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The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **OPEN**

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

Saturday, Feb. 28

Birthdays: Meagan Stearns, Shirlee Briggs
State Wrestling at Rapid City
Robotics (State VRC Championship at Mitchell Technical Institute)
9:00 am: Boys 7th Grade at Britton Jamboree

Sunday, March 1

Birthdays: Delores Leonhardt, Mitchell Locke, Alicia Clocksene
Anniv: Craig & Tasha Dunker
9 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Sunday School
9:15 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Fellowship
10 a.m.: Worship with Communion at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Pierpont.
10:15 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran worship with Holy Communion
3 p.m.: Di Dessert Theater at Elementary School Gym
3 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Open Gym for Grades JK-8th Grade
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.: Open Gym for Grades 9 and up

Monday, March 2

Birthdays: Lisa Howard, Mandy Hansen, Megan McKiver, Rick Schelle
6:30 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study
10:00 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study

Mark Malmberg, DDS
19 North 6th St.

Oakes, N.D.
701-742-3401



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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Pray, Hawkins in the running at State Wrestling

Trevor Pray and Kelby Hawkins are still in the running at the state wrestling tournament in Rapid City. Both remain undefeated in the double elimination tournament. Tyler Scott, Wyatt Locke and Brandyn Anderson were eliminated yesterday. The brackets are printed on the following pages.

Death Notice: Jeanette Pigors

Jeanette Pigors, 93, of Aberdeen died Thursday, February 26, 2015 at Avera St. Lukes Hospital in Aberdeen. Services are pending with Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

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.



Sun Dial Manor, Bristol, is hiring CNA's for FT, PT, PRN. Competitive wages/benefits. EOE, DFW. To apply call Connie at 605/492-3615 or go to www.sundialmanor.com.



Sun Dial Manor, Bristol, is seeking an RN or LPN for FT, PT, PRN. May be eligible for **\$10,000 Recruitment Bonus** along with competitive wages/benefits. EOE, DFW. To apply call Connie at 605/492-3615 or go to www.sundialmanor.com.

2015 Groton Area Elementary Kindergarten Screening

March 2 – March 6

Parents of children ages 3-6 not yet attending school are asked to contact Heidi Krueger at the Groton Area Elementary School during school hours at 397-2317 to set up a screening time.

Kindergarten Screening will take place at the Groton Area High School Gymnasium. Please park and use the east entrance to the gym.

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2015 SDHSAA Class B Championships



