

Groton Daily Independent

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Dakota Brush

Brooms, Brushes, Mops, Can Liners, Paper Products.

Get Ready for Spring With
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397-9337

104 N. Main, Groton

**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

Sunday, December 14

Anniversary: Bob & Mary Ann Wehde

Birthdays: Sue Patton • Elda Stange • Carroll Dean

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran School

9:00am: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass

9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Worship

10:00am: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Pierpont (LCMC) worship

10:00am: St. John's Lutheran Christmas Practice

10:00am: UMC School

10:15am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship (SS Sings)

11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship with SS Christmas Program: 3:30pm: All School Play at GHS Gym

5:00pm: St. John's Lutheran Christian Lit.

7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Choir

Monday, December 15

School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Nachos, refried beans, lettuce, fruit.

Senior Menu: Scalloped potatoes with ham, peas, sunset salad, oatmeal raisin cookie, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Col Arthur Krueger • Marjae Schinkel • Janice Sombke

6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study

12:00pm: Groton Senior Citizens Christmas dinner and party at Community Center

4:30pm: JH Wrestling at Webster

5:30pm: Groton Garden Club meeting at the Golden Living Center

6:30pm: GBB hosts Tiospa Zina

6:30pm: JHGGB at Warner (7th at 6:30, 8th at 7:30)

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 girls beat Titans

Groton Area girls defeated Leola-Frederick, 49-44, in hoop action played in Frederick. Courtney Kurtz and Carly Wheeting led the Tigers with 14 points each followed by Audrey Wanner with nine, Katie Koehler six, Ashley Gibbs four and Marlee Jones two.

Mackenzie led the Titans with 14 points followed by Michaela Podoll with 10, April Hoffman had nine, Chandler Ellwein seven and Abby Berreth and Cassandra Hinz each had two points.

Groton made nine of 18 free throws of of the Titans' 16 team fouls. The Titans made five of nine free throws off of Groton's 15 team fouls. Michaela Podoll made two three-pointers and Ellwein added one.

Groton's junior varisty team also won by a five-point margin, 29-24. Emily Locke led the Tigers with nine points followed by Jessica Bjerke with eight, Gia Gengerke had six and Harleigh Stange and Madison Sippel each had three points.

The Titans were led by Cassandra Hinz with nine points.

Groton Area girls will host Tiospa Zina tomorrow.

A new stat program is being used for the girls basketball season; however, there are technical issues at this time and no further stats are available.

Classifieds

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.

Apartment for Rent

One bedroom apartment for rent. Main Street. Ground level. Washer, dryer and dishwasher. Big walk-in closet. \$550 includes utilities. \$400 if you pay your own utilities. Call Chris Kassube at 605-395-7111.

Help Wanted

Wheatcrest Hills - New Wage Scale - is hiring for PT and FT CNA positions. We are looking for caring compassionate individuals to join our team. CNA certification training class to start in December and January, benefit packages available. Please stop in for application or contact Kristin at 605/448-2251. (1209.1216)

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Tigers beat Titans in boys hoop action

Groton Area hit the road Saturday night and came home with a 63-53 non-conference win over Leola-Frederick. Gabe Dohman led the Tigers with 11 points and nine rebounds while Chance Strom had 10 points, Kyler Ell had nine points and nine rebounds, Lucas Sternhagen had seven points and nine of the team's 12 assists, Hunter Lerew and Landon Larson each had six points and Sean Schuring and Bennett Shabazz each had three points.

Strom made two three-pointers while Sternhagen, Ell and Shabazz each made one. Groton had 20 turnovers, five of which were steals. The Tigers were four of nine from the line off of Leola-Frederick's 15 team fouls. Groton made 42 percent of its field goals. Sternhagen had two blocks and Larson had one. Fouling out for Groton were Lerew and Strom.

The Titans made 12 of 18 free throws off of Groton's 22 team fouls and made 38 percent of its field goals. Leola-Frederick had 23 turnovers, 16 of which were steals as Sternhagen had seven.

Logan Weisser led the Titans with 25 points while Kyle Kenser had 14 points and nine rebounds, Logan Heupel seven, Zach Sumption six and Jayden Mikkonen one. Weisser and Sumption each had one block. Groton will host Deuel on Friday in a double header.

| GROTON AREA | | TOT-FG | | | | 3-PT | | REBOUNDS | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------|-------|------|----|-------|-------|----------|-----|-------|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| NO | PLAYER | P | FG | FGA | FG | FGA | FT | FTA | OFF | DEF | TOT | PF | TP | A | TO | BK | S | MIN |
| 4 | Sternhagen, Lucas | * | 2 | 10 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 16 |
| 10 | Knecht, Spencer | * | 4 | 8 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 16 |
| 12 | Ell, Kyler | * | 4 | 11 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 24 |
| 32 | Dohman, Gabe | * | 5 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 16 |
| 40 | Lerew, Hunter | * | 3 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3 | Schuring, Sean | | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| 5 | Shabazz, Seric | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| 22 | Shabazz, Bennett | | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 24 |
| 24 | Strom, Chance | | 4 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 10 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 8 |
| 30 | Larson, Landon | | 3 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 24 |
| 42 | Larson, Wyatt | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| Team Totals | | | 27 | 64 | 5 | 15 | 4 | 9 | 15 | 25 | 40 | 22 | 63 | 12 | 20 | 3 | 16 | 160 |
| Total FG% - 1st: | | 13/34 | 0.382 | 2nd: | | 14/30 | 0.467 | Game: | | 0.422 | Deadball | | | | | | | |
| 3-PT FG% - 1st: | | 3/11 | 0.273 | 2nd: | | 2/4 | 0.500 | Game: | | 0.333 | Rebounds | | | | | | | |
| Total FT% - 1st: | | 0/1 | 0.000 | 2nd: | | 4/8 | 0.500 | Game: | | 0.444 | (2,0) | | | | | | | |

| LEOLA-FREDERICK | | TOT-FG | | | | 3-PT | | REBOUNDS | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|--------|-------|------|----|-------|-------|----------|-----|-------|----------|----|----|---|----|----|---|-----|
| NO | PLAYER | P | FG | FGA | FG | FGA | FT | FTA | OFF | DEF | TOT | PF | TP | A | TO | BK | S | MIN |
| 3 | Mikkonen, Jayden | * | 0 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| 11 | Weisser, Logan | * | 8 | 18 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 25 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 32 |
| 15 | Sumption, Zach | * | 2 | 8 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 32 |
| 23 | Kenser, Kyle | * | 5 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 14 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 32 |
| 25 | Heupel, Logan | * | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 32 |
| 5 | Lapka, Federick | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 24 |
| 45 | Sumption, Alex | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Team Totals | | | 18 | 47 | 5 | 18 | 12 | 23 | 6 | 21 | 27 | 15 | 53 | 2 | 23 | 2 | 5 | 160 |
| Total FG% - 1st: | | 5/18 | 0.278 | 2nd: | | 13/29 | 0.448 | Game: | | 0.383 | Deadball | | | | | | | |
| 3-PT FG% - 1st: | | 1/6 | 0.167 | 2nd: | | 4/12 | 0.333 | Game: | | 0.278 | Rebounds | | | | | | | |
| Total FT% - 1st: | | 10/17 | 0.588 | 2nd: | | 2/6 | 0.333 | Game: | | 0.522 | (2,0) | | | | | | | |

| SCORE BY PERIODS | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | TOTAL |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Groton | 14 | 15 | 17 | 17 | 63 |
| Leola | 6 | 15 | 9 | 23 | 53 |

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JV Boys beat Titans

The boys junior varsity team came home with a 45-19 win over the Titans. Seric Shabazz led the Tigers with 13 points and five steals followed by Adam Herman with 12 points and six rebounds, Brandon Keith had six, Sean Schuring five, Bennett Shabazz four, Luke Thorson two and Jackson Oliver added one free throw.

