

Groton Daily Independent

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Mike Weber talks into the new microphone of the new sound system that was installed this month at Doney Football Field.

Saturday, August 29

Birthdays: • Chuck Padfield • Kristi Thurston • William Zoellner • Jody Bull • Terry Leonhardt • Felicia Ethridge • Tonica Larson • Shawn McDonald

2:00pm: Girls Soccer at Vermillion

4:00pm: Boys Soccer at Vermillion

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

Sunday, August 30

Birthdays: Nathan Atherton • Rachel Zaudtke • Ashley Gibbs • Troy Zoellner • Emma Jo Schinkel

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship and Sing-Along

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

5:00pm: HBM worship at historic Trinity Church
Monday, August 31

Senior Menu: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, parsley buttered carrots, banana cake with icing, whole wheat bread.

Anniversary: Jamie & Vicki Rossow

Birthdays: Allison Sippel • Katelyn Hawkins • Bruce Merkel • Virginia Meister • Jeff Hendrickson • McKensey Sheridan • Tena Lund

6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study

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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Groton Area opens season with win over Oakes

It is a brand new season with a lot of new faces on this year's Groton Area gridiron team. The Tigers used speed and depth to take the whirlwind out of the Oakes Tornadoes Friday night, 34-13. The game was played in Groton and it was the first time in four years that Groton has won its season opening game, according to Coach Shaun Wanner.

"We have twelve to thirteen new guys on the field," Wanner said. "For a lot of the kids, it was their first varsity game on a Friday night."

The Tornadoes struck with high intensity at the start of the game, scoring two touchdowns in the first quarter to take a 13-0 lead. "It was a just a matter of settling down the neves a little bit," Wanner said. Matt Kuipers scored on a six-yard run with less than two minutes gone in the game and Brody Bartholomew scored on a 69 yard pass play from Grayson Roney as the last play of the first quarter. Bartholomew kicked the PAT.

"We had 15 linemen," Wanner said. "(Coach Scott) Thorson did a good job running the guys in and out. Our plan was to wear them down." With quick thunder, the Tigers scored three touchdowns with in



Gabby Kramer sang the National Anthem at the start of the football game Friday night.



James Thompson opens the game with the kickoff for the Tigers.



Stevie Fey (65) and Carter Jondahl (underneath) sacks Oakes quarterback Grayson Roney.

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less than six minutes in the second quarter to take an 18-13 lead at half time. Seric Shabazz scored on a 13 yard run with 5:41 left, Adam Herman scored on a 15 yard pass play from Bennett Shabazz with 4:00 left and Bennett Shabazz scored on a three-yard run with 25 seconds left. Groton tried to convert for two points, but failed all three times.

"We kept putting fresh guys in and out and our plan was working," Wanner said. "You can tell in the third quarter that Oakes was being worn down. I saw how hard our kids played. I thought we were physical. Se have guys that can catch the ball, run the ball and throw the ball. It should be a fun group to watch."

In the third quarter, Bennett Shabazz scored on a seven-yard run and he ran in the two-point conver-



Adam Herman jumps high in the air to deflect the ball away from Brady Ptacek of Oakes.



Bennett Shabazz gets ready to throw the ball to a Groton receiver.

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sion with 9:30 left in the quarter. Midway in the fourth quarter, Seric Shabazz would score on a 55 yard run with Bennett Shabazz running in the two-point conversion.

"I saw that the sports writers had us at the number five ranking," Wanner said. "I told the guys that they were ranking us more of a program and respect for the football program. We have not proved anything yet as a team. We have had a strong program and that has people taking notice."

Groton had 14 first downs, but the Tigers did not get their first one until midway in the second quarter. Oakes had 10 first downs.

Groton had 41 carries for 305 yards. Bennett Shabazz had 24 carries for 200 yards, Seric Shabazz had 12 carries for 104 yards, Adam Herman had two carries for three yards, Lucas Hinman and Marshall Lane each had one carry for no gain and Trevor Pray had one run for a minus two yards.

Oakes had 26 carries for 32 yards. Matt Kuipers had nine carries for 41 yards, Brody Bartholomew had nine for 19 yards, Ethan Zebcha had one for two yards and Grayson Roney had seven for a minus 30 yards.

Bennett Shabazz completed two of seven passes for 51 yards with Trevor Pray having one catch for 37 yards and Adam Herman having one for 15 yards.

Grayson Roney completed 14 of 26 passes for Oakes for 229 yards with one interception by Patrick Gengerke. Brody Bartholomew had four catches for 102 yards and Matt Kuipers had three for 43 yards.

Groton Area had one fumble and lost it while Oakes



Chris Zarycki and Brady Graf sack Oakes quarterback Grayson Roney.



Trevor Pray made this catch for a 37-yard pass play from Bennett Shabazz. Groton scored on the next play to take a 26-13 lead.

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recovered its only fumble.

Groton had 12 penalties for 70 yards while Oakes had five for 45 yards.

Defensive leaders for Groton Area were Patrick Gengerke with seven tackles while Seric Shabazz, Bennett Shabazz, Stevie Fey and Carter Jondahl each six each. Chris Somnit led Oakes with 17 tackles and Brody Bartholomew had seven.

"Now we have to build on what we did Friday night," Wanner said. "As we get better, we should be right in the thick of things at the end of the season. We have more team speed. We have some play makers. Overall, I was pleased with the overall effort of the team. Football is the ultimate team sport and I saw that against Oakes. We just have to keep getting better."

Groton Area will travel to Mobridge on Friday to take on the Mobridge-Pollock Tigers. This will be the second of seven Battle of the Tigers traveling trophy games. "I'll have to get the trophy out and dust it off and take it Mobridge," Wanner said. "I hope we come back with it."



Patrick Gengerke intercepts the ball intended for Oakes' Ethan Zetocha.

- Paul Kosel



Seric Shabazz scored Groton's first touchdown of the season on a 13 yard run with 5:41 left in the second quarter.



McLain Lone (62) grabs the jersey and Seric Shabazz grabs the feet as Brody Bartholomew is brought down.

(GDI Photos by Paul Kosel)

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Church Sued for Taking a Stand

Dear Friends,

It's finally happened. Something we have long anticipated defending and prepared for but still shocking when you read it in court documents: a church sued for taking a moral stand and encouraging congregants to vote and sign initiative petitions.

We've long advised and represented churches as they navigate the waters of IRS regulations and involvement with the great cultural debates of our time. This church in the Bay Area did the right thing, conducting a non-partisan voter registration drive and encouraging congregants to sign a petition to overturn California's notorious co-ed school bathroom bill (AB 1266). In spite of the law favoring the church, a disgruntled member who did not like the church's Biblical interpretation and the leading of its pastor and elders filed suit in Superior Court.

PJI is now defending this church in court. We believe this lawsuit is frivolous and outrageous, but it must be taken seriously. And that's why our attorneys are putting significant time into providing the best defense possible.

You won't read about this case in the headlines. As you can imagine, it's been a stressful time for the church and its leadership. We can't eliminate the real stress of being sued—but we can provide top-notch legal defense to protect our pulpits for the proclamation of truth.

Your support of PJI allows us to strongly defend against these attacks. We are constantly advising churches and pastors on sensitive issues that we can't publicize but are vitally important for maintaining the integrity and independence of our churches.

Many historians believe that pastors—the "Black Robed Regiment"—were crucial to the success of the American Revolution. They denounced tyranny and did something about it, joining the Revolution in droves and encouraging their congregants to do the same. We need such pastors today!

When pastors take a stand for truth, PJI stands with them. This is no time for timidity. This is a time for boldness, wisdom and courage!

Running the Race,

Brad Dacus, Esq.
Founder and President, Pacific Justice Institute

Examples Of Stewardship

A column by Gov. Dennis Daugaard:

It was President Grover Cleveland who said "a public office is a public trust." The man who served as the United States' 22nd and 24th president knew Americans expect their elected officials to do what is morally right and to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars. Still today, Americans believe that public servants should carefully and responsibly manage the things entrusted to their care.

Since first being elected five years ago, I have abided by this principle. With the help of state employees and legislators, South Dakota has a number of recent examples of good stewardship to share.

One example is the investment we are making in our roads. Our motor fuels tax had lost half of its purchasing power since it was last increased in 1999, and we saw that if we did not act, our roads and bridges would deteriorate. Time wasn't on our side. Even though many of us in South Dakota generally oppose tax increases, we realized the longer we waited to act, the more costly it would be to repair our roads. So we came to a compromise that generated significant new revenue for construction costs without placing an unreasonable burden on our citizens. After months of discussions and studying the issue, the state Legislature passed a bill to raise \$85 million in new revenue for our roads and bridges at both the state and local levels.

Another way we have been good stewards is by maintaining our buildings and better managing our properties. For instance, we recently made investments in our State Capitol Building. When we learned that the glass floor in the Capitol Rotunda and the stained glass throughout the building were both at risk of collapse, we spent money in the short-term to preserve the beauty of our Capitol Building and make improvements that will last for a century or more. Montana waited too long. They were forced to replace their Capitol glass floor, based on the same design as ours, with common ceramic tile.

Stewardship in our state has also meant responsibly managing our finances. In 2011, South Dakota was facing a structural deficit. We cut state spending by 10 percent for every agency and office of state government. My staff and cabinet secretaries took a 10 percent pay cut and I cut my own salary by 15 percent. It wasn't pleasant. But making difficult choices, we balanced our state budget and placed South Dakota on a firm financial footing. For four consecutive years now we have ended our fiscal year with a surplus.

Since emerging from recession many states are balancing their budgets again. But far too many of those other states have long-term liabilities – unfunded pension obligations and large general obligation liabilities. In South Dakota we have neither of those things. Our state's pension is in sound condition for present and future retirees. We are one of only a very few states in the nation that can say that.

Good stewardship does not always mean not spending. We exercised frugality in 2014, when we received an unexpected windfall of \$33 million. We used that money to retire bonds early and to pay cash, rather than borrowing, for a new veterans' home. We were able to increase spending on education and Medicaid more quickly because of the savings we enjoyed from those decisions.

Efforts of good stewardship may not always grab headlines. Stories of reinforcing the floor in the state Capitol and responsibly managing the state's pension system don't usually end up on the front page of the newspaper. But it's this kind of stewardship that makes good government and it's what the people rightly expect of their elected officials.

Transgender policy going through more changes

By Dana Hess

For South Dakota Newspaper Association

PIERRE, S.D. — Legislation has been promised in the next session that will tell the South Dakota High School Activities Association how to deal with gender issues when deciding eligibility requirements. However, that didn't stop the SDHSAA board of directors from giving a first reading to a revamped transgender policy at its meeting Thursday.

SDHSAA legal counsel Lindsey Riter-Rapp explained to board members, three of whom were at their first regular board meeting, that the old policy had a school submit information to the activities association staff about a student who wanted to change his or her gender identification. That information would be passed on to a gender identity eligibility committee which would decide if the request was valid. The request would then go on to the SDHSAA board for its approval.

Under the new policy, the information would still be forwarded from the school to SDHSAA staff. From the staff it would go to an independent hearing officer who would be required to be a member of the State Bar. The hearing officer could contact the student and parents involved in the case as well as use any resources necessary to make a decision.

"We leave it to the discretion of the independent hearing officer," Riter-Rapp said, as to which resources would be used.

Under the new policy, the hearing officer would decide if the request was valid. The board would only get involved to hear appeals from applicants who disagreed with the hearing officer's decision.

Board member Sandy Klatt questioned the part of the policy that said once a student had made the decision to identify as another gender, there would be no way for change back. They must participate as that gender for their entire high school career.

Citing information she said came from a source who wasn't in favor of the SDHSAA policy, Klatt said that some research says that 70 percent of students who change their gender identity eventually change back.

"What happens to that kid?" Klatt asked, adding that adolescents go through many emotional changes.

Board member Linda Whitney said open enrollment allows a student one chance to go back to his original school and suggested that perhaps students could be allowed one chance to revert to their original gender.

Riter-Rapp said the process at the school level is rigorous, requiring various forms and letters of support.

"We want to make sure that request is sincere," Riter-Rapp said.

SDHSAA executive director Wayne Carney agreed. "This is a decision you don't make lightly," Carney said.

No action was taken to reflect Klatt's suggestion. The first reading passed on a 7-1 vote with Klatt dissenting.

Klatt then suggested polling member schools to see if they wanted SDHSAA to continue working on a policy or if gender identification for the purposes of eligibility in high school activities should rest wholly with the gender on the student's birth certificate. She said superintendents and school boards could be polled.

West Central Supt. Jeff Danielsen, representing the South Dakota School Superintendent's Organization, said part of the reason why school districts favored having SDHSAA form a transgender policy was so it wouldn't end up on 150 school board agendas.

Vice chair Steve Morford, who was running the meeting while chairman Jason Uttermark listened in by phone from Aberdeen, said since the board had just passed a first reading of the new policy, member schools had ample time until the Nov. 4 meeting to react to it.