Trevor Pray
GRO, 33-5, 10

Jared Fitzgerald
GAR, 29-19, 10

Jackson Nockels
KWLP, 37-24, 9

Chance Stuwe
POCO, 34-22, 10

Luke Heninger
STCO, 46-2, 9

Landon Sivertsen
MHH, 28-25, 9

Chase Andersen
PA, 48-13, 10

Cade Shoemaker
WEB, 24-18, 7

Stas Sutera
BHS, 33-5, 10

Alex Kruske
LEDE, 16-13, 9

Carsten McNeil
R-D, 31-11, 8

Trevor Stene
ALHU, 29-24, 8

Jordan Sehr
CANT, 40-6, 12

Jeremy Cook
TZ, 24-15, 11

Hunter Peterson
PHAR, 35-7, 8

Ben Soukup
WAGN, 33-17, 10

Pray, GRO
Dec 5-2

Pray, GRO
Dec 3-1

Nockels, KWLP
Dec 3-2

Heninger, STCO
Fall 3:42

Heninger, STCO
Dec 13-6

Andersen, PA
Fall 3:32

Sutera, BHS
Fall 3:43

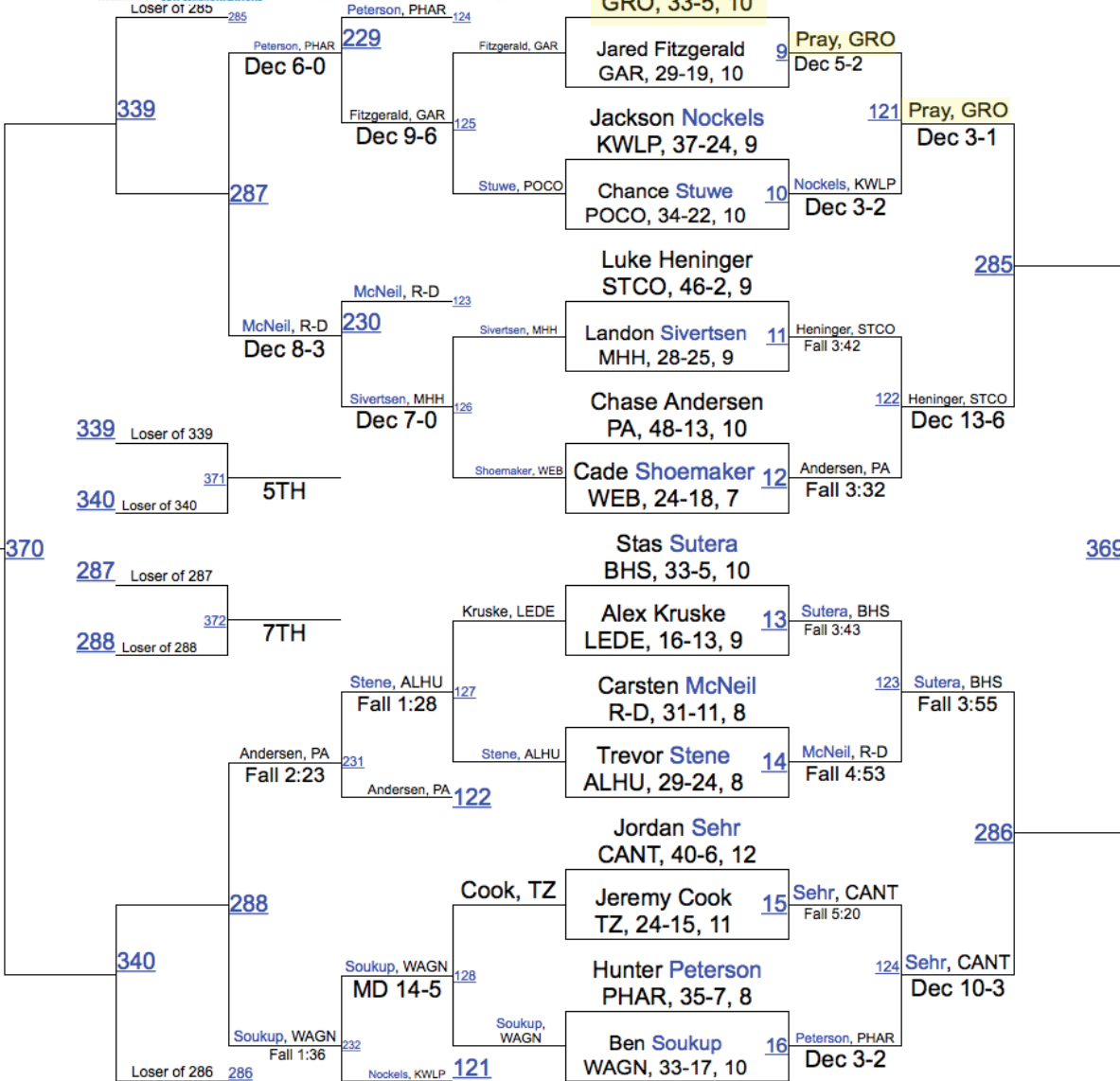
Sutera, BHS
Fall 3:55

McNeil, R-D
Fall 4:53

Sehr, CANT
Fall 5:20

Sehr, CANT
Dec 10-3

Peterson, PHAR
Dec 3-2



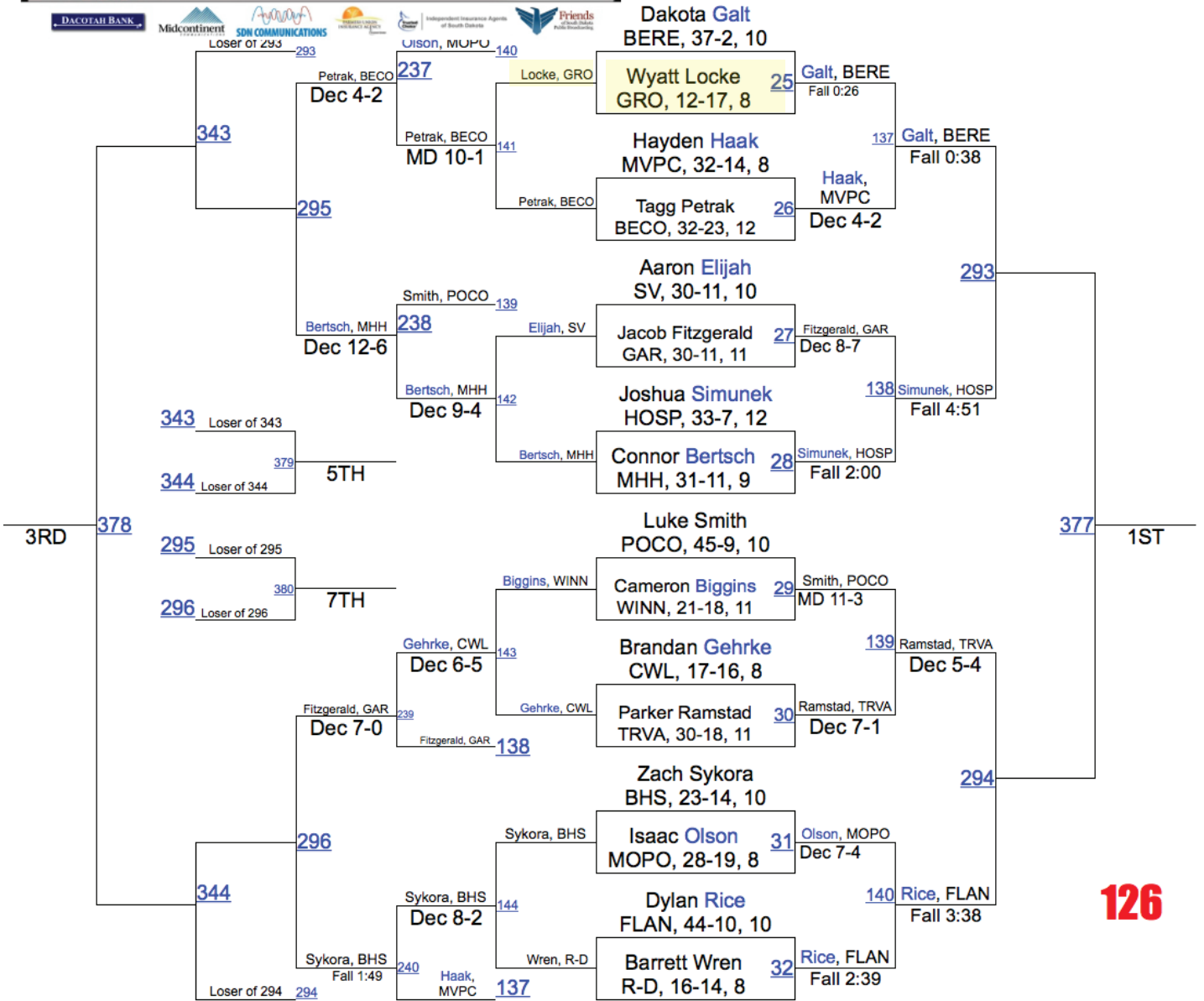
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2015 SDHSAA Class B Championships



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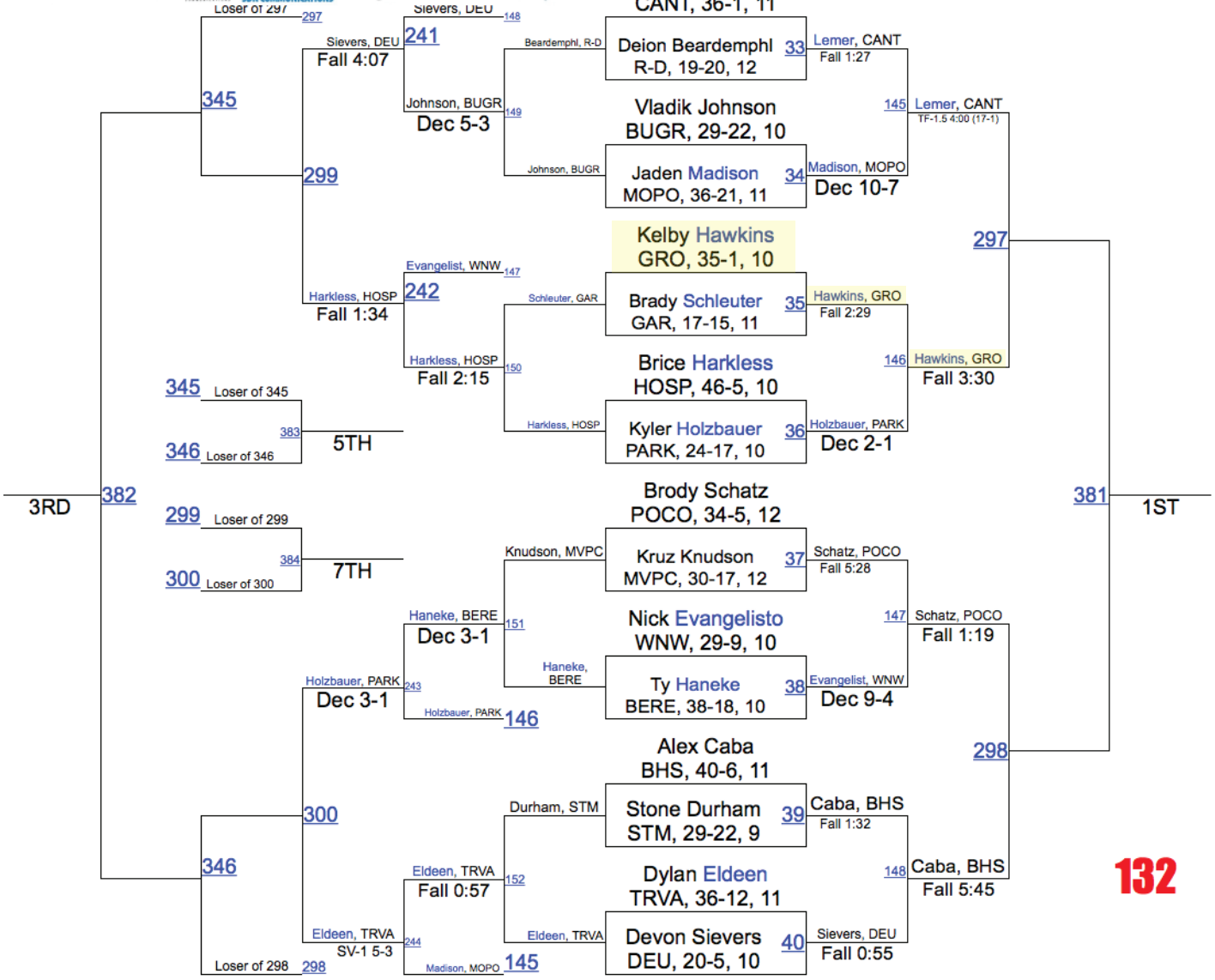
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2015 SDHSAA Class B Championships



