

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, May 1, 2015 ♦ Vol. 18 - No. 274 ♦ 1 of 29

- 1- Rix Apartments for Rent
- 1- Midwest Masonry
- 1- Recycling Trailers in Groton
- 1- Today's Information
- 2- Classifieds
- 2- Pool Slide Contest
- 3- Drought worsening in South Dakota
- 3- Curbside Garbage Pickup
- 3- City Arbor Day Proclamation
- 4- Groton Spring Clean-up Ad
- 4- Harry Implement Help Wanted
- 4- Olde Bank Floral
- 5- Drought Map
- 6- Senior Spotlight: Haley Ann Unzen
- 7- Senior Spotlight: Sydney Thorson
- 8- Senior Spotlight: Chance Strom
- 9- Senior Spotlight: Lucas Sternhagen
- 10- Senior Spotlight: Luke Smith
- 11- Today in Weather History
- 12- Local Forecast
- 13- National Weather Map
- 13- Local Weather
- 14- Daily Devotional
- 15- News from the Associated Press

Friday, May 1

School Breakfast: Cereal, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Softs shell taco, tater tots, fruit, bread sticks.

Senior Menu: Baked fish, au gratin potatoes, 3-bean salad, peach cobbler, whole wheat bread.

Howard Wood Relays at Sioux Falls

1:00 p.m.: Track at Sisseton

Saturday, May 2

Howard Wood Relays at Sioux Falls

Sunday, May 3

9:00 a.m.: St. John's Lutheran worship with communion and confirmation.

9:00 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Sunday School.

9:15 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Fellowship

10:00 p.m.: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Pierpont Church with fellowship to follow

10:15 a.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Baptism, Holy Communion, HS Seniors blessed and Milestones

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

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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.

Midwest Masonry & concrete Pumping

Greg Heilman, owner

405 E 1st Ave., Groton

Greg: 253/929-9137

Mike: 605/492-7041

midwestmasonry1@yahoo.com



Groton Daily Independent

Friday, May 1, 2015 ♦ Vol. 18 - No. 274 ♦ 2 of 29

Classifieds

BRIDAL SHOWER

Open House Bridal Shower for Jessica Hoscheid, future wife of Zachary Harry and daughter of Pete and Janet Hoscheid, will be held Saturday, May 9, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Groton. Help us celebrate Jessica's upcoming wedding. The couple is registered at Target, Menards & Inspire

Help Wanted

Andover Bar & Grill is looking for a cook. Contact Stacy at 605/298-5252 or Randy at 605/216-2595.

Harry Implement, Ferney, is looking for a Truck driver for pickup and delivery of equipment. Contact Steve at 605-395-6421 or e-mail s.harry@harrysinc.com

FOR RENT

ONE AND TWO bedroom apartment for rent. HDS subsidized. Rent includes utilities and heat. No smoking. Pets okay. Contact Darlene Daly at 605/380-0571 or Arlys Kluess at 605-216-8399.

JOIN THE CONTEST!!!!

WHO WILL BE THE 1st PERSON TO GO DOWN THE NEW SWIMMING POOL SLIDE IN GROTON??

For a donation of at least \$10 to the swimming pool slide you can nominate your friend, your child, your brother, your boss, your co-worker, or anyone (must be 48 inches tall) for the honor of being the first person to go down the slide. Send the name and \$10 donation to Groton City Hall at PO Box 587, 209 N Main St, Groton, SD 57445

Donations to the slide can be made under each person's name as votes. \$1 equals 1 vote. Votes can be cast for any candidate until May 20 when the winner will be announced.

Each week the leading vote getters will be posted.



Groton Daily Independent

Friday, May 1, 2015 ♦ Vol. 18 - No. 274 ♦ 3 of 29

Drought worsening in South Dakota

In North Dakota, rains this past week were very spotty. Conditions were variable, with some reports of wet soil and machinery stuck in the mud, and other reports of inadequate vegetation for livestock. For this week, the only modification made to the drought depiction was to slightly expand moderate drought (D1) westward in south-central North Dakota to include eastern Stutsman, eastern Logan, and eastern McIntosh Counties. One area that bears monitoring in the next few weeks for possible deterioration to severe drought (D2) is Cass and Richland Counties, in the extreme southeast part of the state.


In eastern and central South Dakota, field work and corn planting is ramping up quickly this week, especially in the eastern part of the state, and field reports indicate dry topsoil conditions. A fairly large area of severe drought (D2) was introduced in central and eastern South Dakota. One agricultural impact is winter wheat winterkill (due in part to dry overall conditions, lack of protective snow cover, and a lack of moisture so far this spring). Other small grains that were planted this spring have been slow to emerge, or uneven in emergence, due to dry conditions. Alfalfa fields also experienced winterkill and/or frost damage. Moderate drought (D1) was expanded across north-central and extreme southeastern portions of South Dakota, where recent rains missed. The National Agricultural Statistics Service (part of USDA) soil moisture reports indicate South Dakota is 69 percent Short or Very Short, which is the third worst in the Nation.

In northeastern Nebraska, longer-term precipitation deficits extend back to (at least) the start of the current Water Year (October 1, 2014). Recent rainfall has also missed this region. Therefore, a 1-category deterioration was made to the depiction, from abnormal dryness to moderate drought (D0 to D1), for the Counties of Antelope, Pierce, Knox, and Cedar. In southwestern Kansas, there were welcome rains and cooler condi-



Yes! You Can Celebrate!
Effective May 1, 2015
Groton City Garbage pickup service will return to curbside on ALL streets.
Thank you for your cooperation the last 2 months by hauling your garbage to our truck routes.
Groton Street Department

Celebrate Arbor Day



Plant A Tree

Whereas, In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

Whereas, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

Whereas, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife, and

Whereas, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

Whereas, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

Whereas, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

Now, Therefore, I, Scott Danko, Mayor of the City of Groton, do hereby proclaim Friday - April 24, 2015 as

Arbor Day

In the City of Groton, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

Further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Dated this April 24 day of 2015
Mayor Scott Danko

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, May 1, 2015 ♦ Vol. 18 - No. 274 ♦ 4 of 29

tions, but the only 1-category upgrade was made to the counties of Meade and Clark. Other areas received enough precipitation to at least offset further degradation.

In western and central Oklahoma, heavy rain (widespread 2-4 inches, locally in excess of 10 inches) fell during the past week prompting 1-category improvements in some areas. In Texas, rain fell mostly where it was needed this week, resulting in lots of 1-category improvements across the state. Improvements in the Dallas-Fort Worth area are based on reservoir recovery, while in the San Antonio area, they are based on aquifer recovery and various objective indicators. Reservoirs are lagging behind in central Texas. Short-term improvements were also rendered to the drought depiction in the Panhandle region.



A child's Special Gift for Mom Event

Reserve your child's opportunity to plant a 4" blooming or green plant in a fun, colorful container just in time for Mother's day! Reserve a spot for your child(ren) to create a special gift for their mom or grandmother!

May 2nd

10-11am
or
2-3pm

\$20 per child/
per plant



Each paid reservation (by April 30) receives a 20% off one reg price item coupon (one per family)

Oldebankfloral@nvc.net
605-397-8650

PARTS COUNTER SALES

Self motivated individual needed to fill our Parts Counter Sales position. Duties include parts sales, display stocking, shipping and receiving. Sponsored training, excellent benefits package and the possibility for advancement. Contact Steve at 605-395-6421 or email resume to s.harry@harrysinc.com.

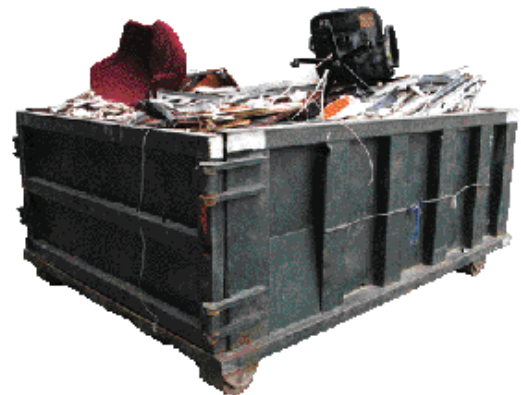
Harry Implement Inc.