Earlier in the meeting, assistant executive director John Krogstrand reported on the legislative summer study of SDHSAA and said that two pieces of legislation were likely to come out of the study. One, approved 6-5 by the legislators who took part in the summer study, recommended legislation that would overrule the activities association's transgender policy and state that students could only compete based on the gender that is on their birth certificates.

The summer study committee did not approve the second piece of legislation, but Krogstrand predicted that it would be forthcoming anyway. That bill would absorb SDHSAA into state government, perhaps

making it part of the Department of Education.

Morford said he found it "disappointing" that with all the problems facing South Dakota the Legislature chose to study the activities association.

-30-

No Hail Mary for Freeman football players

By Dana Hess

For South Dakota Newspaper Association

PIERRE, S.D. — Options are dwindling for the few Freeman students who want to play football as the South Dakota High School Activities Association turned down a late request for Freeman to form a football co-op with Canistota.

At its meeting Thursday, the SDHSAA board of directors heard from Freeman Supt. Don Hotchkiss that a team that originally had just 10 players was now down to six. That situation has led the Freeman School Board to cancel the football program for the next two years.

Referring to the low number of students out for the nine-man team, Hotchkiss said, "It probably wasn't a safe situation for our kids to be playing varsity football."

Hotchkiss said the school district's hands were tied because neighboring schools that might be able to form a football co-op with Freeman did not want the addition of Freeman students to raise them to a higher classification.

Canistota's agreement to form a football co-op with Freeman included the caveat that the team not go up in classification to 9AA for the football tournament. Canistota currently plays in 9A.

"Virtually every school we looked at, we would move them up," Hotchkiss said. "Nobody wants to move up."

Hotchkiss said he hoped that the door had been opened to forming a co-op so close to the start of the football season by the SDHSAA board's recent decision to allow the Highmore-Harrold School District to co-op with Miller.

Board member Moe Ruesink said he voted against the new cooperative because of the timing. "This one concerns me even more," Ruesink said. "Timing is a concern of mine."

Before they could act on the co-op, board members would be called on to declare an emergency. Board member Sandy Klatt asked how the Freeman situation qualified as an emergency. Hotchkiss had appeared at a board meeting in June 2014 asking that six Freeman football players be allowed to play at Canistota without moving Canistota up in class.

As it turned out, Freeman did field a football team last year, starting with a squad of 16 which injuries reduced to 10 by the end of the year.

Hotchkiss said when the students didn't go out for the team this year in the numbers they expected, "that became an emergency for us."

Gayville-Volin Principal Tom Rice said he was all for giving students a chance to participate, but the 24 9A schools he had polled were insistent that a Canistota-Freeman football team would have to compete at the 9AA level.

"Come playoff time, they need to move up" to class 9AA, Rice said. "We want you to move up because your numbers dictate so."

The combined average daily male attendance in high school, which is used to determine school classifications, would be 58 for Canistota-Freeman, two over the 56 limit that determines that a school must play 11-man football.

Board member Bud Postma was sympathetic toward the Freeman students' plight but agreed with Rice that the numbers were important.

"At what point in time do those numbers mean nothing?" Postma asked.

The board voted 6-2 to declare an emergency to be able to take action on the new co-op. Postma and board member David Planteen voted against the motion.

While there was no representation in the room from any class 9AA schools, there was no problem in

predicting what they would think of moving Canistota, top-ranked in a preseason poll, into their class at tournament time.

"We pretty much know what the 9AA schools are going to think," said executive director Wayne Carney.

The likely negative reaction from 9AA schools may have swayed the board. A vote to allow a Freeman-Canistota co-op with the stipulation that the team move up to 9AA for the tournament was defeated on a 3-5 vote. Voting in favor of the motion were board members Linda Whitney, Sandy Klatt and Jason Uttermark.

-30-

New faces on activities association board

By Dana Hess

For South Dakota Newspaper Association

PIERRE, S.D. - The new superintendent in Sioux Falls likely will be the newest member of the South Dakota High School Activities Association board of directors.

Brian Maher's was the only nomination to come from the floor during a special nominating meeting Thursday. Maher will fill a newly created position on the board. SDHSAA member schools recently approved a plan to create a new place on the board for a representative from South Dakota's largest school districts—Sioux Falls and Rapid City.

The addition of Maher will bring the board's size to nine. There were already plenty of new faces at Thursday's meeting. Three of the members were at their first regular board meeting.

Elected to the board were school board member David Planteen of Langford Area, representing small schools, and East River at-large member Moe Ruesink, of Sioux Valley in Volga.

Also joining the board was Bud Postma of Madison, who was nominated to fill the unexpired term of Dan Whalen of Pierre who retired. Postma will serve three years. Planteen and Ruesink have five-year terms.

At Thursday's regular meeting, chairman Jason Uttermark of Aberdeen made some changes to the site selection committee. The committee chooses the venues for the state tournaments run by SDHSAA.

Uttermark reappointed board members Linday Whitney of Sanborn Central and Roger Bordeaux of Tiospa Zina Tribal School. He also appointed Steve Morford of Spearfish.

The site selection committee is also made up of the athletic directors from the five communities that host the most SDHSAA events. Re-appointed to the committee were Mark Meile of Sioux Falls, Darren Paulson of Rapid City, Gene Brownell of Aberdeen and Randy Marso of Brandon Valley.

Terry Rotert of Huron was replaced on the committee by Steve Moore of Watertown because Watertown is hosting more events this year.

Today in Weather History

1962 - Hackberry, LA, was deluged with twenty-two inches of rain in 24 hours, establishing a state record. (The Weather Channel)

1965 - A national record for the month of August was established when 2.5 inches of snow fell atop Mount Washington NH. Temperatures in New England dipped to 39 degrees at Nantucket MA, and to 25 degrees in Vermont. For many location it was the earliest freeze of record. (David Ludlum)

1987 - Some of the most powerful thunderstorms in several years developed over the piedmont of North Carolina, and marched across central sections of the state during the late afternoon and evening hours. Baseball size hail was reported around Albemarle, while thunderstorm winds downed giant trees around High Falls. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Cool air invaded the north central U.S. Ten cities reported record low temperatures for the date, including Bismarck ND with a reading of 33 degrees. Deerfield, a small town in the Black Hills of South Dakota, reported a low of 23 degrees. The remnants of Tropical Storm Chris drenched eastern Pennsylvania with up to five and a half inches of rain, and produced high winds which gusted to 90 mph, severely damaging a hundred boats in Anne Arundel County MD. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Evening thunderstorms produced destructive lightning in West Virginia. The lightning caused widespread damage, particularly in Doddridge County. Numerous trees were downed closing many roads. Fire companies had a difficult time tending to the many homes and trailers on fire. Anchorage AK reported a record 9.60 inches of rain for the month of August. The average annual precipitation for Anchorage is just slightly more than fifteen inches. Three day rainfall totals in northwest Missouri ranged up to 8.20 inches at Maryville. (The National Weather Summary)

2005 - Hurricane Katrina made landfall in Plaquemines Parish in southeastern Louisiana early on the 29th with maximum sustained winds near 125 mph, a strong category-three, and the third most-intense landfalling hurricane in U.S. history. The center of the hurricane passed just east of New Orleans, where winds gusted over 100 mph. Widespread devastation and unprecedented flooding occurred, submerging at least 80 percent of the city as levees failed. Farther east, powerful winds and a devastating storm surge of 20-30 feet raked the Mississippi coastline, including Gulfport and Biloxi, where Gulf of Mexico floodwaters spread several miles inland. Rainfall amounts of 8-10 inches were common along and to the east of the storm's path. Katrina weakened to a tropical storm as it tracked northward through Mississippi and gradually lost its identity as it moved into the Tennessee Valley on the 30th, dum



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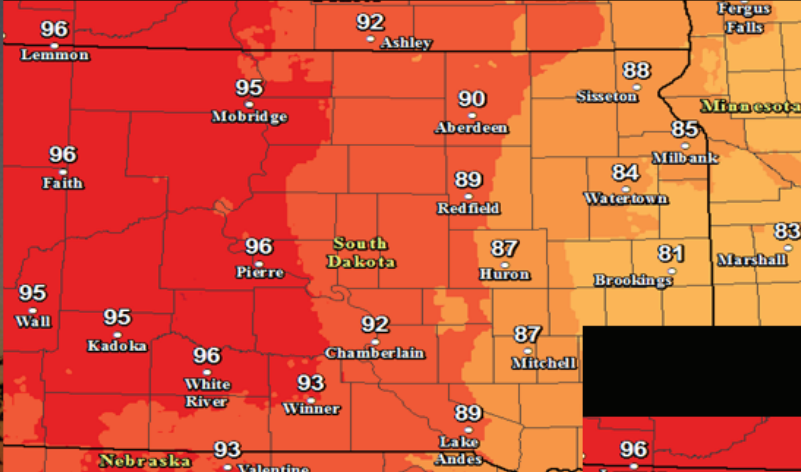
Sperry Stump Removal

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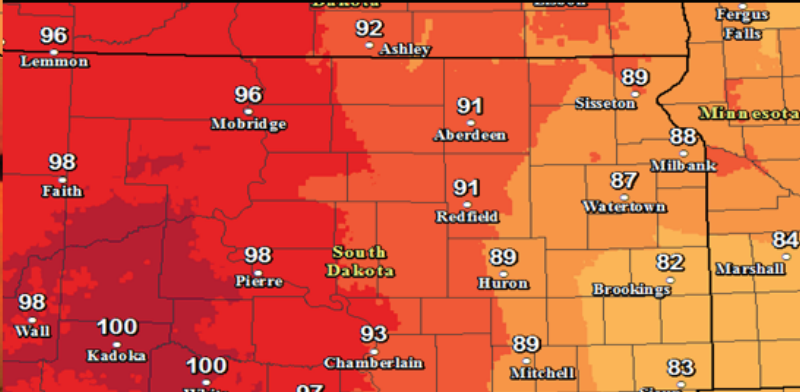
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Today	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
						
Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny then Sunny and Breezy	Breezy. Mostly Clear then Slight Chance T-storms	Slight Chance T-storms	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny




Saturday



Sunday



Hot For The Weekend


weather.gov/Aberdeen

National Weather Service Aberdeen

@NWSAberdeen
Updated: 8/29/2015 4:43 AM Central

Published on: 08/29/2015 at 4:46AM

Hot and humid conditions will continue through the weekend. A weak front passing through Sunday night & Monday will bring an isolated shower or storm to the area...but little moisture is expected.

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Today's Info

Record High: 100° in 1961

Record Low: 30° in 1893

Average High: 79°F

Average Low: 53°F

Average Precip in Aug: 2.27

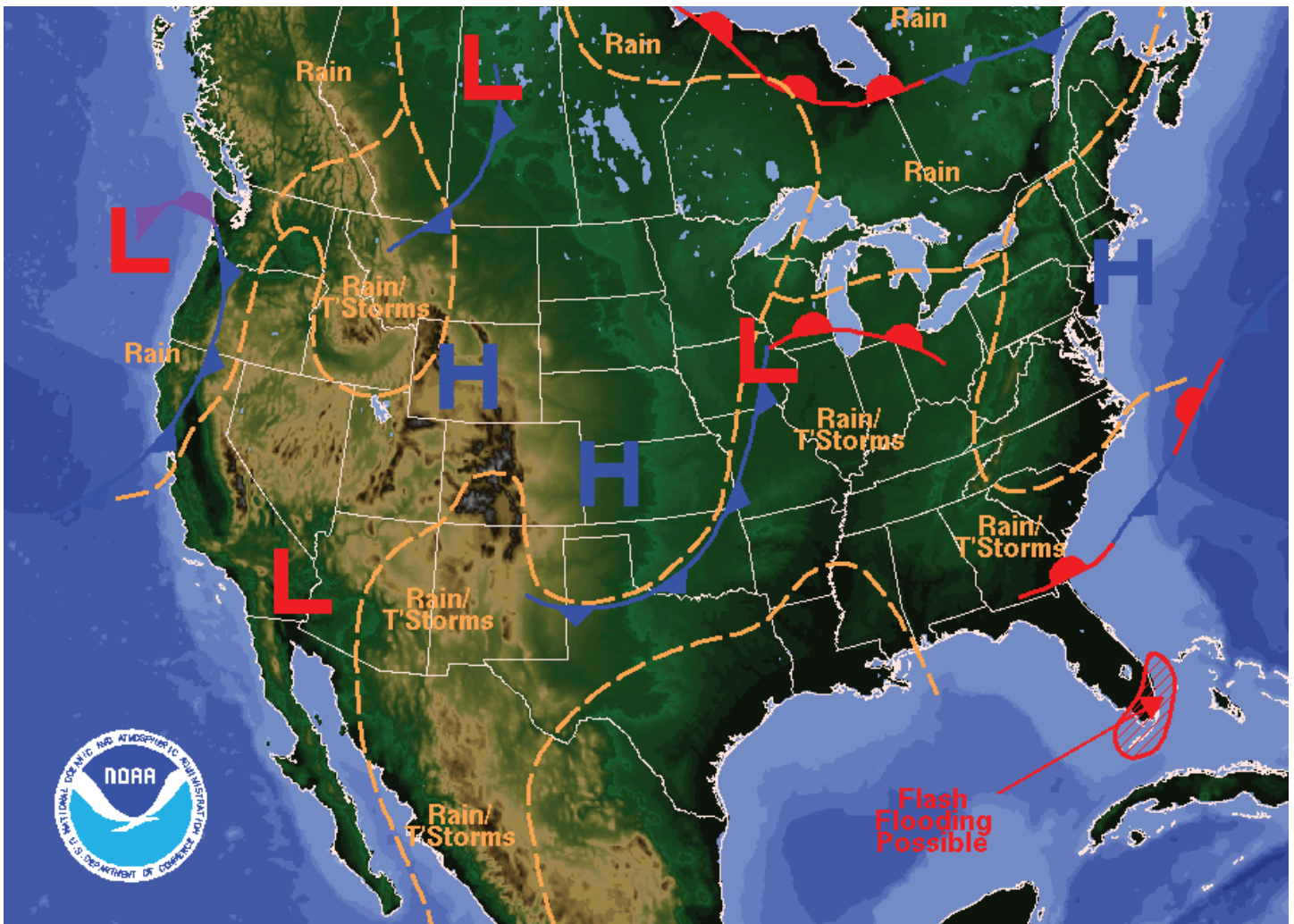
Precip to date in Aug: 4.99

Average Precip to date: 16.13

Precip Year to Date: 16.56

Sunset Tonight: 8:17 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:52 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sat, Aug 29, 2015, issued 4:11 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Hamrick based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



WHO'S ON THE LORD'S SIDE?