Socring for the Titans were Sam Kenser with four, Lance Feickert three and adding two points each were Fred Lapka, Tyler Heilman, Alex Sumption, Cole Franck, Shane Davis and Lincoln Bernhard.

| GROTON AREA JV NO PLAYER | TOT-FG | | 3-PT | | FT | | FTA | | REBOUNDS | | | PF | TP | A | TO | BK | S | MIN |
|-----------------------------|--------|----|------|----|-----|----|-----|-----|----------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| | P | FG | FGA | FG | FGA | FT | FTA | OFF | DEF | TOT | | | | | | | | |
| 3 Schuring, Sean | * | 2 | 8 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 | |
| 5 Shabazz, Seric | * | 6 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | |
| 14 Herman, Adam | * | 6 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 | |
| 20 Keith, Brandon | * | 3 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 16 | |
| 22 Shabazz, Bennett | * | 2 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 16 | |
| 4 Sippel, Anthony | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 16 | |
| 10 Lane, Marshall | | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | |
| 12 Wuestewald, Frankie | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 8 | |
| 14 Kurtz, Wyatt | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | |
| 24 Thurston, Mitchell | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 | |
| 30 Oliver, Jackson | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 24 | |
| 40 Rogers, Truitt | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 42 Thorson, Luke | | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | |
| 44 Fey, Stevie | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 16 | |
| TEAM REBOUNDS | | | | | | | | 0 | 4 | 4 | | | | 0 | | | | |
| Team Totals | | 21 | 48 | 1 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 19 | 31 | 16 | 45 | 7 | 10 | 1 | 11 | 160 | |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-------|------------|-------|-------------|----------|
| Total FG% | - 1st: 10/23 | 0.435 | 2nd: 11/25 | 0.440 | Game: 0.438 | Deadball |
| 3-PT FG% | - 1st: 1/4 | 0.250 | 2nd: 0/6 | 0.000 | Game: 0.100 | Rebounds |
| Total FT% | - 1st: 0/1 | 0.000 | 2nd: 2/5 | 0.400 | Game: 0.333 | (1,0) |

| LEOLA-FREDERICK JV NO PLAYER | TOT-FG | | 3-PT | | FT | | FTA | | REBOUNDS | | | PF | TP | A | TO | BK | S | MIN |
|---------------------------------|--------|----|------|----|-----|----|-----|-----|----------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| | P | FG | FGA | FG | FGA | FT | FTA | OFF | DEF | TOT | | | | | | | | |
| 4 Bowman, Alex | * | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | |
| 5 Lapka, Fred | * | 1 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 24 | |
| 20 Kenser, Sam | * | 2 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 8 | |
| 32 Heilman, Tyler | * | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 16 | |
| 45 Sumptom, Alex | * | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 24 | |
| 5 Franck, Cole | | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 24 | |
| 11 Maurer, Evan | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | |
| 23 Feikert, Lance | | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | |
| 34 Davis, Shane | | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 16 | |
| 43 Bernhard, Lincoln | | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 16 | |
| TEAM REBOUNDS | | | | | | | | 0 | 5 | 5 | | | | 0 | | | | |
| Team Totals | | 7 | 25 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 15 | 4 | 18 | 22 | 13 | 19 | 3 | 19 | 1 | 5 | 160 | |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------------|----------|
| Total FG% | - 1st: 1/7 | 0.143 | 2nd: 6/18 | 0.333 | Game: 0.280 | Deadball |
| 3-PT FG% | - 1st: 0/1 | 0.000 | 2nd: 0/2 | 0.000 | Game: 0.000 | Rebounds |
| Total FT% | - 1st: 2/8 | 0.250 | 2nd: 3/7 | 0.429 | Game: 0.333 | (5,0) |

| SCORE BY PERIODS | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | TOTAL |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| GHS JV | 11 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 45 |
| LEO JV | 0 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 19 |

Five grapplers place at LaMoure Tourney

Five Groton Area wrestlers placed at the LaMoure Tourney held Saturday. Kelby Hawkins placed first, Tyler Scott, Trevor Pray and Brandyn Anderson each placed second and Garrett Schroeder placed fifth.

106: Garrett Schroeder pinned Chris Heyd, LaMore, 0:15; he was pinned by Darin Vangorkom, SB, 1:14; and he was pinned by Easton Ogren, Kin., 0:57; and in the fifth place match, he scored a major decision over Curtis Bird, TZ, 15-4.

113: Trevor Pray scored a major decision over Kolton Keisenauer, Man, 13-1; he decisioned Preston Jones, B-H, 7-2; and in the championship match, he was decisioned by Brandon Oien, Lin, 1-0, as Oien scored an escape in the third period.

132: Wyatt Locke was pinned by Dalton Aabrekke, Lis, 3:40; and he was pinned by Merrick McCahon, Br, 2:20.

138: Kelby Hawkins pinned Cole Dauphinais, Br, 0:45; he pinned Jonathon Mundt, BH, 0:31; and in the championship match, he decisioned Caleb Dorich, LaMoure, 4-3.

160: Tyler Scott pinned Keaton Smith, BR, 1:22; he pinned Eli Noel, LaMour, 1:17; and in the championship match, he was decisioned by Corbin Manley, BR, 8-6, in overtime.

220: Brandyn Anderson pinned Seth Strong, EEK, 0:49; he decisioned Nathan Lee, BR, 6-2; and in the championship match, he lost by a technical fall to Richard Rico, SB, 18-3.



Trevor Pray took on Brandon Oien from Linton, N.D., in the championship match. It was a very hard fought match as Oien edged pray 2-1 for the championship.



Kelby Hawkins won a physical match-up over Caleb Dorich from Lamoure, 4-3.



Tyler Scott lost a thriller to Corbin Manley of Bishop, 8-6, in overtime.

Brandyn Anderson lost to Richard Rico, SB, 18-3, in the championship match.



Thune Comments on Senate Passage of FY 2015 Funding Bill

-Key South Dakota provisions included in legislation-

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Senator John Thune (R-South Dakota) today commented on the passage of the omnibus appropriations bill for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 and applauded the inclusion of a number of important South Dakota provisions:

"I'm pleased the annual funding bill included a number of provisions important to South Dakota," said Thune. "Two of these provisions continue the development of key state facilities, the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System and the Sanford Underground Research Facility. Several other provisions rein in burdensome regulations proposed by the Obama administration that would harm farmers, ranchers, hunters, and anglers in South Dakota. While imperfect, this legislation advances several South Dakota priorities that I look forward to continuing to work on in the 114th Congress."

1) EPA Regulation of Ammunition and Fishing Tackle: The FY 2015 funding bill includes an important provision championed by Thune preventing the Obama EPA from regulating lead in ammunition and fishing tackle for one year. Thune introduced the Hunting, Fishing, and Recreational Shooting Protection Act in the Senate with Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-Minnesota) in September of 2013. The standalone legislation would permanently exclude ammunition and fishing tackle from regulation under the Toxic Substances Control Act, leaving the oversight to the relevant state agencies, which currently regulate ammunition and fishing tackle.

2) Sage-Grouse Endangered Species Listing: The FY 2015 funding bill prevents the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) from listing the sage-grouse on the endangered species list for at least the remainder of FY 2015. In 2011, the FWS reached a secret sue-and-settle agreement to require listing determinations on more than 250 species across the United States, including the sage-grouse. The sage-grouse listing would impact ranching, energy development, and other land uses in parts of western South Dakota, so securing this provision was an important win for West River ranchers in our state.

3) EPA Regulation of Methane Emissions: The FY 2015 funding bill delays the EPA regulation of livestock methane emissions under the Clean Air Act, which could require farmers and ranchers to purchase expensive greenhouse gas permits. Thune has championed provisions in previous funding bills prohibiting the EPA from creating a livestock emissions permitting system for one year at a time. While this is an important short-term success, a permanent ban is necessary to protect South Dakota producers.

4) Lewis and Clark Regional Water System: The FY 2015 funding bill includes \$2.4 million specifically for Lewis and Clark and an additional \$31 million for ongoing rural water projects which will be allocated by the Bureau of Reclamation. The Lewis and Clark Regional Water System will provide safe, reliable drinking water to over 300,000 individuals in South Dakota, Iowa, and Minnesota once completed.

5) Sanford Underground Research Lab: The FY 2015 funding bill includes \$15 million to continue research in the underground lab and \$23 million to support superconducting radio frequency accelerator research, development, facilities, and infrastructure.

Wolves Notch Impressive Win at St. Cloud State

Mitch White poured in a career-high 24 points as the Northern State men's basketball team notched an impressive 91-77 win over St. Cloud State Saturday night on the road. The win improves the Wolves to 10-1 overall and 4-1 in the NSIC.

Skye Warwick added 14 points in the victory and went 4-of-6 from three-point range. Seth Bachand added 13 points and a game-high 10 rebounds for his fourth double-double of the season. DJ Pollard and Darin Peterka added 11 and nine points, respectively in the game.