John Lemer
CANT, 36-1, 11



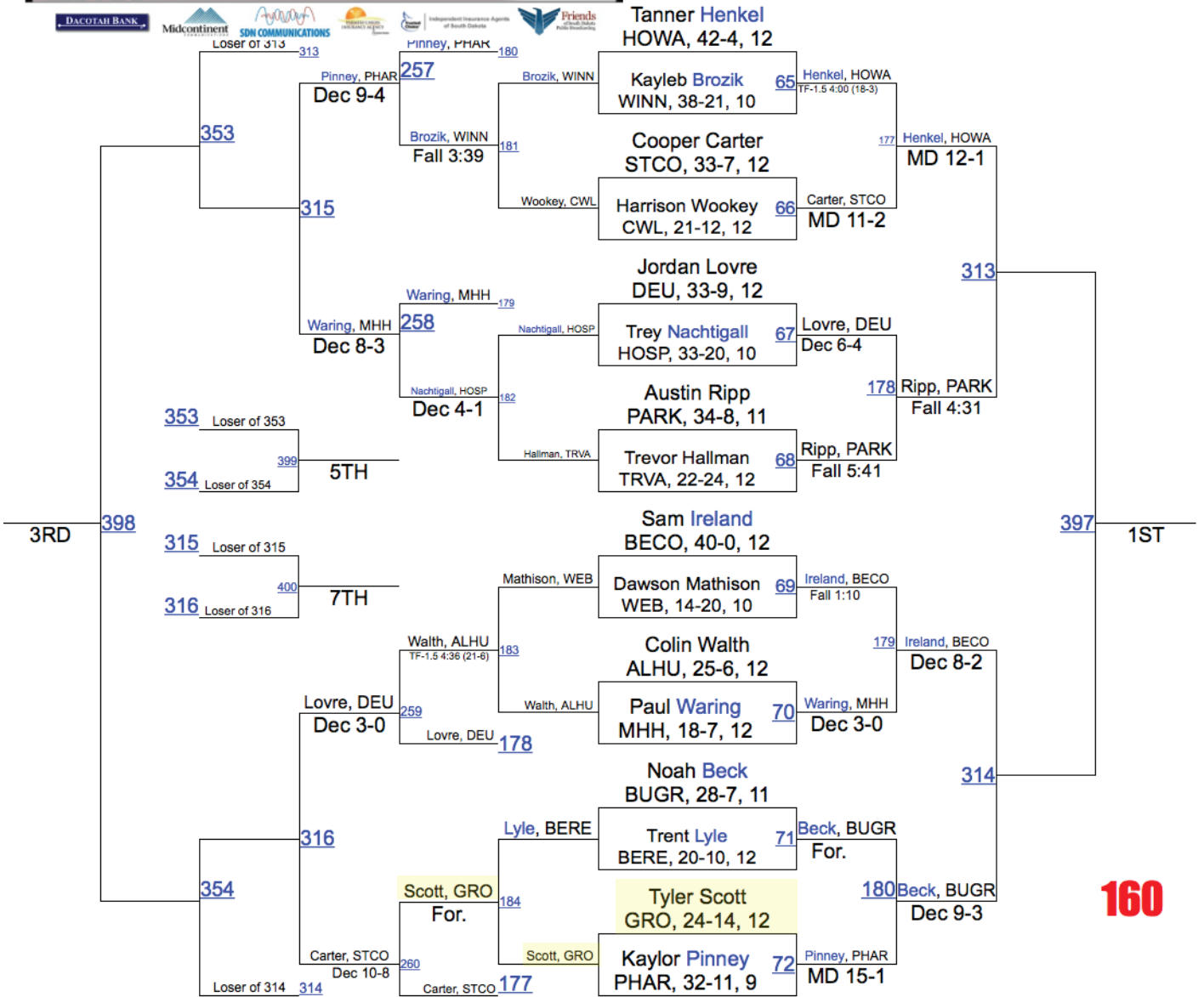
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2015 SDHSAA Class B Championships



The Life of Hilda Kosel

Funeral services for Hilda L. Kosel, 101, of Mound City, SD, are 10:30 AM, Monday, March 2, 2015, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Mound City. Burial will be in Mound City Cemetery. Visitation is 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM, with a prayer service at 7:00 PM, Sunday, March 1, 2015, at Kesling Funeral Home, Mobridge. Hilda died Thursday, February 26, 2015, at Mobridge Regional Hospital.

Hilda was born on September 18, 1913, in Zeeland, North Dakota, to Henry and Marie (Huber) Reiner. Being the oldest of the three daughters and five brothers, Hilda always stood beside her mom helping with all the family chores and to help raise her siblings.

Hilda was baptized and confirmed in German at the Zion Lutheran Church in Mound City and attended grade school in Zeeland.

On November 29, 1934, Hilda was united in marriage to Paul Kosel at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Mound City. In addition to being a long-standing member of the church she also acted as the church organist, was a member of the Ladies Aid, and they both were janitors of the church.

They lived on the family (Kosel) farm 2 1/2 miles north of Mound City. In 1962 they moved into Mound City while owning and operating Kosel's U-Save Grocery Store. Hilda was also the town clerk for the city for 15 years.

Hilda had many hobbies. Her yard and flowers were very important to her and she won many purple ribbons. She did lots of sewing, crocheting, quilting, crafts and she loved to play the organ and sing.

Hilda was blessed to celebrate her 100th birthday with family and friends in September of 2013. She celebrated her life with her sons, Milton (Shirley) Kosel of Sioux Falls, SD, and Jerome (Donna) Kosel of Mobridge; her daughter, Sandra Bauer of Mound city; 10 grandchildren (including Paul (Tina) Kosel of Groton; 25 great-grandchildren (including Julianna and Jeslyn Kosel, Groton); 3 great-great-grandchildren; her sister, Ruth Walker of Buffalo, WY; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Paul in 1975; her brothers, Eddie, Harold, Ervin, Norbert and Marvin Reiner; her sister, Lorraine Volzke; her grandson, Cody Milliken; and her son-in-law, Carter Bauer.



Today in Weather History

1900 - A massive storm spread record snows from Kansas to New York State. Snowfall totals ranged up to 17.5 inches at Springfield IL and 43 inches at Rochester NY, with up to 60 inches in the Adirondack Mountains of New York State. (David Ludlum)

1952 - An intense storm brought coastal sections of southeastern Massachusetts to a halt, stranding 3000 motorists on Lower Cape, and leaving ten thousand homes on the Cape without electricity. Winds gusting to 72 mph created mountainous snowdrifts of the 18 inches of snow which buried Nantucket and Hyannis. A barometric pressure reading of 29.02 inches was reported at the center of the storm. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A powerful storm produced severe thunderstorms in Louisiana and Mississippi early in the day. About mid morning a monstrous tornado touched down near Moselle MS and grew to a width of two miles as it passed near Laurel MS. The tornado traveled a distance of 40 miles killing six persons, injuring 350 others, and causing 28.5 million dollars damage. The tornado swept homes right off their foundations, and tossed eighteen wheel trucks about like toys. Strong straight line winds associated with the powerful storm system gusted to 70 mph at Jonesboro AR and Carbondale IL. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thunderstorms in California produced severe weather during the early morning hours. Strong thunderstorm winds, gusting to 74 mph, downed trees in the Sacramento area. Unseasonably mild weather prevailed in the northwestern U.S. The afternoon high of 71 degrees at Portland OR was a February record. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








1989 - Thunderstorms in the southeast corner of the nation produced winds gusts to 58 mph at Fort Lauderdale FL, and a total of seven inches of rain. Heavy snow whitened parts of the Northern Plateau and the Northern Rockies, with ten inches reported at Marion MT. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Showers and thunderstorms over the Southern Plains Region capped a record wet February for parts of Oklahoma. Totals for the month ranged up to 9.11 inches at McCurtain, with 4.63 inches reported at Oklahoma City. Snow and sleet fell across northern Oklahoma, with four inches reported at Freedom and Jefferson. Snow also spread across southern Kansas into Missouri and Arkansas, with six inches of snow reported at Harrison AR. In Alaska, February temperatures at Nome averaged 21 degrees below normal, ranging from -38 degrees to 29 degrees during the month. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2012 - The first confirmed February tornado in Nebraska state history struck Lincoln and Logan Counties shortly after 4PM. The EF-0 tornado was on the ground intermittently for up to six minutes and traveled 3 miles before dissipating in southwest Logan County. The path of the tornado was over open rangeland and cropland where limited damage occurred. Patches of snow were still on the ground at the time. (NWS North Platte)

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TODAY	TONIGHT	SUNDAY	SUNDAY NIGHT	MONDAY	MONDAY NIGHT	TUESDAY
						
Chance Flurries High: 25 °F	Partly Cloudy Low: 2 °F	Mostly Sunny High: 25 °F	Mostly Clear Low: 0 °F	Breezy High: 31 °F	Slight Chc Snow Low: 15 °F	Slight Chc Snow High: 17 °F