Years ago when Italy went to war there was a shortage of soldiers. To find recruits, one captain went through the villages calling men to fight with him. Many joined him bringing their own weapons into combat.

One elderly lady was so moved by the sight that she got her broom, placed it on her shoulder and began to march with them.

Many of the soldiers laughed at her. One looked at her and asked, "What good are you, old lady?"

"Not much," she replied, "but I want everyone to know whose side I'm on!"

Life requires many choices. But there is no more important choice for each of us than to let the world know whose side we are on. Joshua said, "So honor the Lord and serve Him whole heartedly." He challenged the people to declare their allegiance to God because He had proven His trustworthiness to them.

From simple to significant, we make many choices each day. Not being able to see the future or knowing which direction our lives may take, we must put our trust in the One who does. We must listen to the Lord as He speaks to us through His Word. When we do, it will be easier to make the right choices. Especially if we are on the Lord's side and draw upon His strength.

Prayer: Lord, may we live our lives letting those around us see the depth of our commitment to You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Joshua 24:15 But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

News from the Associated Press

Student data breach reported by South Dakota School of Mines

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Officials at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology say an email that a university employee inadvertently sent to graduate students included an attachment with names, student identification numbers and grade point averages of about 350 students.

Spokeswoman Dani Mason says Social Security numbers were not included in the attachment.

All students who received the email have been told to delete it and to confirm that they've complied.

Mason says the Rapid City school is determining additional steps to ensure a similar incident doesn't occur again.

Flash flooding impacts homes, motorists in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — More than half a foot of rain in parts of Sioux Falls led to flash flooding that inundated basements and stranded dozens of motorists.

Mayor Mike Huether called it a "100-year rain."

No injuries were immediately reported after the flooding Thursday evening, but there were several reports of damaged structures. More than 4,000 Xcel Energy customers lost power during the storm.

Danny Sullivan and his family were among the motorists who got caught up in high water. He tells the Argus Leader that their vehicle became submerged and they had to climb out the sunroof. He says he's grateful no one was hurt.

The Red Cross deployed volunteers during the flooding and opened a shelter for people who were displaced.

Tyndall hospital dedicating addition of new patient wing

TYNDALL, S.D. (AP) — A hospital in southeastern South Dakota is dedicating the addition of a new patient wing.

St. Michael's Hospital Avera in Tyndall will host a dedication ceremony and blessing on Wednesday evening.

The new wing cost \$2 million and includes 12 patient rooms, urgent care and infusion therapy, and a new chapel.

The construction of the 7,000 square foot addition began in July 2014 and wrapped up this summer.

The dedication ceremony will include a blessing from Sioux Falls Diocese Bishop Paul Swain.

There will be an open house following the ceremony.

Thursday's Scores **The Associated Press**

Volleyball

Arlington def. Milbank Area, 25-23, 18-25, 25-20, 29-27

Baltic def. Colman-Egan, 25-17, 25-21, 25-18

Bon Homme def. Avon, 25-23, 25-9, 25-22

Dakota Valley def. Sioux Falls Lincoln, 25-18, 25-19, 25-17

Faulkton def. Sunshine Bible Academy, 25-10, 25-19, 25-16

Florence/Henry def. Great Plains Lutheran, 20-25, 25-11, 25-21, 25-21

Irene-Wakonda def. Scotland, 25-14, 25-15, 25-15

James Valley Christian def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-11, 25-13, 25-16

Kimball/White Lake def. Gregory, 24-26, 27-25, 25-23, 25-18

Madison def. Flandreau, 25-12, 25-22, 25-13

Sioux Falls Christian def. Tea Area, 25-9, 25-10, 25-20

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Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Brookings, 27-25, 19-25, 20-25, 25-12, 15-10
Sioux Valley def. Deuel, 25-7, 25-8, 25-9
St. Thomas More def. Douglas, 21-25, 25-22, 25-19, 25-21
Viborg-Hurley def. Freeman, 25-9, 25-13, 25-19
Watertown def. Yankton, 26-24, 25-17, 25-18
Waubay-Summit def. Rosholt, 25-21, 29-27, 15-25, 27-25
West Central def. Dell Rapids, 25-12, 25-17, 25-17
Wilmot def. Waverly-South Shore, 23-25, 25-16, 25-17, 25-16
Winner def. Miller, 25-22, 25-20, 25-20
Hanson Tournament
Consolation Quarterfinal
Ethan def. Mitchell JV, 2-0
Hanson def. Canistota, 25-17, 25-23
Third Place
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket def. Howard, 19-25, 25-19, 25-18
Championship
Freeman Academy def. Andes Central/Dakota Christian, 25-14, 25-19

Things to know: EPA water rules take effect in some states

MARY CLARE JALONICK, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — New federal rules to protect smaller streams, tributaries and wetlands took effect on Friday — but only in some states.

A federal court ruling Thursday, hours before the rules were to go into effect, blocked the regulations in 13 states. Those states had sued the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, arguing that the rules are federal overreach and could be costly and confusing for landowners.

The government says the new rules will help protect the nation's waters from pollution and development, and safeguard drinking water for 117 million Americans.

Things to know about the new rules and court action blocking them:

EPA SAYS RULES ARE NEEDED

The regulations issued by the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in May aim to clarify which smaller waterways fall under federal protection after two Supreme Court rulings left the reach of the Clean Water Act uncertain. Those decisions in 2001 and 2006 left 60 percent of the nation's streams and millions of acres of wetlands without clear federal protection, according to EPA, causing confusion for landowners and government officials.

The new rules would force a permitting process only if a business or landowner took steps that would pollute or destroy the affected waters — those with a "direct and significant" connection to larger bodies of water downstream that are already protected. For example, that could include tributaries that show evidence of flowing water.

STATES, FARMERS SAY THEY AREN'T

Despite the EPA's assurances, opponents fear a steady uptick in federal regulation of every stream and ditch on rural lands.

More than half of states have sued the EPA in hopes of delaying or blocking the rule. State officials from Georgia to New Mexico to Wisconsin have suggested the regulations could be harmful to farmers and landowners who might have to pay for extra permits or redesign their property to manage small bodies of water on their private land.

The federal ruling Thursday was in North Dakota, where officials from that state and 12 others argued the new guidelines are overly broad and infringe on their sovereignty. U.S. District Judge Ralph Erickson in Fargo agreed that they might have a case, issuing a temporary injunction.

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The EPA said after the ruling that it would not implement the new rules in those 13 states — Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Several other lawsuits remain, from other states and also from farm and business groups.

CONGRESS ALSO PUSHING BACK

In Congress, House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, has called the rules “a raw and tyrannical power grab.” The House has passed a bill that would block them — legislation the White House threatened to veto.

A Senate committee has passed a similar bill that would force the EPA to withdraw and rewrite the rules, and opponents are pushing the full Senate to act this fall.

The Senate bill has some bipartisan support. North Dakota Sen. Heidi Heitkamp and Indiana Sen. Joe Donnelly, both Democrats, have backed the legislation, saying the waters rule is a top issue they hear about from their agricultural constituents.

“It’s the perfect example of the disconnect between Washington and rural areas,” Donnelly said earlier this year.

EPA SAYS CRITICISM IS OVERBLOWN

Defending the rule in North Dakota, the government argued in court that the new rule clarifies some of the ambiguity in the law and actually makes it easier for the states to manage some waterways.

Government lawyers said during a hearing in Fargo last week that North Dakota’s objection wrongly assumes some bodies of water will be affected. They also argued that the state is already going through some of the permitting procedures they’re complaining about.

Since the rules were originally proposed last year, the EPA has been working to clear up some misconceptions, like some critics’ assertions that average backyard puddles would be regulated. Farming practices currently exempted from the Clean Water Act — plowing, seeding and the movement of livestock, among other things — will continue to be exempted.

“We believe we have largely retained the status quo in terms of what a farmer would have to do under the current rule and the new rule,” said Ken Kopocis, deputy assistant administrator of the EPA’s Office of Water.

Associated Press writers James MacPherson in Bismarck, North Dakota and Dave Kolpack in Fargo, North Dakota contributed to this report.

Daugaard declares veterans day at state fair in September

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard has declared a veterans day at the State Fair in September and is asking state residents to honor the men and women who fought for freedom.

The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs said Thursday that Daugaard declared Sept. 3 the veterans day at the fair.

The fair will host a “Salute to Veterans” program that day that will include information about the department’s ideas to honor Korean War veterans next year.

Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Larry Zimmerman says the important role of veterans can’t be denied. He says they have a love for America in common.

SD National Guard members visit Suriname to meet officials

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota National Guard members recently traveled to the South American country of Suriname (SUR’-ih-nahm) to share with officials ways in which military personnel can help during disaster relief efforts.

Three guardsmen met with members of Suriname’s defense forces, disaster relief coordinators and other officials during their trip that began Aug. 19.

A Defense Department-sponsored partnership was established between South Dakota and Suriname in 2006 and numerous exchanges have since taken place to develop military, political, social and economic ties.

U.S. Army Maj. Kenn Kerfont traveled to Suriname. He says the guardsmen showed officials how military personnel can provide logistics, maintenance, security and medical support during a disaster.

The South Dakota National Guard says the delegation frequently referenced the involvement of guardsmen in the response to the Missouri River flooding.

Dakota Rural Action hosting bike ride for alternative energy

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota family agriculture and conservation group is hosting a state-wide bike ride to boost support for alternative energy and transportation.

Friday night's Tour del SOL ride is hosted by Dakota Rural Action's Solarize SD campaign and local bike organizations.

The Solarize SD campaign was launched in July to inspire homeowners, renters, farmers and ranchers to learn more about their electricity use, how to generate and use more renewable energy and how to end waste to help the budget and the environment. The campaign runs through the end of October.

The campaign is partnering with local bike organizations and riders in Rapid City, Spearfish, Vermillion, Brookings, Madison, Rosebud, and Sioux Falls.

Ag secretary promises more sage grouse spending across West

MATTHEW BROWN, Associated Press

GOSIA WOZNIACKA, Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — The federal government plans to spend more than \$200 million over the next three years on programs to protect greater sage grouse in Western states — regardless of whether the bird receives federal protections, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said.

Vilsack told The Associated Press that he wants to almost double protected habitat for the elegant chicken-sized bird, to 8 million acres by 2018. He also promised more will be done to limit residential development in sage grouse habitat and to restore wetlands used by the birds.

Nearly half of the roughly \$211 million the government plans to invest over the next three years will go toward buying conservation easements, Vilsack said at a formal announcement of the program in Portland, Oregon. Land under easement can only be used for grazing, but can't be developed for other purposes.

Another \$93 million is slated for habitat restoration, he said, and \$18 million will pay for technical assistance to landowners.

"Landowners are stepping up, they're doing their part, and we're already seeing the benefits," Vilsack said. More than 1,100 private landowners have signed up thus far for the program across 11 states, he said.

The effort is part of an ongoing campaign by the Obama administration to demonstrate its commitment to staving off further declines in grouse populations and to avoid a proposal to list the bird as endangered.

The bird's fate has become a potential political liability heading into the 2016 election. Federal protections could prompt limits on energy drilling, grazing and other activities across the grouse's 11-state range.

