damaging winds. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

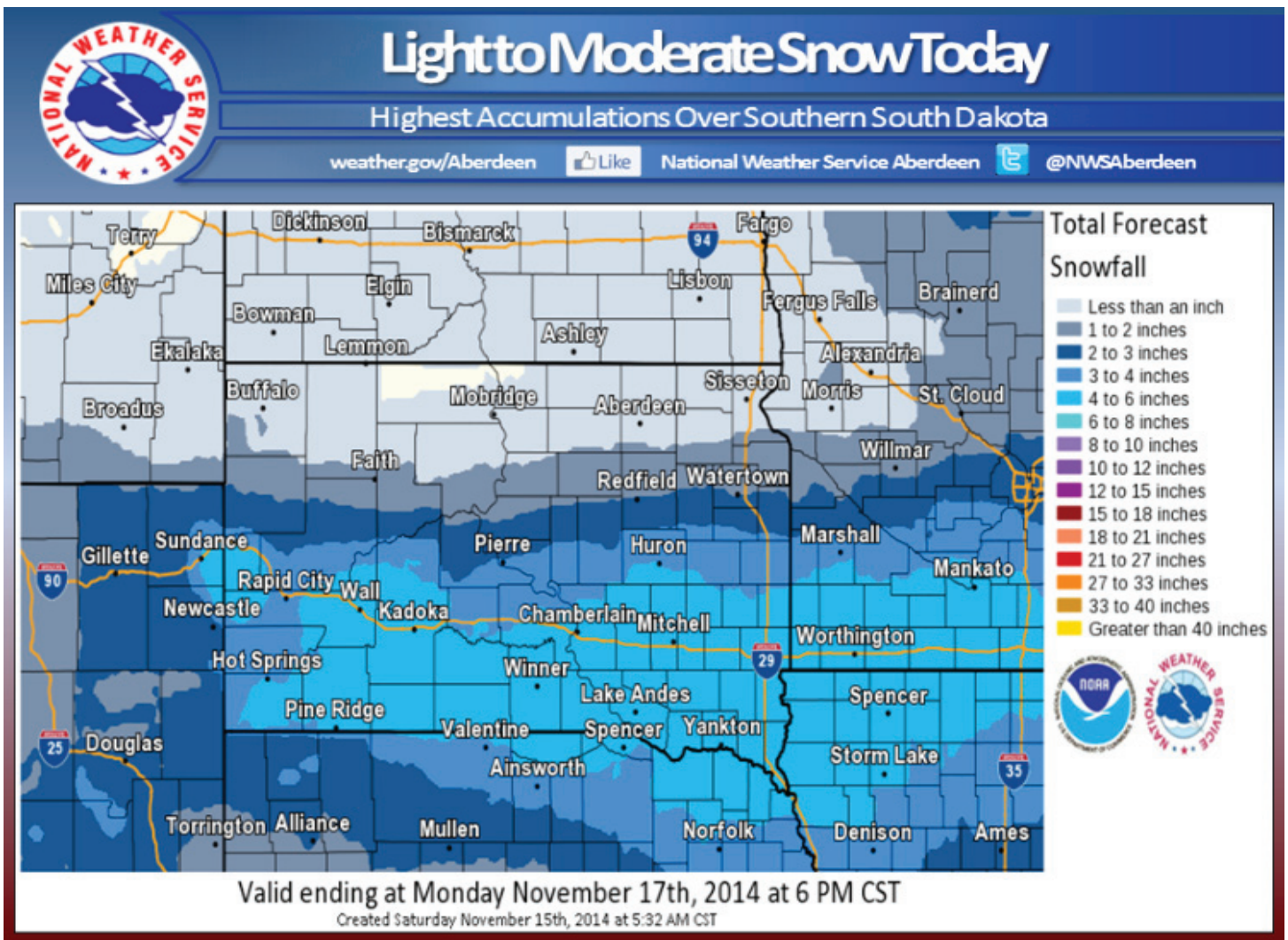
2005 - Severe thunderstorms produced over 30 tornadoes in 6 states, resulting in one fatality and at least 35 injuries (Associated Press). Some of the worst damage occurred in Henry county, Tennessee, where numerous homes and businesses were damaged or destroyed.

2006 - Strong winds cause severe damage at a skating rink in Montgomery, Alabama where more than 30 preschoolers were playing. Two children suffered injuries but there were no fatalities.

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TODAY	TONIGHT	SUNDAY	SUNDAY NIGHT	MONDAY	MONDAY NIGHT	TUESDAY
 50%		 20%		 Blustery		
Chance Snow High: 17 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: -2 °F	Blowing Snow High: 22 °F	Blustery Low: 5 °F	Blustery High: 13 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: -4 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 18 °F



Most of the area is waking up to snowfall this morning. Light to moderate snow will continue through the day, with a gradual end from west to east this afternoon. The highest accumulations are still expected over southern South Dakota, with lesser amounts further north towards the state line.