Weekend Forecast, Flurries Possible

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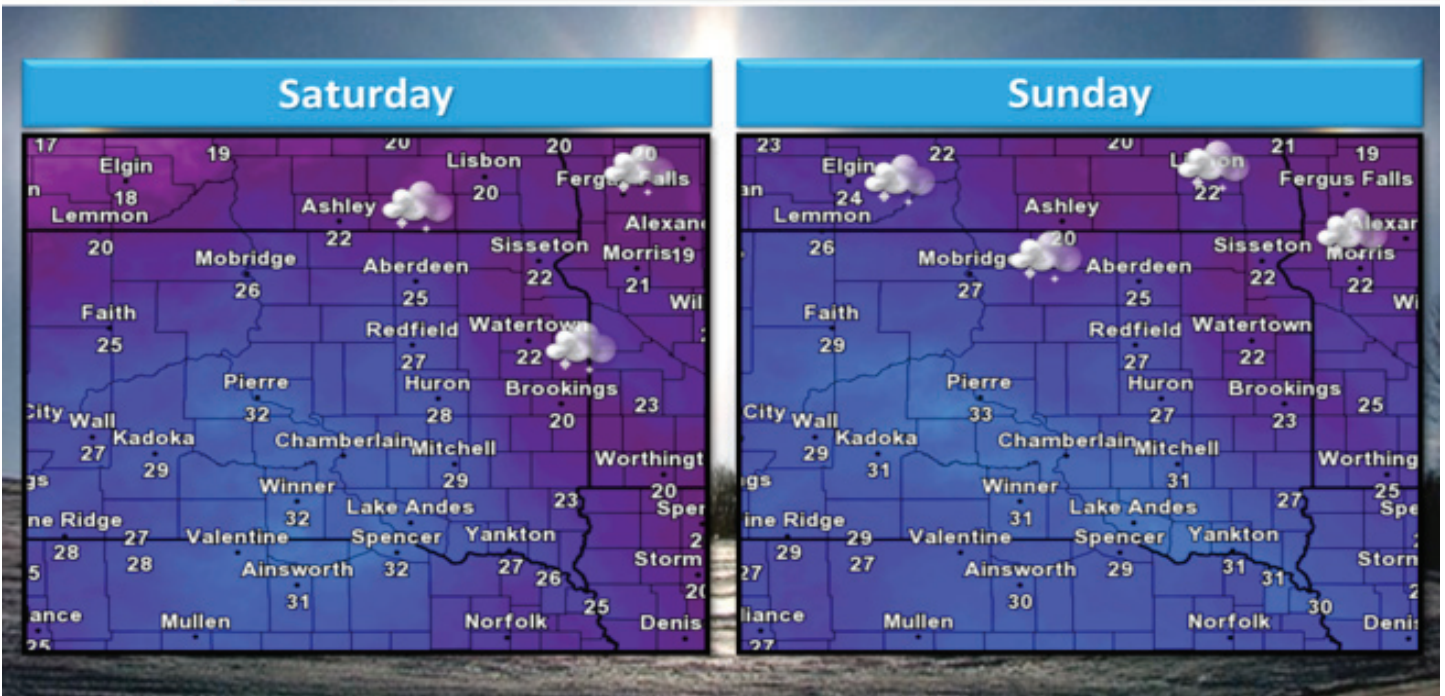
weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen



Published on: 02/28/2015 at 4:27AM

Flurries are possible across parts of northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota this weekend, but other than that no significant snowfall expected. Temperatures will exhibit a very slow warming trend through early next week.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 15.2 at 3:56 PM

Low: -17.0 at 7:02 AM

Wind Chill:

High Gust: 25 at 11:14 PM

Snow: 0.00

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 59° in 1934

Record Low: -27° in 1962

Average High: 33°F

Average Low: 13°F

Average Precip in Feb.: 0.52

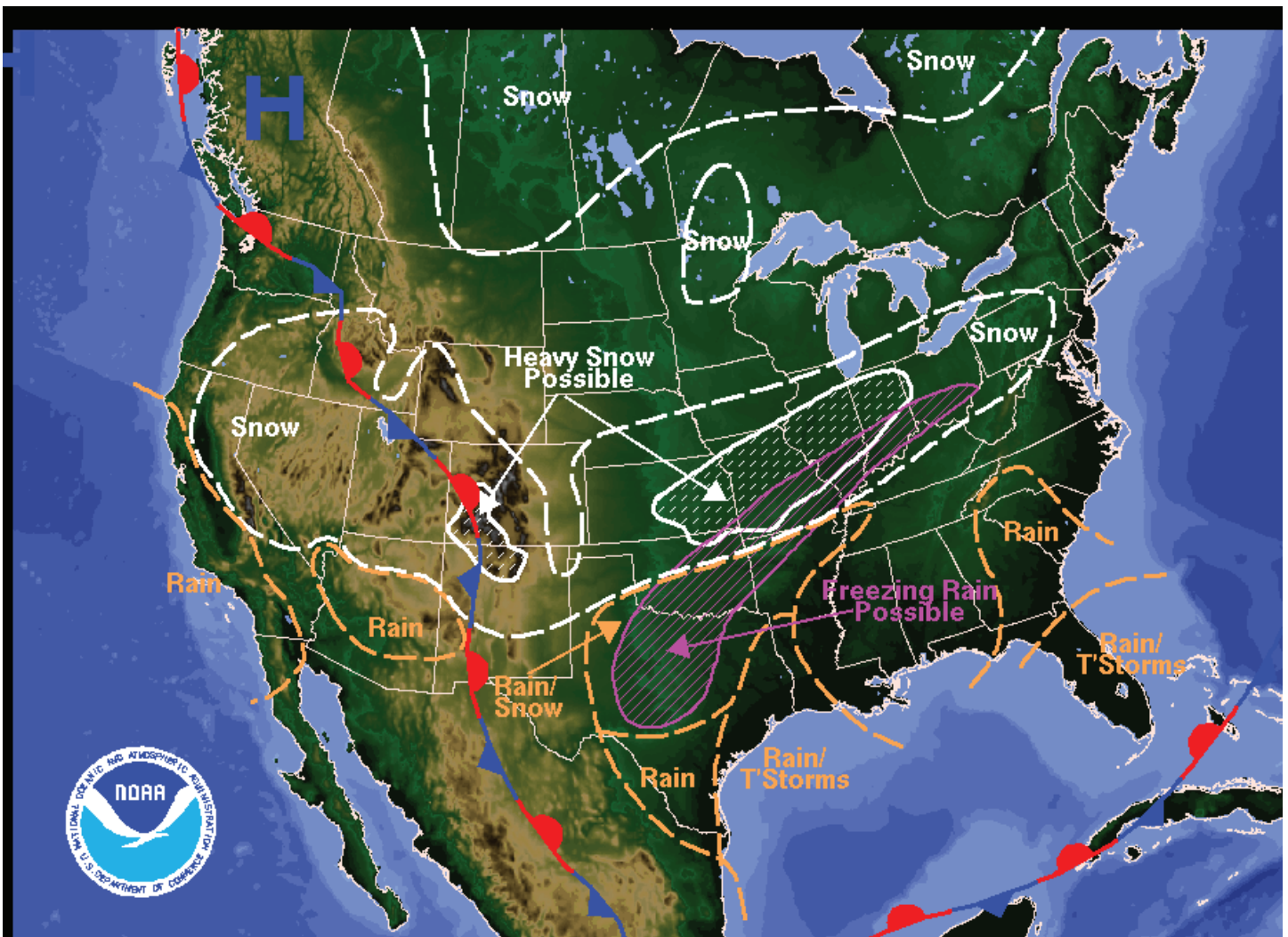
Precip to date in Feb.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 0.99

Precip Year to Date: 0.40

Sunset Tonight: 6:16 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:12 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sat, Feb 28, 2015, issued 3:44 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Fanning based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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I THANK GOD FOR HIS GIFT

Marriage, unfortunately, for far too many is seen as an "enjoy it for as long as you want and then trade your spouse for someone else." Solving the problems that come with every relationship - not just with a wife or husband - are normal and natural. People have different values and expectations and often, rather than to try to understand and solve them, and grow together, tempers flare and divorce occurs - leaving marred lives and shattered dreams. More often than not, both are equally responsible for refusing to be Christian and demonstrate the love of God to one another.