For the game, the Wolves shot 57.8 percent from the field which is a season-high, and the third time this season they have shot 50 percent or better in a game. The Huskies (5-5, 2-3 NSIC) shot 41.7 percent from the floor. Northern also shot 45 percent (9-of-20) from three-point range while SCSU went 6-of-21 from deep (28.6 percent).

Northern once again had a solid second half, which was a key to the victory as the Wolves put up 55 points in the half. NSU was also able to put together maybe its best first half of the season as they took a 36-34 lead into the locker room at halftime. It was just the fourth time this season that Northern had a lead at the break.

Northern held a 32-26 edge in rebounding in the game and also had a huge 26-8 advantage in bench points in the victory. The Huskies had a 32-26 edge in points in the paint.

The win gives Northern its fourth consecutive victory in league play and fifth-straight overall. Next up, Northern will face MSU Moorhead next Saturday on the road. The Dragons handed the Wolves their lone loss of the season in November in the NSIC opener, 75-55 in Aberdeen.

Lady Wolves Lose For the First Time This Season at St. Cloud State

For the first time this season, the third-ranked Northern State women's basketball team was defeated as the Wolves lost 62-54 Saturday night on the road at St. Cloud State. NSU drops to 10-1 overall on the season and 4-1 in NSIC play while the Huskies improve to 8-0 overall and 5-0 in league play.

The 62 points allowed by Northern is the most this season and the 43 points scored in the second half alone by SCSU is just four points fewer than what the Wolves have allowed per game this year coming into the contest.

Northern played a solid half of defense in the first half, allowing just 5-of-26 (19.2 percent) shooting from the Huskies in the half and held a 26-19 halftime lead. The Huskies opened the second half on a 25-10 run and opened up a 43-36 lead with 10:16 left to play.

Sadie Stotesbery led the Wolves with 14 points in the loss and also added five rebounds. Rachel Krogman collected her seventh double-double of the season in the contest as she scored 11 points and pulled down 11 rebounds while also adding four assists. Megan Mutchler chipped in with 10 points and Devon Brecke added eight and a team-high five assists.

For the game, Northern shot 39.6 percent (21-for-53) while St. Cloud shot 19-of-56 (34 percent). The big difference came from three-point range as the Huskies hit nine three pointers and Northern went just 2-of-14 (14.3 percent) from beyond the arc. SCSU went 15-of-18 from the free-throw line while the Wolves were 10-fo-13. The Huskies also held a big 23-5 edge in bench points in the game.

NSU returns to action next Saturday as the Wolves will play their final game before the winter break as they close their three-game road trip at MSU Moorhead. Northern defeated the Dragons 74-42 in the NSIC opener in November.

The Live of Robert Johnson



A Celebration of life for Robert Johnson, 93, of Groton will be 11 a.m., Monday, December 15 at the United Methodist Church, Groton. The Rev. Matt Richards will officiate. Private inurnment will be held in Union Cemetery, Groton.

Visitation will be held at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel on Sunday from 5-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7 p.m.

Bob died December 11, 2014 at Golden Living Center, Groton.

Robert A. Johnson was the only son born to Pearl and Alfred L. Johnson, September 29, 1921, in Chicago, IL. He was raised on a farm in the Groton area, educated in the Groton Public School and South Dakota State College, Brookings.

After a five year courtship he married his high school sweetheart, Marvel Green, January 22, 1943, at the Augustana Lutheran Church by Claremont, SD. Bob and Marvel celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on January 22, 2013. To this marriage six children were born: R. Van Johnson

(Jean), Sioux Falls, SD; Kent Johnson (Christie), Groton, SD; Drew Johnson (Marsha), Aberdeen, SD; Jay Johnson (Linda), Groton, SD; Marc Johnson (Jane), Groton, SD; and daughter Ann J. Brown, Watertown, SD; 17 grandchildren; and 21 great grandchildren.

The couple lived on the family farm south of Groton until moving to their twin home in Groton in 2004. Bob and Marvel owned a cabin at Pickerel Lake for many years. The place they shared with so many and loved so much.

Bob's activities included: Groton Farmers Elevator, Northern Electric Cooperative, East River Transmission Cooperative, James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company, SD REA, Dakota Electric Cooperative/Basin Electric Cooperative, The Johnson Agency, Prairie States Life Insurance Company, Brown County Federal Credit Union, SD Railroad Board, SD Association of Cooperatives, Groton Community Transit System, and Groton Chamber of Commerce from which he received the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011, and was inducted into the SD Cooperative Hall of Fame. Bob was elected and served six years in the SD State Senate.

Bob was a member of the Groton Masonic Lodge, active member of the Groton Kiwanis Club and active member of the Groton United Methodist Church.

Bob will forever be remembered as a devoted husband, a loving father/grandfather/great-grandfather, and a kind, generous, and gentle man.

Today in Weather History

1993: Two to three inches of snow, followed by freezing rain, fell in east central South Dakota, particularly in the Brookings and Deuel County areas, on the 13th into the 14th, causing several accidents.

1994: Snow accumulated over all of South Dakota on the 14th, but was heavy in the central part of the state and at a few places in the northwest. The greatest accumulations were 11 inches at Murdo and 10 inches at the Lake Sharpe project and near Stephan. Numerous accidents were caused but no fatalities or injuries were reported. 8 inches of snow fell at McLaughlin and Miller, with 7 inches at Faulkton and McIntosh, 6 inches at Eagle Butte and Timber Lake, and 5 inches at Mobridge, Kennebec, and near Highmore.

1996: Heavy snow of 6 to 20 inches fell across most of central, north central, and part of northeast South Dakota during the late evening of the 14th. Strong north winds of 20 to 35 mph created near-blizzard conditions and heavy drifting across the area. Travel was extremely difficult if not impossible, with several cars going into the ditch. A two-car accident between Blunt and Pierre left several people injured. Many activities were postponed or canceled. Some snowfall amounts included 6 inches at Fort Pierre, Ipswich, Kennebec, Aberdeen, and Pollock; 7 inches at Mobridge; 8 inches at Lake Sharpe, Clark, and Mellette; 9 inches at Roscoe, Gettysburg, and McIntosh; 10 inches at Highmore, Eagle Butte, 22 miles SSW of Keldron, and at West Whitlock; 11 inches at Blunt and Miller; 12 inches at Ree Heights, McLaughlin, and Onida; 13 inches at Highmore; 14 inches at Redfield; 15 inches at Timber Lake; 18 inches at Faulkton; and 20 inches at Hoven.

2008: As the blizzard wound down and visibilities improved, bitter cold wind chills remained through much of Monday the 15th. Wind chills of 35 below to 45 below zero remained across central and northeast South Dakota as well as west central Minnesota. The bitter cold contributed to many of the school closings.

1810: An EF4 tornado, one of England's strongest twisters on record, tore from Old Portsmouth to Southsea Common in Hampshire. Some houses were completely leveled and many others were so badly damaged that they had to be demolished.

1924 - The temperature at Helena, MT, plunged 79 degrees in 24 hours, and 88 degrees in 34 hours. The mercury plummeted from 63 above to 25 below zero. At Fairfield MT the temperature plunged 84 degrees in just 12 hours, from 63 at Noon to 21 below zero at midnight. (David Ludlum)

1987 - A powerful storm spread heavy snow from the Southern High Plains to the Middle Mis-

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Mississippi Valley, and produced severe thunderstorms in the Lower Mississippi Valley. During the evening a tornado hit West Memphis TN killing six persons and injuring two hundred others. The tornado left 1500 persons homeless, and left all of the residents of Crittendon County without electricity. Kansas City MO was blanketed with 10.8 inches of snow, a 24 hour record for December, and snowfall totals in the Oklahoma panhandle ranged up to 14 inches. Strong winds, gusting to 63 mph at Austin TX, ushered arctic cold into the Great Plains, and caused considerable blowing and drifting of snow. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Blowing snow was reported in western Kansas, as snow and gusty winds plagued the Central Rockies and Central High Plains. Colorado Springs CO reported thirteen inches of snow. Low pressure in Wisconsin brought heavy snow to the Lake Superior snowbelt area, with 22 inches reported at Marquette MI. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - High winds and heavy snow prevailed from Montana to Colorado. Snowfall totals in Wyoming ranged up to 20 inches at Burgess Junction, leaving up to 48 inches on the ground in the northeast sections of the state. Wind gusts in Colorado reached 87 mph south of the town of Rollinsville. Strong northwesterly winds continued to produce heavy snow squalls in the Great Lakes Region. Totals in northeastern Lower Michigan ranged up to 29 inches at Hubbard Lake, with 28 inches reported at Posen. Two day totals in northeastern Wisconsin ranged up to thirty inches. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

2002: Carrying 2,862 Volvos, BMWs, and SAABs, the Norwegian car transporter ship Tricolor collided with another ship due to thick fog and sank off the coast of Dunkirk, France.