PO Box 841
Ferney, SD
57439



Time for a Spring Cleaning

Groton City Spring Cleanup
May 2-9 2015

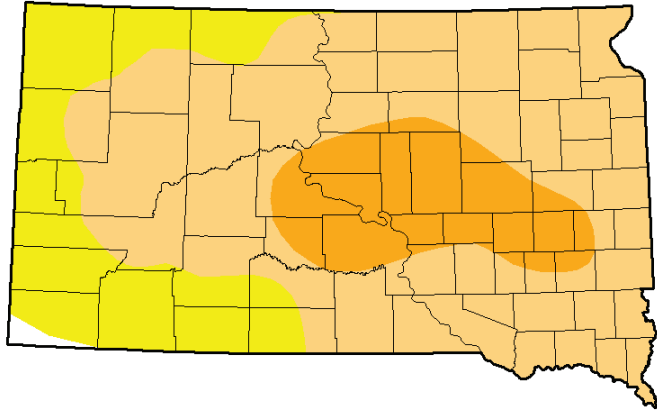


Bring Anything You
Wish to dispose of to
Dumpsters located at
the City Shop
10 E Railroad Ave

Or Call City Hall at
397-8422 for
free hauling May 4-8

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, May 1, 2015 ♦ Vol. 18 - No. 274 ♦ 5 of 29



April 28, 2015
 (Released Thursday April 30, 2015)
 Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Statistics type: Traditional (D0-D4, D1-D4, etc.) Categorical (D0, D1, etc.)

Drought Condition (Percent Area):

Week	Date	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	2015-04-28	0.54	99.46	77.10	15.98	0.00	0.00
Last Week	2015-04-21	0.58	99.42	69.26	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago	2015-01-27	48.53	51.47	4.46	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year	2014-12-30	48.53	51.47	4.46	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Water Year	2014-09-30	97.46	2.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago	2014-04-29	71.50	28.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Population Affected by Drought: **684,755**

[View More Statistics](#)

Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying [text summary](#) for forecast statements.

Author(s):

Anthony Artusa, NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

Looking Ahead

For the upcoming 5-day period, April 30-May 4, much of the contiguous United States is expected to receive little if any precipitation. Fairly localized exceptions may include the Virginias and parts of the Corn Belt, where 0.5-2.0 inches is predicted.

For the 6-10 day period, May 5-9, there are elevated odds of above-median precipitation across most areas between the Rockies and Appalachians, as well as for southern Florida. There are elevated odds of below-median precipitation for much of the Pacific Northwest and part of the Southeast.

Haley Ann Unzen

Parents: Jake and Tiffany Unzen

Hometown: Groton

Siblings: Megan, 17; Erin, 12; Nathan, 7.

Hobbies: Hanging out with friends, baking, DIYing, tanning, ice skating, babysitting, going to the lake.

School/Community Activities: FCCLA, FFA, FCA, boys basketball statistician, Color guard, Star Torch, Groton C&MA Youth Group, cross country manager, Legion Auxiliary member.



Favorite High School Memory: My favorite high school memory is when all of us seniors were out decorating the school during homecoming week, and Wyatt broke the tree that was in the front yard, and then tried to fix it with a ponytail hoping no one would notice. That didn't work. Mr. Schwan found out and a new tree had to be bought.

Future Plans: My future plans include attending USD in Vermillion and majoring in Elementary Education.

Animal Health Clinic



704 S Melgaard Rd, Aberdeen

(605) 229-1691

Sydney Thorson



Parents: Scott and Ann Thorson

Hometown: Groton

Siblings: Sam, 23; Matt, 21; and Luke, 15

Hobbies: Taking pictures, phone, working out, watching movies, hanging with friends, living an enticing life

School/community activities: Soccer, volleyball, church youth group, theatre, track, show choir, dance team, cheerleading, honor band, all-state choir, natural helpers, and Star Torch

Favorite high school memory: All-state choir was my favorite high school memory

Future plans: Minnesota State, Mankato and major in English

Animal Health Clinic



704 S Melgaard Rd, Aberdeen

(605) 229-1691

Chance Strom

Parents: Dwight Strom and Michele Cogley

Hometown: Groton

Siblings: Ryland, 21; David, 20; Jackson, 12; Quinn, 5; Aiden, 6.

Hobbies: Hanging with friends and family.

School/Community Activities: Soccer, football, basketball, show choir, student council.

Favorite High School Memory: Winning state soccer.

Future Plans: Attend SDSU and major in Ag Business.



S & S Lumber

HARDWARE  HANK

201 East Hwy 12 • 605/397-2361

Lucas Sternhagen

Parents: Craig and Jodi Sternhagen

Hometown: Groton

Siblings: Erin, 21; Tom, 22.

Hobbies: Hunting, going to the lake, hanging out with friends.

School/Community Activities: FFA, basketball, soccer, track, cross country, Star Torch.

Favorite High School Memory: Winning the state championship in soccer with teammates.

Future Plans: Attend USO and get a degree in computer science.



Luke Smith

Parents: Steve and Carol Smith

Hometown: Groton

Siblings: Samuel, 22; Marah, 20; Erin, 16; AnnMarie, 14; and Isaac, 12

Hobbies: Piano, reading

School/community activities: Concert choir, chamber choir, show choir, concert band, jazz band, cross country, track and field, school musical, Destination Imagination, and CCD teacher

Favorite high school memory: Going to Disney World with the Show Choir

Future Plans: I plan to attend the University of South Dakota and major in Medical Biology. After College, I plan on going to Medical School to become a doctor



**GROTON
VET CLINIC**



1503 N Broadway, Groton, 605/397-8145

Today in Weather History

April 30, 1942: Three farms were hit by a tornado near the northeastern edge of Castlewood. One barn was blown apart and debris was blown into the house, killing one person. Damage was estimated at \$20,000. Tornado strength was estimated to be an F2.

April 30, 2011: A very strong surface low pressure area moving across North Dakota brought high winds to much of central into parts of northeast South Dakota. Northwest winds of 35 to 50 mph with gusts to over 60 mph occurred from the morning to the late evening of the 30th. The high winds did cause some property damage across the region. A semi was tipped over on Highway 50 in Buffalo County; a large sign was brought down in Highmore, with some damage to security lights and twisted traffic signals in Pierre. Some of the highest wind gusts included, 59 mph at Eagle Butte, 61 mph at Oacoma, 66 mph in Corson county, and 69 mph at Hayes in Stanley county.

1888: 246 people died in the world's deadliest hailstorm in India. Hailstones were reportedly the size of baseballs. 1600 domesticated animals at Moradabad perished.

1991: Southeast Bangladesh was devastated by tropical cyclone with sustained winds of approximately 150 mph in the early AM. A 20 foot storm surge inundated the offshore islands south of Chittagong and pushed water from the Bay of Bengal inland for miles. Up to 200,000 deaths occurred and the estimated damage total was 1.4 billion dollars.