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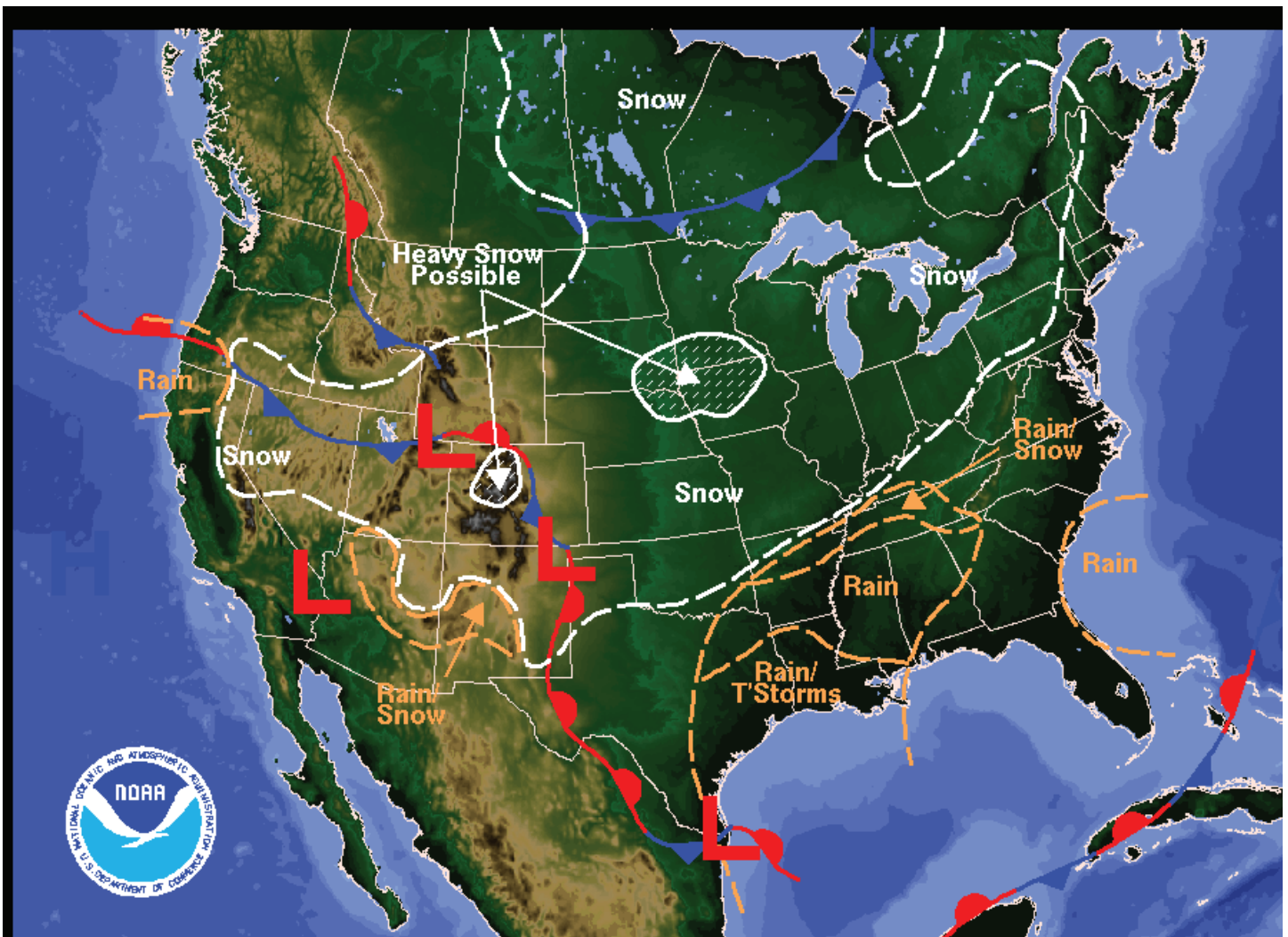
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Yesterday's Weather

High: 17.3°F at 3:57 PM
Low: -14.1°F at 7:37 PAM
High Gust: 11 mph at 10:13 PM
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 72° in 1953
Record Low: -8° in 1900
Average High: 40°F
Average Low: 19°F
Average Precip in Nov.: 0.39
Precip to date in Nov.: 0.56
Average Precip to date: 20.86
Precip Year to Date: 13.79
Sunset Tonight: 5:04 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:34 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sat, Nov 15, 2014, issued 3:20 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Fanning based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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LEVEL PATHWAYS

Recently, I received two fall catalogs from sporting goods companies. Both featured fall items that anyone who loves the outdoors would be pleased to own. Both had a focus on hiking and the wilderness. The clothes were so attractive that they seemed appropriate enough to wear to a wedding reception.

But the shoes were in a class by themselves. They all had a rugged appearance with built in safety features: steel shanks for stability, soles with rock-biting "teeth" to provide non-skid traction, comfortable inserts to prevent fatigue and fabric laces that would last for years.

Every picture that featured the shoes "in action" had a person walking up a steep incline with rocks, shrubs and stones that made the journey difficult. Some of the models had sticks in their hands to provide balance or to protect them from snakes or other animals. All appeared ready for "anything" with canteens of water and first aid kits. Whatever came their way would be subdued! They were able to conquer anything at any time. They were prepared for their journey through the wilderness.

But no matter how wisely they prepared for their journey through the wilderness, it did not prepare them for the journey through life. The journey through life is not about shoes or clothing: it is about walking in His righteousness. The only "safe-passage" is with Christ. "The righteousness of the blameless makes their path straight, but the wicked are brought down by their deeds."

God wants His best for us. But it comes with limitations.

Prayer: Lord, may we stay close to You as we journey through life, knowing that we will be safe if we live right. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 11:5 The righteousness of the blameless makes their paths straight, but the wicked are brought down by their own wickedness.