2006 - The Hanukkah Eve Wind Storm of 2006 caused storm to hurricane-force wind gusts and heavy rainfall hit the Pacific Northwest and southern British Columbia. Damage estimates in Washington and Oregon totaled \$220 million. Over 1.8 million residences and businesses without power. 18 people were killed, most of whom died of carbon monoxide poisoning in the days following the storm because of improper use of barbecue cookers and generators indoors.

2010 - A rare tornado struck the small town of Aumsville, Oregon, tearing roofs off buildings, hurling objects into vehicles and homes and uprooting trees. No one was injured but the destruction left behind was severe. The National Weather Service classified the tornado as an EF2 with wind speeds of 110-120 mph and they said the tornado's damage trail was five miles long and 150 yards wide. 50 houses in Aumsville and the surrounding county area were affected, with 10 of them being unsuitable for occupancy. (KATU)

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| TODAY | TONIGHT | MONDAY | MONDAY NIGHT | TUESDAY | TUESDAY NIGHT | WEDNESDAY |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20% | 30% | 50% | | | | |
| Slight Chc Rain High: 48 °F | Wintery Mix Low: 27 °F | Chance Snow High: 28 °F ↓ | Blustery Low: 13 °F | Partly Sunny High: 21 °F | Partly Cloudy Low: 7 °F | Mostly Sunny High: 21 °F |



Snowfall Forecast

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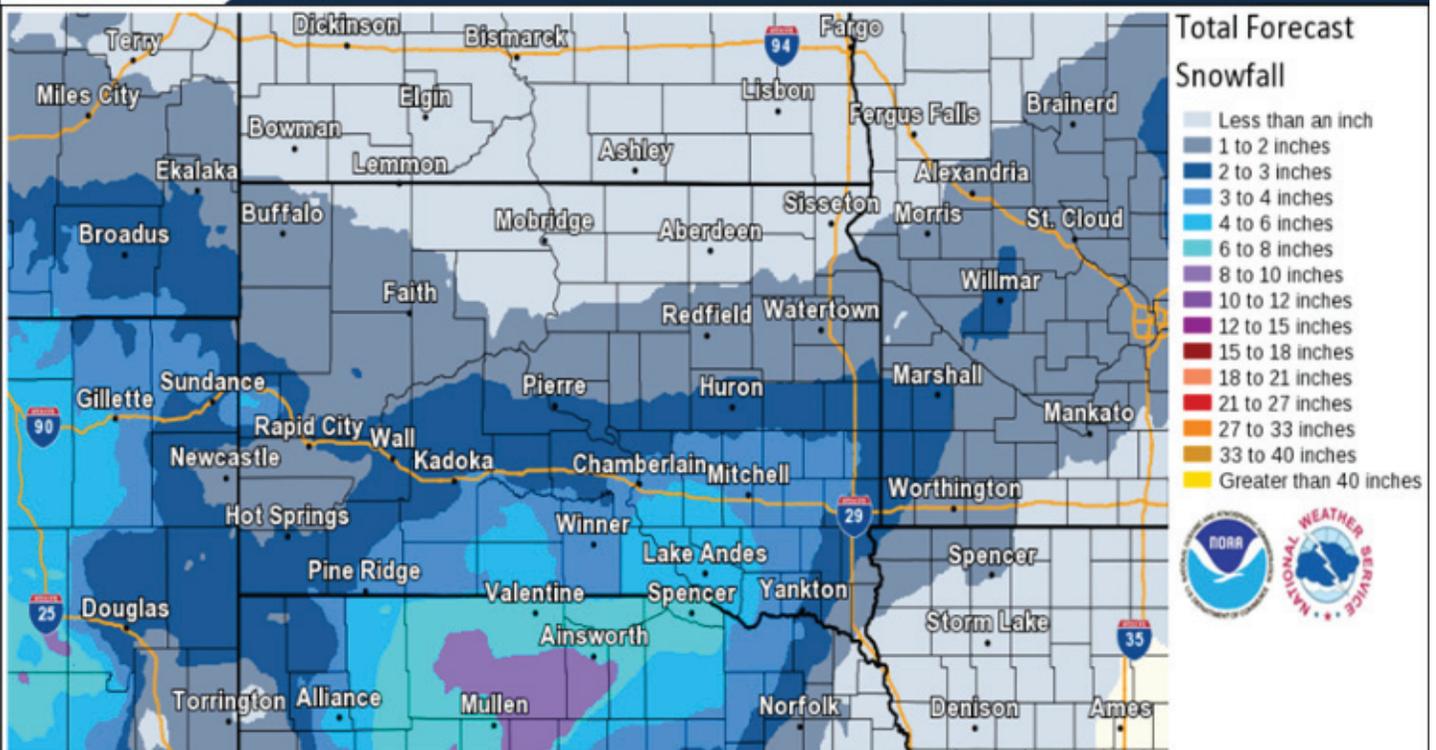
weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



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Valid ending at Tuesday December 16th, 2014 at 6 PM CST

Created Sunday December 14th, 2014 at 5:29 AM CST

Low pressure will track across the central Plains overnight through Monday. Snow will spread across the region, with the heaviest amounts across south central and southeast South Dakota, where 3 to 6 inches are possible. There is some uncertainty remaining on snow amounts over south central South Dakota. If the storm were to take a slight jog further south, then the current 2 to 3 inch amounts from Pierre down through I-90 may be a bit overdone. Freezing rain and sleet are possible across parts of the area as well, with light ice accumulations. The threat area for this is east central South Dakota. Stay tuned to the latest forecasts concerning this upcoming storm system.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 51.7 at 3:22 PM

Low: 36.3 at 3:50 AM

Wind Chill:

High Gust: 28 at 1:36 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 55° in 1998

Record Low: -30° in 1917

Average High: 26°F

Average Low: 6°F

Average Precip in Dec.: 0.23

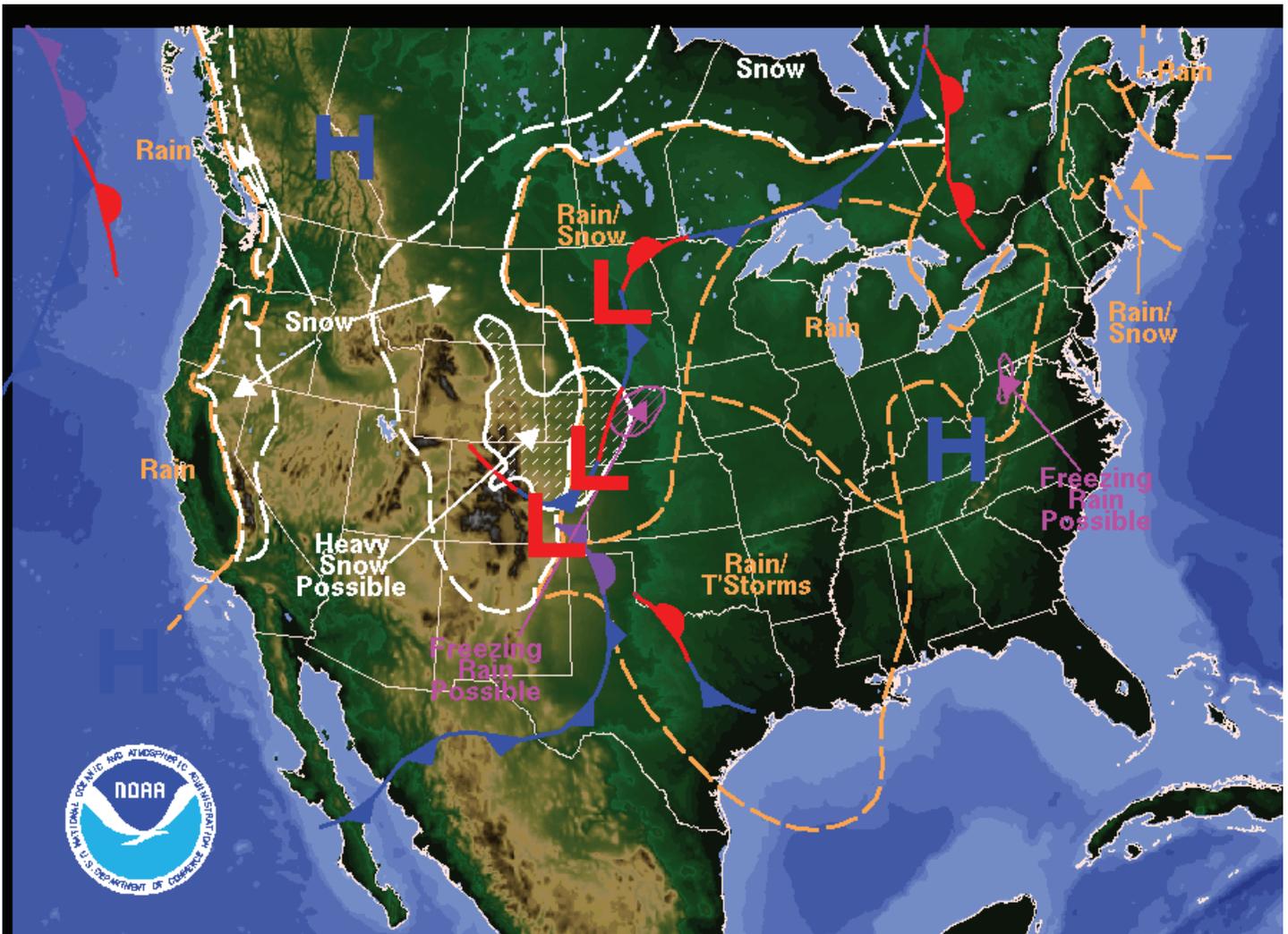
Precip to date in Dec.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 21.43