1854 - The Connecticut River reached a level of nearly twenty-nine feet at Hartford (the highest level of record up until that time). The record height was reached in the midst of a great New England flood which followed sixty-six hours of steady rain. (David Ludlum)

1935 - Snow, ice and sleet brought winter back to parts of southeast Minnesota. Minneapolis received three inches of snow to tie their May record which was established in 1892. (1st-2nd) (The Weather Channel)

1954 - The temperature at Polebridge MT dipped to 5 degrees below zero to establish a state record for the month of May. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Thunderstorms produced large hail and heavy rain in Texas. Baseball size hail pounded Dublin, and 3.75 inches of rain soaked Brady. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








1988 - Strong southerly winds ahead of a cold front crossing the Rocky Mountain Region gusted to 90 mph at Lamar CO. High winds created blinding dust storms in eastern Colorado, closing roads around Limon. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

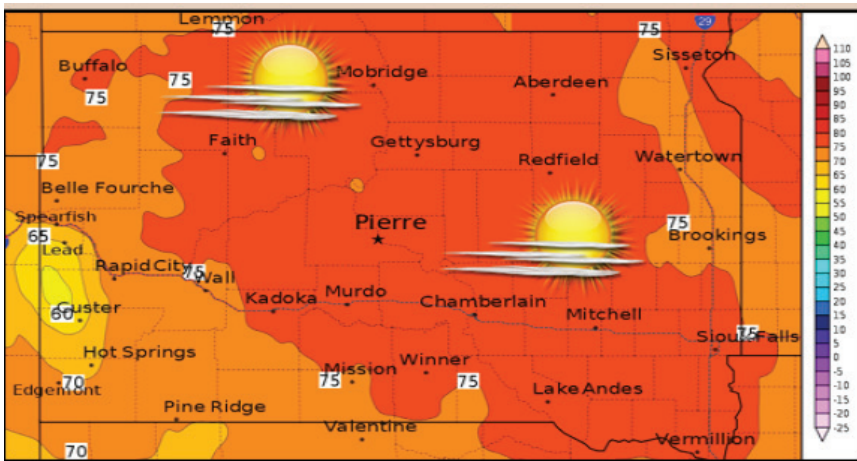
1989 - Thunderstorms produced heavy rain in the southeastern U.S. Rainfall totals of 1.84 inches at Charlotte NC and 2.86 inches at Atlanta GA were records for the date. Strong thunderstorm winds uprooted trees in Twiggs County GA. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather from northern Alabama to North Carolina. There were sixty-three reports of large hail or damaging winds, with hail four inches in diameter reported near Cartersville GA. Ten cities in the southeastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date as readings warmed into the 90s. Jacksonville FL reported a record high of 96 degrees. Late night thunderstorms over central Texas produced up to ten inches of rain in southern Kimble County and northern Edwards County. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

Groton Daily Independent

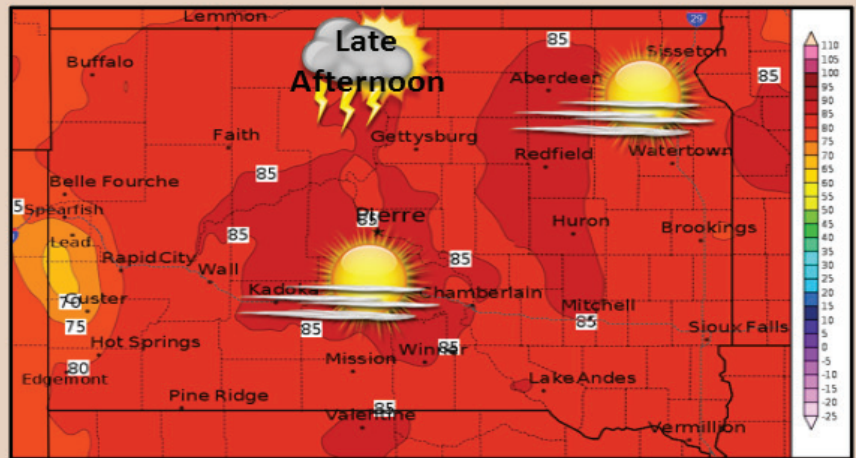
Friday, May 1, 2015 ♦ Vol. 18 - No. 274 ♦ 12 of 29

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
						
Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Chance Thunderstorms	Slight Chc Thunderstorms	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny
High: 77 °F	Low: 44 °F	High: 87 °F	Low: 50 °F	High: 74 °F	Low: 40 °F	High: 69 °F



Pleasant Weather Today

Warmer on Saturday



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Published on: 05/01/2015 at 4:39AM

Today will feature partly to mostly sunny skies with light winds. Highs today should warm into the 70s. Warmer temperatures are expected on Saturday with highs climbing into the 80s. There is a chance for showers and thunderstorms during the late afternoon hours. Chances for showers increase Saturday night, mainly for northeastern South Dakota and western Minnesota.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, May 1, 2015 ♦ Vol. 18 - No. 274 ♦ 13 of 29

Yesterday's Weather

High: 79.3 at 4:59 PM

Low: 41.7 at 6:29 AM

High Gust: 34 at 2:58 PM

Snow: 0.00

Precip: 0.01

Today's Info

Record High: 102° in 1959

Record Low: 19° in 1961

Average High: 64°F

Average Low: 38°F

Average Precip in April.: 1.85

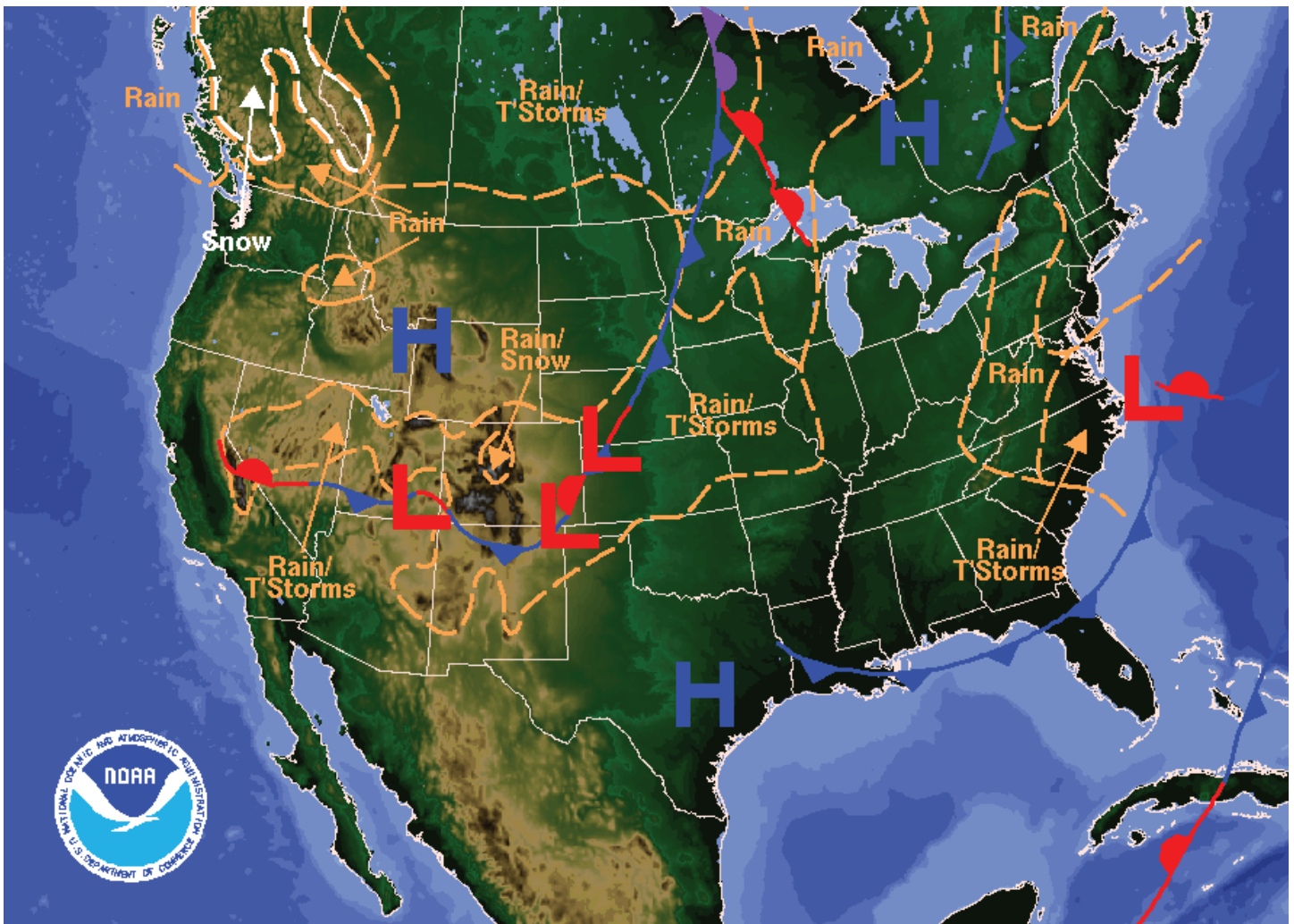
Precip to date in April.: 0.48

Average Precip to date: 4.03

Precip Year to Date: 0.95

Sunset Tonight: 8:40 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:21 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Fri, May 01, 2015, issued 4:12 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Santorelli based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



A CUP OF WATER

We had been traveling all night by train, moving rapidly toward our destination. Suddenly things turned upside down. Our passenger train was hit head on by a freight train. It was a frightening experience. Wreckage was all around us, people were screaming in pain. The crew was doing all they could to provide comfort until help arrived.

