

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, August 15, 2015 ♦ Vol. 19 - No. 026 ♦ 1 of 20

**It will be dangerously hot and humid today. Temperatures will range from the mid 90s to low 100s, but combined with high humidity, it will generate a heat index vaule up to 110 degrees.**

**Thunderstorms are possible later this afternoon and tonight as a cold front slides from west to east across the region. Some storms may be severe with damaging winds and large hail being the main threats.**

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## Saturday, August 15

**Anniv:** Craig & Jodi Sternhagen • Wayne & Marsha Wienk

**Birthdays:** Mary Fliehs • Margie Washnok • Becky Morris • Elizabeth Gustafson • Nichol Townsend

10:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Pastor at Rosewood Court

4:00pm: Girls Soccer at Garretson

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

## Sunday, August 16

**Birthdays:** • Jim Jones • Nate Gellhaus • Rose Tewksbury • Jennie Doeden • Merle Harder • Marc Rossow

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship with Communion

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

9:15am: C&MA School

10:00am: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Pierpont Church

10:15am: C&MA Fellowship time

10:45am: C&MA Worship

11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

3:30pm: Emmanuel Lutheran fellowship at Golden Living Center (Council Serves)

## Monday, August 17

**Senior Menu:** Goulash, green and gold beans, apple crisp, whole wheat bread.

Anniversary: James and Linda Stearns

**Birthdays:** • Raevin Wall-Larson • Carla Kit-

**Open:** Recycling Trailer in Groton  
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

## The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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**MCKIVER COLLISION**  
Lifetime Warranty on all Collision Work!  
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Allen McKiver, Owner ~ 605/397-4404

## **Obama's Clean Power Plan is Fundamentally Flawed** **By Senator Mike Rounds**

Earlier this summer, President Obama announced his so-called "Clean Power Plan" final rule, which requires states to cut greenhouse gas emissions nearly a third within 15 years. This sweeping new mandate requires states to completely rework their electric grid and dramatically reduce the amount of electricity they get from coal-fired plants. The result of which will be higher electricity rates for every single household and business in the country. Additionally, energy production will be reduced, bringing further uncertainty to the electric grid. All of this comes with very little benefit to the environment.

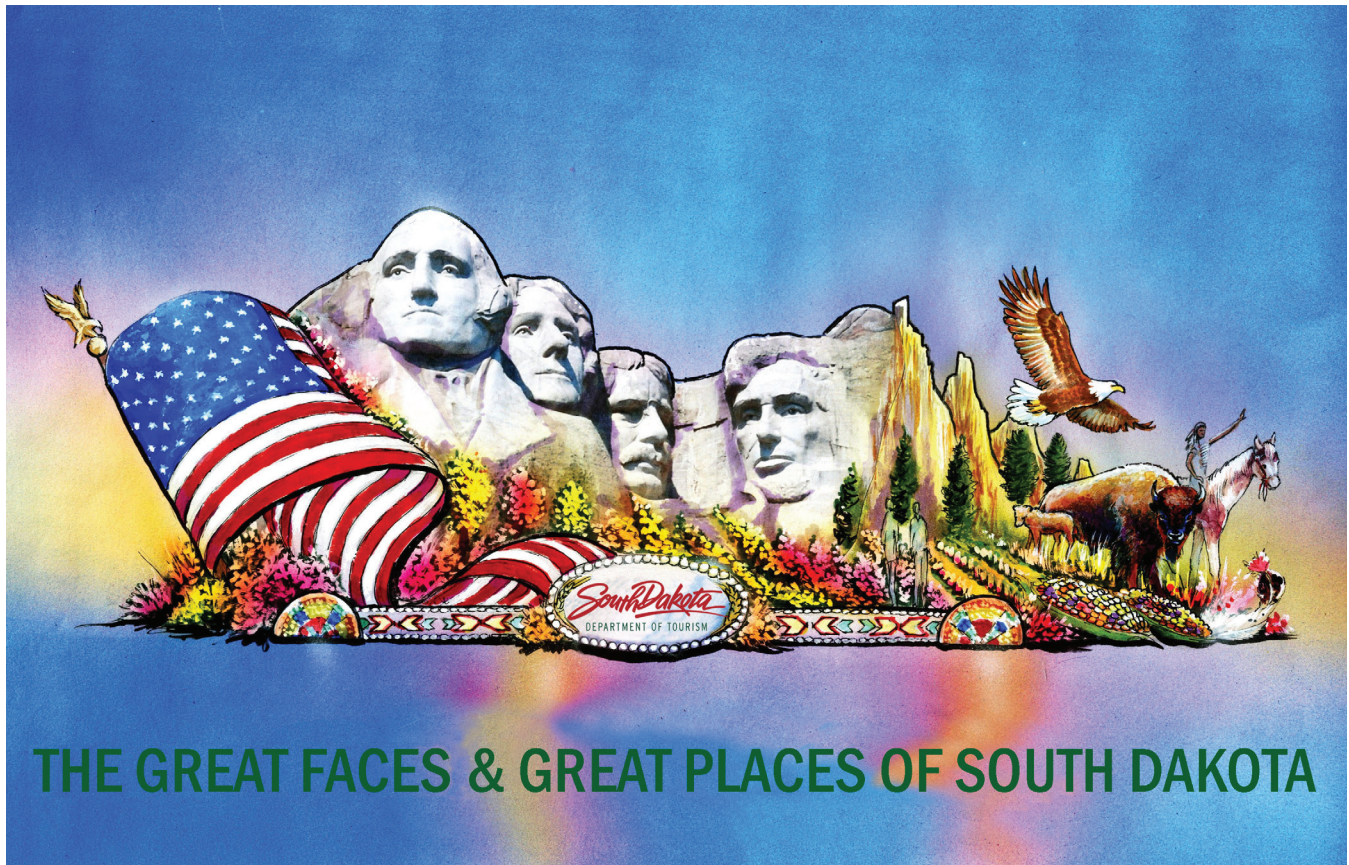
In South Dakota, we have scorching hot summers and freezing cold winters. We rely on dependable energy to protect us from our extreme weather conditions. Yet the clean power rule could jeopardize our current system. All of this is being done with no input from Congress. It is another example in which American families are being forced to suffer the consequences of the President's overreaching, over-burdensome environmental agenda without any input or recourse for policies with which they disagree.