Precip Year to Date: 13.99

Sunset Tonight: 4:51 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:07 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sun, Dec 14, 2014, issued 4:03 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Santorelli based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



HOW TO START EACH DAY

What is the first thing you do each morning? The author of Pilgrim's Progress said that "He who runs from God in the morning will scarcely find Him the rest of the day." It is important that we go into the presence of God before we go into the presence of men.

A woman attended a concert and realized the next morning that she has lost a diamond earring the night before. She called the manager of the auditorium and asked if it had been found. He said, "If you stay on the line, I'll check." A search was made and the diamond found. When he returned to the phone, the woman had hung up.

How like many of us when we pray. We do not expect anything to happen when we pray so we give up on God.

David said, "In the morning will I direct my prayer unto Thee and will look up." He was saying, "I will pray and then I will wait for answers and directions." If we begin every day with God, we will end up with His blessings!

Prayer: Lord, when I begin my day I know it is important to ask for Your guidance and grace and to seek wisdom from Your Word. May I look to You for Your wisdom in every decision I make and direction in every path I take. In Your Name. Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 5:3 In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.

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News from the **AP** Associated Press

Consumers having less trouble in ACA's second round

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Buying coverage during the Affordable Care Act's second open enrollment period hasn't been as difficult for South Dakotans as it was during the program's inaugural window.

Monday is the final day for South Dakotans to enroll in health coverage for Jan. 1 through the federal health insurance exchange, but the enrollment period doesn't fully wind down until February.

Avera Health Plans Chief Administrative Officer Deb Muller says the process so far for consumers has been "a little disjointed this year, but nothing like it was last year."

The open enrollment period doesn't end until Feb. 15, which is the deadline to avoid a federal penalty.

State seeks comments on 5-year elk management plan

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department is taking input on its proposed elk management plan for the next five years.

The department's Division of Wildlife says the document goes over how the state proposes to manage the big game species associated with the state's diverse habitats and land ownership.

People have until Jan. 5 to submit comments.

The draft management plan can be found online at: <http://gfp.sd.gov/hunting/big-game/elk/default.aspx>.

State's attorney Deadrick switching to secretary of state

LAKE ANDES, S.D. (AP) — Charles Mix County State's Attorney Tom Deadrick will resign his current post to join the office of incoming Secretary of State Shantel Krebs.

The Yankton Daily Press and Dakotan reports that Deadrick will join Krebs's office on Jan. 2, where he

will assume the role of deputy secretary for business services. His new position will require him to oversee business services and filings, and Deadrick says he'll be trying to ensure South Dakota is friendly for companies looking to incorporate here.

Deadrick says he anticipates his legal experience will be a plus in the new job, and he will serve as in-house legal counsel to the office.

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Quarter of tickets to inaugural balls sell in first week

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Roughly a quarter of the tickets for the two celebratory Jan. 10 inaugural balls in Pierre have been sold in their first week available.

KCCR-AM reports that 25 percent of tickets to the Capitol Ball planned for the state Capitol had been sold by the end of Thursday. About 20 percent had been purchased for the Inaugural Ball scheduled to be held at the Ramkota RiverCentre.

Earlier on Jan. 10, Gov. Dennis Daugaard, state legislators and other officials will be sworn in at a free event at the state Capitol.

Saturday's Scores

The Associated Press

Boys Basketball

Aberdeen Roncalli 72, Beresford 26
Britton-Hecla 57, Mobridge-Pollock 46
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 74, Miller 59
Clark/Willow Lake 53, Sioux Valley 44
Colman-Egan 56, Garretson 47, OT
Custer 60, Oelrichs 24
Faith 83, Kadoka Area 28
Groton Area 63, Leola/Frederick 53
Harding County 55, Lead-Deadwood 40
Little Wound 76, Crow Creek 48
McCook Central/Montrose 74, Parker 55
Menno 41, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 26
Morris Area/Chokia-Alberta, Minn. 54, Milbank Area 39
Morris Area/Chokio-Alberta, Minn. 54, Milbank 43
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 71, Kimball/White Lake 37
New Underwood 81, Dupree 36
Newell 54, Bison 39
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 56, Freeman Academy 43
Philip 74, Rapid City Christian 63
Platte-Geddes 61, Dakota Christian 42
Ponca, Neb. 57, Irene-Wakonda 55
Potter County 48, Lyman 29
Red Cloud 70, Spearfish 68, OT
Santee, Neb. 76, Marty Indian 73
Sioux Falls Christian 64, West Central 42
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 60, Brandon Valley 39
Sioux Falls Washington 71, Rapid City Stevens 62
St. Thomas More 59, Hot Springs 37
Tea Area 57, Corsica/Stickney 43
Tri-Valley 65, Sisseton 58
Wall 52, Edgemont 40
Warner 79, Webster 36

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West Sioux, Hawarden, Iowa 53, Alcester-Hudson 49

Gillette Tournament (Camel)

Rapid City Central 62, Bismarck Century, N.D. 60

Linton-HMB Shootout

Medina-Pingree-Buchanan, N.D. 58, Herreid/Selby Area 48

Tea Classic

Chamberlain 59, Centerville 50

Girls Basketball

Aberdeen Central 64, Sturgis 59

Brandon Valley 56, Sioux Falls Roosevelt 39

Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 71, Miller 59

Dakota Christian 65, Platte-Geddes 39

Deubrook 58, Milbank 54

Deuel 31, Tiospa Zina Tribal 21

Elk Point-Jefferson 51, Madison 42

Faith 67, Kadoka Area 11

Garretson 43, Colman-Egan 29

Gayville-Volin 43, Dakota Valley 37

Groton Area 49, Leola/Frederick 44

Highmore-Harrold 76, Stanley County 29

Langford 44, Edmunds Central 26

Lead-Deadwood 49, Harding County 21

Little Wound 74, Crow Creek 33

Marty Indian 79, Santee, Neb. 31

McCook Central/Montrose 64, Parker 47

McLaughlin 67, Standing Rock, N.D. 54

Mobridge-Pollock 31, Britton-Hecla 29

New Underwood 38, Dupree 23

Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 44, Freeman Academy 41

Philip 53, Rapid City Christian 39

Rapid City Stevens 67, Sioux Falls Washington 50

Red Cloud 54, Spearfish 43

Sioux Valley 62, Clark/Willow Lake 49

Sisseton 54, Tri-Valley 44

Tea Area 49, Corsica/Stickney 48

Viborg-Hurley 70, Canistota 42

Wall 55, Edgemont 22

Warner 64, Webster 46

Wessington Springs 36, Mitchell Christian 23

West Central 54, Sioux Falls Christian 38

West Sioux, Hawarden, Iowa 49, Alcester-Hudson 25

Eastern Coteau Conference Tournament

Seventh Place: Rosholt 47, Grant-Deuel 35

Fifth Place: Florence/Henry 65, Waubay 34

Third Place: Waverly-South Shore 63, Great Plains Lutheran 56

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Championship: Summit 46, Wilmot 36

Gillette Tournament (Camel)

Bismarck Century, N.D. 48, Rapid City Central 38

Tea Classic

Aberdeen Roncalli 54, Beresford 51

Centerville 55, Chamberlain 41

Vaughn scored 18 points as UNLV tops South Dakota, 75-61

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Rashad Vaughn scored 18 points off the bench and Christian Wood added 11 points and 10 rebounds to power UNLV to a 75-61 win over South Dakota on Saturday night.