But God was protecting us and we were uninjured. Fortunately we were able to help others in their distress and were doing all that we could. Shortly after the accident, we discovered a little girl who was crying and we reached out to help her. She was pleading for water. We had none, but a man came along with a container of water and offered to share it with her.

As he gave her a cup of water he said, "I'm sorry I'm not a doctor and cannot bandage your wounds. And I am sorry there is no medicine available to ease your pain. But I am thankful that I can give you some water."

Jesus emphasized the importance of a cup of water. In fact, He said, "If anyone gives a cup of water in the name of the Messiah, that one will be rewarded!"

Our Lord did not ask us to do great things, just simple things. Jesus never left anyone with a need He could meet. When we see the needs of others, we must help them.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, may our eyes and hearts be open to see the needs of those around us that we can meet by showing Your love. In Your Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Mark 9:40-41 Truly I tell you, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to the Messiah will certainly not lose their reward.

News from the Associated Press

April economic report suggests slow growth ahead in Midwest

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A new monthly survey report says April results suggest that slow economic growth remains ahead for nine Midwestern and Plains states.

The survey report issued Friday says the overall Mid-America Business Conditions Index rose to 52.7 from 51.4 in March.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss oversees the survey, and he says rising economic expectations from nonenergy firms, resulting from lower energy prices, “more than offset economic pessimism stemming from weakness in firms directly tied to energy.”

The survey results from supply managers are compiled into a collection of indexes ranging from zero to 100. Survey organizers say any score above 50 suggests economic growth, while a score below that suggests decline.

The survey covers Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

State seeks proposals for Roy Lake Resort operator in NE SD

ROY LAKE, S.D. (AP) — The state Department of Game, Fish and Parks is looking for someone to operate the Roy Lake Resort in northeastern South Dakota.

The operation on Roy Lake State Park offers year-round outdoor recreation, including camping, fishing and boating in the summer and ice fishing, waterfowl hunting and snowmobiling in the winter.

State park director Doug Hofer says the resort is one of the most popular destinations in the Glacial Lakes region for families and people who love the outdoors.

The park is about 10 miles southeast of Lake City and roughly 25 miles north of Webster.

Entrepreneurs interested in operating the resort have until Aug. 15 to submit their proposals. Details of the operation and a prospectus are available at <http://gfp.sd.gov/state-parks/directory/roy-lake> .

D officials release lake trout into Deerfield Reservoir

HILL CITY, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota wildlife officials have stock Deerfield Reservoir near Hill City with large lake trout.

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department says crews have released 55 large trout into the reservoir. The fish average 27 inches in length and were acquired from the Saratoga National Fish Hatchery in Wyoming.

John Lott is the department’s chief of fisheries. Lott says the decision to stock the reservoir with lake trout stems from the comments the agency received from anglers during the drafting of the Black Hills fisheries management plans.

The department is planning future stockings of 11-inch lake trout raised at South Dakota hatcheries.

Lake trout is a popular cold water predator. Lott says the reservoir has an abundance of rock bass and yellow perch for the trout to eat.

Sobriety checkpoints planned for 14 counties across state

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol says it is targeting 14 counties with sobriety checkpoints in May.

The monthly checkpoints are done as a way to discourage people from drinking and driving.

The counties scheduled for sobriety checkpoints in May are: Bennett, Brown, Charles Mix, Codington, Edmunds, Hughes, Jerald, Minnehaha, Moody, Pennington, Roberts, Spink, Tripp and Yankton.

Activists work for Native American-friendly site names

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

WOUNDED KNEE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's Shannon County will now be Oglala Lakota County, removing the name of a man who Oglala Sioux Tribe activists say helped with negotiations that were a precursor for the breakup of tribal lands.

The name change, which is official Friday, follows an April proclamation from the governor. More than 80 percent of the county's voters approved the change in November.

Officials in South Dakota and other states have for years moved to do away with overtly offensive names for geographic places and monuments. But South Dakota's recent moves extend to names that might not be obvious except to Native American communities and others who know the history behind them.

The South Dakota Board on Geographic Names is hearing a request to provide a new designation for Harney Peak, the highest point in the U.S. east of the Rocky Mountains. It was named for Army Gen. William S. Harney, whose men massacred Native American women and children during a battle in September 1855, according to historic records.

"I don't want to see a peak that's named after someone that violated women and children," said Basil Brave Heart, a member of the Oglala Sioux who proposed the change in September. "Our people had to live under that icon, that man who did that to our people."

For supporters of renaming Harney Peak, many of them Native Americans who also supported the shift to Oglala Lakota County, the change would be a step toward reconciliation. The Black Hills are a sacred place for some, and many features had names before Americans assigned them designations.

"The closer that you can get to naming something ... after the tribal name that was removed, the better off it is for future generations to be able to go back and to know that the world is finally recognizing them as a people who have a rightful place," said Lionel Bordeaux, president of Sinte Gleska University on South Dakota's Rosebud Indian Reservation.

Opponents argue Harney's actions are more than a century old and say the name shouldn't be sacrificed for political correctness.

One suggested name is Black Elk Peak, but many others have been proposed. The board is taking public input and could issue a recommendation for a new name to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Native American activists in South Dakota appear eager to institute more name changes in the future for other sites with names that are not overtly offensive.

"There's the possibility that with increased sensitivity to the wanton slaughter of Native American people west of the Mississippi that the name of a general who was involved in that slaughter would be no less offensive than the word 'squaw,'" said Mark Monmonier, a geography professor at Syracuse University in New York who wrote a book on offensive names. "Harney could be the new 'squaw' if you want to look at it like that."

After discovering the history of the man behind Shannon County's name, activists successfully passed

the ballot measure to designate it Oglala Lakota County. Peter Shannon was a chief justice of the Dakota Territory Supreme Court who later helped with land negotiations with the Lakota that were the precursor for the breakup of tribal lands, said Jesse Antoine Short Bull, who researched Shannon's history as part of the ballot measure.

Following procedural approval from the Legislature, South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard proclaimed the change official.

Oglala Sioux Tribe member Dorothy Sun Bear said she voted for the county name change and was "elated" when she heard about the proposal to rename Harney Peak. She said more names should be changed.

"Those men went out and killed our people," she said, standing in front of her home in Wounded Knee on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. "It's not just another name. People don't know the story behind the men."

Documentary on T-rex discovery leads to pardon request

KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Pete Larson has discovered thousands of fossils around the world, co-authored three books and led the team that unearthed the largest and most complete Tyrannosaurus rex ever found. But there's one black mark on his record: a federal conviction that landed him in prison almost 20 years ago.

His name could soon be cleared because of a documentary released last year at the Sundance Film Festival, which has brought his legal blemish back into the public eye and spurred South Dakota residents — and Larson himself — to push for President Barack Obama to give him a pardon.

"Dinosaur 13" details the discovery of "Sue," a Tyrannosaurus rex that was more than 90 percent complete when it was discovered in 1990 in South Dakota. Federal agents seized the fossil in 1992, alleging that Larson's Black Hills Institute of Geological Research and its employees took it from federal trust land.

While those charges never stuck, the federal government investigated the institute and brought more than 150 unrelated charges against its employees. Only Larson and two others were found guilty, and the paleontologist was sentenced to two years in federal prison for lying on customs documents about thousands of dollars used for fossil deals in Peru and Japan and illegally taking fossils from a national forest in Montana.