Republicans have seized on the issue as supposed evidence of wildlife protection laws run amok. They say it underscores the urgent need to scale back the federal Endangered Species Act.

Sage grouse were proposed for protections under the act in 2010, but they were not put in place because of other priorities.

Estimates of number of sage grouse have varied widely, from 200,000 to 500,000 birds throughout the U.S. The birds once numbered in the millions.

Vilsack said the administration was seeking to balance concerns over the bird's future with economic reality.

"Diversity of wildlife is important. Diversity of economy is important as well," he said in an interview. "We want our working lands to be productive, and we also want to make sure we maintain what's unique to the value of that terrain."

Under a court settlement with environmentalists, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service faces a September 30 deadline to decide if protections are needed.

The future spending Vilsack described is in addition to more than \$400 million spent on sage grouse conservation since 2010. Future spending pledges — and additional money from states, conservation groups and others — would bump the overall tally to more than \$750 million for sage grouse through 2018, according to federal officials.

In Oregon, more than \$18 million has been spent on 178 sage grouse-related projects, officials said. Participating landowners have received assurances from the government that if they participate and invest in sage grouse conservation now, they won't have to face new restrictions if the bird is listed as endangered.

Roaring Springs Ranch in southeastern Oregon has gone a step further. The ranch hired a wildlife biologist and is conducting its own research to figure out which parts of the ranch provide good habitat for the sage grouse.

The ranch also cuts down juniper trees to improve habitat, and uses prescribed burns and fire breaks to stop wildfires that can be devastating to the birds, said biologist Andrew Shields. This year, the ranch saw a 25 percent increase in sage grouse on 250,000 acres of its private land.

"Doing these initiatives from the ground up is a lot more effective," Shields said. "This could be a new way of doing conservation."

Group keeps policy on transgender high school athletes

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's high school activities association on Thursday largely maintained its policy allowing transgender student athletes to request to play on the team of their choice, increasing the likelihood Republicans in the statehouse will push legislation to change it.

The South Dakota High School Activities Association Thursday gave preliminary approval to some revisions to the 2014 policy such as establishing an independent hearing officer — rather than a committee — to evaluate applications. But they retained the basic policy of allowing students to request their choice of team. A legislative committee studying the association voted last week to draft a measure to confine students to the team matching the gender on their birth certificates, which could go to the Legislature in the upcoming session.

The association's policy aims to provide a way for transgender students to participate on the sports teams that reflect their gender identities rather than the sex listed on their birth certificates. So far, a transgender student hasn't made a request under the policy.

Linda Whitney, a member of the association's board of directors, said the changes to the policy, which could be finalized at a November meeting, are an improvement.

"I do hope that this helps (lawmakers) understand that we are listening to them and their concerns," Whitney said. "We're trying to revise it because our member schools have indicated to us, and we serve member schools, that they want us to have a policy."

But Whitney said if lawmakers pass a birth certificate requirement, "we will certainly abide by that."

Republican Rep. Jim Bolin, who authored a legislative proposal to void the board's policy last session and is one of the leaders of the study committee, said he would not support a policy that doesn't include the birth certificate requirement.

"It's an issue that I don't think will go away because it involves a contradiction of an official state document by minors," Bolin said.

Association board Chairman Jason Uttermark said he doesn't view the differing approaches to the policy as a conflict with the Legislature. He said policymakers are attempting to figure out the right thing to do and said he would "wholeheartedly" accept a legislative directive.

"We're really not coming up with a philosophical position," he said. "Our policy is strictly a legal position, and right now it's what we believe is putting our member schools in the best situation from a possible

lawsuit.”

Efforts to block the policy during the 2015 session stalled in the South Dakota Senate after easily passing through the House.

Incoming Senate Majority Leader Corey Brown, a Republican from Gettysburg, said he thought last session that a fix should come from the activities association rather than the Legislature.

“I’m hopeful with the attention that’s been here they’ll take a close look at that tomorrow and maybe have some revisions that will fit closer to where some of the public sentiment seems to be at,” Brown said ahead of the meeting. “Short of that happening, I would probably agree that I would expect the issue to be back before the Legislature if it’s not resolved.”

The revised policy would require a student and parent to notify the school that a student wants to play on the sports team that matches their gender identity, and the school would assist in gathering documentation.

The school would submit the application and documentation to the association for review by an independent hearing officer who must be a licensed attorney and a member of the State Bar of South Dakota. The student or the student’s school could appeal the hearing officer’s decision to the association’s board of directors for a final decision.

Kendra Heathscott, head of transgender services at the Center for Equality in Sioux Falls, said that lawmakers trying to repeal the policy need to realize that transgender students want to have opportunities that other students have.

“We will fight this until trans kids are just called kids,” Heathscott said.

Judge rules Obama administration water rule should be halted

JAMES MACPHERSON

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A federal judge in North Dakota on Thursday blocked a new Obama administration rule that would give the federal government jurisdiction over some smaller waterways just hours before it was set to go into effect.

U.S. District Judge Ralph Erickson in Fargo issued a temporary injunction requested by North Dakota and 12 other states halting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers from regulating some small streams, tributaries and wetlands under the Clean Water Act. The rule, which has prompted fierce criticism from farmers among others, was scheduled to take effect Friday.

North Dakota Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, who filed the injunction request, said his reading of the ruling was that it applied to all 50 states, not just the 13 that sued. But the EPA said in a statement that it applied only to the 13 and it would be enforced beginning Friday in all other states.

The 13 states exempted for now are Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Erickson, who was appointed by President George W. Bush in 2003, said the EPA had exceeded its authority in issuing the regulation.

“The risk of irreparable harm to the states is both imminent and likely,” Erickson said in granting the request from the 13 states. The judge said that among other things, the rule would require “jurisdictional studies” of every proposed natural gas, oil or water pipeline project in North Dakota, a state which is at the center of an energy exploration boom.

“While the exact amount of land that would be subject to the increase is hotly disputed, the agencies admit to an increase in control over those traditional state-regulated waters of between 2.84 to 4.65 percent,” the judge wrote.

The 13 states say the regulation is unnecessary and infringes on their sovereignty. The federal government says the new rule clarifies ambiguity in the law and actually makes it easier for the states to manage some waterways

“This is a victory in the first skirmish, but it is only the first,” North Dakota’s Stenehjem said in a statement. “There is much more to do to prevent this widely unpopular rule from ever taking effect.”

The agriculture industry has been particularly concerned about the regulation, saying that it could apply to

drainage ditches on farmland. The EPA and Army Corps said the only ditches that would be covered under the rule are those that look, act and function like tributaries and carry pollution downstream. A tributary would be regulated if it shows evidence of flowing water such as a bank or high water mark, the EPA said.

The new rules would have forced landowners to get a permit if they took steps that would pollute or destroy the regulated waters connected to larger bodies of water downstream.

The judge said the rule appears to be too broad in some cases. He said the definition of tributary, for example, could include many waters that are unlikely to have a significant connection to larger waters downstream. He also said the rules are "arbitrary and capricious," and would cover some waters that are "remote and intermittent."

For example, the judge said Wyoming would have to bear the cost of issuing permits and has no way of avoiding the increased expenses under the regulation.

State officials in North Dakota said the new rule will cost the state millions of dollars and take away from more important programs.

Stenehjem — along with attorneys general and officials from 30 other states — wrote last month to the EPA and the Army Corps asking that the law be postponed at least nine months. Lawyers for the states said they heard nothing back from the government, so they filed a request for the preliminary injunction.

The federal government said the request for an injunction was better suited to be heard by the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rather than a federal judge, but Erickson rejected that notion.

FCS power North Dakota St to provide athlete stipends

DAVE KOLPACK, Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Football Championship Subdivision powerhouse North Dakota State said Thursday it will provide thousands of dollars in stipends to scholarship athletes in all 16 sports beginning next year, a move that could persuade other mid-majors to follow suit.

The plan to pay for the full cost of attending college originated with the most influential conferences at the Bowl Subdivision level, which approved the legislation in January after gaining autonomy from the NCAA. Athletic scholarships have historically covered tuition, fees, room, board and books.

NDSU officials say the additional cost will be up to \$3,400 per full scholarship.

"This is not our student-athlete coming in and picking up a paycheck because they rushed for 200 yards or they threw a no-hitter or whatever it may be," athletic director Matt Larsen said. "This is to cover the costs while they're here as a student-athlete for North Dakota State."

Larsen said the decision should allow his coaches to stay competitive on the recruiting trail, where they often go against larger schools to land a player. The Bison football team, which has won four straight FCS titles, has gone head-to-head with Wyoming, Minnesota and other FBS schools over several recruits.

"To say a student-athlete is going to choose North Dakota State over another school for \$3,400, I don't think that will be the case," Larsen said. "But it allows us to be in the same realm as some of those schools that we recruit against."

Some FCS schools have said they would offer stipends in some sports, but only one other mid-major, Liberty University, has announced it will give cost of attendance scholarships for all 20 of its sports. The Virginia school has also said it would like to play at the FBS level.

Larsen said the stipends are not a step toward FBS for NDSU. "This is really what's best for North Dakota State," he said.

Patty Viverito, commissioner of the Missouri Valley Football Conference that includes NDSU and last year's FCS runner-up, Illinois State, said the school representatives at the league's annual meeting "were not so inclined" to favor stipends in all sports.

She said the subject also came up recently during a meeting of FCS commissioners in Bristol, Connecticut.

"I think everyone else in the room was saying that they really thought that FCS was situated pretty well in terms of being different from FBS and that it was probably not in our best interest financially, across

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the board, to try to keep up with FBS in this regard," Viverito said. "When a major competitor makes a different choice, that may cause people to rethink that."

Jason Hove, spokesman for the South Dakota State athletic department, said SDSU has been looking into stipends for the last year but has not made any decision. He said the NDSU announcement is not a factor.

"It's going to continue to be a front-burner topic within our department," Hove said.

An NCAA spokeswoman did not return a phone message left by The Associated Press.

NDSU has an athletic department budget of \$18 million. Larsen said the stipends will be funded through private donations. He said several anonymous benefactors have agreed to pay for half of the initiative for the first three years.

"As I've said from day one, we have the best fan base in the country," Larsen said. "No doubt about it."

Larsen also announced Thursday that NDSU plans to increase financial support for baseball, men's golf and men's track and field, in order to put all 16 sports at the maximum scholarship level.

"When people try to tell me that this is a football school ... we don't want to have a tiered system within our program," Larsen said.

USGS, NASA celebrate 25-year partnership collecting images

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. Geological Survey and NASA are celebrating 25 years of partnership at the USGS Earth Resources Observation and Science Center.

The agencies set up their partnership at the EROS Center north of Sioux Falls in August 1990 to collect and disseminate critical land remote sensing information. The facility makes more than 2,450 data-filled images of the Earth available for download each day.

NASA in April 2013 launched Landsat 8, its newest Earth-observing satellite. Images archived at the EROS Center help document forest fires, tsunamis and everyday changes in the Earth's geography.

Representatives from NASA, the Department of the Interior and the USGS will be on hand Thursday to honor the long-standing partnership. Former U.S. Sen. Larry Pressler and Lt. Gov. Matt Michels are also scheduled to appear.

SD drought free for second straight week

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota is completely drought free for the second straight week.

Not a single section of South Dakota in the latest U.S. Drought Monitor map is reporting even the lowest of drought conditions.

The National Weather Service's Sioux Falls office says the back-to-back weeks mark the first time the state has been completely drought free since July 2011.

The weekly maps are put out by the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Supreme Court upholds 2008 rape conviction

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Supreme Court has upheld the conviction of a Sioux Falls man convicted of repeatedly molesting a 12-year-old girl.

Terry Lee Oleson pleaded guilty to first degree rape in 2008 and was sentenced to 70 years in the State Penitentiary. Circuit Judge Brad Zell at the time ordered that Oleson not be eligible for parole for 52 years, saying he has a record of sex crimes and it's unlikely he can be rehabilitated.

Oleson did not appeal his conviction but later petitioned for habeas relief, saying his plea was unconstitutional. The Supreme Court rejected Oleson's claim this week.

Attorney General Marty Jackley says he's glad that the victim of the violent crime will not be subjected to revictimization.

Sanford Health seeks patients to test Ebola vaccine

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sanford Health is seeking 30 patients from Sioux Falls and Fargo, North Dakota, to enroll in a clinical trial testing an Ebola vaccine.

The program, which is sponsored by Merck, will explore the vaccine's ability to safely generate antibodies that could protect against future exposure to the virus. Trial participants are required to receive a single shot. Ninety percent will get the vaccine, and the remaining 10 percent will receive a placebo.

The study is open to adults ages 18 to 65 who have not previously had Ebola or been in contact with someone who has contracted the virus.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says Ebola attacks the immune system and organs and causes internal and external bleeding.

Sanford Health is based in Sioux Falls and Fargo, N.D.

Arrest made in robbery of Sioux Falls store, pharmacy

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police say they've arrested a suspect in Thursday's armed robbery of a convenience store and pharmacy.

