

Groton Daily Independent

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Saturday, January 31

Debate at Yankton

Birthdays: Ann Sheridan, Emma Jo Larson

10:00am: Groton Invitational Wrestling Tourney

4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
Mass

Wrestling Tourney Today

12 teams are coming to Groton today for the annual Groton Invitational Wrestling Tournament. Teams in the tournament are Britton-Hecla, Canton, Ellendale/Edgely/Kulm, Groton Area, Sioux Falls O'Gorman JV, Huron JV, Sully Buttes, Tiospa Zina, Wolsey-Wessington, Webster Area, Watertown JV and Warner-Northwestern. There are 131 wrestlers pre-registered for the tournament. It is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. at the Groton Arena.

Updates will be provided on-line at www.groton-lions.net.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **OPEN**

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

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Attached garage.

Major appliances included.

\$700 per month

Roger: 605/397-7118



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 Sisseton

Courtney Kurtz put in 15 points Friday night as the Lady Tigers defeated Sisseton in girls basketball action held at the Arena, 44-34. The five starters scored all of the points with Audrey Wanner and Katie Koehler each having nine, Carly Wheeting eight and Ashley Gibbs three.

Alyssa Magnuson led the Redmen with 11 points.

Groton made 32 percent of its field goals, was 15 of 22 from the line, had 31 rebounds with Wheeting having 12, eight assists with Kurtz having six, 20 steals with Gibbs having six, 21 turnovers and 16 fouls.

Sisseton made 31 percent of its field goals, was 10 of 16 from the line, had 27 rebounds, 26 turnovers, 20 fouls, 14 steals and five assists.

Sisseton won the junior varisty game, 38-16. Gia Gengerke led Groton with eight followed by Marlee Jones and Jessica Bjerke with three each and Alexis Stange added two.

Sisseton won the C game, 25-9. Madison Sippel, Gia Gengerke, Taylor Holm and Jenny Doeden each had two points and Lexi Gustafson added a free throw.

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.

Concessions Manager Wanted

The Groton Area School District is seeking qualified applicants for a concessions manager for the 2015-2016 school year. Salary is \$50/event plus commission. Information and applications are available at www.grotonarea.com.

Golden LivingCenter-Groton is accepting applications for

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**Paid CNA Classes
Starting Feb. 2, 2015**

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1106 N 2nd St.
(605) 397-2365

Today in Weather History

1969: Minnesota experienced many winter storms throughout the month of 1969 where several people had died from heart attacks and auto accidents. Many roads were blocked or iced over several times during the month. Considerable snow during the month of January along with frequent periods of strong winds resulted in many days of blowing and drifting snow across northeast South Dakota. There were also many days with freezing rain. The most significant icing occurred on the 22nd and the 27th. There were numerous days where the traffic was at a standstill due to blocked roads and closed airports. Many school closings occurred throughout the month with many activities cancelled. Many rural roads went long periods without being opened resulting in hardships for farmers. Days of blowing snow were the 8th, 19th, 22nd, 23th, 24th, 26th, 27th, and 31st. Days of freezing rain were the 5th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th and the 22nd.

1911 - Tamarack, CA, was without snow the first eight days of the month, but by the end of January had been buried under 390 inches of snow, a record monthly total for the U.S. (The Weather Channel)

1949 - The temperature at San Antonio, TX, plunged to a record low of one degree below zero. Helena MT reached 42 degrees below zero. (David Ludlum)

1966 - A blizzard struck the northeastern U.S. When the storm came to an end, twenty inches of snow covered the ground at Washington D.C. (David Ludlum)

1982 - A snowstorm struck Missouri, Illinois and Indiana. Twenty-five inches of snow at Greenville IL, located east of Saint Louis, paralyzed the community. The storm left 4000 motorists stranded for two days. (David Ludlum)

1987 - A storm in the Pacific Northwest produced wind gusts to 85 mph in Oregon, and nearly two inches of rain in twelve hours in the Puget Sound area of Washington State. Ten inches of snow at Stampede Pass WA brought their total snow cover to 84 inches. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








1988 - Thirty-one cities in the central and northeastern U.S. reported new record high temperatures for the date, with many occurring during the early morning hours. Temperatures in western New York State reached the 60s early in the day. Strong northerly winds in the north central U.S. produced wind chill readings as cold as 60 degrees below zero in North Dakota. (National Weather Summary)

1989 - The barometric pressure at Norway, AK, reached 31.85 inches (1078.4 mb) establishing an all-time record for the North American Continent. The temperature at the time of the record was about 46 degrees below zero (The Weather Channel). Severe arctic cold began to invade the north central U.S. The temperature at Great Falls MT plunged 85 degrees in 36 hours. Valentine NE plummeted from a record high of 70 degrees to zero in just nine hours. Northwest winds gusted to 86 mph at Lander WY, and wind chill readings of 80 degrees below zero were reported in Montana. Sixty-four cities in the central U.S. reported record highs for the date as readings reached the 60s in Michigan and the 80s in Kansas. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - High winds in Montana on the 28th, gusting to 77 mph at Judith Gap, were followed by three days of snow. Heavy snow fell over northwest Montana, with up to 24 inches reported in the mountains. An avalanche covered the road near Essex with six feet of snow. Snow and high winds also plagued parts of the southwestern U.S. Winds gusted to 54 mph at Show Low AZ, and Flagstaff AZ was blanketed with eight inches of snow. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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TODAY	TONIGHT	SUNDAY	SUNDAY NIGHT	MONDAY	MONDAY NIGHT	TUESDAY
						