Larson's backers have argued for more than two decades that he was overzealously prosecuted. The movie's release has reignited that conversation, leading his supporters to push for the president to correct what they see as the government's mistake.

The South Dakota Legislature overwhelmingly passed a resolution this session that's been sent to Obama requesting a pardon for Larson. And Larson is working with an attorney on a formal pardon request — a move he hopes could clear his name and allow him to travel to Canada, where he said more fossil work is to be done.

"It's something very special for me personally to have this piece of paper that says I'm pardoned for these offenses," Larson said. "It's an important mile marker to reach. Like climbing Mt. Everest, or finding your first T-rex — or finding your 10th T-rex."

But not everyone thinks Larson's name should be cleared or that the documentary, which portrays the paleontologists in the mid-1990s trial in a fairly sympathetic light, should prompt a pardon.

The lone two lawmakers — out of 105 — who opposed the resolution said they personally know

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, May 1, 2015 ♦ Vol. 18 - No. 274 ♦ 18 of 29

people who were involved in the investigation, believe Larson's crime was serious and that the conviction was justified.

"It's possible that he was overzealously prosecuted but yet guilty of the crimes on which he was found guilty of," said Rep. Mark Mickelson, R-Sioux Falls.

Neither he nor fellow Republican Rep. Lee Schoenbeck, of Watertown, has seen the film.

"Unless it had a detailed review of the criminal investigation file, I probably wouldn't spend my time watching it," Schoenbeck said. "There is no chance that any legislators knew the details of that criminal case that would warrant them for voting for that resolution."

Rep. Mike Verchio, a Republican from Larson's home of Hill City, said he introduced the resolution after an outpouring of requests from constituents who had watched the documentary and thought Larson was unjustly imprisoned.

The film aired worldwide and played in tiny theaters across South Dakota last summer, from Mitchell to Hill City, where the geological institute is headquartered.

"There were people who really weren't aware of the background of the situation and how it happened and that seemed to be the catalyst right there," said Verchio, who has watched the film several times. "It built up a tremendous amount of support here."

It's unclear how Larson's pardon request and the support from the state of South Dakota will be received by the president. A spokesman said the White House doesn't usually comment on individual cases.

Homicide, sex offenses, assaults up in South Dakota in 2014

REGINA GARCIA CANO, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A shooting on the Lake Traverse Indian Reservation that left four people dead contributed to a significant spike in homicides last year in South Dakota, according to a report released Thursday by Attorney General Marty Jackley's office.

The report shows South Dakota saw 20 homicides in 2014, up from 12 the year before. The lowest homicide rate recorded in the state during the past decade was in 2010, when 11 people were slain.

"When people ask me: 'Does this concern you?' Certainly. One murder or manslaughter would concern me as attorney general, but when you got this small of a calculation and you throw in Sisseton into the mix, that's what's really changed the number (of homicides)," Jackley said.

The fatal shooting in the Indian reservation town of Sisseton in northeast South Dakota that happened in November ended in four deaths after the 22-year-old shooter, Colter Arbach, killed three people before taking his own life. The incident was a result of domestic violence.

The report released Thursday also shows that the total number of criminal offenses last year rose 1 percent from 2013, to more than 65,000. Law enforcement agencies during the same period reported a total of 37,857 arrests.

Jackley said the small percentage increase in offenses reflects that South Dakota overall "remains a very safe place to live." He added that his office has room for improvement in terms of public safety; two of those areas are financial crimes and sexual crimes against children.

Last year, 38 people were arrested for solicitation of a minor or enticement and 19 others for child pornography, compared to 31 and 23 arrests respectively. Arrests for sex offenses that did not involve minors added up to 111, a 2 percent increase over the year.

Simultaneously, 441 were taken into custody on fraud charges, 79 for counterfeiting or forgery, and 36 for embezzlement. Thefts totaled over \$23 million worth of property loss.

Trending downward were the arrests of juvenile offenders. Law enforcement took into custody 4,888 minors in 2014, that's 695 fewer juvenile arrests compared to 2013.

Jamaican police officer says country trying to stop scammers

DAVE KOLPACK, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A top Jamaican law enforcement officer testifying in a North Dakota trial said Thursday his country is making progress in disrupting lottery scams but that many children still want to grow up to be fraudsters.

Cpl. Kevin Watson testified in Bismarck during the trial of Sanjay Williams, 25, of Montego Bay, Jamaica. Williams is accused of participating in a lottery scam that victimized more than 70 people, including a North Dakota woman whose case sparked the investigation. Investigators accuse Williams of buying and selling "sucker lists" of potential victims.

In such scams, victims are told they must pay fees and taxes to claim winnings that never materialize.

Watson, a member of a Jamaican agency comparable to the FBI, founded a lottery task force in late 2012. He told the jury that a Jamaican law passed in 2013 has increased the number of successful prosecutions of scammers, but that many have now gone underground.

"There's still a lot more to do," Watson said.

And there's still allure among young people. A Jamaican elementary school teacher asked Watson to speak to her class because 17 of the 35 students said they wanted to be lottery scammers.

Asked why, Watson said, "All lottery scammers drive nice cars, they own big houses, and all they have to do is make a call."

Watson said the foundation for lottery scams was laid in the late 1990s, when U.S. and Canadian companies moved their call centers to western Jamaica. The businesses found an ample workforce with young people who spoke clear English, and they were trained in customer service.

Those skills turned out to be ideal for scamming. With virtually no fear of prosecution for more than a decade, the fraudsters ran wild and celebrated their ill-gotten gains by throwing elaborate parties, Watson said.

"They wash their cars with champagne. There is competition among scammers who can set the most money on fire," Watson said. "It's ridiculous."

It also spawned violence, with hundreds of homicides attributed to the lottery scam trade, Watson said.

Investigators allege Watson sold some of his "sucker lists" to Lavrick Willocks, considered to be the mastermind of this particular scam. Willocks is charged but is awaiting extradition, prompting U.S. District Judge Daniel Hovland to ask Watson if the "wheels move slowly" in the Jamaican legal system.

"I guess so," Watson said.

U.S. Department of Justice officials say the first extradition from Jamaica of a man charged in a lottery fraud happened earlier this year.

Williams was arrested in 2013 after he got off a plane in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he allegedly had expanded his operation.

USD's Nepalese students money for victims of Earthquake

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — A group of students from Nepal at the University of South Dakota is raising money for victims of the recent earthquake that has killed more than 6,000 and injured almost 14,000 people.

The Nepalese students at the Vermillion school sent out an announcement Thursday notifying the public that they're collecting money to give to the Red Cross.

The students have set up donation boxes at the school and partnered with a school coffee shop to donate 50 cents for every large espresso drink it sells. They will also be holding bake sales until next Tuesday.

People from around the country have been stepping to help the people of Nepal, which has been overwhelmed by death and destruction since the 7.8-magnitude earthquake hit Saturday.

Former Sioux Falls football player accused of robbing casino

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A former running back for the Sioux Falls Storm has been charged with second-degree robbery for allegedly trying to rob a Sioux Falls casino.

Thirty-five-year-old Florencell James Jones was taken into custody after police received a flood of tips from the public.

Jones allegedly demanded money from a clerk at the Rice Street Casino Monday night wearing a mask, but left empty-handed after a clerk told him he was being taped.

Captain Blaine Larsen says police released the surveillance video of the robbery attempt and received more than a dozen tips.

Jones was a popular player on Storm, which is part of the professional Indoor Football League. He was let go in 2012 after he was accused of assaulting his ex-girlfriend. He eventually pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct.

Woman charged in 2011 killing of homeless man in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police have arrested a woman in a homicide that occurred about 3 ½ years ago.

Fifty-eight-year-old Daniel Eastman was beaten and stabbed in a downtown Sioux Falls alley in August 2011. He died in a hospital a few months later.

The killing went unsolved, but authorities have now arrested and charged 33-year-old Sadie Red Bear with manslaughter. It wasn't immediately clear if she had an attorney.

Police Capt. Blaine Larsen says both Eastman and Red Bear were homeless at the time of his death, and Red Bear was identified as a person of interest early in the investigation. He says she was arrested after investigators reopened the case and conducted further interviews.