Authorities say a man walked into a Walgreens about 9 a.m., went to the rear pharmacy and told the clerk he had a weapon. He demanded prescription pills and cash, grabbed the items and left. Some U.S. Marshals who were nearby saw the suspect leave the store with a basket full of prescriptions and detained him until police arrived.

Police say the same man is suspected in the 2:30 a.m. robbery of a Get-n-Go. The suspect in that crime said he had a gun, demanded money and cigarettes and ran off with cash and a carton.

Formal charges are pending for the 24-year-old Michigan man.

South Dakota pheasant numbers up 42 percent

DIRK LAMMERS, Associated Press

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Pheasant hunters in South Dakota should have a better season this year thanks to an estimated 42 percent jump in the number of birds, state wildlife officials said Thursday.

The pheasants-per-mile index is at 3.8, up from 2.68 last year and 1.52 in 2013, when hunters harvested slightly less than 1 million pheasants.

This year's index is similar to 2011, when hunters bagged 1.56 million birds, said Travis Runia, a senior upland game biologist for the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department.

"There should be ample opportunity for hunters to encounter birds this year," he said, due to a second consecutive year of favorable winter and spring weather conditions and lower snowfall totals that gave hens a better opportunity to survive and breed.

South Dakota's pheasant season runs from Oct. 17 through Jan. 3, and state wildlife officials hope to see increased demand for pheasant hunting licenses in response to the encouraging survey. Birds have been difficult to stir up in the past couple of years, leaving many hunters discouraged.

"There are a lot of folks out there in which 2013 is the last year they hunted," Runia said.

Pheasant estimates are up across the state, with surveys indicating hunters will find more birds along the Missouri River corridor across Winner, Chamberlain, Pierre and Mobridge.

The Sioux Falls area doubled its average from 1.06 pheasants per mile in 2014 to 2.11 this year, while the Aberdeen area had the smallest gain of 17 percent, increasing from 2.74 to 3.21.

Chamberlain boasts the highest average at 8.84, but it remains below the area's 10-year average of 13.32. Pierre's 7.48 pheasants per mile still lag behind the 10-year average of 9.03.

Wildlife officials and conservationists say the long-term drop across the state can be attributed to the loss of habitat.

South Dakota has more 700,000 acres enrolled in the federal Conservation Reserve Program, which pays farmers a yearly rental payment if they remove environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production and plant species that will improve environmental quality. In 2007, when pheasants were abundant across

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the state, farmers had nearly 1.6 million acres enrolled in the CRP program.

Hunters will find the best pheasant numbers in areas that offer birds plenty of places to hide and escape the elements, according to Mike Stephenson, South Dakota regional representative for the conservation group Pheasants Forever.

"Great habitat provides cover," Stephenson said.

State wildlife officers conduct their annual pheasant outlook, which is not a population estimate, by surveying 109, 30-mile routes from late July through mid-August.

Youth resident hunters in the state can get a jump on finding pheasants with the state's annual youth hunting extended weekend from Oct. 3-7. A residents-only pheasant weekend runs from Oct. 10-12.

Suspect arrested in 2 recent Rapid City armed robberies

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) Seigenthaler to receive Al Neuharth journalist award

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Broadcast journalist John M. Seigenthaler is this year's recipient of the Al Neuharth Award for Excellence in the Media.

Seigenthaler anchors Al Jazeera America's prime-time news program and previously anchored the "NBC Nightly News" weekend edition. During his 11 years at NBC, Seigenthaler appeared on "Today," "Dateline" and "Meet the Press," and anchored news programs on CNBC and MSNBC. He has received numerous awards for his work.

A presentation is scheduled Oct. 1 at the University of South Dakota.

The annual award for lifetime achievement in media is named for the late USA Today and Freedom Forum founder Al Neuharth, a South Dakota native and 1950 USD graduate.

Seigenthaler's father, the late John Seigenthaler, received the Al Neuharth award in 1999.

Rapid City police have arrested a suspect in two recent armed robberies.

The 19-year-old city resident is accused in the Saturday robbery of a convenience store and the Sunday holdup of a casino.

Officers say they found the man hiding in an apartment closet and arrested him shortly before midnight Wednesday on robbery and conspiracy charges.

The Sunday morning robbery was the fifth in Rapid City in a two-week span.

Husband pleads guilty in meth bust at Sioux Falls day care

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The husband of an in-home day care operator in Sioux Falls has pleaded guilty to his in role in a yearlong methamphetamine operation the couple ran out of their child care center.

Thirty-three-year-old Adam Darger pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance and maintaining a place where drugs are kept, sold or used. Prosecutors dropped remaining charges in exchange for his plea.

He pleaded guilty Thursday, a day after his 34-year-old wife, Jennifer Darger, pleaded guilty to drug charges and contributing to the abuse or neglect of a minor.

The two were arrested in March after a tip from the couple's daughter led police to search their home. They'll be sentenced in October.

Film about town versus white supremacist showing in state

BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — An award-winning documentary about a small North Dakota town's struggle to block a white supremacist from establishing an Aryan enclave on their doorsteps will be shown in theaters in the state next month.

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"Welcome to Leith," by New York filmmakers Michael Nichols and Christopher Walker, chronicles the saga of Leith and its clash with Craig Cobb, who bought property in the town of 16 people in 2012 and encouraged other white supremacists to join him there.

Cobb's plans derailed when he was accused of menacing and terrorizing residents with a gun. He was put on probation for four years and moved to Sherwood, about 200 miles away.

"I think the film has taken on sort of a new relevance," Nichols said, citing the recent massacre of nine black church members in Charleston, South Carolina. "People are paying more attention to this sort of domestic extremism."

Nichols and Walker raised about \$65,000 through crowdfunding and chipped in personal money to complete the 86-minute film. It premiered in January at the Sundance Film Festival in Utah and has since been accepted at film festivals in Australia, England, France and Canada, Nichols said. It won a best documentary award at film festivals in London and Boston.

"It was definitely beyond our expectations," Nichols said. "It was a pretty extraordinary festival run."

In July, the film landed a distribution deal with First Run Features, an independent distributor based in New York.

The film will begin a seven-day run of evening showings at the Grand Theatres in Bismarck on Sept. 25. There will be a matinee showing at the Mott Playhouse Theatre on Sept. 26.

Showings also are scheduled at theaters in nearly a dozen cities across the country, including Minneapolis; Milwaukee; Salt Lake City; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and New York City.

The filmmakers and Leith officials, including Mayor Ryan Schock, will attend the initial showings in Bismarck and host a question-and-answer session. It is not clear if Cobb will be invited to take part via video, after a similar session at Sundance "got a little chaotic," Nichols said.

"Some audience members asked hostile questions, then it sort of went downhill from there," he said. "It didn't feel to us like a really productive Q and A."

For his part, Cobb said he is happy with the film and his portrayal in it.

"A lot of it's me delivering fact. It's kind of like Donald Trump," he said.

More South Dakota firefighters help with Western wildfires

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — More South Dakota firefighters are heading out to help fight wildfires in Western states.

Five Rapid City Fire Department firefighters left Wednesday and Thursday for Washington state. Rapid City Fire Chief Mike Maltaverne says the department currently has 19 employees on fires out West, working on a rotational basis.

Sioux Falls Fire Rescue on Sunday sent a vehicle and three firefighters to help battle blazes in Idaho.

Massive wildfires raging in western states have charred thousands of square miles of forest, destroyed hundreds of homes and killed several firefighters, including Dave Ruhl of Rapid City, a firefighter with the Black Hills National Forest.

The fires have taxed resources and led officials to seek help from other states and countries.

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. PICTURE EMERGING OF GUNMAN'S TROUBLED PAST

The perpetrator of the on-air shooting in Virginia had a long history of confronting and bullying co-workers at a succession of television and customer-service jobs.

2. RESCUERS SUMMONED TO LATEST MIGRANT DISASTER

Survivors are brought to shore, but an estimated 200 people are still missing and feared dead off the Libyan coast, authorities say.

3. WHY GLOBAL REACTION TO CHINESE STOCK PLUNGE MAY HAVE BEEN OVERBLOWN

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Chinese stock markets appear to have little connection to the rest of the government-dominated economy, experts say.

4. OBAMA LAUDS NEW ORLEANS' RESILIENCE

The city is held out by the president as an example of renewal 10 years after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina.

5. WHICH ISLAND IS LATEST TARGET OF TROPICAL STORM

Erika lashes Puerto Rico after killing several people and causing flooding in the eastern Caribbean island of Dominica.

6. KIM JONG UN OUSTS TOP OFFICIALS

The dismissals suggest the young North Korean leader holds the functionaries responsible for allowing a recent standoff with South Korea to nearly spin out of control.

7. HOW HILLARY CLINTON IS TRYING TO DISCOURAGE JOE BIDEN

She has rolled out a string of high-profile endorsements and scheduled an onslaught of fundraisers across the country in an effort to throw cold water on a possible Biden bid.

8. SURVIVOR WHO LOST 21 RELATIVES TO EBOLA FINDS HOPE

Victoria Yillia, the first person to survive the disease in Sierra Leone, gives birth to a healthy son.

9. WHAT MILESTONE FACEBOOK REACHED

For the first time, a billion people used the social network on a single day.

10. LITTLE LEAGUE TITLE MATCHUPS SET

Texas will meet Pennsylvania in the U.S. championship game, while Mexico takes on Japan in the international bracket.

AP News in Brief for Friday

Businesses reopening at scene of on-air shootings; gunman remembered for bizarre outbursts

ROANOKE, Va. (AP) — Businesses are reopening at the scene of this week's on-air shooting as more details surface of the gunman's long history of confronting and bullying co-workers at a succession of television and customer-service jobs.

Friday's reopening of Bridgewater Plaza comes two days after Vester Flanagan, 41, killed two journalists from a Roanoke TV station where he once worked, and wounded the Smith Mountain Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce official they were interviewing. The chamber's lakeshore visitor center is set among tourist shops and restaurants in the strip mall in Moneta, about 20 miles southeast of Roanoke.

Flanagan's hair-trigger temper became evident at least 15 years ago at WTWC-TV in Tallahassee, Florida, said Don Shafer, who hired him there in 1999. Shafer recalled Flanagan as a good reporter and a "clever, funny guy" — but said he also had conflicts with co-workers "to the point where he was threatening people."

"Had some physical confrontations with a couple of people, and at one point became such a distraction that we finally had to terminate him," said Shafer, now news director with XETV in San Diego.

After stints in California, Florida and North Carolina, Flanagan's last television job was at WDBJ in Roanoke. On the day he was fired in 2013, he pressed a wooden cross into his boss' hand and said, "You'll need this," as two police officers escorted him out. Cameraman Adam Ward filmed Flanagan's departure.

The Latest: Police say 71 dead migrants total in Austrian food truck, 3 suspects arrested

VIENNA (AP) — Austrian police say three people have been arrested in connection with the deaths of 71 migrants found in a food truck on an Austrian highway.

The toll includes eight women and four children, one of them an infant.

The death toll and the arrests were announced at a news conference Friday, a day after the vehicle was

found on the main highway between Vienna and Budapest, Hungary.

Libya authorities collect bodies from latest migrant disaster after drownings off coastal city

ZUWARA, Libya (AP) — Libyan authorities were collecting the bodies of migrants who drowned off the Libyan coastal city of Zuwara, with some 200 feared dead on Friday in the latest disaster involving desperate people trying to reach Europe.

An Associated Press photographer at the scene saw workers removing bodies from the water, and pulling a flooded boat into the harbor that contained several drowned victims floating face down. At least one victim, a man, was wearing a life vest. They were put into body bags and lined up on the waterfront.

In a statement, the United Nations refugee agency said that up to 200 people were missing and feared dead, after the Libyan coast guard carried out rescue operations Thursday for two boats carrying an estimated 500 migrants.

Dozens of boats are launched from lawless Libya each week, with Italy and Greece bearing the brunt of the surge.

Since a 2011 civil war that ended with the overthrow and killing of longtime dictator Moammer Gadhafi, the oil-rich north African country has plunged into chaos.

Puerto Rico braces for Tropical Storm Erika after it kills 4 people in Dominica

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Tropical Storm Erika lashed Puerto Rico early Friday with heavy rains and wind after killing four people and causing devastating floods in the eastern Caribbean island of Dominica, where several people remained missing.

The storm was expected to dump up to 12 inches (31 centimeters) of rain across portions of the drought-stricken northern Caribbean as it carved a path toward the U.S. Forecasters said Erika might fall apart over Hispaniola or Puerto Rico or possibly strengthen into a hurricane as it nears South Florida early next week.

Erika was located about 145 miles (235 kilometers) southeast of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and was moving west at 12 mph (19 kph) with maximum sustained winds of 45 mph (75 kph), according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami.

Authorities in Puerto Rico closed certain roads in anticipation of numerous landslides, while rescue crews fanned across Dominica overnight to search for missing and injured people.