Since the President announced the final rule, South Dakota joined 14 other states in a petition to the D.C. Court of Appeals to block the egregious plan. In the appeal, the states ask the court to issue a ruling in the matter before September 8, 2015, one year before they are required to submit plans to EPA for how they will reduce emissions as required by the Clean Power Plan. Additionally, South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley has joined a lawsuit challenging the rule. It is one of a number of suits that challenge whether the EPA exceeded its powers when issuing the final rule to cut power-plant carbon emissions.

In the Senate, the Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW), of which I am a member, recently passed the bipartisan Affordable Reliable Energy Now Act (ARENA), which is the principal legislative vehicle to roll back the Clean Power Plan rule. Our legislation is a common sense solution that gives states additional time and flexibility to comply with these new rules. It also protects hard-working American families from bearing the brunt of the Clean Power Plan through higher electricity rates.

ARENA requires the EPA to submit a report to Congress describing the quantity of greenhouse gas emissions the Clean Power Plan is actually expected to reduce, and to conduct modeling to show the impacts of the rule on the climate indicators used to develop the final rule. As an original cosponsor of ARENA, I'm committed to working with my colleagues to put a stop to this costly carbon emissions rule.

The Obama administration, through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), has been solely focused on cementing the President's legacy as a champion of the environment. I, too, believe that we have an obligation to protect our natural resources for future generations. But it must not be at the expense of our economy, jobs and the current electric grid. It is another example of an Administration stretching the limits of the law to issue costly new regulations at the expense of American growth and innovation. It underscores the need for a bipartisan approach to address executive overreach - such as my RESTORE resolution to reinforce Congressional oversight as part of the rulemaking process. I will continue to work to protect taxpayers from this and other costly rules.



## **SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM ROSE PARADE® FLOAT DESIGN REVEALED**

PIERRE, S.D – This Saturday, Aug. 15, 2015, the Department of Tourism's Rose Parade® float will make its initial debut on the streets of Pasadena, Calif. Float builder, Phoenix Decorating Company, will be conducting a first test-run of the float to see how it performs on the street.

"This will be the first time the South Dakota float will see the light of day, and we're very excited to see how it performs and how the public reacts to it," said Jim Hagen, Secretary of the Department of Tourism. "There is still much work to do, but the Phoenix team has done an exceptional job to this point, and we look forward to seeing the finished product."

This first test run is necessary in order to be sure everything is operating properly. Another test run will take place in early September.

"The elements chosen to be featured on the float were based on several factors. First was the theme of the 2016 Rose Parade, which is a salute to the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service," said Hagen. "Elements were also chosen in order to give people an overview of the variety of what South Dakota has to offer. You'll see a nod to our agricultural economy, Native American culture, and some of our iconic wildlife."

The theme of the 2016 Rose Parade is "Find Your Adventure." This theme has grown out of a partnership between the Pasadena Tournament of Roses® and the U.S. National Park Service, and will help shine a light on the centennial celebration of our country's national parks.

About South Dakota Tourism

Known as the Mount Rushmore State, South Dakota is home to majestic mountain carvings, rolling prairies, sky-piercing granite needles, glittering lakes and the Mighty Missouri River. Located in the heart of the American frontier, South Dakota can also lay claim to one of the largest concentrations of public parks, monuments and memorials in the world, one of which is Mount Rushmore National Memorial.

About Phoenix Decorating Company

Now in its 33rd year, Phoenix Decorating Company has sent 752 Rose Parade floats down Colorado Boulevard. The Rose Parade float builder of choice was responsible for 18 of the 40 floats in the 2015 edition of the parade. The leader in innovative float design, animation, hydraulics, pyrotechnics and live performances, Phoenix Decorating Company excels in brand integration and support to clients that will bring award-winning floats for years to come. For more information, please visit [www.phoenixdeco.com](http://www.phoenixdeco.com).

## 2015 FFA Livestock Show

### Market Goats

Class 1

1 - Josie LaMee

Class 2

1 - Carly Wheeting

2 - Josie LaMee

Grand Champion - Carly Wheeting

Reserve Champion - Josie LaMee

### Market Sheep

Grand Champion - Carly Wheeting

Reserve Champion - Carly Wheeting

### Breeding Sheep

Late Spring Rams

Grand Champion - Faith Houghtaling

Reserve Champion - Trey Wright

### Yearling Ewes

1 - Faith Houghtaling

2 - Trey Wright

3 - Trey Wright

### Late Spring Ewes

1 - Trey Wright

2 - Mark Leonhardt

### Early Spring Ewes

1 - Trey Wright

2 - Faith Houghtaling

3 - Tyra Leonhardt

Grand Champion Ewe - Faith Houghtaling

Reserve Champion Ewe - Trey Wright

Champion Showmanship - Faith Houghtaling

### Market Swine Show

Class 1

1 - Madilyn Wright

2 - Madilyn Wright

3 - Madilyn Wright

Class 2

1 - Kaitlyn Ringgenberg

2 - Carly Wheeting

Class 3

1 - Madilyn Wright

2 - Kaitlyn Ringgenberg

Class 4

1 - Kaitlyn Ringgenberg

2 - Josie LaMee

3 - Carly Wheeting

Class 5

1 - Josie LaMee

Grand Champion - Madilyn Wright

Reserve Champion - Kaitlyn Ringgenberg

Champion Showmanship - Kaitlyn Ringgenberg

### FFA Breeding Heifer Show

Grand Champion - Hailey Hanson

Reserve Champion - Latisha Smith

### FFA Market Cattle Show

Class 1

1 - Kaitlyn Ringgenberg

Class 2

1 - Hailey Hanson

2 - Kaitlyn Ringgenberg

Class 3

1 - Madilyn Wright

Class 4

1 - Madilyn Wright

2 - Braiden Craig

Grand Champion - Hailey Hanson

Reserve Champion - Kaitlyn Ringgenberg

Champion Showmanship - Hailey Hanson

FFA Alumni Showmanship - Swine

Grand Champion - Adam Krause



**Kiera Leddy, State FFA Vice President, presents the Reserve Champion Market Swine award to Kaitlyn Ringgenberg**

Courtesy Photo

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**Kiera Leddy, State FFA Vice President, presents the Grand Champion Market Goat award to Carly Wheeting**