Dakota Dunes businessman appointed to South Dakota Senate

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard has appointed Dakota Dunes businessman William Shorma to a vacant seat in the South Dakota Senate.

Shorma will succeed Dan Lederman, who resigned earlier this year in District 16. Shorma will serve the remainder of Lederman's term, which expires after the 2016 general election.

Shorma grew up farming and ranching and working in his family's businesses in Wahpeton, North Dakota. He has worked at family businesses in Yankton and currently is CEO of one in Springfield.

Daugaard says Shorma learned the value of hard work from an entrepreneurial family, and also has given back to his community.

Shorma also is a former director of the Board of the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank, and has served as chairman of the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Shooting in Brookings sends 18-year-old to hospital

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Brookings police are investigating a shooting that sent a man to the hospital but say there is no threat to the general public.

An officer found an 18-year-old man in the backyard of a home with a gunshot wound while searching for a suspect after a call about a suspicious person early Thursday. The man was taken to a hospital in Sioux Falls with unknown injuries.

Police say the incident began when a caller reported a suspicious male exiting their neighbor's garage. An officer a short time later spotted a male matching the description walking on the sidewalk. The male fled when the officer turned on his emergency lights.

Officers who launched a search for the male heard a gunshot, and came across the wounded 18-year-old.

Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center getting rare tapes of rodeo legend

FORT PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — An Arizona couple is giving the Casey Tibbs Rodeo Center in Fort Pierre a treasure trove of black-and-white films of the rodeo legend.

Tibbs gave the tapes to friends Jeb and Dorothy Rosebrook in 1962. They recently gave them to Denver filmmaker Justin Koehler, who produced a documentary about Tibbs.

Koehler, who grew up in South Dakota, is delivering the tapes Friday, when he arrives for a public showing of "Floating Horses — The Life of Casey Tibbs" at the center in Tibbs' hometown. Koehler hopes to release the film later this year.

Between 1949 and 1955, Tibbs won six PRCA saddle bronc-riding championships, a record still unchallenged, plus two all-around cowboy championships and one bareback-riding championship. He also wrote a syndicated newspaper column and starred in several movies. He was a founder of the Rodeo Cowboys Association.

The tapes from the Rosebrooks includes footage of Tibbs riding broncs, as well as clips from "The Young Rounders," the 1966 movie that Tibbs starred in with Joel McCrea, Slim Pickens and Montie Montana.

"The reel-to-reel tapes are in mint condition and were not viewed prior to using footage for the documentary," Center Director Cindy Bahe said. "We are so excited to have them here to add to Casey's permanent displays."

Tibbs died in January 1990 in California. He's buried near Fort Pierre.

Some notable things about 2015 NFL draft

BARRY WILNER, AP Pro Football Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Three teams showed no fear of behavioral baggage accompanying some prospects in the NFL draft's first round. The rest were more reticent.

Tampa Bay believes it found its franchise quarterback at the top of the proceedings Thursday night, selecting Jameis Winston. The Florida State quarterback made plenty of headlines winning the Heisman Trophy in 2013 while leading the Seminoles to the national title, and again with his strong play last season.

He also drew way too much attention for off-field problems.

"One thing I don't do is live in the past and I will not be negative. I'm very optimistic about this situation," Winston said. "It's been my lifelong dream to be a successful quarterback and great teammate in the NFL."

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, May 1, 2015 ♦ Vol. 18 - No. 274 ♦ 22 of 29

Denver also didn't struggle much with the fact Missouri defensive end Shane Ray was cited for marijuana possession on Monday. The Broncos traded up five spots to 23rd to get him.

That was much lower than many projections for Ray. Of course, marijuana has been legalized in Colorado, but Ray said there will be no temptations for him.

"When I was cited, I wasn't under the influence. I don't think weed is something that controls my life nor has it controlled my life or been an issue," he said. "I think that's really not a concern at all.

"But more so, I'm ready to move past that in my life. I'm not going to let that define me as a person and all the good I've done. I'm not going to let it define my character."

Another player with marijuana on his resume, Nebraska linebacker Randy Gregory, tested positive at the NFL combine in February. He was not chosen in the first round despite generally being considered a top-32 talent.

Kansas City picked Washington cornerback Marcus Peters at No. 18 after extensive investigation into why he was dismissed from the Huskies last season — run-ins with coaches.

"We all make mistakes at times in life. Marcus realizes that," Chiefs coach Andy Reid said. "We feel comfortable he realizes that. It was an emotional situation and he didn't handle it the right way. I think he's learned from it, just from our experience with him."

Several others who got into trouble in college remain on the board. It will be interesting to see how teams treat them considering the cases last year involving Ray Rice, Adrian Peterson and Greg Hardy that led to a new personal conduct policy.

Some things to look for in Friday's second and third rounds:

IN TOWN AND STILL AVAILABLE: Of the 27 players invited to the draft, six went unselected Thursday: Gregory, Alabama safety Landon Collins, Ohio State wide receiver Devin Smith, Penn State tackle Donovan Smith, Arizona State wide receiver Jalen Strong, and Mississippi State linebacker Bernardrick McKinney.

LSU offensive tackle La'el Collins was at the NFL Play 60 event in Chicago Wednesday, but did not attend the draft. He is being sought by police in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in an investigation into the murder of an ex-girlfriend. Police say he is not a suspect.

ALSO AVAILABLE BUT NOT IN CHICAGO: Likely to go in the second round, which begins at 7 p.m. EDT, are several highly touted players who didn't fit team's preferences on Thursday. Look for LSU cornerback Jalen Collins, Florida State defensive tackle Eddie Goldman, Virginia linebacker Eli Harold, Pittsburgh tackle T. J. Clemmings, Miami running back Duke Johnson and Ohio State defensive tackle Michael Bennett.

RUN ON RUNNING BACKS: For the first time in three drafts, a running back — actually two — was taken in the opening round. Georgia's Todd Gurley, coming off a torn ACL, went to St. Louis at No. 10. Wisconsin's record-setting Melvin Gordon was chosen 15th by San Diego, which moved up two spots in a trade with San Francisco to get him.

A run on running backs could be ahead. It is one of the deepest positions in this draft, and while teams have gone pass-happy in the pros, surely there will be room for the likes of Boise State's Jay Ajayi, Nebraska's Ameer Abdullah, Indiana's Tevin Coleman, Michigan State's Devin Coleman, Alabama's T.J. Yeldon, and Minnesota's David Cobb. All of them might go off the board Friday night.

DON'T FORGET THE LITTLE GUYS: No, not players without the "measurables" NFL teams seek, but guys from smaller schools. Among those prospects with a good shot of being selected in Rounds 2 or 3: RB David Johnson of Northern Iowa; OT Ali Marpet of Hobart, a Division III school; S Tevin McDonald of Eastern Washington; LB Davis Tull of Chattanooga; and QB Brandon Bridge of South Alabama.

10 Things to Know for Today

The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. WHO IS TASKED WITH FREDDIE GRAY CASE

Marilyn Mosby, Baltimore's new chief prosecutor, will decide whether evidence supports criminal charges against police officers.

2. WHAT IS ON MAY DAY AGENDA

Activists who are marching for labor and immigrant rights in U.S. cities will broaden their message to police brutality.

3. AFTERMATH OF HISTORIC TEBLOR TAKES TOLL

Nepal earthquake victims trek from remote mountain hamlets to pick up aid and temporary shelters after sleeping out in the open for days.

4. WHY RURAL HOSPITALS ARE CLOSING THEIR DOORS

AP's David Lieb finds some of the reasons are changing demographics, medical practices, management decisions and federal policies.

5. KOBANI STILL A GHOST TOWN, MONTHS AFTER LIBERATION FROM IS

Thousands are still stranded in Turkey, reluctant to return to collapsed buildings and at a loss as to how and where to rebuild their lives.

6. A NEW TWIST ON REMOVING OFFENSIVE MONIKERS

Activists in South Dakota are working to rename sites named after men whose acts harmed Native Americans.