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

News from the Associated Press

Northern Colorado beats Black Hills State 83-62

GREELEY, Colo. (AP) — Tevin Svihovec scored 17 points and had five assists to lead Northern Colorado to an 83-62 win over Division II Black Hills State Friday night.

Cameron Michael added 13, on 4-of-12 shooting, and Cody McDavis had 11 points and seven rebounds for Northern Colorado (1-0). The Bears converted just 4 of 14 3-pointers, but made 17 of 21 free throws.

The Bears trailed early, but used an 11-0 run to take an 18-16 lead and they led 44-35 at halftime.

Myles Henry scored 14 points for Black Hills State and grabbed seven rebounds. The Yellow Jackets hit nine 3-pointers.

Black Hills State scored the first basket of the second half to bring them within seven but wouldn't get any closer.

Svihovec went over 1,000 career points, the 20th player to do so in program history.

Yankton beats Brookings 34-33 in OT for 11AA title

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Yankton broke up a PAT pass in overtime to hold off Brookings 34-33 in the state 11AA championship on Friday.

Michael Daniel ran for 136 yards and three TDs. He scored on a 7-yard run to pull the Bobcats within a point in overtime. The Brookings elected to go for two, and Carter Gordon's pass was knocked away, giving Yankton its seventh state title.

The Bucks scored first in the extra period on Ryan Sternhagen's 10-yard run and Brady Hale's PAT. Hale's 45-yard field goal with 1:26 left sent the game into overtime.

Mason Strahl led Brookings to a late lead before Yankton rallied. He was 20-for-31 for 265 yards and two TDs and ran for a score.

Brookings' Sheldon Gant caught 10 passes for 130 yards.

Utah Valley State beats South Dakota 60-52

OREM, Utah (AP) — Donte Williams and Marcel Davis each scored 16 points and Mitch Bruneel added 14 on Friday and Utah Valley State held off South Dakota 60-52.

Brenden Evans scored 10 for the Wolverines, Zach Nelson grabbed nine rebounds and Bruneel hauled in eight.

Tyler Larson led South Dakota with 13 points, Brandon Bos scored 12 and Tre Burnette grabbed nine rebounds.

The Coyotes out-rebounded the Wolverines 37-36, but shot 28.8 percent from the floor compared with 39.5 percent for Utah Valley State.

The Wolverines led 8-2 on free throws by Bruneel, but South Dakota tied it at 16 on a layup by Burnette. The Wolverines pulled away on an 8-0 run and led 31-23 at halftime.

South Dakota rallied in the second half on 3-pointers by Larson and Sekou Harris and trailed 44-42 at 4:09, but the Wolverines ripped a 5-1 run and Williams and Davis combined for seven down the stretch.

Moss leads Buffalo past South Dakota State 69-67

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Justin Moss had career-highs of 25 points and 13 rebounds and Buffalo had two steals in the last 30 seconds to hold off South Dakota State 69-67 on Friday night in the season opener for both teams.

After Jarryn Skeete's layup with 41 seconds left put the Bulls up 67-66, the Jackrabbits had turnovers on their next two possessions. However, Shannon Evans was only able to make 2 of 4 free throws, giving South Dakota State a final chance.

Deondre Parks was fouled with 3 seconds left. He made the first free throw and intentionally missed the second but the Jackrabbits could not come up with the ball.

Evans added 17 points for the Bulls.

Jake Bittle had 16 points for South Dakota State. Cody Larson added 15 points and 15 rebounds and Zach Horstman 13 and 12. Both rebounding totals were a career best.

Friday's Scores

The Associated Press

PREP FOOTBALL

Class 9B Championship: Hamlin 34, Faulkton 8

Class 11B Championship: Parkston 24, St. Thomas More 21

Class 11AA Championship: Yankton 34, Brookings 33 (OT)

Parkston beats St. Thomas More 24-21 for 11B title

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Wes Dvorak scored a touchdown and kicked a 50-yard field goal that proved to be the difference as Parkston beat St. Thomas More 24-21 in the state 11B title game on Friday.

Dvorak ran for 113 yards and scored on a 4-yard run in the fourth quarter for the Trojans (12-0), who won their first state title.

Dvorak kicked a record-setting 50-yard field goal as time ran in the first half.

Blake Bietz and Miles Semmler scored on short runs for Parkston.

St. Thomas More (11-2) mounted a late drive deep into Parkston territory, but Luke Julian missed a game-tying 33-yard field goal with 22 seconds left.

The Cavalier have played in six championship games but never won a title.

Cavalier quarterback Matthew Eastmo was 16-for-31 for 303 yards and two TDs. He also ran for a score.

P.J. Freidel caught a 56-yard TD and Travis Mills had a 16-yard TD reception for the Cavaliers.

Judge rejects motion to dismiss gay marriage case

KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A federal judge on Friday allowed a lawsuit challenging South Dakota's ban on gay marriage to move forward, rejecting the state's request to dismiss the case.

However, U.S. District Court Judge Karen Schreier did dismiss the plaintiffs' claim that the state's ban on same-sex marriage violated the couple's constitutional right to travel.

Minneapolis attorney Josh Newville filed the federal lawsuit on behalf of six same-sex couples from South Dakota in May. It challenges a 1996 state law passed by the Legislature and a voter-approved 2006 constitutional amendment banning gay marriage. It claims three violations that are guaranteed

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in the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: deprivation of equal protection, due process and right to travel.