**Kiera Leddy, State FFA Vice President, presents the Reserve Champion Market Goat award to Josie LaMee**



**Katie Miller, District I FFA President presents the Reserve Champion Market Steer award to Kaitlyn Ringgenberg**

Courtesy Photos

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**Kiera Leddy, State FFA Vice President, presents the Grand Champion Market Sheep award to Carly Wheeting**



**Kiera Leddy, State FFA Vice President, presents the Reserve Champion Market Sheep award to Carly Wheeting**

Courtesy Photos

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**Kiera Leddy, State FFA Vice President, presents the Reserve Champion Breeding Ewe award to Trey Wright**



**Kiera Leddy, State FFA Vice President, presents the Grand Champion Breeding Ewe award to Faith Houghtaling**

Courtesy Photos



**Katie Miller, District I FFA President presents the Grand Champion Breeding Heifer award to Hailey Hanson**

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**Katie Miller, District I FFA President presents the Reserve Champion Breeding Heifer award to Latisha Smith**

**Katie Miller, District I FFA President presents the Grand Champion Market Steer award to Hailey Hanson**



Courtesy Photos



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## GROTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA August 17, 2015 - 7pm Groton Community Center

- 1) Minutes
- 2) Charge Order – W 5th Ave Project
- 3) Bills
- 4) West Ditch Drainage Concerns- Mud Creek Drainage Comm
- 5) SD Municipal League Conference Oct 7-9 - Watertown
- 6) Set Fall Cleanup (Brown County Aug 28-Sept 12)
- 7) Swimming Pool Hours after School Start & Request for a Dog Day
- 8) Debt Refinancing Options
- 9) 1st Reading Ordinance No 700 – 2016 Appropriation Ordinance
- 10) Exe Session – Legal or Personnel

AND any other business that may come before the Council



## Treeline Tree Service

**Over 30 Years  
of Combined  
Experience!**

**TJ Sperry:  
380-7915  
Tyler Sperry:  
216-8431**

## Sperry Stump Removal

## Today in Weather History

August 15, 1886: A tornado moved northeast from 5 miles southwest of Newark in Marshall County, through town and into North Dakota. Only three buildings were reportedly undamaged at Newark, and a bartender at a saloon was killed. Three people died in two homes on adjoining farms 2 miles southwest of town. A saddle from a Newark stable was carried for a half mile. In North Dakota, homes and barns was damaged along the Wild River. This tornado was estimated as an F3.

August 15, 1987: On this day the largest hail stone was reported in Brown County. The size of the hail stone as 4.5 inches in diameter, and fell on the southwest corner of Warner. This storm also produced F1 tornado that touchdown about 2 miles southwest of Warner. An estimated wind gust of 60 mph was also reported about 2 miles NNW of Stratford.

August 15, 2011: Slow moving thunderstorms across parts of northern Roberts County produced anywhere from 4 to 8 inches of rainfall resulting in flash flooding. The town of New Effington was affected with many roads along with several homes flooded. Sandbagging took place to keep the water from the school. Highway 127 from New Effington to Hammer was flooded in several spots. This was the second time that New Effington was flooded in the last month. The floodwaters remained for several days afterward with several roads flooded.

1787 - Tornadoes were reported in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. Wethersfield CT was hard hit by the tornado outbreak. (David Ludlum)

1946 - Saint Louis, MO, was deluged with a record 8.78 inches of rain in 24 hours. (The Weather Channel)

1967 - The sundance fire in northern Idaho was started by lightning. Winds of 50 mph carried firebrands as much as ten miles in advance to ignite new fires, and as a result, the forest fire spread twenty miles across the Selkirk Mountains in just twelve hours, burning 56,000 acres. The heat of the fire produced whirlwinds of flame with winds up to 300 mph which flung giant trees about like matchsticks. (David Ludlum)

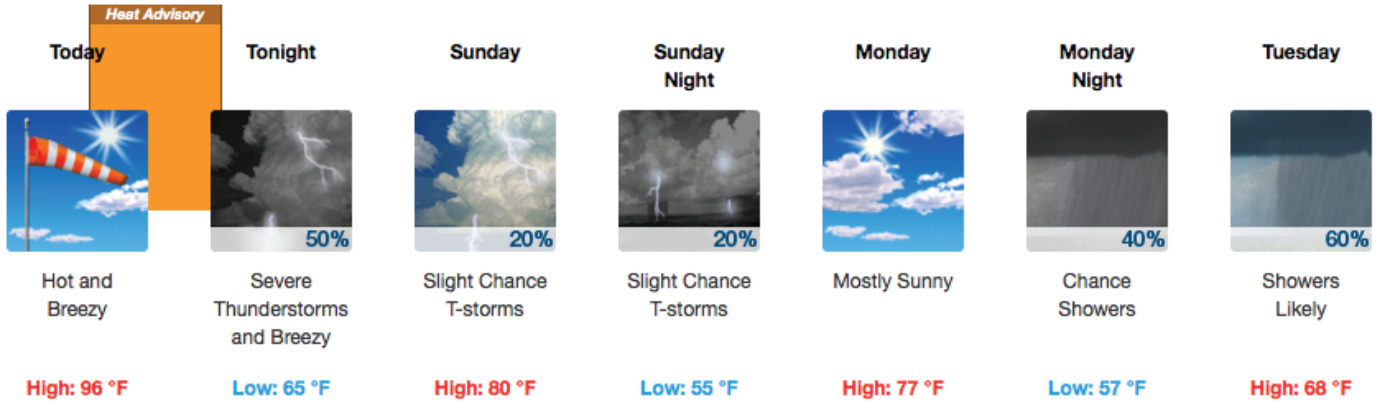
1987 - Thunderstorms developing ahead of a sharp cold front produced severe weather in the Upper Midwest during the afternoon and evening hours, with Minnesota and eastern South Dakota hardest hit. A thunderstorm in west central Minnesota spawned a tornado at Eagle Lake which killed one person and injured eight others. A thunder- storm in eastern South Dakota produced softball size hail at Warner. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thirty five cities in twenty states in the north central and northeastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including Lamoni IA and Baltimore MD, where the mercury hit 105 degrees. Temperatures 100 degrees or above were reported in twenty-two states. Pierre SD was the hot spot in the nation with a high of 114 degrees. Bluefield WV reported eight straight days of record heat. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Evening thunderstorms in eastern New Mexico produced wind gusts to 66 mph at Clovis. Evening thunderstorms in West Texas produced baseball size hail around Hereford, Dimmitt, Ware and Dalhart. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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## HOT! Thunderstorms Tonight!