"Erika has really, really visited us with a vengeance," Assistance Police Superintendent Claude Weekes said by phone. "There are many fallen rocks and trees, and water. It's really chaotic."

Sierra Leone Ebola survivor who miscarried, lost 21 relatives gives birth to healthy son

KENEMA, Sierra Leone (AP) — Ebola did not take Victoria Yillia's life. And it could not prevent the birth of her son.

And yet it loomed, even on this, her happiest day.

She delivered her child just a few minutes' walk from the ward where just last year she had hovered between life and death, and nurses and medical staff still wore full protective suits and masks for fear of any lingering infection. Doctors gave her formula and told her not to nurse her baby until they ran tests to be sure there were no traces of the virus in her breast milk.

Her husband Anthony beamed in the maternity ward as they talked about names for the boy nestled in a blanket with a yellow knit cap. But Victoria burst into tears: Her mother was not here to help her, to show her what to do with her first child. Nor was her grandmother, or her three older sisters.

The couple and their new baby are all that remain: Twenty-one members of her family died of Ebola

when the virus ripped through this corner of Sierra Leone.

Vatican says ex-embassy to Dominican Republic, charged with abusing minors, has died.

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The Vatican's former ambassador to the Dominican Republic, who had been charged by church prosecutors with sexually abusing children in the Caribbean country, died Friday of apparent natural causes as he awaited trial, the Vatican said.

Jozef Wesolowski, 67, was found dead early Friday in the Vatican room where he has been held on house arrest, a statement from the Vatican said.

Vatican officials immediately intervened and initial checks "indicated that the death was from natural causes," a press statement said.

It said the Vatican prosecutor ordered an immediate autopsy and that Pope Francis was informed.

Wesolowski had been due to go on trial in a Vatican tribunal on July 11 for allegedly causing grave psychological harm to victims and possessing an enormous quantity of child pornography. But on the morning of the hearing, he was hospitalized in intensive care because of an unidentified "sudden illness." No new trial date was made public and the presiding judge had adjourned the trial indefinitely.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un dismisses top officials after standoff with South Korea eases

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has dismissed top officials in the wake of a recent standoff with South Korea, state media reported Friday, a move that suggests the young leader holds them responsible for allowing the confrontation to nearly spin out of control.

The rival Koreas earlier this week threatened strikes against each other before agreeing on measures to reduce animosity. The standoff began after land mines that Seoul says the North planted maimed two South Korean soldiers. Seoul responded by resuming propaganda broadcasts critical of Kim's authoritarian rule for the first time in 11 years. Pyongyang then threatened to destroy the South Korean loudspeakers, and Seoul says the rivals exchanged artillery fire at the border.

During a ruling Workers' Party meeting, Kim hailed the agreement, which came after marathon talks, as a "crucial landmark" that put "catastrophic" inter-Korean relations back on track toward reconciliation, according to Pyongyang's Korean Central News Agency. Kim also dismissed an unspecified number of members of the party's Central Military Commission, which handled the standoff, a KCNA dispatch said.

It gave no reasons for the dismissals, but outside analysts said they may have been sacked because they misjudged South Korea's strong response to the mine blasts.

North Korea is intolerant of any outside criticism of its political system and worries, analysts say, that the broadcasts heard over the border could demoralize frontline troops and residents and eventually weaken Kim's leadership.

Brazil's Rousseff facing 'political suicide bomber,' growing calls for impeachment

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — If the worst economic crisis in a decade, a massive corruption scandal centered on her ruling party and approval ratings in the single digits weren't rough enough for Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff, she's now faced with a "political suicide bomber."

That would be Eduardo Cunha, the powerful speaker of Brazil's lower house of Congress. Rousseff's sworn enemy, he has been charged by her attorney general with taking millions in bribes in connection with a sprawling corruption scandal at state-run oil company Petrobras.

He's also the man who can call for an impeachment vote in the Chamber of Deputies against the president, an action that two-thirds of Brazilians say they want to see happen, according to polls.

"Dilma is walking on the high wire without a net," said Eliane Cantanhede, one of Brazil's best-known political commentators for the Estado de S. Paulo newspaper and Globo television. "Nobody knows what Cunha is going to do, and this situation is a double-edged sword for Dilma."

Cunha, an avowed obstructionist to important economic and political reform measures Rousseff needs to push through Congress, was weakened after federal prosecutors charged him last week with corruption, which "may be good for Dilma, because he's losing the political backing to push through impeachment," Cantanhede said.

With endorsements and fundraising, Clinton quietly trying to discourage Biden from a 2016 bid

WASHINGTON (AP) — In ways both subtle and blunt, Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign is sending a message to Vice President Joe Biden about his potential presidential campaign: This won't be easy.

As Biden ponders a challenge to Clinton for the Democratic nomination, she has rolled out a string of high-profile endorsements in the early-voting contests of Iowa and South Carolina and scheduled an onslaught of fundraisers across the country in the effort to throw cold water on a possible Biden bid.

Donors who have publicly expressed support for a Biden run have been contacted by the Clinton team, according to donors and Democratic strategists who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the private conversations. Even Clinton herself has made a few calls, they said, to express her disappointment.

While Clinton and her team speak warmly of Biden in public, they have taken steps to show their dominance over the party's establishment and President Barack Obama's political infrastructure in hopes of quietly discouraging the vice president from entering the race.

The effort comes as Clinton and the Democratic field of candidates prepare to address members of the Democratic National Committee on Friday during their summer meeting in Minneapolis. The night before her formal address, Clinton made her case in private briefings to attendees. Meanwhile, representatives from a super PAC backing Biden plan to woo delegates in his absence.

Researchers team up with tribe to study Washington state glacier melting nearly 3 inches a day

MOUNT BAKER, Wash. (AP) — Mauri Pelto digs his crampons into the steep icy slope on Mount Baker in Washington state and watches as streams of water cascades off the thick mass of bare, bluish ice. Every 20 yards, the water carves vertical channels in the face of the glacier as it rushes downstream.

What little snow from last winter is already gone, so ice is melting off the glacier at a rate of nearly three inches a day this summer, he said.

"At the rate it's losing mass, it won't make it 50 years," said Pelto, a glaciologist who returned this month for the 32nd year to study glaciers in the North Cascades range. "This is a dying glacier," he said.

Glaciers on Mount Baker and other mountains in the North Cascades are thinning and retreating. Seven have disappeared over the past three decades, and the overall volume of glaciers in the range have lost about one-fifth of their volume.

The shrinking glaciers here mirror what is happening around the U.S. and worldwide: As the planet warms, glaciers are losing volume, some faster than others.

Far below South Dakota, a cave holds pure, promising water **KEVIN BURBACH, Associated Press**

WIND CAVE NATIONAL PARK, S.D. (AP) — Hundreds of feet beneath the Black Hills, a team of scientists and researchers snake through dark, narrow and silent corridors of ancient rock to reach their goal: what is thought to be some of the purest water on Earth.

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The crew of National Park Service scientists that's anchored by microbiologist Hazel Barton travels sporadically to the lowest reaches of South Dakota's Wind Cave National Park to study a series of underground lakes, which were discovered in the 1960s and aren't home to any animal life or even easily detectable microscopic organisms.

But Barton, from the University of Akron, has discovered there is bacteria — albeit scant — in the lakes. She's beginning to analyze about six years of data and hopes to decipher how the bacteria survives, answer questions about how it interacted before multicellular organisms came along and perhaps find new sources of antibiotics.

"It has the potential to answer a lot of questions that we have in biology that you can't answer anywhere else because you have levels of complexity," she said.

To gather the necessary samples, caving experience is crucial: It takes more than two hours for even the most adept cavers to reach Calcite Lake, the nearest body of water. "It's certainly not a route for the inexperienced," according to park service scientist Marc Ohms, who often joins Barton and, by his count, has made over 50 trips.

It's a quiet affair. Cavers typically hear only their voices, the scraping of feet and some grunting as they squeeze through crevasses — the narrowest is about 7 inches wide — with equipment that's light enough to carry and durable enough to survive the journey.

Barton, a 44-year-old British transplant, began caving here when she was a graduate student in Colorado, making weekend trips and later getting a tattoo of the cave. She has a reputation as an adventurous caver and has been featured in several film and television documentaries.

During her first excursions, Barton brought only a few liters of lake water back to study its properties. But with the help of a filtration system designed by one of her students, the microbiologist now filters hundreds of liters of cave water, which hosts an unusually low concentration of bacteria.

"So there was 2 billion years of history where bacteria were the top predators and you can't see that, you can't visualize those interactions anymore because they don't exist — well, they do and we can get to them in Wind," she said.

Because there are so few living things in the lakes' ecosystem, the organisms have to fight for survival. Thus, the bacteria's predatory characteristics could help scientists find new antibiotics, Barton said. Having exhausted other routes, they're turning to exotic environments like big, deep caves for that very reason.

Barton and her fellow cavers are doing so carefully. Because of its pristine nature, cavers and scientists have to take special precautions to make sure they don't contaminate Wind Cave lakes and surrounding areas: They don't bring crumble-prone foods, they eat over baggies and they urinate in bottles.

Above ground, the National Park Service has been concerned about development on the land. Several times, officials have objected to proposals from groups wanting to draw more water from the Madison Aquifer — of which the lakes are the top — for fear that the lakes could be permanently drained.

"We just don't know what we have down here. We just now discovered in the last five years that we have this resource ... and we don't want to see these natural processes eliminated," said Rod Horrocks, a physical scientist with the park service.

Barton hopes to have her work wrapped up by the end of the year. Already, she's presented some of her findings to the U.S. Department of Energy's Joint Genome Institute, where she said scientists asked her to send samples so that they could determine exactly what organisms are in the lakes.

In the meantime, Wind Cave's lakes could soon become a hotbed for scientific research — if you can squeeze down there.

"As soon as the word gets out," she said, "I imagine people are going to be jumping all over the place to try and do research."

In reversal, abundant grain trains available for harvest

JAMES MacPHERSON, Associated Press

STERLING, N.D. (AP) — The grain elevator that towers over this small prairie town has been humming with workers loading crops onto rail cars destined for domestic and worldwide markets.

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It's a welcome sight in Sterling, North Dakota, and across the upper Great Plains, where in the past two years grain elevators overflowed and mountains of wheat, corn, soybeans and other crops lay in piles, awaiting rail cars that seemed to never come.

Just in time for what the U.S. Agriculture Department expects to be near-record corn and soybean harvests, grain train cars are in abundance. The reversal is attributed to unprecedented spending on track upgrades, political pressure from politicians in agriculture-rich states and a drastic decrease in trains hauling crude and freight to and from western North Dakota's oil-producing region.

"There had been some uncertainties but it has gradually gotten better," said Josh Mardikian, grain manager at the South Central Grain Cooperative elevator in Sterling. As he spoke, a train was being loaded with 24 million pounds of spring wheat, much of which would be used for a national pizza chain's dough. Grain trains had been running late by as much as 45 days in the past 18 months, Mardikian said, but in the past week, mile-long, 110-car trains had shown up some four days earlier than expected.

Oil activity in North Dakota was partly to blame for the widespread shortage and backlog of rail cars from North Dakota and Montana down to Kansas and east into Illinois, National Farmers Union President Roger Johnson said. "It doesn't take too much more on the tracks to really get things snarled up," he said.

The long delays added to costs for grain elevators and agricultural producers, but whether the costs trickled down to consumers depends on the food product manufacturer, said Ed Usset, a grain marketing economist at the University of Minnesota.

"It's conceivable that every bakery in the world could have tried to pass those costs along but oftentimes companies just ride it out until things get better," he said.

Frustrations with grain shipping made it all the way to Washington, where politicians last year called on the Surface Transportation Board to press the railroads, which it oversees, for plans to address the backlog.

BNSF Railway Co. said it has invested billions of dollars in upgrades across its rail network since 2013, including \$1 billion in North Dakota alone. The railroad is now shipping all freight "faster, more predictable and more consistent," according to John Miller, a vice president who oversees the Fort Worth, Texas-based company's grain-related business.

"We put the pressure on the railroads and were willing to be a pain to them but we are also willing to give them credit that they've owned up to this problem and appear to have fixed it," said U.S. Rep. Kevin Cramer, a Republican from North Dakota who was one of the politicians who pressed for solutions. "We'll see."

Lochiel Edwards, a grain farmer who represents Montana's Grain Growers Association on rail issues, said the "only logical solution was to build a bigger rail network."

Also contributing to the turnaround is a slowdown in drilling activity in western North Dakota's oil patch due to depressed oil prices. While the state's oil production has remained stable at about 1.2 million barrels a month, the percentage of crude shipped by rail has dropped below 50 percent due to increased refining capacity and additional pipelines.

"I hope we don't have to put up with the crap we had to in the past," Minnesota Farmers Union President Doug Peterson said, especially in a year when his state is seeing bumper crops.

Johnson, the national farmers' union leader, remains optimistic.

"Almost no one is talking about it," he said. "That's the best indicator things have eased up."