7. HOW PEOPLE FEEL ABOUT DRONE ATTACKS

Nearly three-quarters of Americans say it's acceptable for the U.S. to use an unmanned aerial drone to kill an American citizen abroad if that person has joined a terror organization, an AP poll finds.

8. WHERE SCIENTIST ARE CONDUCTING RED PLANET RESEARCH

A rocky corner of Utah bears such a resemblance to Mars that it's become a hot spot to run the imaginary 140-million-mile missions to Earth's neighbor.

9. HOW HOLLYWOOD IS CREATING BUZZ

Studios are trying to court young super fans who blog about movies and in the process, help build excitement among other youngsters ahead of a movie's debut.

10. BUCCANEERS GET THEIR QB

Tampa Bay selected Heisman Trophy-winner Jameis Winston with the first pick in the NFL draft.

AP News in Brief

Baltimore authorities' secrecy on probe of Gray's death fuels suspicion; more protests planned

BALTIMORE (AP) — Authorities' refusal to provide more than a few sketchy details about the Freddie Gray investigation is fueling suspicion and mistrust as a weekend of protest rallies looms.

The secrecy may be legally appropriate, but many in Baltimore were finding it hard to be patient Thursday when police revealed next to nothing about the criminal investigation they turned over to the state's attorney's office.

Nearly two weeks after Gray's death, the public still doesn't know much more than it did on Day One. The central question — what caused his fatal spinal cord injury while he was in police custody earlier

this month — remains a mystery.

“The transparency is just not there,” the Rev. Cortly “C.D.” Witherspoon said after Police Commissioner Anthony Batts refused to answer any questions Thursday.

Batts said a 10 p.m. curfew for all residents and a state of emergency declared by Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan would remain in effect through Sunday. The curfew went into effect for the third night Thursday with no major incidents.

May Day rallies for labor and immigrant rights broaden to address police brutality, race

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Activists who are marching for labor and immigrant rights in U.S. cities on Friday will broaden their message to direct attention toward police brutality as tensions simmer in communities across the nation.

The marches on May 1 have their roots in labor movements, which hold annual demonstrations in a myriad of countries calling for workers’ rights. In recent years, marches in the United States got a boost from immigrants seeking authorization to live and work in the country legally.

Now, some of the activists in cities from Boston to Oakland, California, say they are also rallying in support of “Black Lives Matter” — the slogan of the growing movement in the wake of a series of high-profile deaths of black men as the result of a police encounter.

“It is important to support movements and struggles that stand up for people being singled out by the system. Right now, immigrants share that distinction with African-American youth, that we are being targeted by the system,” said Miguel Paredes, membership coordinator of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles.

The move comes after unrest in Baltimore and protests in other cities over the death of Freddie Gray, who suffered severe spinal injuries at some point after he tried to run from police April 12.

Nepal quake victims trek from remote mountain hamlets to pick up temporary shelters, aid

BALUA, Nepal (AP) — After roughing it five nights in the rain, the 60-year-old woman finally had a plastic sheet over her head.

Sukhmaya Tamang had walked about 12 miles (20 kilometers) in flip-flops on mountain paths to get the emergency kit to help ward off the weather, and faced the same long journey back home.

She and hundreds of others — many elderly and all of them poor — arrived in recent days at this village to collect the emergency shelters after their remote mountain homes shaken to a shambles by Saturday’s magnitude 7.8 earthquake that radiated from the epicenter directly below.

Tamang’s cliffside hamlet in the Gorkha district can’t be reached by vehicle, and Balua is the closest place to her home that even the toughest trucks and SUVs can get to. Helicopters are scarce during the crisis, and rainy weather has further reduced their flights.

“I walked four hours to get here, and I’ve been waiting here for two days,” Tamang said Thursday while crouching amid dozens of other now-homeless and destitute women. “I have no home, no food, nothing left. I have been sleeping under the open sky.”

The Latest on Nepal: Hospitals coping well with emergencies, no major disease outbreaks

3:15 p.m. (0930 GMT)

The World Health Organization says a quick assessment of Nepal's worst-hit districts has found some hospitals damaged or destroyed but most are coping well with no extra staff or beds required. However, they are in need of essential medicines, equipment and materials.

The WHO says the Nepalese health system took measures to prepare for such emergencies.

The agency says it is focused on preventing the possible spread of diarrhoeal diseases among at least 2.8 million displaced people, especially those living in 16 makeshift camps in Kathmandu. So far, the number of cases has not exceeded expectations and no camps have reported an increase in disease or any outbreaks.

— Jerry Harmer, Kathmandu, Nepal

AP Poll: Most Democrats and Republicans support drone strikes against terrorists overseas

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly three-quarters of Americans say it's acceptable for the U.S. to use an unmanned aerial drone to kill an American citizen abroad if that person has joined a terror organization, according to a new Associated Press-GfK poll.

A majority, 6 in 10, supports the use of drones to target terrorists in general. Only 13 percent oppose the use of drones, the poll said, and another 24 percent don't feel strongly either way.

The AP-GfK Poll was conducted April 23-27, in the days after President Barack Obama publicly apologized for a CIA drone strike in Pakistan that inadvertently killed American hostage Warren Weinstein and Italian hostage Giovanni Lo Porto. The strike also killed Ahmed Farouq, an American citizen who was an al-Qaida planning leader. Another strike killed Adam Gadhani, an American citizen who joined al-Qaida and became Osama Bin Laden's spokesman.

The survey is the latest in several years of data showing broad support among the U.S. public for a targeted killing program begun under President George W. Bush and expanded dramatically under Obama. While the U.S. once condemned Israel for targeted killing from the air, such operations are now the centerpiece of American counterterrorism policy, and they enjoy widespread public backing.

Support for targeted killing with drones crosses party lines, the new poll found. Nearly 6 in 10 Democrats favor using drones to bomb members of terrorist groups, while only 16 percent are opposed. Among Republicans, 72 percent are in favor and only 10 percent are opposed. Independents are more ambivalent, with 45 percent in favor and 12 percent opposed; 37 percent are neutral on the issue.

Syrian town of Kobani still in ruins, with few people returning, months after IS defeat

SURUC, Turkey (AP) — The battle for the Syrian border town of Kobani was a watershed in the war against the Islamic State group — Syrian Kurdish forces fought the militants in rubble-strewn streets for months as U.S. aircraft pounded the extremists from the skies until ultimately expelling them from the town earlier this year.

It was the Islamic State's bloodiest defeat to date in Syria. But now, three months since Kobani was liberated, tens of thousands of its residents are still stranded in Turkey, reluctant to return to a wasteland of collapsed buildings and at a loss as to how and where to rebuild their lives.

The Kurdish town on the Turkish-Syrian border is still a haunting, apocalyptic vista of hollowed out facades and streets littered with unexploded ordnance — a testimony to the massive price that came with the victory over IS.

There is no electricity or clean water, nor any immediate plans to restore basic services and start rebuilding.

While grateful for the U.S. airstrikes that helped turn the tide in favor of the Kobani fighters and drive out IS militants, residents say their wretched situation underscores the lack of any serious follow-up by the international community in its war against IS.

For space enthusiasts, desert research center in Utah serves as stand-in for surface of Mars

HANKSVILLE, Utah (AP) — Four people wearing space helmets and square backpacks emerge from a circular structure resembling a water tank and step onto a reddish, barren landscape.

One hikes up a hill to take magnetic readings of the ground with a rectangular apparatus that looks like a large leveling tool. Another pushes a wheelbarrow equipped with sensors arrayed in a zig-zag pattern.

For a group of six Belgian college students, it's just another simulated day on Mars.

This rocky corner of Utah bears such a resemblance to the red planet that it's become a hot spot for scientists and engineers to run imaginary missions to Earth's neighbor. They've been coming here for more than a decade, hoping their research someday helps put humans on the Martian surface.

This site and others that allow crews to mimic interplanetary missions are helping to raise buzz about Mars to an all-time high as advancements in science and engineering convince space enthusiasts that the 140-million-mile trip is a realistic possibility in this century.