But Solomon made a statement that brought great delight to my ears: "He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the Lord." In the original Hebrew it reads: "He who finds a wife finds good."

To grasp the meaning of this verse we must understand that the word for "good" means something like a "fortune" or "favor." In the sight of God, a good wife and a good life are synonymous in God's plan most of the time. This comes from the second chapter of Genesis.

What we must understand, however, is that it is the Lord who has given her to him. She is an expression of God's "favor" bestowed upon the husband. Hence, a man cannot find a good wife on his own. A good wife comes as a favor from God and as with all of God's favors, it must be sought diligently, carefully and above all prayerfully. We men must never be self-centered and think we deserve God's gift of a wife. It is as stated: "a favor from the Lord."

Prayer: Father, grant us husbands the humility to accept and recognize the fact that our wives are Your favors. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 18:22 Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord.

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News from the  Associated Press

Rescheduled Watertown Polar Plunge 1 of several statewide

WATERTOWN, S.D. (AP) — Some hearty souls in Watertown plan to jump into the water at Stokes-Thomas Lake City Park on Saturday in the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics South Dakota.

It was re-scheduled because of frigid temperatures earlier in February.

Several South Dakota cities already have hosted polar plunges, including Brandon, Chamberlain, Rapid City and Spearfish.

Places that plan to hold them this spring or next fall include Huron, Pierre, Vermillion, Madison, Mitchell, Sioux Falls, Mobridge, Aberdeen, Yankton and Brookings.

The Polar Plunge is an annual fundraiser done by South Dakota law enforcement that benefits Special Olympics. More than 1,700 people took the plunge last year and raised over \$470,000.

Feds, state to host prescribed fire training in eastern SD

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — Federal and state officials will be hosting two prescribed fire training sessions this spring in the mixed grass prairies of eastern South Dakota.

Participants will be instructed on how to safely implement prescribed burns. The interagency training will conduct a series of prescribed burns around Aberdeen, Huron, Madison and Waubay.

The state's Department of Agriculture says each burn team will work in preparing, scouting, briefing, igniting, holding, mop-up and patrol of the fire. Training assignments will also include pre- and post-fire monitoring, and equipment training.

The sessions are scheduled for April 27 through May 6 and May 11 through 20. The deadline to register is Monday.

Friday's Scores The Associated Press

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Christian 86, Northwestern 47

Chamberlain 73, Stanley County 29

Clark/Willow Lake 52, Arlington 50

Faith 89, Wall 23

Harding County 76, Takini 48

Hitchcock-Tulare 55, Sunshine Bible Academy 41

Hot Springs 91, Edgemont 36

Lake Preston 58, Florence/Henry 47

Langford 62, Waverly-South Shore 40

Lemmon 79, Wakpala 37

Lennox 53, Dakota Valley 43

Leola/Frederick 68, Ipswich 59

Little Wound 87, Lower Brule 57

McCook Central/Montrose 63, Baltic 32

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Miller 71, Highmore-Harrold 55
New Underwood 66, Jones County 61
Philip 90, Kadoka Area 45
Red Cloud 81, St. Francis Indian 56
Rosholt 59, Warner 56
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 73, Wessington Springs 36
Sioux Falls Christian 74, Tri-Valley 40
Sioux Valley 80, Deuel 69
Sully Buttes 54, Eureka/Bowdle 52
Tea Area 64, Beresford 55
Vermillion 66, Canton 49
White River 93, Lyman 53

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

District 2AA
Yankton 44, Brandon Valley 37
District 9B
Championship
Freeman 58, Parker 40
District 10B
Championship
Viborg-Hurley 63, Centerville 42
District 11B
Championship
Kimball/White Lake 35, Dakota Christian 24
District 12B
Championship
Avon 34, Burke/South Central 25
District 15B
Championship
McLaughlin 55, Timber Lake 36

Tribes from around US gather to discuss legal marijuana

GENE JOHNSON, Associated Press

TULALIP, Wash. (AP) — The Justice Department's announcement in December that it would allow the nation's Indian tribes to legalize and regulate marijuana on their reservations brought notes of caution — if not silence or opposition — from many tribes.

They were reluctant given the substance-abuse problems that already plague many reservations.

But the attendance at a conference on the topic Friday gave an early indication of just how many might be weighing it, even if a thicket of potential legal issues remain.

Representatives of about 75 tribes from around the country converged on the Tulalip Indian Tribes' resort and casino for a \$605-a-head seminar on the regulatory, legal and social issues related to pot legalization.

That's a small fraction of the nation's 566 recognized tribes. Many attendees were from smaller tribes looking for a potential economic edge.

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"A great deal more are considering this than I thought would be considering it," said Ken Meshigaud, chairman of the Hannahville Indian Community, a band of the Potawatomi Tribe on Michigan's Upper Peninsula. "From an economic standpoint, it may be a good venture the tribes can get into."

Tulalip Vice Chairman Les Parks called it "a dream of another point of self-sufficiency on our reservations."

"That's what marijuana can do for us," he said.

Tribes have been wrestling with the idea since the U.S. Justice Department announced that it wouldn't stand in their way if they want to approve pot for medical or recreational use.

The agency said tribes must follow the same law enforcement priorities laid out for states that legalize the drug, including keeping marijuana out of the hands of children and criminal elements.

The discussions are heating up: On Monday, about 200 tribal leaders attended a meeting of the National Congress of American Indians, which included a closed-to-the-press panel discussion with Justice Department officials on marijuana legalization, said Demetri Downing, a former prosecutor for the Tohono O'odham tribe in southern Arizona who now advises tribes on regulatory issues related to pot.

The topic also is on the agenda of a major tribal economic summit in Las Vegas next month.

"We have to take a look at it," said Seth Pearman, an attorney for the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe in South Dakota. "The economic opportunity is just astronomical — it would be almost negligent to miss out on this."

He said tribal leaders already are drafting regulations for a marijuana industry, and they toured some Washington state dispensaries on their trip.

The conference was organized by Robert Odawi Porter, a former president of the Seneca Nation in New York, and Seattle marijuana business attorneys Hilary Bricken and Robert McVay.

Porter noted that difficult legal issues remain, especially related to tribal sovereignty. About 17 states have some criminal jurisdiction over tribal lands. If tribes are in those states, and those states prohibit marijuana, tribal members could face state criminal prosecution if they legalize or regulate marijuana, he said.

Several tribes stressed they are proceeding cautiously and reluctant to outpace changes in state marijuana laws. For example, tribes might not want to legalize for recreational use if it's illegal off-reservation, said Chris Stearns, a Navajo and the chairman of the Washington State Gambling Commission.

"They can sell to non-Indians, but the second they leave the reservation they get arrested," Stearns said. "That's not a great business model."

The tribal council of the 3,200-member Hoopa Valley Tribe, in Northern California's famed Emerald Triangle, has requested recommendations from health, law enforcement and other tribal officials to consider the consequences of marijuana legalization, including whether it might jeopardize federal aid for health care, fire services or housing, said Councilman Brad Marshall.

Some tribes said they would first consider regulating cannabis for medical use. They said they were intrigued about the idea that making pot more accessible might help cut down on abuse of methamphetamine or prescription drugs among tribal members.

"We're looking at what the benefits are, not only with revenue but with the medical relief we can give to our elders," said Lewis Taylor, chairman of the St. Croix Tribe of Wisconsin.

Sioux Falls to clarify downtown food truck regulations

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls officials are proposing new regulations to make it easier for food trucks to operate in the city.

Food trucks have gained popularity in the state's largest city in recent years. Economic Development Manager Brent O'Neil says the city is aiming to strike a balance between mobile food vendors and brick-and-mortar restaurants. He says the proposed rules that will it easier for trucks to get permits but also protect permanent businesses.