Patched Fog High: 23 °F ↓	Snow Low: -1 °F	Chance Snow High: 2 °F	Mostly Clear Low: -5 °F	Slight Chc Snow High: 20 °F	Mostly Cloudy Low: 10 °F	Chance Snow High: 22 °F



The Return of Snow & Cold

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weather.gov/Aberdeen



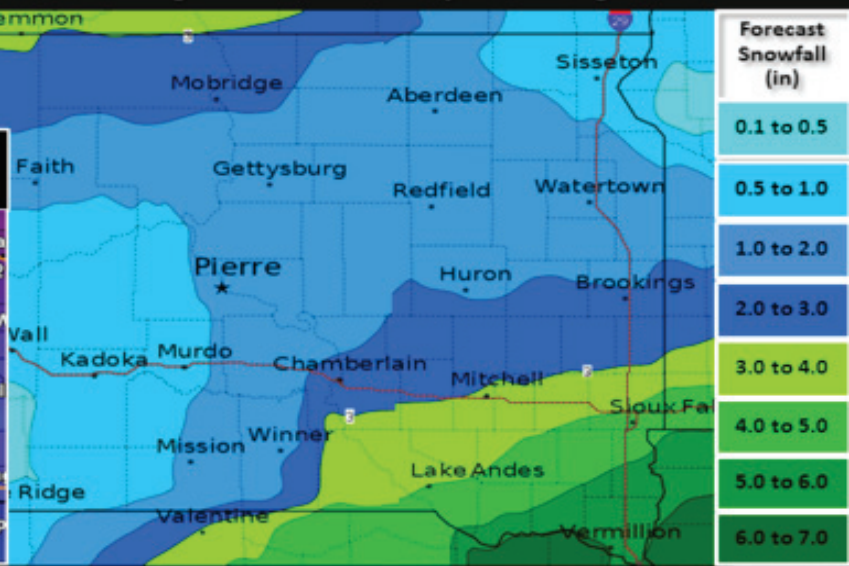
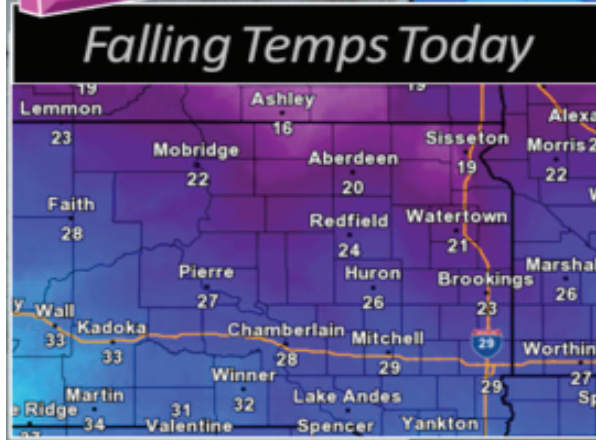
National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Wind Chills
-10° to -20°
Sunday Morning

Forecast Snowfall Snow Begins Later Today & Tonight



Published on: 01/31/2015 at 5:10AM

Winter returns to the region today. Temperatures will likely be at their warmest this morning, and will slowly fall this afternoon as arctic air pushes south. Light snow will also occur today, beginning later this afternoon and tonight. Overall, snow accumulations are expected to be in the one to two inch range, although some areas may see up to three inches. The heaviest snow will remain southeast of our area. The cold air combined with a stiff northerly wind will then result in wind chills of ten below to twenty below zero by Sunday morning.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 38.8 at 4:21 PM

Low: 13.9 at 3:40 AM

Wind Chill:

High Gust: 29 at 11:48 AM

Snow: 0.00

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 51° in 1924

Record Low: -32° in 1996

Average High: 24°F

Average Low: 2°F

Average Precip in Jan.: 0.46

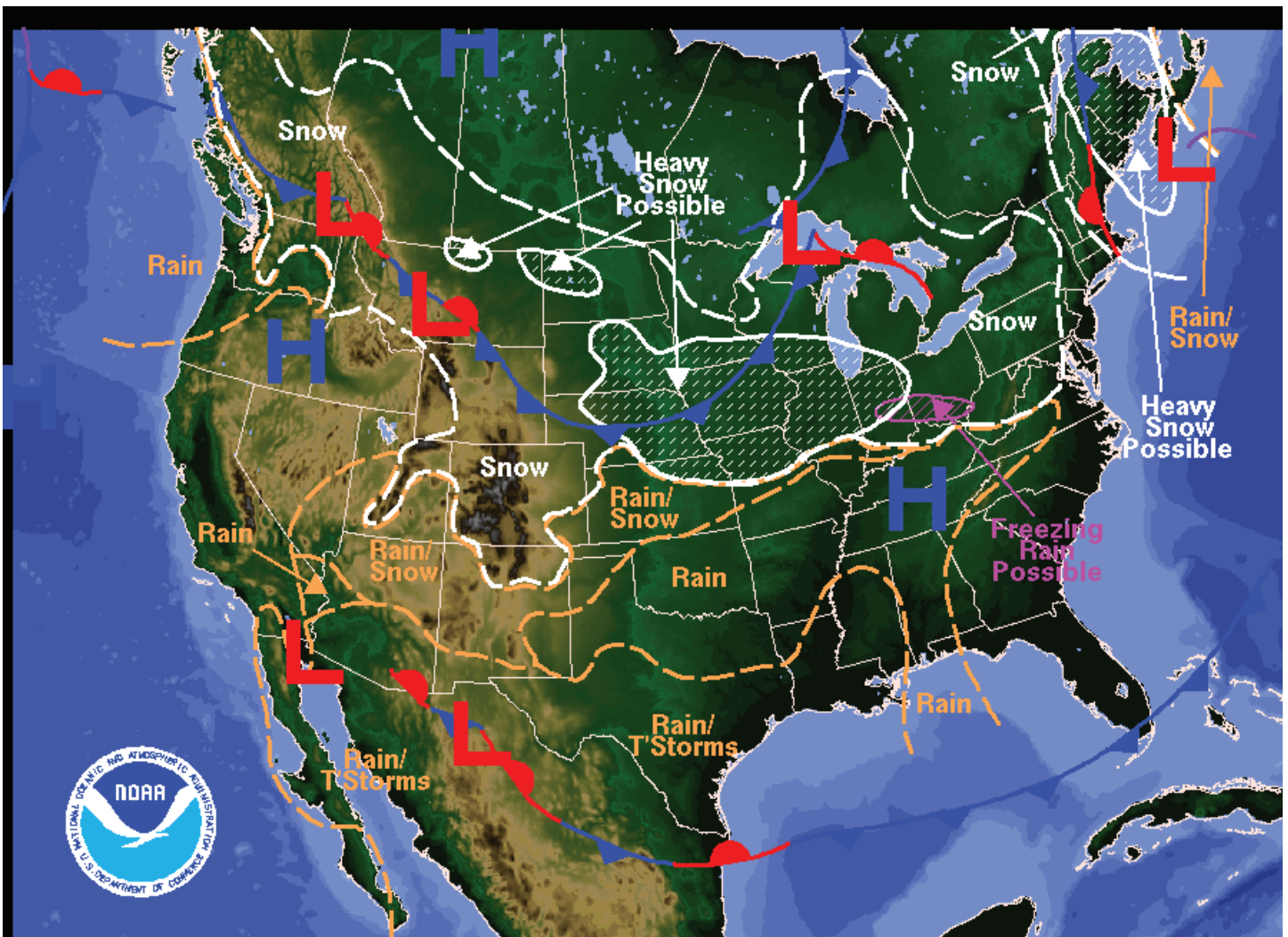
Precip to date in Jan.: 0.40

Average Precip to date: 0.46

Precip Year to Date: 0.40

Sunset Tonight: 5:39 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:55 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sat, Jan 31, 2015, issued 3:59 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Ryan based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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Divine Deliverance

Our God is a great and gracious God. We see His greatness when we look into the spacious skies at night and see stars that cannot be counted and know that there are galaxies beyond galaxies. We see His greatness when His Son walked among the sick and healed them, the hungry and fed them, the grieving and comforted them, the distraught and encouraged them.

We see His grace when we look at Jesus on the cross, His resurrection from the tomb when He defeated death, His offer of salvation, His promise of eternal life with Him and His invitation to call on Him "whenever" for "whatever" as long as it is in His name.

David said that God "rescued him because He delighted in him." Delighted here means "to be mindful of, to be attentive to, to keep, to protect, to have pleasure in..." Imagine the great value that God placed on David. He had a special place in God's heart and was delivered from God's wrath and his enemies.

In Christ we have the same deliverance. He takes God's wrath from us in the salvation He provides for us and He also rescues us from the power of Satan who would defeat us. He is with us now just as He was with David three thousand years ago.

Christ living in us gives us His presence and power. When we call upon Him and trust in Him, we can be assured that He "is attentive to us, will keep us, protect us and take great pleasure in us" because He delights in us just as He did David.

Prayer: We thank You, Father, for Your greatness and grace that delivers us, cleanses us and empowers us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 18:19 He also brought me out into a broad place; He delivered me because He delighted in me.

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News from the  Associated Press

Friday's Scores The Associated Press

BOYS BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Christian 57, Sunshine Bible Academy 54
Aberdeen Roncalli 89, Milbank Area 40
Breckenridge, Minn. 61, Sisseton 55
Chamberlain 54, Mobridge-Pollock 43
Clark/Willow Lake 53, Britton-Hecla 29
Faith 67, Newell 26
Highmore-Harrold 78, Iroquois 19
Hitchcock-Tulare 66, Faulkton 41
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 68, Winner 63
New Underwood 66, Edgemont 25
Pierre 55, Brandon Valley 31
Platte-Geddes 71, Colome 43
Rapid City Christian 68, Custer 48
Redfield/Doland 37, Deuel 19
Sioux Falls Christian 67, Dakota Valley 47
Sturgis 65, Belle Fourche 27
Todd County 64, McLaughlin 51
Wagner 47, Scotland 44
White River 90, Pine Ridge 71
Wolsey-Wessington 81, Kimball/White Lake 52
Yankton 72, Mitchell 60
Dakota Oyate Challenge
Consolation Semifinal
Crazy Horse 63, Marty Indian 62
Lower Brule 70, Takini 48
Semifinal
Crow Creek 58, Flandreau Indian 51
Tiospa Zina Tribal 62, Omaha Nation, Neb. 40
Yellowstone Trail Conference Tournament
First Round
Herreid/Selby Area 66, Eureka/Bowdle 51
Potter County 71, Edmunds Central 40