**HOT**

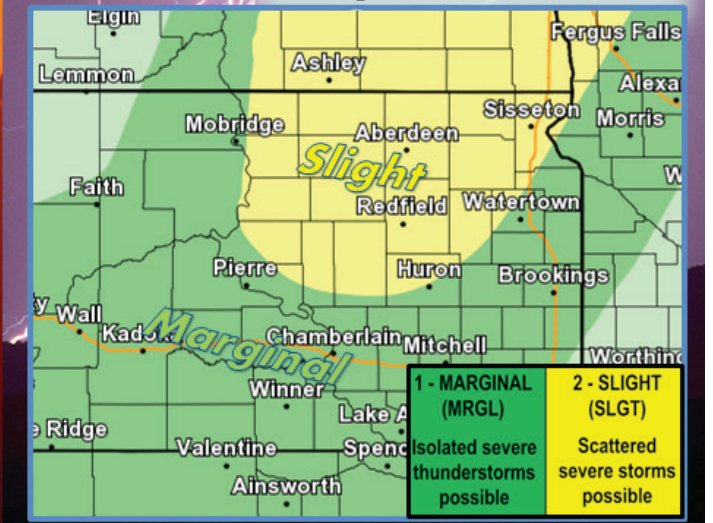
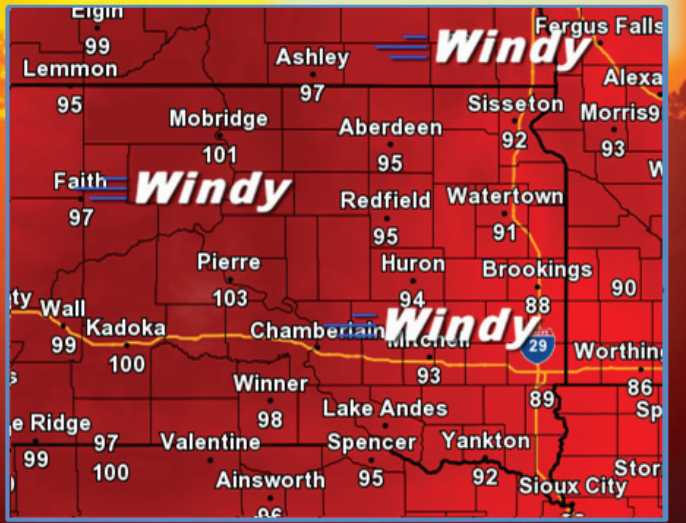
**Heat Index 100°-110°**

- Take it easy if outdoors
- Drink plenty of water
- Double check the back seat for children and pets




**Storms**

**Most Intense Storms 7 PM to 1 AM**

Damaging winds and large hail the main threats  
Campers are NOT a safe place during severe weather



National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

 [weather.gov/Aberdeen](http://weather.gov/Aberdeen)  National Weather Service Aberdeen  @NWSAberdeen | Updated: 8/15/2015 4:59 AM Central

Published on: 08/15/2015 at 5:06AM

Today will be dangerously hot and humid, with heat index values ranging from 100 to 110 degrees across much of the region. Then tonight, thunderstorms are possible. Some storms may be severe, with large hail and damaging winds the main threats. Much cooler air follows for Sunday.