Both sides argued their case on the motion to dismiss in Sioux Falls in October before Schreier, and the judge released her opinion late Friday.

Newville said he considered the ruling "fantastic" and said the plaintiffs "wouldn't lose sleep" over the fact that the judge dismissed a portion of the lawsuit.

"Obviously we would've liked the right to travel claim to stay in," he said, "but at its core this case was really about equal protection and due process."

In a statement, Jackley said the ruling does not change the state's view of the case.

"It remains the state's position that the institution of marriage should be defined by the voters of South Dakota, and not by the federal courts," he said.

Earlier this week, the U.S. Supreme Court denied a request from Kansas to prevent gay and lesbian couples from marrying while the state fights the issue in court. Separately on Wednesday, a federal judge also struck down South Carolina's ban on gay marriage as unconstitutional.

The high court's ruling on Kansas was closely watched for whether justices would change their practice following last week's appellate ruling that upheld gay marriage bans in Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee.

Those cases now are headed to the high court, meaning the gay marriage issue nationwide could be heard and decided by late June.

In South Dakota, Newville said the state now has 10 days to reply to the plaintiff's motion for summary. After that, he said a timetable for when Schreier could rule is unclear.

Commissioners want to keep wild sheep in Montana

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — Montana wildlife commissioners say they want to keep looking for suitable sites within the state to relocate bighorn sheep.

Commissioners rejected for the second time a proposal from Fish, Wildlife and Parks to move some wild sheep out of state.

Wildlife managers say herds in the Missouri Breaks are too densely populated, raising the chance that disease will wipe them out.

Transplanting excess sheep out of state in the past was a somewhat routine practice. That changed in 2009 following hunter complaints when 60 sheep were transplanted to Utah.

Wildlife managers say they can no longer find suitable relocation sites in Montana. They want to send 50 of the animals to South Dakota.

The commission plans to again take up the issue during a videoconference meeting next Thursday.

Health care open enrollment begins Saturday

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakotans can begin shopping for insurance through the federal health exchange on Saturday as it enters its second year.

Though last year's open enrollment window was widely considered a disaster because of technical problems with the federal website, Healthcare.gov, insurance companies and advocates anticipate Obamacare's second year will run much more smoothly for consumers.

More than 13,000 South Dakotans signed up for individual private insurance through the federal exchange in last year's open enrollment period, according to official data released in April.

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Experts advise South Dakotans — even those who are satisfied with the coverage they purchased last year — to browse the marketplace website and update their personal and financial information to make sure their income, tax credit status or public program eligibility hasn't shifted since last year.

Some things to know about the upcoming enrollment period:

HOW TO ENROLL

Consumers looking to enroll in private individual coverage can start shopping on Saturday. Kim Jones, a statewide navigator coordinator for the South Dakota Community Action Partnership, said consumers should use the new "window shopping" tool on Healthcare.gov to get a rough determination for subsidy eligibility and plan costs. Once a consumer has decided on a product, she said they can set up an account with the federal exchange to get a final assistance determination. Consumers can enroll in coverage online, over the telephone — translators are available — or by completing a paper application. In-person assisters can also help consumers through the process.

Consumers who enrolled in coverage last year but do nothing this year will be re-enrolled in the same plan automatically if it's still available. If not, they'll be automatically enrolled in a similar plan, but experts say that consumers should go back through the system to look at their options and update their information.

DOCUMENTATION TO HAVE ON HAND

To make the enrollment process go smoothly, Jones advised having ready a pay stub that details income and lists an employer identification number; Social Security number; addresses; birthdays and phone numbers and any immigration documents.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF COVERAGE

There are various levels of federal assistance or public programs available to consumers looking to get insured, and there are several tiers of plans available. The levels of plans are denoted by metal level. Low-premium "bronze" plans typically have high deductibles, while high-premium "platinum plans" typically have lower deductibles. Subsidies are available for consumers between 100 percent and 400 percent of the federal poverty level. Members of federally recognized Indian tribes can also be eligible for additional cost assistance. South Dakota didn't opt in to the federal expansion of Medicaid, a government health program for low-income people. The more stringent program here is available to some individuals and families including children, pregnant women and the disabled.

Consumers can also purchase coverage from insurers who offer individual plans off the exchange, but they won't be eligible for federal assistance.

CONSUMER EXPERIENCE

Observers agree that consumers will likely face a much improved experience navigating healthcare.gov this time around. Jones said the site's performance has been steadily improving since last year and she's hopeful enrollment will be much less bumpy this time around. Debra Muller, chief administrative officer of Avera Health Plans, said she's not as worried as she was ahead of last October's enrollment opening. Last year she advised consumers not to start shopping immediately.

DEADLINES

The open enrollment period runs from Nov. 15 to Feb. 15, and consumers looking to avoid a federal penalty must purchase insurance during that time period. Consumers looking to secure coverage for Jan. 1, 2015 must purchase it by Dec. 15. Public program enrollment is open at any time. Certain life changes, like a marriage or a job loss, open up the ability to enroll in the marketplace outside of the designated window.

Keystone: House sends oil pipeline bill to Senate

DINA CAPPIELLO, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress inched closer Friday to a possible showdown with President Barack Obama over the Keystone XL oil pipeline as the Republican-controlled House approved the project. Supporters in the Democratic-run Senate predicted they will get the 60 votes needed to pass it next week.