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Central 57, Harrisburg 40
Avon 39, Parkston 28
Clark/Willow Lake 53, Britton-Hecla 29
Dakota Christian 43, Corsica/Stickney 42
Dell Rapids St. Mary 44, Arlington 38
Deubrook 64, Elkton-Lake Benton 54
Elk Point-Jefferson 44, Tri-Valley 37
Estelline 43, Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 23
Faith 48, Newell 19
Faulkton 47, Hitchcock-Tulare 43

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Florence/Henry 63, Grant-Deuel 22
Groton Area 44, Sisseton 34
McLaughlin 87, Todd County 86, 2OT
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 58, Winner 38
Northwestern 57, Langford 14
Pierre 55, Brandon Valley 40
Platte-Geddes 49, Colome 31
Rapid City Central 64, Spearfish 57
Redfield/Doland 37, Deuel 19
Sioux Falls Christian 53, Dakota Valley 46
Sioux Falls O’Gorman 63, Sioux Falls Lincoln 60
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 58, Sioux Falls Washington 49
Sturgis 35, Belle Fourche 33
Sunshine Bible Academy 49, Aberdeen Christian 16
Tripp-Delmont/Armour 41, Burke/South Central 35
Wilmot 61, Great Plains Lutheran 46
Yankton 43, Mitchell 28
Big East Conference Tournament
Consolation Semifinal
Baltic 41, Parker 40
Flandreau 36, Howard 26
Semifinal
McCook Central/Montrose 57, Chester 37
Sioux Valley 52, Garretson 17
Cornbelt Conference Classic
Menno 36, Marion 31
Dakota Oyate Challenge
Consolation Semifinal
Flandreau Indian 66, Takini 26
Lower Brule 64, Crazy Horse 23
Semifinal
Omaha Nation, Neb. 64, Tiospa Zina Tribal 59

Father of 1st known surviving US quintuplets dies

REGINA GARCIA CANO, Associated Press

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Andrew Fischer was a stock clerk earning less than \$100 a week in 1963 when a doctor explained why his pregnant wife’s belly had grown so large: She was about to give birth to five babies, who would become the first known surviving quintuplets born in the U.S.

Fischer, whose family eventually grew to 11 children, died in a nursing home Thursday in South Dakota, according to Schriver’s Memorial Mortuary and Crematory in Aberdeen. He was 89.

Fischer said he “shook” and his wife, Mary Ann, started to cry when an X-ray revealed the news. A few days later, on Sept. 14, 1963, their family doubled in size when she gave birth two months early to four girls and a boy.

“I don’t know how, but I’m sure my wife and I will be able to take care of them, the same as the five others,” he said at the time.

Media swarmed the hospital and the Fischers’ modest farmhouse after the quintuplets were born. President John F. Kennedy sent a telegram to Mary Ann Fischer, and the Saturday Evening Post featured photos of the babies — Mary Ann, Mary Catherine, Mary Margaret, Mary Magdalene and James Andrew — on its cover.

Gifts poured in for the quintuplets and their parents, including diaper service, baby clothes and college

scholarships, along with insurance policies for a new 17-room mansion a mile outside of Aberdeen, a city of about 27,000 people in northeast South Dakota.

The couple signed a five-year exclusive contract with a publishing house for coverage of the family in December 1963, with the bulk of that money going into a trust fund for the couple's children. After the quintuplets, the couple had one more child, making the couple parents to nine girls and two boys.

The couple divorced in the 1980s, and Mary Ann Fischer, the children's mother, died in December 2012, at age 79.

The family was fiercely private. Attorneys for the family for years received regular requests to interview the family, all of which were turned down.

"I would rather go into the delivery room than come down here," Mary Ann Fischer said as she faced 30 reporters at her first news conference following the birth of the babies.

The Associated Press was unable to reach any of the Fischer children or other family members Friday.

Senate committee passes public breast-feeding legislation

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Nursing mothers may soon be able to breast-feed their children in any public or private location in South Dakota as long as they follow other state and local laws.

The Senate Health and Human Services Committee on Friday approved the proposal, which is aimed at addressing the concerns of breast-feeding advocates in South Dakota who say that the practice isn't protected.

"It's being handled in different ways depending on the situation, depending on where it is" currently, Republican Rep. Lynne DiSanto, who is sponsoring the proposal in the House, said in an interview.

Republican Sen. Phil Jensen, the bill's Senate sponsor, said the proposal is "about fairness and ... about freedom."