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## Yesterday's Weather

**High:** 92.0 at 3:41 PM

**Low:** 67.1 at 4:08 AM

**High Gust:** 12 at 4:16 PM

**Precip:** 0.00

## Today's Info

**Record High:** 111° in 1937

**Record Low:** 42° in 1895

**Average High:** 82°F

**Average Low:** 57°F

**Average Precip in Aug:** 1.17

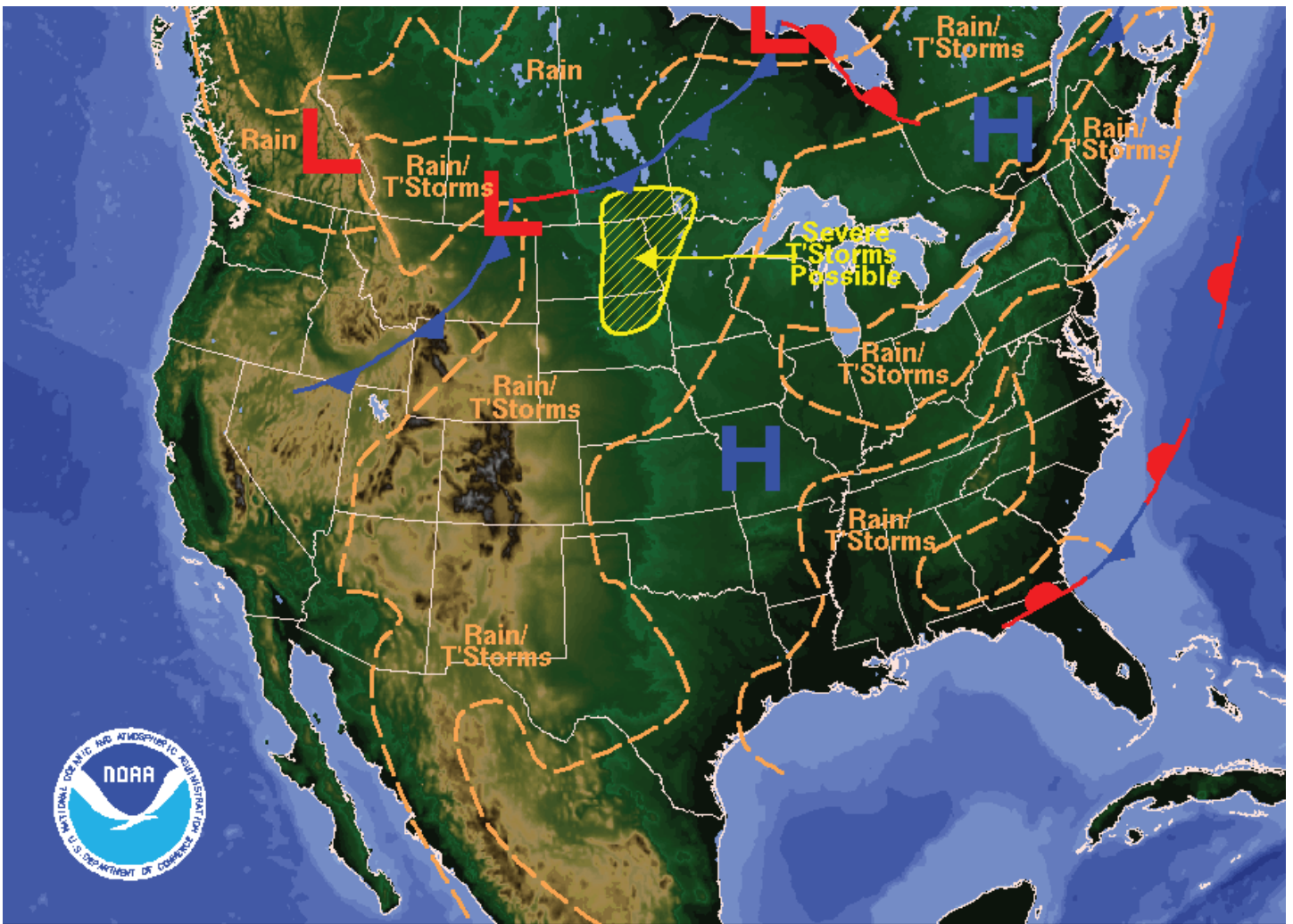
**Precip to date in Aug:** 2.22

**Average Precip to date:** 15.03

**Precip Year to Date:** 13.79

**Sunset Tonight:** 8:41 p.m.

**Sunrise Tomorrow:** 6:35 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sat, Aug 15, 2015, issued 4:55 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Tate based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



## MONEY MATTERS

One day Winston Churchill was informed that he was to address the United Kingdom in one hour. He called a taxi and said to the driver, "Drive me to the British Broadcasting Corporation just as fast as you can."

"Sorry, sir," he responded, "I can't. Sir Winston is to broadcast at six o'clock. I want to get home to hear him."

The answer thrilled Churchill and he reached in his pocket and gave him a large sum of money.

"The devil with Churchill," said the driver. "Hop in!" and off they rode.

There is nothing wrong with having money or enjoying the things that money can buy. But there is something wrong if wanting money causes us to do things wrong or to do the wrong things or if we compromise our values to get it.

Jesus said that if power or possessions, position or priorities have first place in our lives they will become worthless and ultimately destroy us. What we have in this world will be left in this world – we cannot take it with us. Everything we have is temporary and cannot be exchanged for anything in the next. "The things of this world" cannot purchase salvation and eternal life. As Christians, we are obligated to make the pursuit of God the most important goal of our lives.

**Prayer:** Help us, Father, to live lives that demonstrate to others that You alone matter most. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**Scripture for Today:** 1 John 2:17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

## News from the Associated Press

### **Lower Missouri River flooding ends, focus shifts to repairs**

**HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH, Associated Press**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has declared an end to flooding problems on the lower Missouri River and is beginning to assess what repairs will be needed.

Col. Andrew Sexton, district commander of the corps' Kansas City district, was visiting damaged areas Friday after announcing Thursday that the flooding had ceased on a span of the river that stretches from Rulo, Nebraska, to the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers in the St. Louis area.

The corps was on heightened alert for months this spring and summer as heavy rains fell across a large area of the central Plains, causing river levels to repeatedly rise and fall. Across much of northeast Kansas and northern Missouri, rainfall levels were from 5 inches to more than 10 inches above normal from May to July, said Scott Watson, a service hydrologist for the National Weather Service. Farmland, roads and low-lying parkland were inundated, although the flooding was mostly classified as minor to moderate.

Operators of levees and other flood-control structures have until Sept. 11 to submit repair requests. For non-federal structures to benefit from the federal repair help, they must participate in a program that requires routine inspections.

"We expect the damages to be minimal, yet won't know until the inspections and feedback from the public," said Jud Kneuvean, emergency management chief for the corps' Kansas City district, in a written statement.

Tom Waters, chairman of the Missouri Levee & Drainage District Association, said there was erosion and there will need to be seeding and repairs along the river.

"I don't think it's going to be awful," said Waters, whose farm near the western Missouri town of Orrick was among those that Sexton visited. "It's going to be higher than a normal year because of the amount of water we've had. The thing about this year is the river was up and it was back down and then it was up. That up and down action is what causes erosion. But it's nothing like 2011. There's just going to be some work that needs to be done."

In 2011, a year still fresh on the minds of Midwestern farmers, the Missouri River rose to record levels after the corps began releasing massive amounts of water from upstream reservoirs that had been inundated with melting snow and heavy rains. The onslaught lasted for more than 100 days, busting levees and flooding farmland.

### **South Dakota corn crop could achieve record yield this year**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is projecting a record corn yield in South Dakota this year.

USDA's latest production report forecasts the average corn yield in the state at 160 bushels per acre, 6 percent above the record of 151 bushels set in 2009.

Randy Hascall with the South Dakota Corn Growers Association tells the Capital Journal that members are "seeing some of the best corn they have grown." He credits timely rains.

Total corn production in South Dakota this year is still expected to be down 3 percent from last year because of a drop in acres. Production is forecast at 760 million bushels.

### **Spreading livestock disease a big concern in North Dakota**

**BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A highly contagious livestock disease that has spread from southern states as far north as South Dakota has officials concerned in North Dakota, where the illness hasn't been diagnosed for nearly eight decades.

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Horses and cattle infected with vesicular stomatitis have been found this year in Colorado, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, Wyoming, Arizona and South Dakota. Infected animals become lame, have difficulty eating and lose weight. Cases in South Dakota have grown from two late last month to 13 either confirmed or suspected, mostly in the Black Hills region, State Veterinarian Dustin Oedekoven said.

"Not since 1982 has it been identified in South Dakota," he said.

North Dakota officials say there is no indication of the disease being present in the state since 1937. The Board of Animal Health has implemented expanded requirements for livestock imports from states with vesicular stomatitis to try to keep out the disease, which spreads through biting insects, direct contact with infected animals and contact with contaminated equipment.

A certificate of veterinary inspection that has always been required now must include a statement that the animal hasn't originated from an area with the disease and shows no sign of it. It also must include the inspecting veterinarian's permit number, so North Dakota officials can communicate with the vet if needed.