The proposed standards would clarify things like hours of operation and where trucks can sell. The mobile businesses already must adhere to food safety, noise and parking standards.

Many of the details of the forthcoming ordinance are still being ironed out.

Sioux Falls teacher pleads guilty in sexual contact case

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A former Sioux Falls middle school teacher accused of having a sexual relationship with a student has pleaded guilty to two counts of sexual contact with a child younger than 16.

Thirty-three-year-old Tonya Druempel was charged in a five-count indictment in February 2014. Authorities say Druempel developed a sexual relationship with a 14-year-old girl between September 2012 and January 2014.

Druempel was originally facing three fourth-degree rape charges. Those were dropped as a result of her plea agreement.

Druempel worked for the Sioux Falls School District between 2009 and 2013. She was a teacher at Axtell Park Middle School teacher.

She faces up to 30 years in prison for the charges she pleaded to on Friday.

Senate panel approves compromise bicycle passing proposal

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A measure to help lessen the danger of passing vehicles to cyclists is cruising through the Legislature after rebounding from some minor speed bumps earlier in the session.

The Senate Transportation Committee on Friday unanimously passed the proposal, which supporters say will help educate the public on how best to share the road. From 2010 to 2013 in South Dakota, 390 cyclists were injured and three died in collisions with vehicles, and Transportation Department attorney William Nevin told the committee that the statistics aren't improving.

"When a Humvee overtakes and passes a pickup, maybe only a foot or two of clearance is a safe distance as long as they don't touch each other," Nevin said. "But if a car or a semi passes a bicycle with only a foot of clearance, the risk of problems and serious injury is substantial."

House lawmakers considering how to improve safety earlier this session initially disagreed how to tackle the problem. The eventual compromise proposal now headed to the full Senate sets two standards for passing cyclists: On roads with speed limits of 35 mph or less, cars must give cyclists a 3-foot buffer when passing on the left, and on roads with speed limits above 35 mph, the passing buffer is 6 feet.

There are at least 25 states, plus the District of Columbia, that have a 3-foot cushion law, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Nevin said the proposed South Dakota standards would make the roads safer and offer an educational opportunity.

Kasey Abbott, president of RASDAK, a roughly 500-mile bike tour across the state, said he and his

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cyclist friends will be very happy if the law passes. He said the measure would decrease the chances of a cyclist suffering injuries on a South Dakota highway.

"I've had to hit the ditch a couple times ... especially if they're bigger vehicles," he said. "It is scary to have a truck go past you and it's only a couple feet away."

Between 150 and 200 riders are expected to take part in the RASDAK tour in June, Abbott said. So far, registrants hail from 26 states.

"Word has gotten out that South Dakota is this beautiful state to see, we've got wide open roads, and it looks like we will soon have some of the best safety laws in the country," Abbott said. "I'm looking forward to showing of South Dakota to over half the country."

School of Mines raises \$1.4M toward oil, gas industry effort

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota School of Mines and Technology has raised \$1.4 million for an effort to help meet the demand for workers in the region's oil and gas industry.

The public university in Rapid City is now launching a search for a director for its Energy Resources Initiative, an effort announced last summer that includes the addition of a minor degree in petroleum systems. The first students in that program enrolled last fall, school President Heather Wilson said.

"We are encouraged by the support of alumni and energy industry members and are well on our way toward our goal of being able to provide better-prepared students to industry," said Steve O'Rourke, a school alumnus, president of Heat Mining LLC and chairman of the initiative's steering committee.

The school is within 300 miles of energy-rich areas in North Dakota, Colorado and Wyoming. The Energy Resources Initiative aims to better prepare students for more advanced career options, as well as position the university's faculty researchers as resources for oil and gas companies.

The university, which has about 2,800 students from 45 states and 39 foreign countries, also is developing a graduate certificate in petroleum systems focusing on graduate level training.

Leonard Nimoy, famous as Mr. Spock on 'Star Trek,' dies

LYNN ELBER, AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In 1975, Leonard Nimoy published an autobiography with the defiant title, "I Am Not Spock" — an attempt to show the world he had many more facets than the pointy-eared character that had come to define him.

Yet two decades later, after proving that with a career that became a rich blend of roles beyond "Star Trek" along with directing, writing and photography, he bowed to fate with "I Am Spock," a revisionist sequel.

Nimoy had come to appreciate Mr. Spock's enduring legacy and the inspiration the man of logic provided the actor and his fans alike.

"He's a part of me," he wrote in his second memoir. "Not a day passes that I don't hear that cool, rational voice commenting on some irrational aspect of the human condition."

"And if I'm not listening to Spock's voice, then I'm listening to the voices of those who know the Vulcan and consider him an old friend. ... It always amazes me and touches me to discover how deeply the series affected so many people's lives — people who chose careers in science, astronomy, space exploration, all because of one television show called Star Trek."

Nimoy had skillfully turned what could have been a caricature into a dignified, inspiringly intellectual and even touching figure, a half-human, half-Vulcan who was a multicultural and multiethnic touch-

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stone, well before it was hip.

Nimoy died Friday of end-stage chronic obstructive pulmonary disease at his Los Angeles home, with family at his side, said his son, Adam Nimoy. He was 83. His final public statement, last Sunday on Twitter, was thoughtful and bittersweet.

"A life is like a garden. Perfect moments can be had, but not preserved, except in memory," he wrote, followed by his customary "LLAP" signoff — shorthand for "Live long and prosper," Spock's catch phrase.

The reaction to his death was swift, on Earth and in space.

"I loved him like a brother. We will all miss his humor, his talent, and his capacity to love," said William Shatner, whose often-emotional Captain Kirk was balanced by the composed Nimoy.

President Barack Obama said, "I loved Spock."

"Long before being nerdy was cool, there was Leonard Nimoy," Obama said in a statement. "Cool, logical, big-eared and level-headed, the center of Star Trek's optimistic, inclusive vision of humanity's future."

"Live Long and Prosper, Mr. (hashtag) Spock!" tweeted Italian astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti, aboard the International Space Station.

George Takei, Mr. Sulu of "Star Trek," called Nimoy a great man and friend.

"We return you now to the stars, Leonard. You taught us to 'Live Long and Prosper,' and you indeed did, friend," Takei said.

In a 2009 interview with The Associated Press, Nimoy recalled how an early stage role left him "obsessed" with pursuing work that had a social impact.

"I've fulfilled that dream, including 'Star Trek,' for that matter," he said. "If that's part of the legacy, then I'm very pleased with that. I would hope the work I chose to do had some reason for being done other than just simply being a job."

After "Star Trek" ended, the actor immediately joined the hit adventure series "Mission Impossible" as Paris, the mission team's master of disguises. He also hosted the syndicated TV series "In Search of ...," which attempted to probe such mysteries as the legend of the Loch Ness Monster.

Other notable roles included Israeli leader Golda Meir's husband opposite Ingrid Bergman in the TV drama "A Woman Called Golda"; he continued to work well into his twilight years, playing wealthy genius William Bell in the Fox series "Fringe."

He also directed several films, including the hit comedy "Three Men and a Baby," and appeared in plays and published books of poems, children's stories and his own photographs.

But that work was always eclipsed by the role of the green-blooded space traveler that took him overnight from bit-part actor to TV star.

"Star Trek," created by Gene Roddenberry and set in the 23rd century, had an unimpressive debut on NBC on Sept. 8, 1966, and it struggled during its three seasons to find an audience beyond youngsters and teenagers, according to "The Complete Directory to Prime Time Network and Cable Shows" by Tim Brooks and Earle Marsh.

A recently published history of the show, the three-volume "These Are the Voyages" by Marcushman, paints a different, far more positive picture of the show's ratings and its audience.

The space adventure seemed headed for oblivion after it was canceled in 1969, but its dedicated legion of fans, who called themselves Trekkies, kept its memory alive with conventions and clubs and constant demands that the cast be reassembled for a movie or another TV show.