Advocates told the committee that infants are healthier if they are breast-fed and said that women shouldn't be made to feel scared or stigmatized when they feed their babies in public.

Winner resident Rachel Vogt said when she used to visit her daughter's day care to feed her, Lillace's provider didn't allow it. Vogt was forced to go out to her car to breast-feed her child until she eventually decided to switch to a friendlier childcare service.

"I just wanted to come in and feed my hungry child," Vogt said. "I felt discriminated against."

Sen. Jim Bradford, D-Pine Ridge, called the proposal to address those concerns "a no-brainer."

But Republican Sen. Craig Tieszen successfully changed the measure to require nursing mothers to obey state and municipal laws, mostly aimed at public decency. His amendment specifies that local governments couldn't ban public breast-feeding as a safeguard. Tieszen said he's a supporter of breast-feeding and that his changes would help the measure pass through the full Legislature.

"The last thing I want ... is to be seen as the enemy of breastfeeding, because it couldn't be any different than that," he said.

Under the original plan, nursing mothers could breast-feed anywhere they were legally allowed to be. Jensen said he would have preferred the original, broader proposal, but breast-feeding advocates signed off on the compromise.

Veteran South Dakota radio newsman Gene Hetland retires

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls radio listeners are without the trusted voice of newsman Gene Hetland for the first time in 38 years.

The 63-year-old started at KSOO-AM in August 1976 and retired Friday, which was proclaimed Gene Hetland Day in the city.

He's on the short list of South Dakota radio news directors who started their careers in the 1970s. Jerry

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Oster at WNAX-AM in Yankton says Hetland knows how to cut to the bottom line of stories quickly. David J. Law at KXLG-FM in Watertown says Hetland's good at putting stories together because he knows how to build relationships.

Hetland grew up on a farm near Montrose, went to South Dakota State and worked at KIJV-AM in Huron before starting his morning shift on KSOO.

New representative wins 'top gun' award in shooting contest

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Freshman legislator Mathew Wollmann is the South Dakota Legislature's "top gun." The Madison representative scored two perfect rounds Thursday at an annual legislative shooting contest, hosted by the attorney general's office and the Division of Criminal Investigation.

With the highest possible score, firing 10 shots into the center of the target, Wollmann narrowly beat fellow Republican Rep. Herman Otten.

"I think this fits South Dakota ... pretty well," Wollmann said of the contest, which was part of a fundraiser for the Court Appointed Special Advocate program.

Wollmann's victory cements the House's dominance in the contest for the fourth year in a row. House Speaker Dean Wink took the title last year.

"I hope he doesn't hold it against me on the House floor for speaking privileges," Wollmann said with a laugh.

Sen. Billie Sutton, D-Burke, urged more of his Senate colleagues Thursday afternoon to join the contest and end the House's winning streak.

"That's four years in a row," he said on the chamber's floor Friday. "Next year maybe we have to do a little practice shooting beforehand."

The event was held at the George S. Mickelson Criminal Justice Center, which houses the attorney general's office and the Division of Criminal Investigation. New officers in the state undergo law enforcement training at the facility, which also offers advanced instruction.

Wollmann walked through door of the shooting range holding his target Thursday and was greeted by his colleagues' applause.

"Our new champion," Wink said.

Seneca man dies in one-vehicle crash near Faulkton

SENECA, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol says a Seneca man died Friday after his pickup truck crashed near Faulkton.

Forty-two-year-old Lorne Weber was driving westbound on 172nd Street. His truck hit a field approach and rolled. He was not wearing a seatbelt.

Authorities pronounced Weber dead at the scene. No other vehicles were involved.

Panel approves de-funded rural teacher bill

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A bill aimed at addressing South Dakota's rural teacher shortage survived its first test on Friday, but sponsor Rep. Thomas Holmes has to figure out how to pay for it.

The House Appropriations Committee approved a proposal to offer tuition assistance to certain rural school employees to get teaching degrees in South Dakota if they agree to teach in their same school district for 5 years.

"Small, isolated school districts in this state ... have difficulty attracting and retaining teachers," Holmes, a Sioux Falls Republican, said in an interview. "Many times they hire someone, they'll leave after a year, and it's difficult for (the schools)."

But the committee removed the proposal's \$1.5 million appropriation. They balked at the price tag and

said removing the dollar amount would keep the bill alive to potentially find financing later.

Wade Pogany, executive director of the Associated School Boards of South Dakota, urged the committee not to immediately discard the idea. He said Holmes' proposal is one of many ideas that will pop up during the legislative session aimed at addressing the state's well-known teacher shortage.

Holmes' proposal covers college tuition for professionals, such as classroom assistants, already working in rural schools. Under the plan, a professional would get a degree from either a public or private South Dakota college and get their tuition covered if they returned to their community to work.

The program is modeled after the state's existing Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship, which focuses on special education, math and science teachers, Holmes said.

The proposal would allow up to 40 teachers-in-training a year. Republican Rep. Dan Dryden said he supports the bill's intent, but said \$1.5 million from the state's general fund would be hard to find.

"It's still alive. That's the big thing," Holmes said after the hearing. "The concept is one they like — that's positive, we're helping kids."