The House vote was 252-161 in favor of the bill, which was sponsored by Rep. Bill Cassidy, R-La., in an effort to boost his chances to take a Louisiana Senate seat away from Democrat Mary Landrieu. The two are headed for a Dec. 6 runoff and have been touting their energy credentials in the oil and gas-producing state.

Should the Senate send the bill to Obama for his signature, he would face a decision that pits some of his environmental concerns about the pipeline, mainly its consequences for global warming, against potentially helping a fellow Democrat making a longshot bid to retain her Senate seat.

The House bill was supported by 221 Republicans, with not a single GOP lawmaker voting against it. Thirty-one Democrats backed the bill, while 161 rejected it.

"This will make it easier for the Senate to do right by the American people and finally vote on building the pipeline," Cassidy said in a statement after the vote.

The bill's passage marked the ninth time the House had passed a bill to speed up the pipeline's construction.

Landrieu pushed the Senate to hold its upcoming vote on the measure. In a call with reporters from Louisiana, where she was campaigning, Landrieu called herself the "sparkplug" to get the Keystone bill through Congress. The House bill is identical to one introduced by Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., and Landrieu in May.

"This bill was drafted to go the distance," said Landrieu.

As of Friday, supporters of the measure appeared to have at least 59 of the 60 Senate votes they would need for approval next week. That included all 45 Republicans and 14 Democrats.

Landrieu conceded, though, that it is unlikely the Senate or House will have the two-thirds majorities that would be needed to override an Obama veto of the bill. She said she did not know Obama's plans.

"He most certainly understands my position," Landrieu said. "He understands that there are 15-plus Democrats in the Senate that really want to build the Keystone pipeline."

If the bill fails to pass the Senate next week, Hoeven said he would reintroduce it next year when Republicans will control the chamber. That would make it one of many showdowns expected with Obama over energy and environmental policy after Republicans take full control of Congress in January.

The \$8 billion pipeline has become a symbol for the divisions on the country's energy and environmental policy. Environmentalists have framed the issue as a significant test of Obama's commitment to address climate change. Republicans and other supporters say it is necessary for jobs and energy security, because the U.S. would be importing oil from its neighbor, not the Middle East. Still others have criticized the project because some of the product refined from the oil could be exported to other countries, instead of used here.

The project has been stalled by environmental reviews, by objections to the route it would take and by politics for six years. While the White House has issued veto threats on similar legislation before, it had yet to formally do so Friday.

House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said it was time for Obama to listen to the American people, especially after Republican gains in last week's midterm elections, and sign the bill.

"The president doesn't have any more elections to win, and he has no other excuse for standing in the way," Boehner said.

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Obama, questioned about the issue while traveling on the other side of the globe, said the administration's long-stalled review of the project cannot be completed before knowing the outcome of a legal challenge to the pipeline's route through Nebraska. He also reiterated that he will ultimately judge the project on its impact on climate change and energy prices.

"I have to constantly push back against this idea that somehow the Keystone pipeline is either this massive jobs bill for the United States, or is somehow lowering gas prices," Obama said. "Understand what this project is. It is providing the ability of Canada to pump their oil, send it through our land, down to the Gulf, where it will be sold everywhere else. That doesn't have an impact on U.S. gas prices."

The State Department said in a Jan. 31 report that the project would not significantly boost carbon emissions because the oil was likely to find its way to market by other means. It added that transporting it by rail or truck would cause greater environmental problems than if the Keystone XL pipeline were built.

The 1,179-mile project is proposed to go from Canada through Montana and South Dakota to Nebraska, where it would connect with existing pipelines to carry more than 800,000 barrels of crude oil a day to refineries along the Texas Gulf Coast.

Hamlin beats Faulkton Area 34-8 for 9B title

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Brody Grantham ran for three touchdowns and threw for another as Hamlin beat Faulkton Area 34-8 for the state 9B football title on Friday.

Grantham ran 25 times for 173 yards and scored on runs of 5, 2 and 68 yards for Hamlin (12-0), which won its first Class B title. The Chargers won for 11-man titles in the 1990s.

Grantham tossed an 18-yard TD pass to Ryder Grantham and Austin Niemann returned an interception 55 yards for a score.

Jack Aesoph scored on a 7-yard run for the Trojans (10-2).

Darin Wieseler led the Trojans with 72 rushing. Kurt Beidler completed 9 of 16 passes for 82 yards.

Hamlin rushed for 253 of its 294 total yards, while Faulkton gained 139 yards on the ground.

Ipswich man indicted for first-degree manslaughter

IPSWICH, S.D. (AP) — Attorney General Marty Jackley says an Ipswich man has been indicted by an Edmunds County grand jury on one count of first-degree manslaughter for the death of a Minnesota teen.

Jackley said Friday that 18-year-old Janos Stahl faces life in prison for the car crash that killed 15-year-old Vannah Decker.

The American News in Aberdeen reports that Stahl also faces one felony count of being in a hit-and-run accident resulting in death for allegedly not reporting the crash and driving home.

Jackley says Stahl was driving on February 9 when Decker was ejected from his car. She was pronounced dead at the scene by emergency responders.

It's unclear whether Stahl has an attorney.

Proposal would open game fish spearing statewide

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A state hunting regulatory commission is proposing to open up game fish spearing statewide.