"It's to protect (animals) and minimize the impacts of the disease," said State Veterinarian Susan Keller.

Vesicular stomatitis infects mainly horses and cattle, though other animals including swine, sheep, goats and llamas also are susceptible. It's rarely fatal but can cause economic hardship for people who own performance animals such as rodeo stock and for cattle ranchers.

"It can really wreak havoc if a dairy becomes infected," Oedekoven said.

The disease appears to be cyclical and officials don't completely understand why it is so prevalent this year, though Oedekoven said ideal environmental conditions for biting flies and midges are a likely reason.

Many of the states with confirmed cases are points of travel for rodeo performers in North Dakota. There also is cattle movement among North Dakota and many of the states.

"A couple of years ago, for instance, when much of the South was in severe, severe drought, large groups of cattle from Texas came to North Dakota for summer grazing, because precipitation and grass were plentiful here," said Julie Ellingson, executive vice president of the North Dakota Stockmen's Association, the state's largest rancher group.

An additional concern in North Dakota is the movement of animals into neighboring Canada.

"Canada will not take horses from a vesicular stomatitis state," Keller said. "Horses have to go to another state for 21 days, and then they can go."

South Dakota also implemented stricter livestock import requirements when the disease surfaced in nearby states, but those didn't keep the disease out. The state's Animal Industry Board is stressing good sanitation and biosecurity measures among animal owners to help prevent a widespread outbreak.

"We haven't had any (cases) in South Dakota for 30 years," Oedekoven said. "We don't want to see it firmly established here."

Nor do North Dakota officials. "We've been very lucky in recent years," Keller said.

## Autopsy: Woman in South Dakota jail died of meth overdose

KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A 24-year-old woman whose family has questioned whether she received adequate medical attention before she was found unresponsive in a South Dakota jail cell died of a meth overdose, the state's attorney general announced Thursday.

Attorney General Marty Jackley said an autopsy on Sarah Circle Bear, of Claremont, found acute methamphetamine and amphetamine toxicity in her blood.

Circle Bear was being held in the Brown County Jail on a bond violation following a minor car accident when she was found unresponsive in her cell July 5. She died later the same day at a local hospital. Jackley said the autopsy showed no evidence of injury that would have caused or contributed to her death.

A spokeswoman for Jackley said autopsy reports in South Dakota are not available to the public.

Circle Bear's relatives said they were surprised by the findings and said they didn't know her to use methamphetamine.

Her father, Terrance Circle Bear, said Thursday that a fellow inmate told him his daughter was suffering and repeatedly asked jail employees for help but was ignored. He declined to identify the inmate but said

he is working with an attorney to examine his daughter's case.

"I'm getting justice for a native girl that was crying and they didn't want to help her," he said.

Brown County Sheriff Mark Milbrandt said he couldn't comment on the situation while the attorney general's office continues to investigate.

Jackley's office said it is trying to find out where the methamphetamine came from. The attorney general said he was asked by the Brown County Sheriff's Office to review Circle Bear's death and said this office will release more information once they finish their investigation.

## AP News in Brief

### **New explosions and fires as China evacuates 2-mile zone over chemical contamination fears**

TIANJIN, China (AP) — New explosions and fires rocked the Chinese port city of Tianjin on Saturday, as one survivor was pulled out and authorities ordered evacuations to clean up chemical contamination more than two days after a fire and a series of blasts set off the disaster.

Meanwhile, angry relatives of firefighters missing in the catastrophe stormed a government news conference to demand information on their loved ones.

The death toll in Wednesday's inferno and blasts that devastated industrial and residential zones climbed to 85, including 21 firefighters — making the disaster the deadliest for Chinese firefighters in more than six decades.

An unknown number of firefighters remain missing, and a total of 720 people have been injured in the rapid succession of explosions that began with a fire from shipping containers containing hazardous material at a warehouse.

Authorities on Saturday pulled out one survivor from a shipping container, state media reported. His identity was not immediately known. Television video showed the man being carried out on a stretcher by a group of soldiers wearing gas masks.

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### **Japan marks 70th anniversary of WWII surrender; Abe stays away from contentious war shrine**

TOKYO (AP) — Japan marked the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II on Saturday, but Prime Minister Shinzo Abe stayed away from a contentious Yasukuni shrine that honors war criminals among other war dead.

Abe instead prayed and laid flowers at a national cemetery for unnamed fallen soldiers ahead of the annual ceremony at Tokyo's Budokan hall.

That ceremony started with a moment of silence at noon, marking the late Emperor Hirohito's radio announcement of Japan's surrender on Aug. 15, 1945.

His son, Emperor Akihito, made his own speech in which he emphasized that Japan's peace and prosperity stand on "the people's tireless endeavors and their earnest desire for peace," and renewed his "deep remorse" over the war.

Abe also spoke and thanked the spirits of the war dead for their sacrifice. Without it, Japan could not have achieved peace and prosperity today, he said.

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### **Scuffles, a near-sinking as desperate migrants leave Turkey for Greece on smugglers' boats**

BODRUM, Turkey (AP) — Migrants on a Turkish beach scuffled over places on one inflatable dinghy and frantically bailed out another to keep it from sinking during a dramatic night that highlighted their desperation to reach the Greek island of Kos — and the safety of Europe.

The scenes of human trafficking, captured early Saturday by Associated Press journalists on a moonless



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night, came as Turkish authorities reported that 2,791 migrants have been caught in the Aegean Sea in the past 5 days alone, most of them Syrians.

Overall, more than 33,000 migrants have been caught or rescued in the Aegean this year, according to the governor's office in Izmir.

Kos is only 4 kilometers (2.5 miles) from Turkey at its closest point, its twinkling lights at night an irresistible beacon to those fleeing war or poverty.

Tensions were high early Saturday at Fenerburnu Beach near the Turkish tourist town of Bodrum. Two migrants tried to clamber onto a small dinghy only to be forced off by angry fellow passengers, one of whom shouted: "You haven't paid!" One passenger was also upset that the male intruders had touched the arm of a female migrant wearing an Islamic headscarf.

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## **A jubilant flag-raising, then talk turns serious on road ahead for US and Cuba relations**

HAVANA (AP) — A jubilant flag-raising at the reopened U.S. Embassy in Havana is giving way to serious talk about the road ahead in improving relations between the United States and Cuba.