South Dakota led briefly, 29-28 on a layup by Brandon Bos, but UNLV closed the first half on a 14-2 run to take a 42-31 at intermission.

The Rebels (6-2) connected on 28 of 59 shots from the floor (47.5 percent), hitting 5 of 21 from the perimeter, and collecting 10 steals.

Jelan Kendrick had 13 points for UNLV while Patrick McCaw added 12 points off the bench.

Bos led South Dakota (3-8) with 19 points. Tyler Larson added 14 points, Eric Robertson contributed 12 points off the bench and Casey Kasperbauer kicked in 10 points. Robertson pulled down nine rebounds as the Coyotes outrebounded UNLV 38-33, but turned the ball over 17 times.

Parks, South Dakota State hold off Idaho, 87-85

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Deondre Parks scored 20 points and Reed Tellinghuisen scored a career-high 17 to lead South Dakota State past Idaho 87-85 on Saturday.

Cody Larson added 15 points and Jake Bittle finished with 13 and seven assists for South Dakota State (6-4), which avenged a Nov. 17 loss to Idaho.

A 3-pointer by Tellinghuisen with 7:40 left gave South Dakota State its biggest lead, 71-61.

Idaho slowly climbed back into the game, pulling within two, 84-82, when Mike Scott hit a 3 with 1:19 remaining.

Bittle made a layup on the other end before another Scott 3-pointer made it 86-85 with 34 seconds to go.

The Vandals were forced to foul and Parks made 1 of 2 free throws 9 seconds later.

Scott and Sekou Wiggs each missed shots in the waning seconds.

Idaho (4-5) shot a season-high 60 percent (29 of 48) from the field, but committed 18 turnovers.

School of Mines grad to work at Mission Control

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A graduating South Dakota School of Mines and Technology student has landed a job in a room that any space buff will quickly recognize: NASA's Mission Control Center.

Ryan Brown, 32, of Rapid City, graduates Dec. 20 with a degree in computer engineering and starts work in February at Johnson Space Center in Houston. After 18 months of training, he'll help with the operation of the International Space Station. His role will be to oversee the communications system, set up video conferences with the astronauts and troubleshoot computer problems at the console named CRONUS.

"It's the most busy desk in the room," he said of Mission Control, which has supported every human spaceflight for the U.S. since 1965. "So if there are any issues between the International Space Station, that will be my problem."

Brown said he'll be advising the flight director and have to make quick decisions about major issues, but he won't talk directly to the astronauts unless it's a unique situation. He said his eight years serving with U.S. Army, including with special forces units in Iraq, Afghanistan and Africa, prepared him for the fast pace.

"This is a real big deal," said Tom Durkin, deputy director of the South Dakota Space Grant Consortium at School of Mines. "It really doesn't get any better than this in terms of placing our students in important and cutting-edge careers."

Brown dropped out of high school but got his GED and joined the Army, which allowed him to go to college and meet someone at a career fair who sparked the dream of working with the space program.

"It was so far from anything I thought possible that it never dawned on me to dream of that as a possibility," he said.

South Dakota Democrats elect new party chairwoman

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Democratic Party has elected a new leader.

Ann Tornberg, of Beresford, has been selected by the party's state central committee as the new chairwoman. Joe Lowe, of Piedmont, will serve as the party's vice chairman.

Tornberg on Saturday said Democrats in South Dakota have a lot of work to do to rebuild "county parties, recruit top tier candidates and register voters." She adds that she will work to build consensus, advance issues that are importing to working families and "elect Democrats up and down the ballot."

Bill Nibbelink, of Flandreau, was re-elected as treasurer, and Lorri May, of Madison, was re-elected as secretary.

Montana lawmakers push back on expanded bomber zone

MATTHEW BROWN, Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Montana's congressional delegation is pushing for changes to an Air Force proposal to establish a bomber training area over the Northern Plains that would cover an area larger than West Virginia.

A decision is due in coming weeks on the plan to expand the Powder River Training Complex over Montana, Wyoming and the Dakotas. Approval also is needed from federal aviation regulators.

The proposed expansion would quadruple the training airspace, making it the largest over the continental United States. It would be used by B-1 bombers at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota and B-52 bombers at Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota.

Montana elected leaders and state aviation officials say the bombers would disrupt rural communities and scare livestock as they roar overhead on maneuvers, dropping flares and chaff.

Montana U.S. Sen. Jon Tester told The Associated Press that time is running out to get changes made. "We want the Air Force to address this. They're moving pretty darn fast right now," Tester said. "For those guys to open up the Powder River Basin without addressing our concerns is unacceptable."

At the prodding of southeast Montana officials worried about the expansion, Montana U.S. Sens. Tester and John Walsh and Rep. Steve Daines told Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James in a Friday letter that the proposal would stifle economic development and threaten safety in the region.

They asked for changes including fewer restrictions on civil aircraft in the area and better radar capabilities to prevent accidents.

North Dakota lawmakers have been supportive of the proposal. They say it would stabilize the future of Ellsworth and stave off its possible closure.

Under the Air Force plan, any given location across the training area could see up to nine low-altitude overflights by military aircraft annually. Supersonic flights in the area would be limited to 10 days a year during large-scale exercises involving roughly 20 aircraft.

As many as 78 civilian flights a day could be impacted when the large-scale exercises are conducted, shutting down the entire airspace, the Air Force said.

The Air Force acknowledged in a study released Nov. 28 that the low-altitude flights and loud sonic booms have the potential to startle ranchers, recreationists and American Indians living on four reservations in the region.

The Air Force will make a final decision no earlier than 30 days after the study was released, said Air Force spokesman Capt. Christopher Diaz. That means a decision could come before the end of the year.

A B-1B from Ellsworth Air Force Base crashed in August of 2013 in southeastern Montana near Broadus — within the existing bounds of the training area. Four crew members ejected from the high-speed aircraft and survived.

Health officials rate flu levels 'sporadic' in SD

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Health officials have rated the incidence of flu cases in South Dakota as "sporadic."

Twelve new cases and four influenza-related hospitalizations were confirmed during the week ending Dec. 6.

Sporadic influenza activity was also reported in neighboring Wyoming, as well as California, Hawaii and the District of Columbia. Minnesota, in contrast, was labeled "widespread."

No influenza-related deaths have been reported in South Dakota as of Dec. 6.

AP News in Brief

Obama getting \$1.1 trillion spending bill from Congress after late Senate vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress cleared a \$1.1 trillion spending bill for President Barack Obama's signature after a day of Senate intrigue capped by a failed, largely symbolic Republican challenge to the administration's new immigration policy.

The vote late Saturday night was 56-40 in favor of the measure, which funds nearly the entire government through the Sept. 30 end of the fiscal year. It also charts a new course for selected shaky pension plans covering more than 1 million retirees, including the possibility of benefit cuts.

The Senate passed the bill on a day Democrats launched a drive to confirm two dozen of Obama's stalled nominees to the federal bench and administration posts, before their majority expires at year's end.

Several Republicans blamed tea party-backed Texas Sen. Ted Cruz for giving the outgoing majority party an opportunity to seek approval for presidential appointees, including some that are long-stalled.

It was Cruz who pushed the Senate to cast its first vote on the administration's policy of suspending the threat of deportation for an estimated four million immigrants living in the country illegally. He lost his attempt Saturday night, 74-22, although Republican leaders have vowed to bring the issue back after the party takes control of the Senate in January.

Families of young, unarmed black men killed by police tell US protesters: 'We need to stand'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Demonstrators nationwide protesting the fatal shootings of unarmed black men killed by police chanted "I can't breathe!" "Hands up, don't shoot!" and waved signs that read "Black lives matter!" as family members of three victims packed a stage in front of the U.S. Capitol, urging thousands of supportive marchers to keep pressing for changes to the criminal justice system.

The march in Washington on Saturday — attended by family members for Michael Brown and Eric Garner, who were killed by police in recent months, and Amadou Diallo, who was fatally shot by police more than 15 years ago — coincided with nationwide demonstrations that spanned from iconic Fifth Avenue in New York to the streets of San Francisco and the steps of the Boston Statehouse. Most were peaceful protests, although about two dozen people were arrested in the Massachusetts capital for disorderly conduct.