Trekkies were particularly fond of Spock, often greeting one another with the Vulcan salute and "Live long" motto that Nimoy was credited with bringing to the character. He pointed out, however, that the hand gesture was actually derived from one used by rabbis during Hebraic benedictions.

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People identified with Spock because they “recognize in themselves this wish that they could be logical and avoid the pain of anger and confrontation,” Nimoy concluded in a 1995 interview.

Embracing the role he’d once shunned, he even lampooned himself on such TV shows as “Futurama,” “Duckman” and “The Simpsons,” and in commercials.

When the cast was reassembled for “Star Trek — The Motion Picture,” in 1979, the film was a huge hit, and five sequels followed. Nimoy appeared in all of them and directed two. He also guest-starred as an older version of himself in some episodes of the spinoff TV series, “Star Trek: The Next Generation.”

In 2009, he was back in a new big-screen version of “Star Trek,” this time playing an older Spock who meets his younger self, played by Zachary Quinto. Upon the movie’s debut, Nimoy told the AP that in his late 70s he was probably closer than ever to being as comfortable with himself as the logical Spock.

“I know where I’m going, and I know where I’ve been,” he said. He reprised the role in the 2013 sequel “Star Trek Into Darkness.”

Born in Boston to Jewish immigrants from Izyaslav, in what is now Ukraine, Nimoy was raised in an Italian section of the city where he said he felt the sting of anti-Semitism growing up.

At age 17, he was cast in a local production of Clifford Odets’ “Awake and Sing” as the son in a Jewish family.

“This role, the young man surrounded by a hostile and repressive environment, so touched a responsive chord that I decided to make a career of acting,” he said later.

He won a drama scholarship to Boston College but eventually dropped out, moved to California and took acting lessons at the Pasadena Playhouse.

Soon he lost his “Boston dead-end” accent, hired an agent and began getting small TV and film roles.

After service in the Army, Nimoy returned to Hollywood, working as taxi driver, vacuum cleaner salesman, movie theater usher and other jobs while looking for acting work.

In 1954, he married Sandra Zober, whom he met at a Los Angeles theater in the Hollywood area, and they had two children, Julie and Adam. They divorced, and in 1988 he married Susan Bay, a film production executive.

Last year, Nimoy used Twitter to announce he had pulmonary disease. He linked it to smoking, a habit he said he quit 30 years before. In January, he tweeted: “Don’t smoke. I did. Wish I never had.”

Besides his wife, son and daughter, Nimoy is survived by his stepson, Aaron Bay Schuck. Services will be private, Adam Nimoy said.

AP News in Brief

Russian opposition figure Boris Nemtsov shot to death; government calls it a provocation

MOSCOW (AP) — A few hours after going on the radio to denounce President Vladimir Putin’s policies as mad, charismatic opposition leader Boris Nemtsov was gunned down early Saturday as he walked near the Kremlin.

Colleagues in Russia’s beleaguered and marginalized opposition pointed fingers at the state or at assailants fired up by fervent nationalist sentiment in state-controlled news media. But Putin and other Russian politicians suggested the brazen attack was a provocation against the state.

Nemtsov, 55, was shot while walking with a female companion on a bridge over the Moscow River about 400 meters (yards) from the Kremlin. Russia’s Investigative Committee said at least seven shots

were fired.

Nemtsov was to have been a prominent participant in a march planned for Sunday in a Moscow to protest Russia's policies in Ukraine, where the West alleges the Kremlin has provided troops and equipment to separatist rebels, and the economic crisis sparked by Western sanctions over Ukraine and the plunge in oil prices.

Organizers canceled the march and said they would seek permission to hold a mourning rally for Nemtsov on Sunday. City authorities had made no decision on that by midday.

Homeland Security funding fight underscores limits on Republican leaders' control of Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two months into full Republican control of Congress, GOP leaders are struggling to demonstrate they're really in charge.

The stunning House defeat Friday of a three-week spending bill for the Department of Homeland Security exposed Speaker John Boehner's weakness in the face of rebellious conservatives. It also demonstrated anew his need to rely on Democratic help at key moments, as the minority party's agreement to a one-week spending bill helped the speaker get it over the finish line with only hours to spare before a threatened agency shutdown. President Barack Obama signed the bill shortly before midnight.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, for his part, had already bowed to the demands of Democrats and stripped contentious provisions rolling back Obama's immigration policies from his chamber's version of the spending bill.

The two leaders face different — and often competing — challenges as they try to produce the responsible governance they promised voters after November elections in which Republicans won control of the Senate and increased their House majority to the largest in some 70 years.

Two months into the new Congress, the severe limits to their powers are confronting both Boehner and McConnell as they aim to chart a course for the final two years of Obama's presidency. That path could help lead their party back into the White House, and perhaps even produce a few legislative achievements.

For 800,000 people, government error on health care tax forms means more filing-season hassles

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's not uncommon to feel some trepidation around tax-filing season. But there's an added hassle this year for nearly a million consumers who got financial help with health insurance premiums under President Barack Obama's law.

The government sent consumers erroneous information on forms that they need to complete their 2014 tax returns. Now they're getting robocalls and emails advising them to delay filing until the mistakes get fixed.

Some are taking it in stride. Others wonder what else could go wrong.

"It's been a comedy of errors from the start," said K.C. Crafts, a freelance financial writer from South Berwick, Maine.

The mistake the government made affected 800,000 customers receiving subsidized health coverage through the federal insurance market. Some states running their own insurance exchanges also have had tax-form troubles.

Investigators grapple with motive of gunman who killed 7, then himself in tiny Missouri town

TYRONE, Mo. (AP) — Residents in a remote area of southern Missouri are trying to come to grips with what could cause a man to kill seven people, including four of his own relatives, in a nighttime shooting spree that spanned four homes.

The shooter, identified by authorities as 36-year-old Joseph Jesse Aldridge, used a .45-caliber handgun to kill two people each at three homes, one person at another, and then himself, in a reign of violence that began late Thursday night. All of the victims lived in or near the tiny, unincorporated town of Tyrone in the rolling hills of Missouri's Ozarks region, about 40 miles from the Arkansas border. All of the victims were adults.

Texas County Sheriff James Sigman said people generally have felt safe in small towns like Tyrone. "Start locking your doors," the sheriff said. "The world's changing.

The motive for the shooting was still under investigation Friday. The few people in town willing to talk about it knew little about Aldridge, described as somewhat reclusive in an otherwise tight-knit area. Some said they'd seen him around and talked to him, but not enough to form an opinion.

Top capos fall in Mexico, but drugs keep flowing and crime shifts as gangs splinter or regroup

MEXICO CITY (AP) — It's another big score for the Mexican government, which has been tearing through its list of most-wanted drug lords in recent years.

Still, no one expects drug trafficking or violence to decrease after the capture of Servando "La Tuta" Gomez, a former grade-school teacher whose Knights Templar cartel once terrorized the western state of Michoacan.

Crime will only shift around as the now weakened cartel regroups, or even splinters, as has happened with some of Mexico's drug gangs after the killings or capture of top leaders. Others continue business as usual after top leadership hits.

"Dismantling them was a necessary step, but that does not end the problem of insecurity," Alejandro Hope, a Mexico City-based security analyst, said of the Knights Templar. "The next part is more complicated. There are still small groups, remnants, which will be extorting, robbing and perhaps even producing methamphetamine."

Gomez, 49, was arrested early Friday as he left a house in Morelia, the capital of Michoacan, along with eight bodyguards and associates toting a grenade launcher, three grenades, an Uzi machine pistol and assault rifles, National Security Commissioner Monte Alejandro Rubido said.

Top Mexican drug cartel leaders captured or killed in recent years

Recent captures or killings of top Mexican drug cartel leaders:

— Feb. 27, 2015: Federal police capture Servando "La Tuta" Gomez, one of world's most-wanted drug lords who once terrorized Michoacan state as leader of Knights Templar cartel.

— Oct. 9, 2014: Officials announce arrest of Vicente Carrillo Fuentes, purported leader of Juarez cartel.