The proposal from the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission is in response to a petition

submitted by spearfishermen. The group will evaluate whether to adopt the proposal at its meeting next month in Forth Pierre.

The proposal calls for allowing spearing and bowfishing of all game fish species, except paddlefish and sturgeon, in all inland waters.

John Loft is a state administrative chief for fisheries. Loft says that under that proposed rule, spearing and bowfishing could occur in urban fisheries, small impoundments, trout streams and large lakes and reservoirs.

The proposal also suggests establishing a year-round game fish spearing and bowfishing season. The current season runs from June 15 through March 15.

AP News in Brief

G-20 opens in Australia, with plan to boost global economy by \$2 trillion topping agenda

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Australia's prime minister vowed that world leaders would deliver on an initiative to add \$2 trillion to global GDP, promising freer trade and more investment in infrastructure as heads of the 20 largest economies began cementing plans to drag sagging growth out of the doldrums.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott, who has repeatedly promised this year's Group of 20 gathering in the Australian city of Brisbane would be more than a talkfest, said the growth plans would add millions of jobs and boost global GDP by "more than 2 percent" above expected levels over the next five years.

"That is millions of jobs and trillions of dollars in extra production," Abbott said as he officially opened the two-day G-20 conference. "Yes, we want freer trade and we will deliver it. Yes, we need more infrastructure and we will build it."

"This is our message to the world: that governments can deliver, that governments can agree that the world can be better, that there can be higher jobs, higher growth and more jobs," he added.

G-20 nations, which represent 85 percent of the global economy, are under pressure to take definitive action at this year's summit, rather than simply producing a set of vague, unmeasurable goals. The International Monetary Fund has warned about a "new mediocre" for the world economy, putting renewed focus on the G-20's growth initiative.

Facing skepticism, Obama seeks to reinvigorate US ties to Asia at close of 3-country trip

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Closing out his Asia-Pacific tour, President Barack Obama called on Asian nations Saturday to join the United States in confronting the globe's biggest challenges, from climate change and poverty to violent extremism. Obama insisted that skeptics who discount his efforts to strengthen U.S. engagement in the region are overlooking his successes and underestimating the opportunities that remain during his final two years in office.

Obama's speech to university students formed the capstone of his weeklong trip to China, Myanmar and Australia, where he sought to reinvigorate ties to a region he's made central to his foreign policy and legacy. Leaders in Asia have questioned whether that effort has been more talk than action, but Obama said the U.S. was working "day in and day out" to make American power a positive presence in the region.

"It won't always make the headlines," Obama said at the University of Queensland in Brisbane. "It

won't always be measured in the number of trips I make — although I do keep coming back.”

This was Obama's second visit to Asia this year and his sixth as president. Yet this trip, which Obama said spanned 15,000 miles, came as the president faced skepticism on two fronts: whether his Asian aspirations have fallen victim to festering crises in other parts of the globe, and whether his drubbing in this month's midterm elections has diminished his global clout for the remainder of his presidency.

“There are times when people have been skeptical of this rebalance, they're wondering whether America has the staying power to sustain it,” Obama said. “I'm here to say that American leadership in the Asia Pacific will always be a fundamental focus of my foreign policy.”

Doctor sick with Ebola after working in West Africa coming to US for treatment in Nebraska

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone (AP) — At first, Dr. Martin Salia thought he had malaria or typhoid. A surgeon working in Sierra Leone, he told his wife back in Maryland that he had a headache and fever. He had two negative tests for Ebola, his wife said. Then the third came back positive.

Salia left Freetown Saturday on a flight to the United States for treatment, Sierra Leone's chief medical officer, Dr. Brima Kargbo, told The Associated Press on Saturday.

His wife, Isatu Salia, said in a telephone interview that when she spoke to her husband early Friday his voice sounded weak and shaky. But he told her “I love you” in a steady voice, she said.

The two have prayed together, and their children, ages 12 and 20, are coping, Isatu Salia said, calling her husband “my everything.” She said her husband travels frequently between the United States and his native Sierra Leone but never stays in the U.S. long because he believes people back in Africa need him.

Salia will be treated at the Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, said Kargbo. He will be the third Ebola patient at the Omaha hospital and the 10th person with Ebola to be treated in the U.S. The last, Dr. Craig Spencer, was released from a New York hospital on Tuesday.

Scientists say it may be days — or longer — before comet lander communicates again

BERLIN (AP) — The head of the European comet mission says scientists were listening for signals from the Philae lander Saturday morning, but think it is unlikely they will establish any kind of communication soon.

Controllers at the European Space Agency on Friday ordered the lander to perform a maneuver intended to pull it out of a shadow on comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko so that solar panels could recharge the depleted batteries.

“We don't know if the charge will ever be high enough to operate the lander again,” Paolo Ferri, ESA's head of mission operations, told The Associated Press.

“It is highly unlikely that we will establish any kind of communication any time soon, but nevertheless the orbiter will continue to listen for possible signals — the next time they will do so at 11 am (1000GMT, 5 a.m. EST) this morning.”

On Thursday, Philae landed next to a cliff that largely blocked sunlight from reaching its solar panels.

Iraqi state TV: Chairman of US Joint Chiefs of Staff in Baghdad amid IS airstrike campaign

BAGHDAD (AP) — America's top military leader arrived Saturday to Iraq, state television reported, his first visit to the country since a U.S.-led coalition began a campaign of airstrikes targeting the extremist Islamic State group.