Capping off a Friday in Havana that began with the Stars and Stripes being hoisted outside the embassy, Secretary of State John Kerry met with Cuban dissidents in the evening and said the island will not see an end to the despised U.S. trade embargo if Cuba's single-party government does not make progress on human rights.

Cuban and U.S. negotiators are to meet in Havana in early September to begin talks on normalization of the relationship between the two countries, which includes topics ranging from maritime security to the embargo to human rights, Kerry told reporters.

He said negotiations will follow three tracks. The first will encompass areas in which rapid progress is expected, such as cooperation on naval matters, climate change and the environment. The second will tackle more complex topics like the establishment of direct airline flights and U.S. telecommunications deals with Cuba. The last will take on the toughest problems, including the embargo, human rights and each country's desire to have fugitives returned by the other.

While the three tracks will proceed simultaneously, Kerry said, Cuban leaders should not expect to see progress on the embargo without improvements in civil liberties in Cuba, which does not allow independent media, political parties other than the ruling communist party or direct election of anything but low-level municipal posts.

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## **Kerry surprises locals and tourists in colonial Old Havana; woman: 'It gave me goose bumps'**

HAVANA (AP) — On a historic day for U.S.-Cuban relations, Secretary of State John Kerry took time out for a walking tour of cobblestoned Old Havana — just like many of the growing numbers of Americans traveling to the island since detente was announced eight months ago.

Dressed in slacks and a white dress shirt, Kerry toured a restored colonial-era church, checked out cigar humidors on a sun-drenched square and ducked inside for a cold lemonade at Cafe del Oriente, an upscale restaurant where Raul Castro once dined with a visiting Jimmy Carter back in 2011.

Accompanied by City Historian Eusebio Leal, who has overseen the rehabilitation of much of the neighborhood, Kerry also visited the former municipal palace and Leal's offices. He paused to contemplate a statue of Cuban independence hero Jose Marti in the leafy Plaza de Armas, which is home to a daily book and trinket bazaar and also a building that housed the U.S. Embassy from 1923 until the mission moved to its current digs in 1953.

In a quarter already teeming with travelers, Kerry became yet another tourist attraction as surprised people swarmed the group to take pictures. Neck-tied security agents kept everyone at a safe distance. Locals waved down from wrought-iron balconies, and the secretary waved back.

"We're walking through the plaza here, and suddenly I see a bunch of people moving and there's Kerry," said Junia Perez, a doctor. "Look, it gave me goosebumps! I'm excited because I never thought I would see him so close."

## Critics use gold mine spill to bludgeon EPA as agency seeks to implement new clean power rules

WASHINGTON (AP) — Authorities say rivers tainted by last week's massive spill from an abandoned Colorado gold mine are starting to recover, but for the Environmental Protection Agency the political fallout from the disaster could linger.

The federal agency's critics are already seeking to use its much-maligned handling of the mine spill to undercut the Obama administration's rollout of major regulations aimed at cutting greenhouse gas emissions at the nation's power plants. Members of oversight committees in both the House and Senate say they are planning hearings after Congress returns from its August recess.

"The EPA is supposed to help prevent environmental catastrophes, not cause them," said Rep. Steve Scalise, R-La., a member of the House leadership and the Energy and Commerce Committee. "But, sadly, President Obama's EPA has been too busy threatening American jobs with radical regulations instead of focusing on what should be their core mission."

EPA and contract workers accidentally unleashed 3 million gallons of contaminated wastewater as they inspected the idled Gold King mine on Aug. 5, just two days after Obama unveiled his Clean Power Plan during an event at the White House.

The timing could hardly be worse for the beleaguered regulatory agency, a frequent target for congressional Republicans and pro-industry groups. Attorneys general for at least 15 states say they plan to sue over the new carbon restrictions, and such coal-mining backers as Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., are urging states to simply ignore new carbon rules from Washington.

## Still a bit of a mystery, but Ohio's John Kasich challenges Bush in high-stakes New Hampshire

PETERBOROUGH, N.H. (AP) — Even at his own rallies, Republican presidential candidate John Kasich is a stranger to some New Hampshire voters.

Karen Bednarski, who packed into one of the Ohio governor's three New Hampshire appearances this week, says she learned about his presidential bid for the first time "within the last week."

"What I've heard I like," Bednarski, a 48-year-old Republican-leaning independent from Peterborough, said just before Kasich walked into the room.

It may not matter that many in the audience didn't know how to pronounce his name (it's KAY-sik), didn't remember his 18 years in Congress and hadn't heard about his overwhelming re-election last year in one of the nation's premiere swing states. Even as a mystery, Kasich has emerged as a legitimate threat to his better-known Republican rivals — former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush in particular — whose presidential aspirations are focused on New Hampshire.

"I've always been underestimated," Kasich said, describing himself as "the little engine that keeps saying that it can."

## Camper tree-limb deaths, squirrels with plague cast pall over summer at California's Yosemite

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, Calif. (AP) — The usually happy height of the summer season at California's bustling and beloved Yosemite National Park took a dark turn when a fallen tree branch killed two young campers and a campground closure was announced because of the presence of plague.

The large limb from a black oak fell on the tent of the two young campers as they slept in the heart of

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the park Friday, Yosemite spokesman Scott Gediman said.

The campers, described only as under 18, were both dead when rangers arrived at the crowded Upper Pines Campground in response to 911 calls, Gediman said.

What led to the limb falling, and its exact size, were not immediately revealed.

Large fallen limbs are a common occurrence at Yosemite, and they have occasionally led to deaths. The most recent was in 2012, when a park concession employee died when his tent cabin was hit. Two tourists were killed and nine were injured in 1985 when a 25-foot branch fell onto an open-air tram.

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## Disney teases 'Finding Dory,' 'Toy Story 4,' Dia de los Muertos movie at fan convention

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Beanstalks will grow, animals will walk upright, oceans will part, a forgetful fish will remember her family, and toys will fall in love in Disney and Pixar Animation's upcoming films.

The studio previewed its animation slate and made a number of announcements at the fan convention D23 Expo on Friday, with special appearances from some voice actors including Ellen DeGeneres and Dwayne Johnson.