— Oct. 1, 2014: Mexico announces capture of Hector Beltran Leyva, alias "The H" and "The Engineer,"

who allegedly became head of Beltran Leyva cartel after his brother Arturo died in 2009 gunbattle with troops.

— March 9, 2014: Soldiers kill Nazario Moreno Gonzalez, leader of La Familia Michoacana and later Knights Templar, while riding mule in remote Michoacan mountains. Government had wrongly claimed that he was killed in December 2010.

Forgiving but not forgetting: 70 years later, survivors want Battle of Manila remembered

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Seventy years have not dulled the memories of survivors of the month-long Battle of Manila. The mass killings by Japanese forces, the loved ones lost and the desperation are etched in their minds, as is the elation when American forces finally rescued them in the closing months of World War II.

The U.S. liberated the Philippine capital from the Japanese, but not before Manila was destroyed and more than 100,000 civilians killed. About 16,000 Japanese soldiers and 1,000 U.S. troops also died in the fighting from Feb. 3 to March 3, 1945.

Manila was the second-most devastated city in World War II after Warsaw, Poland, said historian Ricardo Jose of the University of the Philippines. He called the city “one of the worst battlefields in the world.”

When the Japanese invaded the Philippines, then an American colony, in 1941, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, commander of the U.S. forces there, declared Manila an “open city” to spare it from destruction. But when the Americans returned, the Japanese decided to fight to the last man, from building to building, and burned entire city blocks.

Civilians died from malnutrition and American shelling, but mostly, historians agree, at the hands of Japanese troops.

Spock’s ears: A pointy trademark for the late Leonard Nimoy

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Leonard Nimoy, who died Friday at age 83, likely had the most famous lobes in Hollywood. As the logical half-human, half-alien Mr. Spock in “Star Trek,” his pointy Vulcan appendages became a signature — and a nuisance — for the actor. Here’s a few facts about those iconic ears:

AURAL HISTORY

“Trek” creator Gene Roddenberry was determined to have Nimoy don pointed ears as the Enterprise’s chief science officer. It was easier said than done. Before the first episode was filmed, numerous designs of the ears’ shape and size were created before he settled on the perfect ears.

Deputies recover dress that ‘greatly resembles’ Oscar dress stolen from Lupita Nyong’o

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A white dress that strongly resembles the custom gown taken from Lupita Nyong’o’s hotel room earlier this week turned up Friday under a bathroom sink in the same hotel, a Los Angeles County Sheriff’s official said.

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The dress found at a West Hollywood hotel “greatly resembles” the pearl-adorned Calvin Klein Collection by Francisco Costa dress the actress wore to Sunday’s Academy Awards, sheriff’s spokeswoman Nicole Nishida said.

Detectives were trying to verify whether the recovered dress is the same one Nyong’o wore, she said. One of the actress’ representatives reported the dress was stolen from her room at the London Hotel late Wednesday.

Authorities placed its value at \$150,000, although experts say it could have fetched more on the black market.

AP PHOTOS: Dozens of children seek spot in 1 of Europe’s distinguished dance ensembles

BERLIN (AP) — Hoping to demonstrate their posture, agility and strength, a handful of boys and more than 120 girls between ages 7 and 9 tried out for the Young Ensemble of Berlin’s Friedrichstadt-Palast theatre in February.

Hundreds of children apply every year for only 20-30 spots in the theater’s renowned Young Ensemble. Overall, some 250 children, ages 7 through 16, attend the school at any one time.

The ensemble provides year-round theatre training for children. All children receive two years of basic training in classic dance, drama and jazz, after which they may — depending on their talents — specialize in solo acting, singing, solo singing, acrobatics, hip hop or street dance.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, Feb. 28, the 59th day of 2015. There are 306 days left in the year.

Today’s Highlight in History:

On Feb. 28, 1940, the first televised college basketball games were broadcast by New York City station W2XBS as Pittsburgh defeated Fordham, 57-37, and New York University beat Georgetown, 50-27, at Madison Square Garden.

On this date:

In 1844, a 12-inch gun aboard the USS Princeton exploded as the ship was sailing on the Potomac River, killing Secretary of State Abel P. Upshur, Navy Secretary Thomas W. Gilmer and several others.

In 1861, the Territory of Colorado was organized.

In 1915, actor-comedian Zero Mostel was born in Brooklyn, New York.

In 1942, the heavy cruiser USS Houston and the Australian light cruiser HMAS Perth were attacked by Japanese forces during the World War II Battle of Sunda Strait; both were sunk shortly after midnight.

In 1953, scientists James D. Watson and Francis H.C. Crick announced they had discovered the double-helix structure of DNA.

In 1960, a day after defeating the Soviets at the Winter Games in Squaw Valley, California, the United States won its first Olympic hockey gold medal by defeating Czechoslovakia, 9-4.

In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon and Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai issued the Shanghai Communique, which called for normalizing relations between their countries, at the conclusion of Nixon’s historic visit to China.

In 1975, 42 people were killed in London’s Underground when a train smashed into the end of a tunnel.

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In 1986, Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme (PAHL'-meh) was shot to death in central Stockholm. (The killing remains unsolved.)

In 1993, a gun battle erupted at a religious compound near Waco, Texas, when Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents tried to arrest Branch Davidian leader David Koresh on weapons charges; four agents and six Davidians were killed as a 51-day standoff began.

In 1995, Denver International Airport opened after 16 months of delays and \$3.2 billion in budget overruns.

In 2013, Benedict XVI became the first pope in 600 years to resign, ending an eight-year pontificate. (Benedict was succeeded the following month by Pope Francis.)

Ten years ago: In Santa Maria, California, the prosecution and defense gave opening statements in the sexual molestation trial of Michael Jackson, who was later acquitted. A U.S. District Judge, Joan Humphrey Lefkow, discovered the bodies of her husband and mother inside her Chicago home. (An unemployed electrician confessed to the murders in a suicide note.) A suicide car bombing targeted at security recruits killed 125 people in Hillah, Iraq. Lebanon's pro-Syrian prime minister, Omar Karami, resigned amid large anti-Syria street demonstrations in Beirut.

Five years ago: Sidney Crosby scored the winning goal in overtime to give Canada a 3-2 victory over the United States in the final event of the Vancouver Olympics. Canada earned its 14th gold medal, the most by any country at any Winter Olympics. The American silver was the 37th medal won by the United States at these games, also the most by any country at any Winter Olympics. (The U.S. won the medals race for the first time since 1932.)

One year ago: Delivering a blunt warning to Moscow, President Barack Obama expressed deep concern over reported military activity inside Ukraine by Russia and warned "there will be costs" for any intervention.

Today's Birthdays: Architect Frank Gehry is 86. Actor Gavin MacLeod is 84. Actor Don Francks is 83. Singer Sam the Sham is 78. Actor-director-dancer Tommy Tune is 76. Hall of Fame auto racer Mario Andretti is 75. Actor Frank Bonner is 73. Actress Kelly Bishop is 71. Actress Stephanie Beacham is 68. Writer-director Mike Figgis is 67. Actress Mercedes Ruehl is 67. Actress Bernadette Peters is 67. Former Energy Secretary Steven Chu is 67. Actress Ilene Graff is 66. Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman is 62. Comedian Gilbert Gottfried is 60. Basketball Hall-of-Famer Adrian Dantley is 60. Actor John Turturro is 58. Rock singer Cindy Wilson is 58. Actress Rae Dawn Chong is 54. Actress Maxine Bahns is 46. Actor Robert Sean Leonard is 46. Rock singer Pat Monahan is 46. Author Daniel Handler (AKA "Lemony Snicket") is 45. Actress Tasha Smith is 44. Actor Rory Cochrane is 43. Actress Ali Larter is 39. Country singer Jason Aldean is 38. Actor Geoffrey Arend is 37. Actress Michelle Horn is 28. Actress Madisen Beaty (TV: "The Fosters") is 20. Actress Quinn Shephard is 20. Actor Bobb'e J. Thompson is 19.

Thought for Today: "Who will give me back those days when life had wings and flew just like a skylark in the sky." - Marceline Desbordes-Valmore, French actress and poet (1786-1859).