The visit by Army Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, was not previously announced. It came just two days after he told Congress that the United States would consider dispatching a modest number of American forces to fight with Iraqi troops in the campaign against the Islamic State group, which controls about a third of Iraq and neighboring Syria.

The Iraqi military and security forces, trained by the U.S. at the cost of billions of dollars, melted away in the face of the Islamic State group's stunning offensive this summer, when they captured most of northern and western Iraq, including the country's second-largest city, Mosul.

Dempsey said Thursday that Iraqi forces were doing a better job now, although an effort to move into Mosul or to restore the border with Syria would require more complex operations.

He also told the U.S. House Armed Services Committee that America has a modest force in Iraq now, and "any expansion of that, I think, would be equally modest."

Hopes and fears as sign-up season opens for second year of health law's insurance markets

WASHINGTON (AP) — The second sign-up season under President Barack Obama's health overhaul opened Saturday, with hopes that this time consumers will have a positive experience.

But the fear is that entrenched political opposition and renewed legal challenges may yet collapse the program that's bringing health care to millions of previously uninsured Americans. The administration can't afford another technology meltdown.

With 7 million paying customers in new insurance markets, the Affordable Care Act has shown it is helping to reduce the number of uninsured. Insurers, not known for altruism, have stuck with the fledgling program despite ongoing technical headaches with the HealthCare.gov website. More companies are participating for 2015, a sign they see a business opportunity.

The administration said late Friday that some HealthCare.gov functions would be turned off for several hours in the transition to the start of sign-up season. The website appeared to be functioning early Saturday.

"Obamacare" is still struggling to win hearts and minds. The latest Associated Press-GfK poll finds that, if forced to choose between repealing the law and implementing it as written, 56 percent of Americans would repeal it completely. Only 41 percent would carry it out.

Former Navy SEAL who says he killed bin Laden makes no apologies for going public with mission

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Navy SEAL Robert O'Neill, who says he fired the shots that killed Osama bin Laden, played a role in some of the most consequential combat missions of the post-9/11 era, including three depicted in Hollywood movies. And now he's telling the world about them.

By doing so, O'Neill has almost certainly increased his earning power on the speaking circuit. He also may have put himself and his family at greater risk. And he has earned the enmity of some current and

former SEALs by violating their code of silence.

But O'Neill, winner of two Silver and five Bronze Stars, makes no apologies for any of that. In a wide-ranging interview Friday with The Associated Press, he said he believes the American public has a right to more details about the operation that killed the al-Qaida leader and other important military adventures. And he insisted he is taking pains not to divulge classified information or compromise the tactics SEALs use to get the drop on their enemies.

"The last thing I want to do is endanger anybody," he said. "I think the good (of going public) outweighs the bad."

O'Neill, who last week began discussing his role in the bin Laden mission, was in Washington for a round of television and media appearances that drew both praise and criticism.

Defectors' network helps fuel N. Korean rumor mill; sources sometimes pay with their lives

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Video secretly taken in North Korea shows public executions by firing squad. The country is said to begin a currency revaluation that turns disastrous. Leader Kim Jong Un is reported to have thrown South Korean leaflets containing rumors about his wife in his aides' faces.

Two of those stories are true. The third, who knows? All came from people in North Korea, through networks of defectors determined to get out information on the authoritarian, highly insular country they left behind.

Their words and images are snapped up with enthusiasm, and often credulously, by South Korean and international media desperate for news from the poorly understood country. The sources may not be particularly well informed: They could be ruling-party officials or factory workers. Or smugglers, professors or soldiers.

Generally, they are in it for the money, not a desire to force change in their homeland, according to the defectors they communicate with.

Whatever their motives, the risks they face are the same. Defectors say the firing-squad and currency stories came from sources now dead because of their work.

Saint Nicholas' entry, Black Pete in tow, brings more racial debate to Netherlands, Belgium

SINT-NIKLAAS, Belgium (AP) — In this town named after Saint Nicholas, Yuletide cheer is being clouded by controversy over the good saint's helpers.

Across the Netherlands and Belgium, celebrations in which Saint Nicholas rolls into town surrounded by a host of "Black Petes" have come under increasing pressure year by year from complaints about racism. Pete is usually played by a white person who paints his face pitch black, dons a frizzy wig and gives himself bright red lips — stereotypes that disappeared from most countries decades ago.

Sint-Niklaas with a church and statue honoring the saint has long been one of the focal points of the celebrations. A grand entrance this Sunday is expected to bring tens of thousands of kids flocking to the "home of the saint."

Yet even in this bastion of saintly tradition, questions are starting to be asked about Black Pete.

Wouter Van Bellinghen remembers how, as a black kid growing up in mostly white Sint-Niklaas, he used to be taunted with chants of: "Look, there goes Black Pete."

Bill Cosby's guest shot on Letterman show canceled amid growing uproar over rape allegations

NEW YORK (AP) — Bill Cosby's upcoming appearance on CBS' "Late Show with David Letterman" has been canceled amid a growing uproar over allegations that he sexually assaulted several women in past decades.

Cosby representative David Brokaw confirmed Friday night that Cosby would not appear as previously scheduled next Wednesday. He did not say why. A "Late Show" representative could not be reached for comment.

Another canceled booking, on "The Queen Latifah Show" on Oct. 30, was characterized by that show as a postponement granted at Cosby's request.