John Lasseter, the chief creative officer of Pixar and Walt Disney Animation Studios, hosted the presentation, where he announced a Jack and the Beanstalk adaptation, "Gigantic," and the title of their Dia de los Muertos film, "Coco." It was also revealed that Shakira would be both providing an original song for and voicing a character in "Zootopia."

"Gigantic" director Nathan Greno ("Tangled") said his film would be the definitive version of the fairy tale — with a few spins, including the addition of a 60-foot tall, 11-year-old girl who Jack meets when he climbs up the beanstalk. "Frozen" songwriters Robert Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez, who penned the hit "Let It Go," will be writing the songs.

Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson was there as well to preview the South Pacific-set "Moana," out Nov. 23, 2016, which follows a high spirited, 16-year-old princess 2000 years ago. As an act of rebellion, she sets sail to a fabled island with the tattooed demi-god Maui (Johnson).

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## ON THE TEE: Saturday is moving day at the PGA Championship, and it starts early

SHEBOYGAN, Wis. (AP) — The PGA Championship gets two "moving days" Saturday at Whistling Straits.

The first one starts at 7 a.m. when the second round, which was halted by a wicked storm, gets underway. Of the 49 players who didn't finish the second round, 15 of them were separated by six shots. The leaderboard had as much clarity as the clouds that rolled in over Lake Michigan late Friday afternoon.

A pair of Australians, Jason Day and Matt Jones, were tied at 9-under par. Day had a 15-foot birdie putt on the 15th hole when play was stopped. Jones was on the other side of the course, in a fairway bunker to the right of the fourth fairway.

Neither of them minded when they were called in.

That wasn't the case with Justin Rose, who was one shot behind and coming off back-to-back birdies to pull within one shot of the lead. He could see the clubhouse. He felt they were going to make it. And then he spoke.

## Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, August 15, the 227th day of 2015. There are 138 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On August 15, 1945, Japan's Emperor Hirohito announced in a recorded radio address that his country had accepted terms of surrender for ending World War II.

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## On this date:

In 1057, Macbeth, King of Scots, was killed in battle by Malcolm, the eldest son of King Duncan, whom Macbeth had slain.

In 1483, the Sistine Chapel was consecrated by Pope Sixtus IV.

In 1812, the Battle of Fort Dearborn took place as Potawatomi warriors attacked a U.S. military garrison of about 100 people. (Most of the garrison was killed, while the remainder were taken prisoner.)

In 1914, the Panama Canal officially opened as the SS Ancon crossed the just-completed waterway between the Pacific and Atlantic oceans.

In 1935, humorist Will Rogers and aviator Wiley Post were killed when their airplane crashed near Point Barrow in the Alaska Territory.

In 1939, the MGM musical "The Wizard of Oz" opened at the Grauman's Chinese Theater in Hollywood.

In 1947, India became independent after some 200 years of British rule.

In 1965, The Beatles played to a crowd of more than 55,000 at New York's Shea Stadium.

In 1969, the Woodstock Music and Art Fair opened in upstate New York.

In 1974, a gunman attempted to shoot South Korean President Park Chung-hee during a speech; although Park was unhurt, his wife, Yuk Young-soo, was struck and killed, along with a teenage girl. (The gunman was later executed.)

In 1989, F.W. de Klerk was sworn in as acting president of South Africa, one day after P.W. Botha resigned as the result of a power struggle within the National Party.

In 1995, the Justice Department agreed to pay \$3.1 million to white separatist Randy Weaver and his family to settle their claims over the killing of Weaver's wife and son during a 1992 siege by federal agents at Ruby Ridge, Idaho. Pioneering TV journalist and Timex watch pitchman John Cameron Swayze died in Sarasota, Florida, at age 89.

**Ten years ago:** Iraqi leaders failed to meet a key deadline for finishing a new constitution. Gang members rioted in seven Guatemalan prisons, leaving 35 inmates dead. Phil Mickelson claimed a one-shot victory in the PGA Championship in Springfield, New Jersey. James Dougherty, the retired Los Angeles detective who was the first husband of Marilyn Monroe, died in San Rafael, California, at age 84.

**Five years ago:** Former medical student Philip Markoff, charged with killing Julissa Brisman, a masseuse he'd met through Craigslist, was found dead in his Boston jail cell, a suicide. Martin Kaymer won the PGA Championship in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, in a three-hole playoff that did not include Dustin Johnson, who was penalized two strokes for grounding his club in a bunker on the last hole.

**One year ago:** A grand jury indicted Texas Gov. Rick Perry for allegedly abusing the powers of his office by carrying out a threat to veto funding for state prosecutors investigating public corruption.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actress Rose Marie is 92. Political activist Phyllis Schlafly is 91. Actor Mike Connors is 90. Actress Lori Nelson is 82. Civil rights activist Vernon Jordan is 80. Actor Jim Dale is 80. Actress Pat Priest is 79. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer is 77. U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., is 77. Musician Pete York (Spencer Davis Group) is 73. Author-journalist Linda Ellerbee is 71. Songwriter Jimmy Webb is 69. Rock singer-musician Tom Johnston (The Doobie Brothers) is 67. Actress Phyllis Smith is 66. Britain's Princess Anne is 65. Actress Tess Harper is 65. Actor Larry Mathews is 60. Actor Zeljko Ivanek (ZEHL'-koh eh-VON'-ehk) is 58. Actor-comedian Rondell Sheridan is 57. Rock singer-musician Matt Johnson (The The) is 54. Movie director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu (ihn-YAH'-ee-tu) is 52. Philanthropist Melinda Gates is 51. Country singer Angela Rae (Wild Horses) is 49. Actor Peter Hermann is 48. Actress Debra Messing is 47. Actor Anthony Anderson is 45. Actor Ben Affleck is 43. Singer Mikey Graham (Boyzone) is 43. Actress Natasha Henstridge is 41. Actress Nicole Paggi is 38. Christian rock musician Tim Foreman (Switchfoot) is 37. Figure skater Jennifer Kirk is 31. Latin pop singer Belinda (cq) is 26. Rock singer Joe Jonas (The Jonas Brothers) is 26. Actor-singer Carlos Pena is 26. Actress Jennifer Lawrence is 25. Rap DJ Smoove da General (Cali Swag District) is 25.

**Thought for Today:** "Life has taught me to think, but thinking has not taught me how to live." - Alexander Herzen, Russian author (1812-1870).