South Dakota joins Iowa, Minnesota in DUI crackdown

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol is joining law enforcement agencies in Minnesota and Iowa in an effort to crack down on drunk driving on Labor Day weekend.

Officers from the three states are part of the campaign that was announced Friday near Valley Springs.

The Department of Public Safety says more than 36,000 drivers are arrested for drunk driving in the three states each year. South Dakota arrested 9,450 people for drunk driving in 2014.

Law enforcement agencies in Lincoln, Minnehaha and Moody county are also participating. In those three counties from 2010 to 2014, 30 people were killed and 515 individuals were seriously injured in alcohol-related crashes.

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Program to draw Native Americans into health care fields

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — A federal grant of nearly \$450,000 will help the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine provide career and academic mentoring to high school students on two of the state's Native American reservations.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services funding will help the medical school assist students at Red Cloud High School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation and Wagner Community School on the Yankton Indian Reservation.

Associate dean for diversity and inclusion Gerald Yutrzenka says the Native American Healthcare Scholars Program is a part of the school's strategic diversity plan, helping USD to further diversify health care professions.

The program helps identify, mentor and encourage young Native American students to pursue careers in health care. It begins this year and will continue into 2020.

Friday's Scores The Associated Press

PREP FOOTBALL

Aberdeen Roncalli 30, Redfield/Doland 0
Alcester-Hudson 42, Viborg-Hurley 16
Andes Central/Dakota Christian 44, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 20
Arlington/Lake Preston 42, Elkton-Lake Benton 6
Baltic 42, Howard 0
Bennett County 32, Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 0
Bison 44, Newell 2
Bridgewater-Emery 13, Beresford 6
Burke/South Central 52, Gayville-Volin 28
Canistota 36, Dell Rapids St. Mary 0
Canton 33, Vermillion 6
Chamberlain 60, Crow Creek 8
Chester 41, Garretson 12
Colome 34, Corsica/Stickney 22
Crawford, Neb. 14, Edgemont 6
DeSmet 44, Deubrook 27
Deuel 44, Great Plains Lutheran 12
Douglas 33, Huron 20
Gregory 74, Hanson 44
Groton Area 34, Oakes, N.D. 13
Hamlin 42, Florence/Henry 0
Harding County 30, Faith 14
Herreid/Selby Area 44, Leola/Frederick 18
Hill City 54, Crazy Horse 0
Ipswich/Edmunds Central 62, McLaughlin 6
Kimball/White Lake 32, Wall 12
Langford 43, Northwestern 8
Lemmon 36, Bowman County, N.D. 0
Madison 41, Dell Rapids 6
Milbank Area 55, Flandreau 7
Miller 38, Bon Homme 36
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 64, Menno/Marion 22
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 21, Castlewood/Estelline 20

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Parker 60, Centerville 6
Philip 56, Rapid City Christian 11
Pierre 28, Watertown 27, 2OT
Red Cloud 19, Lead-Deadwood 6
Scotland 52, Avon 0
Sioux Falls Christian 36, McCook Central/Montrose 0
Sioux Falls Lincoln 40, Rapid City Stevens 19
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 64, Rapid City Central 20
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 40, Aberdeen Central 7
Sioux Falls Washington 31, Brandon Valley 7
Stanley County 27, Potter County 6
Sully Buttes 40, Faulkton 24
Tea Area 20, Parkston 7
Todd County 61, Pine Ridge 8
Tri-Valley 35, Elk Point-Jefferson 30
Warner 34, Eureka/Bowdle 13
Waverly-South Shore 12, Britton-Hecla 6
Webster 14, Clark/Willow Lake 12
West Central 44, Dakota Valley 7
Winner 50, Mobridge-Pollock 0
Wolsey-Wessington 52, Platte-Geddes 0
Woonsocket/Wessington Springs/Sanborn Central 52, Sunshine Bible Academy 0
Yankton 42, Brookings 35, 5OT

Volleyball

Aberdeen Central def. Rapid City Central, 25-15, 25-11, 25-6

Rally, weather help South Dakota tourism rev along in 2015

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota tourism industry is surging this year, spurred on by good weather, low gas prices and landmark events such as the 75th Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, officials say.

Expectations for 2015 have been high because of key events like the historic rally and the 50th Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup. Across the state, businesses and officials say it's shaping up to be a big year for tourism, a pillar industry that brought in an estimated \$2 billion to South Dakota's economy last year.

At the end of July, there were nearly \$350 million in tourism taxable sales, which is more than 14 percent higher than the same period last year, according to information provided by the state Tourism Department. That translates to a jump of nearly 17 percent for the state tourism tax from the same time last year.

"This is excellent," said Kirk Hulstein, research and visitor services manager at the tourism department. "As we come to a conclusion of the summer months, indicators are showing that this could be one of our biggest years ever."

State and national park visits and hotel occupancy are also up over last year, Hulstein said.

At Custer State Park, visitors were up about 6 percent through the end of July compared to the year before and revenue was up about 13 percent. Craig Pugsley, park visitor services coordinator, said around rally time, Custer brought in about \$560,000 from motorcycles entering the park — over \$200,000 more than during the same period last year. Pugsley is also expecting larger-than-usual crowds for the Buffalo Roundup in September, which he called "a good economic shot in the arm" for that time of year.

"The park is a special place, and it attracts lots of people who have very fond memories of their experience here," he said. "It is a gem."

Rick Hustead, chairman of Wall Drug, said revenue is running about 12.5 percent over this time last year. That margin was significantly higher around the rally, he said, and Wall's tourist magnet brought on

a dozen extra employees to handle the rally business. "Six percent would be good," he said of the gains this year. "Twelve percent is amazing."

Jacquie Fuks, executive director of Southeast South Dakota Tourism, said tourism advertising has started coming out earlier. She said sites and businesses in the region also started seeing large numbers of visitors earlier than usual this year.

"The weather was perfect and kind of got people out and going," she said. "Gas prices didn't hurt."

Scott Carlson, from Lakeville, Minnesota, visited South Dakota for about a week in June with his son. The retired 59-year-old said they drove from Minnesota and fished near Chamberlain on the Missouri river before heading to the Black Hills area to explore Custer and the Badlands.

Carlson said his sister and her husband are planning to visit South Dakota in September from Illinois.

"After I described the trip to them, they got very interested, so they're heading out, too," he said.

EPA: Clean water rule in effect despite court ruling

MATTHEW DALY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Environmental Protection Agency says it is going forward with a new federal rule to protect small streams, tributaries and wetlands, despite a court ruling that blocked the measure in 13 central and Western states.

The EPA says the rule, which took effect Friday in more than three dozen states, will safeguard drinking water for millions of Americans.

Opponents pledged to continue to fight the rule, emboldened by a federal court decision Thursday that blocked it from Alaska to Arkansas.

"We see this (rule) as very hurtful to farmers and ranchers and we're going to do everything to stop it politically," said Don Parrish of the American Farm Bureau Federation, one of several farm and business groups that have filed suit against the regulation.

Lawsuits to block the regulation are pending across the country, and the Republican-controlled Congress has moved to thwart it. The House has ignored a White House veto threat and passed a bill to block it, and a Senate committee has passed a measure that would force the EPA to withdraw and rewrite it.

Four senators who oppose the regulation said that while well-intentioned, the water rule imposes excessive burdens on small farmers and ranchers.

The senators — two Democrats and two Republicans — said in an opinion column Friday that the EPA has "created considerable and potentially costly confusion for many American businesses and communities who are just trying to do their jobs well."

The column, written by Sens. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., John Barrasso, R-Wyo., Heidi Heitkamp, D-N.D. and Jim Inhofe, R-Okla., shows opposition to the rule comes from both parties.

The EPA counters that the rule merely clarifies which smaller waterways fall under federal protection after two Supreme Court rulings left the reach of the Clean Water Act uncertain. Those decisions in 2001 and 2006 left 60 percent of the nation's streams and millions of acres of wetlands without clear federal protection, according to EPA, causing confusion for landowners and government officials.

The new rule would force a permitting process only if a business or landowner took steps that would pollute or destroy the affected waters — those with a "direct and significant" connection to larger bodies of water downstream that are already protected. That could include tributaries that show evidence of flowing water, for example.

In practice, the rule means that developers can no longer pave over wetlands and oil companies can no longer dump pollution into streams unhindered, restoring Clean Water Act protections to more than half the nation's streams, supporters say.

But opponents call the rule an example of federal overreach and fear a steady uptick in federal regulation of nearly every stream and ditch on rural lands.

Thursday's ruling by U.S. District Judge Ralph Erickson in Fargo, N.D., is "a significant and rightful win for states' rights," said Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah, chairman of the House Oversight and Government

Reform Committee. Chaffetz called the EPA rule "arbitrary and subjective" and said it "should never see the light of day."

More than half the states have sued the EPA in hopes of delaying or blocking the rule. State officials from Georgia to New Mexico to Wisconsin have suggested the regulations could be harmful to farmers and landowners who might have to pay for extra permits or redesign their property to manage small bodies of water on their private land.

The federal ruling Thursday was in North Dakota, where officials from that state and 12 others argued the new guidelines are overly broad and infringe on their sovereignty. The EPA said after the ruling that it would not implement the new rules in those 13 states: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Several other lawsuits from other states and farm and business groups remain.

A federal judicial panel is set to hear arguments on EPA's request to consolidate the lawsuits at an Oct. 1 hearing in New York.

Since the rule was originally proposed last year, the EPA has been working to clear up what it says are misconceptions, such as critics' assertions that average backyard puddles would be regulated. Farming practices currently exempted from the Clean Water Act — plowing, seeding and the movement of livestock, among other things — will continue to be exempted, the EPA said.

SBA says deadline to apply for disaster loans approaching

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Small Business Administration says South Dakota private nonprofit organizations have until Sept. 28 to apply for an SBA federal disaster loan for property damage caused by June's severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds and flooding.

Tanya Garfield, director of the SBA's Disaster Field Operations Center-West, says eligible organizations may apply for SBA federal disaster loans of up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory and other business assets. The SBA can also lend additional funds to help with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

The loan program covers the storms from June 17-24.

The interest rate is 2.625 percent with terms up to 30 years.

Flash flooding impacts homes, motorists in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — More than half a foot of rain fell in parts of Sioux Falls, leading to flash flooding that inundated basements, stranded dozens of motorists and cut electricity to thousands of homes.

Mayor Mike Huether said infrastructure improvements in recent years kept the rainfall from being even more disruptive, "but more work needs to be done," he said.

"You're going to have challenges when get 2 or 3 inches of rain an hour over several hours," said Huether, "but we've had worse challenges and we'll get through this like we do with every other challenge that faces this city."

No injuries were immediately reported in the late Thursday storm, but several people had to be rescued from submerged vehicles. Several structures were damaged by water or lightning. More than 4,000 Xcel Energy customers lost electricity. Power had been restored to all but a few dozen by early Friday, KSFY-TV reported.

The weather service forecast 2-4 inches of rain, which was an accurate average of what fell over the area, meteorologist Todd Heitkamp told The Associated Press. There is no way to forecast the extreme heavy rainfall that fell in some areas, such as 2.75 inches measured in one gauge in less than half an hour, he said.

"You don't forecast extreme events because you don't have records to base that on," Heitkamp said. "These types of rain events don't occur very often. The last time we saw something close to this (in Sioux Falls) would have been in 2004."

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Such weather systems are known as "train echoes," because a series of storms moves over the same area, similar to a train of boxcars, according to Heitkamp.

"It's just one of those systems that socked in and just kept reformulating over the city, in a very, very concentrated area," Emergency Manager Regan Smith told the AP.

Danny Sullivan and his family were among the motorists who got stuck in the heavy rain and high water. Their vehicle became submerged and they had to climb out the sunroof.

"I've lived here my whole life and I've never seen anything like that," he told the Argus Leader.

The Trinity Baptist Church was among the buildings that were damaged. A window broke and flooded the basement with about 6 inches of water. Some of the flooring in the basement gave in and more water seeped in, Pastor Dave Decker said.

"Water starts coming in the basement wall, then a piece of plaster breaks," he told the Argus Leader. "Then we heard a big crash and the window breaks. Then the water starts coming in like a waterfall."

At least three houses caught fire when struck by lightning. Maddie Todd was on the third floor of her home when lightning struck.

"It was the brightest light I ever saw ... all of sudden I just hear this extremely loud noise and smelled smoke almost immediately," she told KSFY.

City police advised no travel during the flooding. The Red Cross deployed volunteers and opened a shelter for people who were displaced.

AP News in Brief for Saturday

Egyptian court sentences 3 Al-Jazeera English journalists to 3 years in prison

CAIRO (AP) — An Egyptian court on Saturday sentenced three Al-Jazeera English journalists to three years in prison, the latest twist in a long-running trial criticized worldwide by press freedom advocates and human rights activists.

The case against Canadian national Mohammed Fahmy, Australian journalist Peter Greste and Egyptian producer Baher Mohammed embroiled their journalism into the wider conflict between Egypt and Qatar following the 2013 military ouster of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi.