Dell Rapids man gets 60 years for role in botched robbery

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A 21-year-old man who planned a drug robbery that left a former business partner dead has been sentenced to 60 years in prison.

Kevin Rice, of Dell Rapids, was sentenced Friday morning in Sioux Falls. Rice pleaded guilty to first-degree manslaughter in July for his role in the robbery plot against 20-year-old Jordan LeBeau.

Rice admitted to showing Watertown teens Brian Anderson and Trevor Kruthoff where LeBeau lived. He also admitted to giving them the handgun used in the murder.

Rice had been a friend and business partner in LeBeau's Dell Rapids auto shop. The shop served as a cover for marijuana sales, in which LeBeau and Rice were involved.

Prosecutors dropped about two dozen charges against Rice in exchange for his plea and agreeing to testify against his co-defendants.

AP News in Brief

No mention of knife, ransom and blood: Japan's media self-censor during hostage crisis

TOKYO (AP) — Images or mentions of knives, ransom or blood — or anything else that can be seen alluding to the hostage crisis involving two Japanese in Syria — have been omitted. Some anime and other entertainment programs are altering, canceling or postponing episodes violating those sensitivities — typical of the kind of self-restraint shown here to avoid controversy.

The fates of a Japanese journalist and Jordanian military pilot were still unknown Saturday after the latest purported deadline for a possible prisoner swap lapsed with no further messages from the Islamic State group holding them captive. Another Japanese hostage has purportedly been killed.

The restraint by broadcasters and other media has spilled over into politics as opposition lawmakers, mindful of the crisis, toned down their criticism of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and his team. When dozens of lawmakers appeared in their traditional kimonos this week to mark the opening of the annual session, they were attacked on blogs and social networks for looking too festive and insensitive.

The hostage crisis broke out on Jan. 20, with the release of an online video showing the two hostages with a black masked man wielding a knife, demanding \$200 million ransom in exchange for their lives.

Not wanting to be seen as insensitive — a huge faux pas in a society that holds consideration for others in high esteem — Japanese broadcasters quickly screened out any buzzwords and related images, all in the name of "jishuku," or self-imposed control.

Mitt Romney out: Former GOP nominee ends 3-week flirtation with another White House run

WASHINGTON (AP) — He insists he could win, but Mitt Romney has stepped out of the 2016 presidential contest in favor of the “next generation of Republican leaders” following a three-week fact-finding effort that revealed significant resistance to a third campaign.

The 2012 Republican presidential nominee on Friday formally ended his flirtation with another White House bid and encouraged his supporters to seek another candidate from the crowded field of prospective GOP contenders. Aides said it was a deeply personal and even painful decision for Romney.

“I believe that one of our next generation of Republican leaders, one who may not be as well-known as I am today, one who has not yet taken their message across the country, one who is just getting started, may well emerge as being better able to defeat the Democrat nominee,” Romney told supporters on a conference call. “In fact, I expect and hope that to be the case.”

The remark was both a recognition of his own limitations and an indirect swipe at the man who created the urgency behind Romney’s brief flirtation with a third presidential campaign: former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, the son and brother of former presidents who is speeding toward a campaign of his own.

Bush and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie would have served as Romney’s most likely rivals for the support of the GOP establishment, and both men felt an immediate impact from Romney’s announcement. It sparked a rush of activity by Romney loyalists — operatives and donors alike — suddenly freed to support another White House hopeful as the crowded field begins to take shape.

Islamic State group militants target Iraq’s libraries in war on culture, learning in Mosul

BAGHDAD (AP) — When Islamic State group militants invaded the Central Library of Mosul earlier this month, they were on a mission to destroy a familiar enemy: other people’s ideas.

Residents say the extremists smashed the locks that had protected the biggest repository of learning in the northern Iraq town, and loaded around 2,000 books — including children’s stories, poetry, philosophy and tomes on sports, health, culture and science — into six pickup trucks. They left only Islamic texts.

The rest?

“These books promote infidelity and call for disobeying Allah. So they will be burned,” a bearded militant in traditional Afghani two-piece clothing told residents, according to one man living nearby who spoke to The Associated Press. The man, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he feared retaliation, said the Islamic State group official made his impromptu address as others stuffed books into empty flour bags.

Since the Islamic State group seized a third of Iraq and neighboring Syria, they have sought to purge society of everything that doesn’t conform to their violent interpretation of Islam. They already have destroyed many archaeological relics, deeming them pagan, and even Islamic sites considered idolatrous. Increasingly books are in the firing line.

NYC to pay \$5 million to kin of man killed in ‘Mafia cops’ case; he was mistaken for mobster

NEW YORK (AP) — Nicholas Guido was showing off his new car outside his mother’s home on Christmas Day 1986 when he was gunned down because he’d been mistaken for a mobster with the same name. The bad information, prosecutors said, came from two decorated police detectives who would later be convicted of moonlighting as hit men for the mob.

Twenty-nine years later, the city has reached a \$5 million settlement with Guido’s family in part of the fallout from one of the most stunning police corruption cases in New York history.

“This tragic matter involves the murder of an innocent man. After evaluating all the facts, it was deter-

mined that settling the case was in the city's best interest," the Law Department said in a statement. The family's lawyer didn't immediately return a call Friday night seeking comment.