Saudi Defense Ministry: Border clash kills 3 Saudi soldiers and 'dozens' of Yemeni rebels

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — A cross-border attack on Saudi Arabia by Yemeni rebel forces resulted in late-night clashes that left three Saudi soldiers and "dozens" of Yemeni rebels dead, according to the Saudi Defense Ministry.

A ministry statement said that a group of Yemen's Shiite rebels attacked "border posts and control points" in the southern Saudi province of Najran late Thursday night. Saudi forces, backed by air force fighter jets, repelled the attack, the statement said.

A Saudi-led coalition of mostly Sunni Arab nations has been conducting airstrikes inside Yemen for more than a month, seeking to blunt the advance of rebel forces who have overrun the capital, Sanaa, and were advancing deep into southern Yemen. The Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, are allied with military and security forces loyal to ousted former president Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Yemen's Western-backed president, Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, fled the capital earlier this year after being placed under house arrest by the rebels. Hadi temporarily set up a provisional capital in the southern port city of Aden, but later fled the country as the rebels forces advanced on Aden. Hadi now operates from the Saudi capital, Riyadh.

Despite more than a month of airstrikes, the campaign has largely failed to halt the rebel advance into southern Yemen. However the Saudi government claims its coalition campaign has destroyed much of the rebel stockpile of missiles and heavy weapons.

Activists work to change South Dakota sites named after men whose acts harmed Native Americans

WOUNDED KNEE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's Shannon County will now be Oglala Lakota County, removing the name of a man who Oglala Sioux Tribe activists say helped with negotiations that were a precursor for the breakup of tribal lands.

The name change, which is official Friday, follows an April proclamation from the governor. More than 80 percent of the county's voters approved the change in November.

Officials in South Dakota and other states have for years moved to do away with overtly offensive names for geographic places and monuments. But South Dakota's recent moves extend to names that might not be obvious except to Native American communities and others who know the history behind them.

The South Dakota Board on Geographic Names is hearing a request to provide a new designation for Harney Peak, the highest point in the U.S. east of the Rocky Mountains. It was named for Army Gen. William S. Harney, whose men massacred Native American women and children during a battle in September 1855, according to historic records.

"I don't want to see a peak that's named after someone that violated women and children," said Basil Brave Heart, a member of the Oglala Sioux who proposed the change in September. "Our people had to live under that icon, that man who did that to our people."

NFL DRAFT: Some notable things about what happened Thursday and what's ahead

CHICAGO (AP) — Three teams showed no fear of behavioral baggage accompanying some prospects in the NFL draft's first round. The rest were more reticent.

Tampa Bay believes it found its franchise quarterback at the top of the proceedings Thursday night, selecting Jameis Winston. The Florida State quarterback made plenty of headlines winning the Heisman Trophy in 2013 while leading the Seminoles to the national title, and again with his strong play last season.

He also drew way too much attention for off-field problems.

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Denver also didn't struggle much with the fact Missouri defensive end Shane Ray was cited for marijuana possession on Monday. The Broncos traded up five spots to 23rd to get him.

Today in History **The Associated Press**

Today is Friday, May 1, the 121st day of 2015. There are 244 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 1, 1915, during World War I, a German submarine torpedoed and severely damaged the SS Gulflight, an American tanker near Britain's Scilly Isles, even though the United States was still neutral in the conflict; the incident occurred the same day that the RMS Lusitania set sail from New York, headed for Liverpool, England (it was torpedoed and sunk by Germany off the coast of Ireland six days

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, May 1, 2015 ♦ Vol. 18 - No. 274 ♦ 28 of 29

later).

On this date:

In 1707, the Kingdom of Great Britain was created as a treaty merging England and Scotland took effect.

In 1786, Mozart's opera "The Marriage of Figaro" premiered in Vienna.

In 1898, Commodore George Dewey gave the command, "You may fire when you are ready, Gridley," as an American naval force destroyed a Spanish squadron in Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War.

In 1911, the song "I Want a Girl (Just Like the Girl That Married Dear Old Dad)," by Harry Von Tilzer and Will Dillon, was first published.

In 1931, New York's 102-story Empire State Building was dedicated. Singer Kate Smith made her debut on CBS Radio on her 24th birthday.

In 1945, a day after Adolf Hitler took his own life, Admiral Karl Doenitz effectively became sole leader of the Third Reich with the suicide of Hitler's propaganda minister, Josef Goebbels.

In 1960, the Soviet Union shot down an American U-2 reconnaissance plane over Sverdlovsk and captured its pilot, Francis Gary Powers.

In 1963, James W. Whittaker became the first American to conquer Mount Everest as he and Sherpa guide Nawang Gombu reached the summit.

In 1965, Vice President Hubert Humphrey, in a speech in Williamsburg, Virginia, said: "There are not enough jails, not enough policemen, not enough courts to enforce a law not supported by the people." Bandleader Spike Jones, 53, known for his raucous renditions of popular songs, died in Beverly Hills, California.

In 1975, Hank Aaron of the Milwaukee Brewers broke baseball's all-time RBI record previously held by Babe Ruth during a game against the Detroit Tigers (Milwaukee won, 17-3).

In 1982, the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee, was opened by President Ronald Reagan.

In 1990, in a case that drew much notoriety, Gregory Smart was shot to death in his Derry, New Hampshire, home by Billy Flynn, the teenage lover of Smart's wife, Pamela. (Flynn was paroled this year; Pamela Smart is serving a life sentence for being an accomplice to first-degree murder.)

Ten years ago: A car bombing at a Kurdish official's funeral in Tal Afar, Iraq, killed some two dozen people and wounded more than 50. Chinese computer maker Lenovo completed its purchase of IBM's personal computer division.

Five years ago: Pakistan-born U.S. citizen Faisal Shahzad (FY'-sul shah-ZAHD') failed in an attempt to set off a homemade bomb in an SUV parked in New York's Times Square. (Shahzad is serving a life prison sentence.) President Barack Obama named Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen point man for the federal government's response to the BP oil spill. Jockey Calvin Borel steered Super Saver through the mud to win his third Kentucky Derby in four years, beating Lookin At Lucky by 2 1/2 lengths. Floyd Mayweather Jr. won a unanimous decision over Sugar Shane Mosley in Las Vegas. Actress Helen Wagner, who'd played Nancy Hughes on the CBS soap opera "As the World Turns" for 54 years, died in Mount Kisco, New York, at age 91.

One year ago: Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel called a 50-percent jump in reports by members of the military of sexual assaults the previous year a "clear threat" to both male and female service members' lives and well-being, and said he'd ordered Pentagon officials to increase efforts to get male victims to report abuse.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Sonny James is 86. Singer Judy Collins is 76. Actor Stephen Macht is 73. Singer Rita Coolidge is 70. Pop singer Nick Fortuna (The Buckingham) is 69. Actor-director

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, May 1, 2015 ♦ Vol. 18 - No. 274 ♦ 29 of 29

Douglas Barr is 66. Actor Dann Florek is 64. Singer-songwriter Ray Parker Jr. is 61. Actor Byron Stewart is 59. Hall of Fame jockey Steve Cauthen is 55. Actress Maia Morgenstern is 53. Actor Scott Coffey is 51. Country singer Wayne Hancock is 50. Actor Charlie Schlatter is 49. Country singer Tim McGraw is 48. Rock musician Johnny Colt is 47. Rock musician D'Arcy is 47. Movie director Wes Anderson (Film: "The Grand Budapest Hotel") is 46. Actress Julie Benz is 43. Actor Bailey Chase is 43. Country singer Cory Morrow is 43. Gospel/rhythm-and-blues singer Tina Campbell (Mary Mary) is 41. Actor Darius McCrary is 39. Actor Jamie Dornan (Film: "Fifty Shades of Grey") is 33. Actress Kerry Bishe is 31.

Thought for Today: "Any man who has the brains to think and the nerve to act for the benefit of the people of the country is considered a radical by those who are content with stagnation and willing to endure disaster." - William Randolph Hearst, American newspaper publisher (1863-1951).