It wasn't immediately clear how the sentence would affect the three men. Greste, earlier deported in February, spoke to Al-Jazeera from Sydney and said he believed an Egyptian appeals court would overturn the verdict. Fahmy and Mohammed, both on hand for Saturday's hearing were immediately taken away by police after the hearing.

Mostefa Souag, Al-Jazeera English acting director-general, also criticized the verdict, saying it "defies logic and common sense."

"The whole case has been heavily politicized and has not been conducted in a free and fair manner," Souag said in a statement. "There is no evidence proving that our colleagues in any way fabricated news or aided and abetted terrorist organizations and at no point during the long drawn out retrial did any of the unfounded allegations stand up to scrutiny."

The Latest: Amnesty calls Egypt's Al-Jazeera trial verdict a 'death knell' for freedom

CAIRO (AP) — Here are the latest developments in Egypt's retrial of three Al-Jazeera English journalists:

11:45 a.m.

Amnesty International has condemned the three-year prison sentences given to three Al-Jazeera English journalists, calling them the "death knell for freedom of expression in Egypt."

Amnesty issued its statement Saturday after the court hearing in Cairo for Canadian national Mohammed Fahmy, Australian journalist Peter Greste and Egyptian producer Baher Mohammed. Mohammed got an additional six months for having a "bullet" in his possession.

Police arrest suspect, seize bomb materials in investigation of deadly shrine blast in Bangkok

BANGKOK (AP) — Thai police arrested a foreign suspect and seized bomb-making materials Saturday in the investigation of a deadly shrine bombing, officials said.

“It is most likely he is related to the bombing at Rajaprasong,” deputy police chief Chakthip Chaijinda said of the suspect. The blast at the Erawan Shrine in the commercial Rajaprasong district of the capital on Aug. 17 killed 20 people, including foreigners.

The man was arrested Saturday in Nong Jok on the outskirts of Bangkok. Chakthip said, “We found bomb materials in his apartment.”

National police spokesman Prawut Thawornsiri said that the arrested person is a foreigner, but refused to say if he was Turkish, as was reported by some local news organizations.

He said a news conference was planned later Saturday.

Sheriff’s deputy ambushed while pumping gas in Houston, shot multiple times from behind

HOUSTON (AP) — A sheriff’s deputy in uniform was shot and killed Friday night while filling up his patrol car at a suburban Houston gas station, according to authorities.

Deputy Darren Goforth, 47, was pumping gas into his vehicle about 8:30 p.m. Friday when a man approached him from behind and fired multiple shots, Harris County Sheriff’s Office spokesman Ryan Sullivan told The Associated Press. Once the deputy fell to the ground, the suspect fired more shots.

Police described the suspect as a dark-complexioned male who is believed to be between 20 and 25 years old, and stands about 5-foot-10 to 6-feet tall. He was wearing a white T-shirt and red shorts and driving a red or maroon pickup-style truck with an extended cab. Police said an intensive search for the suspect remained ongoing Saturday morning.

No motive was determined for the shooting. Harris County Sheriff Ron Hickman said Goforth, who was a 10-year veteran of the force, had a wife and two children.

“In my 45 years in law enforcement, I can’t recall another incident so cold-blooded and cowardly,” Hickman said.

“She just laid there playing possum”: Survivor’s husband recounts story of on-air shooting

ROANOKE, Va. (AP) — The chamber of commerce official who was answering questions about her community on live TV when gunfire erupted said she never saw the gunman walk up to the group.

Vicki Gardner, who is executive director of the resort area’s chamber of commerce, says the camera’s bright light blinded her. She was wounded as she fell to the ground after hearing the first shots, her husband said Friday.

The gunman, Vester Flanagan, ambushed WDBJ-TV cameraman Adam Ward and reporter Alison Parker during the interview Wednesday at the Smith Mountain Lake Visitor Center.

The first four shots were aimed at Parker, and two more were aimed at Ward, Gardner’s husband Tim said in a telephone interview from the hospital where she is recovering. Then he fired at Gardner, though his first couple of shots missed her.

“And then when she dove down and got shot, he stopped shooting and took off,” he said. “But she wasn’t sure he was gone so she just laid there playing possum until first responders showed up.”

With church bells, brass bands, Gulf residents remember Katrina's wrath, celebrate recovery

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — With prayer and the somber ringing of church bells and the uplifting sounds of brass bands and music, residents across Mississippi and Louisiana Saturday will pay homage to those who died in Hurricane Katrina, thank those who came to rebuild and celebrate how far the region has come from that devastating day when the hurricane struck.

Ten years ago today Katrina made landfall, in what turned into one of the deadliest storms in American history. The hurricane's force and flooding ultimately caused more than 1,800 deaths and roughly \$151 billion in damage across the region. In New Orleans, wide scale failures of the levee system protecting the city left 80 percent of New Orleans under water.

In Mississippi, churches will ring their bells to remember when the storm made landfall. In Biloxi, clergy and community leaders were to gather at MGM Park for a memorial to Katrina's victims and later that evening the park will host a concert celebrating the recovery.

Katrina's force caused a massive storm surge that scoured the Mississippi coast, pushed boats far inland and wiped houses off the map, leaving only concrete front steps to nowhere.

Glitzy casinos and condominium towers have been rebuilt. But overgrown lots and empty slabs speak to the slow recovery in some communities.

Swaziland rights group says 38 girls and young women killed in crash traveling to festival

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — A Swaziland rights group says 38 girls and young women were killed in a crash while travelling to a famous traditional festival.

The Swaziland Solidarity Network said in a statement on Saturday that about 20 others were injured when the truck they were in collided with another vehicle on Friday.

The Times of Swaziland reported that the truck smashed into the back of a van and was then hit in the rear by another truck.

The women were on their way to the Swazi king's royal residence for the annual reed dance.

A government website says about 40,000 girls and young women participate in the eight-day ceremony each year in which they bring reeds to reinforce the windbreak around the royal residence.

Donald Trump speaks at \$100-per-person event; says it's not a fundraiser

NORWOOD, Mass. (AP) — Donald Trump held a \$100-per-person campaign event — which he repeatedly insisted wasn't a fundraiser — outside of Boston on Friday evening as he backpedaled on his previous pledge not to accept contributions for his campaign.

"This Is not a fundraiser tonight, just so you understand," Trump told reporters at the sprawling Norwood property owned by local car dealership owner Ernie Boch Jr. A combination of die-hard fans and those curious to see the spectacle were treated to food from chef Tony Ambrose and a live cover band, in addition to a speech from the billionaire businessman and Republican candidate.

Trump said the money raised was only being used to offset the costs of the event and said people attending could choose to pay whatever they wanted.

That's despite multiple signs that were posted at the property's entrance telling those arriving, "Please have cash ready or make checks payable to: Donald J. Trump for President, Inc." and "Entry Fee \$100 Per Person."

The event comes as Trump has reversed course on his early pledge to self-fund his campaign entirely.

Lebanon garbage protests highlight a country rotting from the inside

BEIRUT (AP) — To the casual visitor, Lebanon may seem like a tiny slice of Mediterranean modernity and coexistence in a turbulent region plagued by violence and extremism.

But for many Lebanese, it's a rotting state eaten away by a political class that has long used the country's sectarian power-sharing system to perpetuate corruption and nepotism.

And while recent protests over uncollected trash have challenged an arrangement almost universally denounced by Lebanese, they also can't seem to shake it. Many argue that system is what has allowed the country of 4.5 million people from 18 recognized and often rival sects to survive.

"You Stink," the main activist group behind the protest movement, has called for a massive demonstration on Saturday. Its campaign started over the fetid piles of trash mounting in Beirut's streets after the government closed the country's main landfill, but it has mushroomed into a movement against the entire political structure.

At the heart of Lebanon's problems, some say, is an unwritten arrangement since Lebanon's 1943 independence which stipulates that the country's president must be a Christian, the prime minister a Sunni Muslim and the speaker of parliament a Shiite Muslim — the three largest communities.

Former student convicted of sex charges in scandal at exclusive New England prep school

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — A graduate of an exclusive New England prep school was cleared of rape but convicted Friday of lesser sex offenses against a 15-year-old freshman girl in a case that exposed a tradition in which seniors competed to see how many younger students they could have sex with.

A jury of nine men and three women took eight hours to reach its verdict in the case against Owen Labrie, who was accused of forcing himself on the girl in a dark and noisy mechanical room at St. Paul's School in Concord two days before he graduated last year.

Labrie, who was bound for Harvard and planned to take divinity classes before his arrest put everything on hold, could get as much as 11 years in prison at sentencing Oct. 29. The 19-year-old from Tunbridge, Vermont, will also have to register as a sex offender for the rest of his life.

He wept upon hearing the verdict, and then, as his lawyers conferred with the judge, sat alone at the defense table, shaking his head slightly and looking up at the ceiling. His mother sobbed. His accuser appeared stoic and huddled with members of her family in the courtroom.

"Owen's future is forever changed," defense attorney J.W. Carney said, adding that the sex convictions will be like "a brand, a tattoo" that he will bear for life.

Today in History **The Associated Press**

Today is Saturday, August 29, the 241st day of 2015. There are 124 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast near Buras, Louisiana, bringing floods that devastated New Orleans. More than 1,800 people in the region died.

On this date:

In 1533, the last Incan King of Peru, Atahualpa (ah-tuh-WAHL'-puh), was executed on orders of Spanish conqueror Francisco Pizarro.

In 1814, during the War of 1812, Alexandria, Virginia, formally surrendered to British military forces, which occupied the city until September 3.

In 1864, the Democratic National Convention, which nominated Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan for presi-

dent, opened in Chicago.

In 1877, the second president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Brigham Young, died in Salt Lake City, Utah, at age 76.

In 1915, Academy Award-winning actress Ingrid Bergman was born in Stockholm, Sweden. (Bergman died in London on this date in 1982 at age 67.)

In 1935, the film "Top Hat," starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, premiered at Radio City Music Hall in New York.

In 1944, 15,000 American troops of the 28th Infantry Division marched down the Champs Elysees (shahms ay-lee-ZAY') in Paris as the French capital continued to celebrate its liberation from the Nazis.

In 1958, pop superstar Michael Jackson was born in Gary, Indiana.

In 1964, Roy Orbison's single "Oh, Pretty Woman" was released on the Monument label.

In 1965, Gemini 5, carrying astronauts Gordon Cooper and Charles "Pete" Conrad, splashed down in the Atlantic after 8 days in space.

In 1975, Irish statesman Eamon de Valera (AY'-muhn dehv-uh-LEHR'-uh) died near Dublin at age 92.

In 1987, Academy Award-winning actor Lee Marvin died in Tucson, Arizona, at age 63.

Ten years ago: Economist Jude Wanniski, who advocated tax cuts as economic stimulus and was credited with coining the term "supply-side economics," died in Morristown, New Jersey, at age 69.

Five years ago: Five years after Hurricane Katrina's wrath, President Barack Obama sought to reassure disaster-weary Gulf Coast residents during a speech at Xavier University that he would not abandon their cause. "Mad Men" received its third consecutive Emmy Award for best drama series; "Modern Family" won for best comedy series. The United States' five-year reign as Little League World Series champions ended as Tokyo defeated Waipahu, Hawaii, 4-1. Brian McCann hit a game-winning homer with help from video replay, giving the Atlanta Braves a stunning 7-6 victory over the Florida Marlins; it was the first time a game ended using a video review.

One year ago: A federal judge threw out new Texas abortion restrictions that would have effectively closed more than a dozen clinics statewide in a victory for opponents of tough new anti-abortion laws sweeping across the U.S. (The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals later ruled that Texas could fully implement the abortion law, but the Supreme Court later said the clinics should be allowed to operate, pending appeal.)

Today's Birthdays: Actress Betty Lynn (TV: "The Andy Griffith Show") is 89. Movie director William Friedkin is 80. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., is 79. Actor Elliott Gould is 77. Movie director Joel Schumacher is 76. TV personality Robin Leach is 74. Actress Deborah Van Valkenburgh is 63. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew is 60. Dancer-choreographer Mark Morris is 59. Country musician Dan Truman (Diamond Rio) is 59. Actress Rebecca DeMornay is 56. Singer Me'Shell NdegeOcello (n-DAY'-gay-OH'-chehl-oh) is 46. Rhythm-and-blues singer Carl Martin (Shai) is 45. Actress Carla Gugino is 44. Rock musician Kyle Cook (Matchbox Twenty) is 40. Actor John Hensley is 38. Rock musician David Desrosiers (Simple Plan) is 35. Rapper A+ is 33. Actress Jennifer Landon is 32. Actor Jeffrey Licon is 30. Actress-singer Lea Michele is 29. Actress Nicole Gale Anderson is 25. Rock singer Liam Payne (One Direction) is 22.

Thought for Today: "Be yourself. The world worships the original." - Ingrid Bergman (1915-1982).