Guido's mother, Pauline Pipitone, was washing dishes after Christmas dinner when gunfire erupted outside her Brooklyn home.

She ran over to the car and found her 26-year-old son sitting up at the wheel, she testified at the ex-detectives' 2006 racketeering trial. "I went to touch his hand, and he must have just died," she said. "His fingertips were cold."

Is he dead? Philippines awaits answer of costly commando raid on most-wanted terror suspects

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The cellphone message of the Filipino police commandos to their base was triumphant: "Mike 1 bingo," a code meaning they have killed one of Southeast Asia's most-wanted terror suspects, Malaysian Zulkifli bin Hir, also known as Marwan.

But the euphoria among police generals monitoring the Jan. 25 dawn assault in a southern swampland was brief.

As daybreak lifted their night cover, the young commandos came under intense rebel fire, trapped in the marshy fringes of Mamasapano town, a Muslim rebel stronghold about 2-3 kilometers (1.2-1.8 miles) from where backup police forces waited. Unable to carry Marwan's body, one of the commandos chopped off his finger and another took pictures as proof of his death, according to police officials.

Another policeman kept frantically calling for reinforcements by radio, but standby forces failed to penetrate the battle scenes and the pleas for help eventually vanished.

"There was radio silence, a very long silence," Chief Superintendent Noli Talino, who helped oversee the operation, said in Friday's eulogy, his voice cracking.

China's growing embrace of snow and ice sports helping drive bid for 2022 Winter Olympics

CHONGLI, China (AP) — Clad in neon-green from head to toe, Chinese snowboarder He Qiang is part of a growing cohort of middle-class enthusiasts in a country with little tradition of winter sports but that is now seeking to host the 2022 Winter Olympics.

The 28-year-old escapes his office job in the Chinese capital for the skiing mecca of Chongli, nestled in mountains near the Great Wall where Beijing hopes to stage Nordic skiing and other events in its bid to become the first city to hold both winter and summer Olympics.

"Snowboarding is just such an awesome feeling," He said, as a rare snow storm swirled around him and frigid wind gusts whistled along the edges of his ski lift's wind shield. "I can only imagine how much faster that will grow if we win the Winter Olympics."

He says more friends are joining him on the three-hour bus ride to the sprawling Genting Resort with its 70 kilometers (45 miles) of trails is one of three key sites proposed to hold the games. Work has already begun on a high-speed rail line that will reduce travel time from Beijing's northern suburbs to just 50 minutes.

Victory for Beijing would mean overcoming early concerns over region's general lack of natural snow and its chronic air pollution. Once considered an outlier as host, Beijing now appears to be the front-runner following the withdrawal of other contenders and a thoroughly well prepared bid effort.

Dueling narratives surround hip-hop music mogul 'Suge' Knight in deadly run-in with law

LOS ANGELES (AP) — As Marion "Suge" Knight sat jailed on suspicion of murder, dueling narratives cast him as attacker and victim in the hip-hop music mogul's latest and most serious run-in with the law.

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Sheriff's deputies said he hit and killed a man with his pickup truck, injured another and then fled. His lawyer said he was an innocent victim who accidentally ran over his friend and the other man as he tried to escape an attack.

He turned himself in and was booked on Friday.

The incident was the latest in a long line of brushes with death and the law for the 49-year-old founder of Death Row Records, one of the genre's leading labels.

Knight started the label that helped solidify West Coast rap with Dr. Dre, who had been a member of the legendary group N.W.A. The label also launched the career of Snoop Dogg and had Tupac Shakur in the last months of his life.

Balloon crew surpasses world duration record by spending more than 138 hours aloft

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A pair of American and Russian pilots has traveled farther and longer in a gas balloon than anyone in history, trying to eliminate any remaining debate over a century of records in long-distance ballooning.

The Two Eagles pilots surpassed the distance and duration records that have held since the 1970s and 1980s, and were aiming Friday for a safe landing somewhere on a beach in Mexico's Baja California peninsula.

Troy Bradley of Albuquerque and Leonid Tiukhtyaev (too-kh-TY'-yev) of Russia lifted off from Japan Sunday morning, and by Friday, they beat what's considered the "holy grail" of ballooning achievements, the 137-hour duration record set in 1978 by the Double Eagle crew of Ben Abruzzo, Maxie Anderson and Larry Newman in the first balloon flight across the Atlantic.

By Friday afternoon, the Two Eagles team had been in the air more than 143 hours and was smashing the distance record, having traveled more than 6,000 miles across the Pacific Ocean.

"The technology has improved so much in the last couple of years. I don't think there's going to be any question about the records," said Katie Griggs, a regional director with the nonprofit Balloon Federation of America.

Cosby's show in Ohio draws a few protesters outside theater; comedian gets standing ovations

SANDUSKY, Ohio (AP) — Bill Cosby's stand-up tour has stopped in northern Ohio, where it drew several protesters before the show. The comedian himself received standing ovations before and after his performance.

Police in Sandusky had extra officers at the theater while Cosby performed Friday night.

The 77-year-old face sexual assault accusations from at least 15 women, with some of the claims dating back decades. He denies the allegations and has never been charged with a crime.