"My husband was a quiet man, but he's making a lot of noise right now," said Washington protest marcher Esaw Garner, widow of Eric Garner, 43, who died in July after being put in a chokehold by New York City police during an arrest for allegedly selling loose, untaxed cigarettes.

"His voice will be heard. I have five children in this world and we are fighting not just for him but for everybody's future, for everybody's past, for everybody's present, and we need to make it strong."

Nationally, chanting demonstrators also staged "die-ins" as they lay down across intersections and in one city briefly scuffled with police blocking an onramp to a highway.

'Watered-down' deal struck after marathon talks at UN climate talks

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Climate negotiators salvaged a compromise deal in Lima early Sunday that sets the stage for a global pact in Paris next year, but rejected a rigorous review of the greenhouse gas emissions limits they plan.

More than 30 hours behind schedule, delegates from more than 190 countries agreed on what information should go into the pledges that countries submit for the expected Paris pact.

They argued all day Saturday over the wording of the decision, with developing nations worried that the text blurred the distinction between what rich and poor countries can be expected to do.

The final draft alleviated those concerns with language saying countries have "common but differentiated responsibilities" to deal with global warming.

"As a text it's not perfect, but it includes the positions of the parties," said Environment Minister Manuel Pulgar-Vidal, who was the conference chairman and had spent most of the day meeting separately with delegations.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe poised to win strong majority in parliamentary election

TOKYO (AP) — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe looked set to win a strong majority in a parliamentary election Sunday viewed as less of a verdict on his policies than an acquiescence to the ruling party's growing power.

From remote islands to high mountains where polling stations stood ready with firecrackers to scare away bears, voters were choosing among 1,191 candidates for the 475-seat lower house.

"I think Mr. Abe is the only choice we have considering from what I heard and saw in the reports," retiree Hiroshi Yamada said as he came out of a downtown Tokyo polling station.

He was echoing sentiments shared by many Japanese. Despite weakening popularity ratings, a recession and messy campaign finance scandals, Abe's Liberal Democratic Party was virtually certain to triumph thanks to Japan's tendency toward a one-party political system, voter apathy and a lack of viable alternatives.

Tokyo's municipal government said turnout in the city was lower than the last election two years ago, with 26 percent of voters showing up as of midafternoon Sunday, compared with nearly 32 percent as of that time in 2012. The final nationwide turnout then was a record-low 59.3 million people.

American who says he illegally crossed into North Korea says he's not being detained

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — North Korea on Sunday presented to the media an American who says he illegally crossed into the country but has not been put into custody and is seeking asylum in Venezuela.

Arturo Pierre Martinez, 29, of El Paso, Texas, said he entered North Korea by crossing the river border with China. Details of how and when he got into the country were not immediately clear.

In his comments to reporters, Martinez strongly criticized the U.S. for alleged human rights violations. He made the statement at the People's Palace of Culture, which North Korean authorities have used in recent years for press conferences where they present North Korean defectors who have returned to North Korea, or on at least one occasion, a South Korean citizen who was detained in North Korea. It is also used for signing ceremonies between North Korea and other countries.

His comments came amid North Korea's own loud protests of a resolution in the United Nations that could open the door for its leaders to face charges of crimes against humanity for human rights violations, raising questions of whether Martinez was trotted out to the media for propaganda purposes.

Defiant Afghan president condemns wave of insurgent attacks, saying: 'We will never surrender'

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Defying insurgents, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani on Sunday condemned the wave of militant attacks striking his country ahead of the withdrawal of most foreign troops, vowing: "We will never surrender."

In a televised speech, Ghani called on all religious, political and social leaders to condemn the violence. At one point, he even shouted: "Enough! No more!"

"This is unacceptable, it is un-Islamic, it is inhuman," he said, referring the death of a university student in an attack targeting parliamentarian Shukria Barakzai and the suicide bombing of a volleyball tournament that killed about 50 people last month.

Ghani's words come just two weeks ahead of the withdrawal of most international combat troops, 13 years after the U.S.-led invasion following the Sept. 11 terror attacks removed the Taliban from power.

Ahead of the pullout, Taliban insurgents have launched a series of high-profile attacks across the country, including those targeting foreigners in the capital, Kabul. On Saturday alone, insurgents killed at least 19 people, including 12 clearing land mines in the country's south and a senior official of the country's Supreme Court shot dead outside his home in Kabul.

Haiti's prime minister resigns amid political discontent, violent protests

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe announced early Sunday that he was resigning along with several ministers in the wake of violent anti-government protests and a commission's call for him to step down.

In a speech that was delayed past midnight, Lamothe said he was leaving "with a sense of accomplishment," adding: "This country has undergone a deep and dynamic transformation and a real change in benefit of its people."

President Michel Martelly said earlier he accepted the findings of the commission that had recommended Lamothe's replacement.

Martelly appointed Lamothe as prime minister in 2012, and some political analysts believe Lamothe might seek the presidency in upcoming elections.

Lamothe's resignation complicates the current political situation because nominations for a new prime minister require approval from Parliament and it is unclear whether someone would be nominated before Parliament is dissolved in January, said Michael Deibert, author of "Notes from the Last Testament: The Struggle for Haiti."

A look at developments in Newtown 2 years after the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary

As the second anniversary of the Newtown school shooting arrives on Sunday, local officials and others touched by the tragedy have been busy on many fronts as the town continues its recovery from the massacre of 20 children and six educators.

Some families that channeled grief into activism are forging ahead with efforts to curb gun violence and improve mental health treatment. The town has begun reviewing ideas for a permanent memorial and the first construction work has begun on the new Sandy Hook Elementary School, to replace the school building that was razed last year. Newtown also acquired and will decide what to do with the home where the shooter lived.

The gunman, Adam Lanza, shot and killed his mother on Dec. 14, 2012, before driving to the school where he gunned down the victims with a semi-automatic rifle before committing suicide.

Here is a look at recent developments in Newtown:

MEMORIAL PLANNING

Hundreds at funeral of woman burned alive in Mississippi; former cheerleader now 'flying high'

BATESVILLE, Miss. (AP) — About 400 mourners packed a chapel in Mississippi on Saturday to say goodbye to a 19-year-old woman who was burned alive, among them classmates who used permanent markers to write heartfelt messages on her white metal coffin.

"Fly high, Jessica," said some, a reference to the former cheerleader's aerial acrobatics, according to the Rev. Eric Gregg, one of three speakers at the 45-minute service.

Chambers graduated from South Panola High last year and worked in sales at a Batesville clothing and gift shop.

Alabama author Linda Oliver said Chambers had recently asked her to help write a book about her life.

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Oliver, of Birmingham, said Chambers approached her while she was packing up after a speech about her own book at an Oct. 25 church conference in the Batesville area.

Oregon quarterback Marcus Mariota wins Heisman Trophy, becoming Ducks' 1st winner

NEW YORK (AP) — Marcus Mariota wrote it all down, every word of his Heisman Trophy acceptance speech. It was a good thing, too, because getting through it might have been tougher than sprinting away from a linebacker or tossing a touchdown pass for Oregon's understated star.

The junior quarterback became the Ducks' first Heisman winner going away Saturday night, capping a three-year climb to college football's most prestigious individual award.

"I'm humbled to be standing here today," Mariota said moments after he was announced as the winner.

Mariota isn't a bigger talker, but he steadily worked through his speech, thanking his teammates, teachers, friends and his home state of Hawaii. He finally hit a snag when it came time to thank his mother and father. He needed to take two deep breaths and still he got choked up.

"I had to give thanks to so many people because where I am today, it's all do to all those people," Mariota said later. "It's hard not to get emotional. It's been a long journey. My emotions got the best of me."

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Sunday, Dec. 14, the 348th day of 2014. There are 17 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 14, 1964, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States*, ruled that Congress was within its authority to enforce the Civil Rights Act of 1964 against racial discrimination by private businesses (in this case, a motel that refused to cater to blacks).

On this date:

In 1799, the first president of the United States, George Washington, died at his Mount Vernon, Virginia, home at age 67.

In 1819, Alabama joined the Union as the 22nd state.

In 1911, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen (ROH'-ahl AH'-mun-suhn) and his team became the first men to reach the South Pole, beating out a British expedition led by Robert F. Scott.