Barbara Bowman, one of Cosby's accusers, has recently leveled allegations of sexual assault by the comic in interviews and in a Washington Post online column, writing that "Cosby won my trust as a 17-year-old aspiring actress in 1985, brainwashed me into viewing him as a father figure, and then assaulted me multiple times."

The standup comedian Hannibal Buress last month brought heat on Cosby at a performance in Philadelphia. His routine, during which he assailed Cosby as "a rapist," was captured on video and posted online, gaining wide exposure.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, Nov. 15, the 319th day of 2014. There are 46 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 15, 1864, during the Civil War, Union forces led by Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman began their "March to the Sea" from Atlanta, with the goal of crippling the region's military and economic resources; the campaign ended with the capture of Savannah on Dec. 21.

On this date:

In 1777, the Second Continental Congress approved the Articles of Confederation.

In 1806, explorer Zebulon Pike sighted the mountaintop now known as Pikes (cq) Peak in present-day Colorado.

In 1889, Brazil was proclaimed a republic as its emperor, Dom Pedro II, was overthrown.

In 1939, President Franklin D. Roosevelt laid the cornerstone of the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C.

In 1942, the naval Battle of Guadalcanal ended during World War II with a decisive U.S. victory over Japanese forces.

In 1954, actor-director Lionel Barrymore, 76, died in Van Nuys, California.

In 1958, actor Tyrone Power, 44, died in Madrid, Spain, while filming "Solomon and Sheba." (Power's part was recast with Yul Brynner.)

In 1959, four members of the Clutter family of Holcomb, Kansas, were found murdered in their home. (Ex-convicts Richard Hickock and Perry Smith were later convicted of the killings and hanged.)

In 1964, Bonanza Air Lines Flight 114, a Fairchild F-27A, crashed outside of Las Vegas, killing all 29 people on board.

In 1974, the disaster movie "Earthquake" was released by Universal Pictures in "Sensurround," which bombarded the audience with low-frequency sound waves during the quake scenes.

Groton Daily Independent

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In 1984, Stephanie Fae Beauclair, the infant publicly known as "Baby Fae" who had received a baboon's heart to replace her own congenitally deformed one, died at Loma Linda University Medical Center in California three weeks after the transplant.

In 1989, Polish labor activist Lech Walesa (lek vah-WEN'-sah) addressed a joint meeting of the U.S. Congress. Time Warner launched The Comedy Channel, which later merged with Viacom's HA! network to form Comedy Central.

Ten years ago: The White House announced that Secretary of State Colin Powell was leaving President George W. Bush's Cabinet, along with Education Secretary Rod Paige, Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman and Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham. The U.N. Security Council imposed an arms embargo on Ivory Coast's hard-line government after its violent confrontation with France.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama concluded a two-day summit with Asia-Pacific leaders in Singapore, where they pledged to persist with stimulus spending until a global recovery was assured. Kosovo's first independent elections ended peacefully, with Prime Minister Hashim Thaci (HAH'-shihm THAH'-chee) claiming victory for his party. Michelle Wie earned her first win on the LPGA Tour, closing with a 3-under 69 to finish two strokes ahead of Paula Creamer in the Lorena Ochoa Invitational.

One year ago: Toronto Mayor Rob Ford vowed to take the City Council to court after it voted overwhelmingly to strip him of some of his powers over his admitted drug use, public drinking and increasingly erratic behavior. China's leaders announced the first significant easing of their one-child policy in nearly 30 years and moved to abolish its labor camp system. Dressed in a black Batman costume, 5-year-old leukemia patient Miles Scott fulfilled his wish to be his favorite superhero, fighting villains and rescuing a damsel in distress in an elaborate fantasy staged by the city of San Francisco and arranged by the Make-a-Wish Foundation. (The event cost the city \$105,000, but the tab was picked up by the John and Marcia Goldman Foundation.)

Today's Birthdays: Judge Joseph Wapner is 95. Actor Ed Asner is 85. Singer Petula Clark is 82. Comedian Jack Burns is 81. Actress Joanna Barnes is 80. Actor Yaphet Kotto is 75. Actor Sam Waterston is 74. Classical conductor Daniel Barenboim is 72. Pop singer Frida (ABBA) is 69. Actor Bob Gunton is 69. Former New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson is 67. Actress Beverly D'Angelo is 63. Director-actor James Widdoes is 61. Rock singer-producer Mitch Easter is 60. News correspondent John Roberts is 58. Former "Jay Leno Show" bandleader Kevin Eubanks is 57. Comedian Judy Gold is 52. Actress Rachel True is 48. Rapper E-40 is 47. Country singer Jack Ingram is 44. Actor Jay Harrington is 43. Actor Jonny Lee Miller is 42. Actress Sydney Tamiia (tuh-MY'-yuh) Poitier is 41. Christian rock musician David Carr (Third Day) is 40. Rock singer-musician Chad Kroeger is 40. Rock musician Jesse Sandoval is 40. Actress Virginie Ledoyen is 38. Actor Sean Murray (TV: "NCIS") is 37. Pop singer Ace Young (TV: "American Idol") is 34. Golfer Lorena Ochoa is 33. Hip-hop artist B.o.B is 26. Actress Shailene Woodley is 23. Actress-dancer Emma Dumont is 20.

Thought for Today: "My father used to say superior people never make long visits." - Marianne Moore, American poet (1887-1972).