Bev Penfield was holding a sign reading "Respect women, rape is no joke." She tells The Blade (<http://bit.ly/1683JJDs>) she felt she had to be there. Protester Cece Hesch says it's about valuing entertainment over "doing the right thing."

Cosby's performances in other states have drawn protests; some have been canceled.

Serena Williams beats Sharapova to win 6th Australian Open, 19th Grand Slam singles title

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Serena Williams won her 19th Grand Slam title, continued her unbeaten run in six Australian Open finals and extended her decade-long domination of Maria Sharapova with a commanding 6-3, 7-6 (5) win on Saturday night.

Williams, coughing frequently and still affected by a recent cold, controlled the first set around a rain

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delay in the sixth game, when the match was stopped for 13 minutes for the roof to be closed.

Top-ranked Williams returned from the break and fired an ace to start a run of six straight points. She was broken while serving for the set but broke Sharapova for a third time to clinch it.

She is now second only to Steffi Graf (22) on the list of major winners in the Open era.

The 33-year-old Williams, the oldest winner of the Australian women's title in the Open era, won the first six points of the second set and seemed on course for another lopsided victory before Sharapova hit back in a gripping second set.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, Jan. 31, the 31st day of 2015. There are 334 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Jan. 31, 1865, the U.S. House of Representatives joined the Senate in passing the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution abolishing slavery, sending it to states for ratification. (The amendment was adopted in Dec. 1865.) Gen. Robert E. Lee was named general-in-chief of the Confederate States Army by President Jefferson Davis.

On this date:

In 1606, Guy Fawkes, convicted of treason for his part in the "Gunpowder Plot" against the English Parliament and King James I, was executed.

In 1797, composer Franz Schubert was born in Vienna.

In 1915, entertainer and TV personality Garry Moore was born in Baltimore.

In 1929, revolutionary Leon Trotsky and his family were expelled from the Soviet Union.

In 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Gold Reserve Act.

In 1945, Pvt. Eddie Slovik, 24, became the first U.S. soldier since the Civil War to be executed for desertion as he was shot by an American firing squad in France.

In 1958, the United States entered the Space Age with its first successful launch of a satellite into orbit, Explorer I.

In 1961, NASA launched Ham the Chimp aboard a Mercury-Redstone rocket from Cape Canaveral; Ham was recovered safely from the Atlantic Ocean following his 16 1/2-minute suborbital flight.

In 1971, astronauts Alan Shepard, Edgar Mitchell and Stuart Roosa blasted off aboard Apollo 14 on a mission to the moon.

In 1980, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands announced she would abdicate on her birthday the following April, to be succeeded by her daughter, Princess Beatrix.

In 1990, McDonald's Corp. opened its first fast-food restaurant in Moscow.

In 2000, an Alaska Airlines MD-83 jet crashed into the Pacific Ocean off Port Hueneme (wy-NEE'-mee), California, killing all 88 people aboard.

Ten years ago: Jury selection began in Santa Maria, California, for Michael Jackson's child molestation trial. (Jackson was later acquitted.) SBC Communications Inc. announced it was acquiring AT&T Corp. for \$16 billion.

Five years ago: The annual World Economic Forum concluded a five-day meeting in Davos, Switzerland, with widespread agreement that a fragile recovery was under way but no consensus on what was going to spur job growth. Roger Federer beat Andy Murray 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (11) for a fourth Australian Open championship. The AFC defeated the NFC 41-34 in the Pro Bowl, played ahead of the Super Bowl for the first time. Beyonce became the first woman to win six Grammy Awards in one night; Taylor Swift won four Grammys, including album of the year, for "Fearless."

One year ago: The long-delayed, controversial Keystone XL oil pipeline cleared a major hurdle toward approval as the U.S. State Department reported no major environmental objections to the proposed \$7 billion project. A week of peace talks aimed at stemming Syria's civil war ended in Geneva with no concrete progress.

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Today's Birthdays: Actress Carol Channing is 94. Composer Philip Glass is 78. Former Interior Secretary James Watt is 77. Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands, the former queen regent, is 77. Actor Stuart Margolin is 75. Actress Jessica Walter is 74. Former U.S. Rep. Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., is 74. Blues singer-musician Charlie Musselwhite is 71. Actor Glynn Turman is 69. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Nolan Ryan is 68. Actor Jonathan Banks (TV: "Breaking Bad") is 68. Singer-musician Harry Wayne Casey (KC and the Sunshine Band) is 64. Rock singer Johnny Rotten is 59. Actress Kelly Lynch is 56. Actor Anthony LaPaglia is 56. Singer-musician Lloyd Cole is 54. Rock musician Al Jaworski (Jesus Jones) is 49. Actress Minnie Driver is 45. Actress Portia de Rossi is 42. Actor-comedian Bobby Moynihan is 38. Actress Kerry Washington is 38. Singer Justin Timberlake is 34. Actor Tyler Ritter is 30. Country singer Tyler Hubbard (Florida Georgia Line) is 28. Folk-rock singer-musician Marcus Mumford (Mumford and Sons) is 28.

Thought for Today: "We live in a moment of history where change is so speeded up that we begin to see the present only when it is already disappearing." - R.D. Laing, Scottish psychiatrist (1927-1989).