In 1918, "Il Trittico," a trio of one-act operas by Giacomo Puccini, premiered at New York's Metropolitan Opera House. (The third opera, "Gianni Schicchi (SKEE'-kee)," featured the aria "O Mio Babbino Caro," which was an immediate hit.)

In 1939, the Soviet Union was expelled from the League of Nations for invading Finland.

In 1946, the United Nations General Assembly voted to establish the U.N.'s headquarters in New York.

In 1962, the U.S. space probe Mariner 2 passed Venus at a distance of just over 21,000 miles, transmitting information about the planet.

In 1972, Apollo 17 astronauts Harrison Schmitt and Eugene Cernan concluded their third and final moonwalk and blasted off for their rendezvous with the command module.

In 1974, journalist and political commentator Walter Lippmann, 85, died in New York.

In 1981, Israel annexed the Golan Heights, which it had seized from Syria in 1967.

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In 1989, Nobel Peace laureate Andrei D. Sakharov died in Moscow at age 68.

In 2012, a gunman with a semi-automatic rifle killed 20 first-graders and six educators at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, then committed suicide as police arrived; 20-year-old Adam Lanza had fatally shot his mother at their home before carrying out the attack on the school.

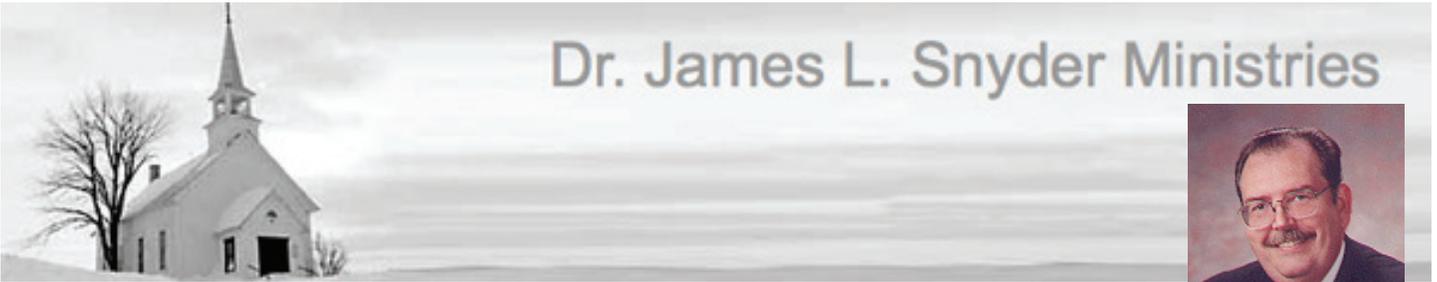
Ten years ago: The Federal Reserve raised interest rates for the fifth time since June 2004, raising the federal funds rate a quarter-point to 2.25 percent. President George W. Bush awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom to three figures central to his Iraq policy: former CIA Director George Tenet, former Iraq administrator L. Paul Bremer and retired Gen. Tommy Franks.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama implored top bankers to help keep the fragile recovery from faltering by boosting lending to small businesses and getting behind an overhaul of financial regulation. Dubai got a \$10 billion lifeline from oil-rich Abu Dhabi, securing a last-minute cash infusion aimed at preventing a default that risked sparking broader fears about the city-state's shaky finances.

One year ago: Bells tolled 26 times in Newtown, Connecticut, to honor the dead on the first anniversary of the Sandy Hook school massacre. China carried out the world's first soft landing of a space probe on the moon in nearly four decades as the unmanned Chang'e 3 lander touched down on the lunar surface. Jameis (cq) Winston won the Heisman Trophy, making the Florida State quarterback the second straight freshman to win the award, after Texas A&M's Johnny Manziel. Actor Peter O'Toole, 81, who'd achieved instant stardom as Lawrence of Arabia and was nominated eight times for an Academy Award without winning, died in London.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz musician Clark Terry is 94. Singer-actress Abbe Lane is 83. Actor Hal Williams is 80. Actress-singer Jane Birkin is 68. Actress Patty Duke is 68. Pop singer Joyce Vincent-Wilson (Tony Orlando and Dawn) is 68. Entertainment executive Michael Ovitz is 68. Actress Dee Wallace is 66. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ronnie McNeir (The Four Tops) is 65. Rock musician Cliff Williams (AC/DC) is 65. Actor-comedian T.K. Carter is 58. Rock singer-musician Mike Scott (The Waterboys) is 56. Singer-musician Peter "Spider" Stacy (The Pogues) is 56. Actress Cynthia Gibb is 51. Actor Archie Kao is 45. Actress Natascha McElhone is 45. Actress-comedian Michaela Watkins is 43. Rhythm-and-blues singer Brian Dalyrimple (Soul For Real) is 39. Actress KaDee Strickland is 39. Actress Tammy Blanchard is 38. Actress Sophie Monk is 35. Actress Vanessa Hudgens is 26.

Thought for Today: "Both now and for always, I intend to hold fast to my belief in the hidden strength of the human spirit." - Andrei Sakharov (1921-1989).



Naughty Is As Naughty Does



It is the time of the year when the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is busy doing 101 things in as many directions: cookies to bake, presents to buy, Christmas cards to address and send and a thousand other things I probably am not aware of. My job is to make her job easier by staying out of her way.

Usually I am rather good at my job. It has taken many years to perfect my job and I am proud to say I have achieved somewhat perfection. But this week I was caught unawares.

During this time of year, I make it a practice to stay away from the kitchen area as much as possible. This past week, I do not know what I was thinking, but I went into the kitchen to pour myself a cup of coffee. On the surface, it looked rather innocent.

I finished pouring my coffee and turned to exit the kitchen area as quickly as possible when I ran into you know who.

"I'm so busy I was wondering if you might do me just a little favor." The seductive sound of her voice caught me off guard and I stopped and said the unthinkable. At the time I forgot that a "little favor" has nothing to do with "little."

"I will be glad to help anyway I can." After those words tumbled out of my mouth, I could not believe that it was me actually saying those words. In my right mind, I would never respond in that fashion.

"That's wonderful. I knew I could count on you."

I knew I was in some serious trouble. I did not quite know what kind of trouble I was in but I was going to find out in very short order.

"I don't have time to go to the shopping mall and pick up a certain item. I was wondering if you might do it for me? It would help me out so much and I would be so grateful."

I do not know any politician that has anything on my wife. She can smooth talk better than anybody I know. The only problem is, all the smooth talk was directed in my direction. How in the world, and I say this from a husband's perspective, can I turned down this kind of request?

"You want me to go to the mall?" I said as carefully as I could, "you do know I don't like the mall?"

"I know. If I don't get that item at the mall today, I'm going to be in serious trouble. You wouldn't want me to be in serious trouble, would you?"

In order for me to keep her out of serious trouble, I must put myself in serious trouble.

"Okay," I said as dryly as possible. "I guess I can go to the mall and pick up that item for you. Just give me the details and I will be off." I was off, alright. Off my rocker and did not know when I would be able to get back on that rocker.

Then a thought came to me.

"This will necessitate four apple fritters to give me the energy to do this little favor of yours."

She looked at me with one of those looks that penetrated deep into my soul.

"Okay," I said with a nervous quiver, "how about three apple fritters?"

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The stare intensified.

I cleared my throat, picked up the keys to my vehicle and headed for the mall. A lot of things I do not like to do and this has to be at the top of that list. However, being the terrific husband that I am (I have no documentation proving this, just trust me) I put my life in harm's way.

I got to the mall and found the store where I was to pick up the aforementioned items. I paid for them, which I did not know was part of the bargain, but a guy's got to do what a guy's got to do. Then I set my face like a flint toward the exit door.

Then I saw it. I had forgotten about this facet of the shopping mall at this time of the year. But there he was, Mr. Santa Claus in all of his ho, ho, ho-ness. It dawned on me at the time that he was the one responsible for knowing who is naughty or nice. This was my opportunity.

The line to sit on Santa's lap was finished and he was sitting there by himself. I took the opportunity to go up and greet him.

"Do you know me?" I asked him with the broadest smile I could slap on my face.

"No," he said thoughtfully, "I don't believe we've ever met."

"Well, do you know my wife?"

"No," he said, stroking his beard.

I flipped him a "thanks," as I turned around and headed toward a little bakery I knew had some apple fritters. Due to the sensitivity of the situation, the place will remain anonymous.

Eating my apple fritters I thought about what Solomon said, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goes" (Ecclesiastes 9:10).

It is not naughty unless someone connected with my wife sees me. Because I firmly believe, one person's naughty is another person's apple fritter. No names revealed.

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