

Groton Daily Independent

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Homecoming Theme for 2015-2016 is Holidays.

Daily Themes

- Monday--MS/HS is Sports Day; Elementary is Camo Day
- Tuesday--MS/HS is Toga Day; Elementary is Sports Day
- Wednesday--MS/HS is Tacky Tourist Day; Elementary is Pajama Day
- Thursday--MS/HS is Color Day (Seniors-black, Juniors-white, Sophomores-blue, Freshmen-yellow, 8th grade-red, 7th grade-green, 6th grade-purple, Staff-pink); Elementary is Holiday Dress-up Day.
- Friday--Spirit Day

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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Saturday, September 19

Anniversary: Morgan and Ginger McNickle

Birthdays: Lanny Torguson • Diann Morehouse

10:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Pastor at Rosewood Court

1:00pm: Girls soccer host Garretson

3:00pm: Boys soccer host Freeman Academy

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

Sunday, September 20

Anniversaries: • Chuck & Sheila Johnson • Loren & Crystal Wheeler

Birthdays: • Marjory Townsend • Jordan Fliehs

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

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

11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

5:00 pm: Worship at Trinity Historic Church

Monday, September 21

School Breakfast: Ham and egg sandwich, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Turkey gravy, whipped potato, corn, tea bun, fruit.

Senior Menu: Meatballs, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrots, fruit cocktail, zucchini bread.

Birthdays: Julie Milbrandt • Joseph Groeblich-hoff • Collin Gengerke • Larry Harry • Darlene Jones • Regan Lewandowski • Mary Lou Bierman • Dillon Freeman • Rhonda Swanson

6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study

7:00pm: City Council Meeting at Groton Community Center

Tuesday, September 22

School Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk.



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Groton Area spoils Milbank Area's homecoming

Groton Area is off to its second best start in 15 years with a 13-7 Northeast Conference win over Milbank Area Friday at Milbank's homecoming game. "This was a big key win for us," said Coach Shaun Wanner. "It was a confidence booster for us and I'm proud of our kids - every player is playing their heart out on every play."

Groton Area received the opening kickoff, but quickly saw itself falling behind and ended up punting on fourth and 21. Milbank threatened to score as the Bulldogs got within the Groton 20 yard territory, but the Tiger defense held. "If we keep playing defense like we have," Wanner said, "we will be right in the thick of things at the end of the season. We can score the points. We just need every kid playing defense and that is happening."

Groton's next drive was halted by a Milbank Interception and once again, the Bulldogs were within striking range. The Bulldogs tried to convert the first down, but the Tiger defense held and Groton Area took over on downs at their own 19 yard line.

Groton Area got the game's first first-down with 2:55 left in the first quarter, but ended up punting on fourth and 10. The first quarter ended scoreless with Milbank having the ball.

Milbank Area had a good punt, but it was recalled as the Bulldogs were called with a penalty. On the re-punt, there was a bad snap and Tigers took over on the Milbank 13 yard line. With 10:58 left in the first half, Bennett Shabazz scored on an 18 yard line. The PAT kick by James Thompson was good and Groton Area took a 7-0 lead.



Adam Herman goes up for the catch with no one within five yards of him.

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Milbank had to punt on fourth and sixth and penalties plagued the Tigers who were forced to punt on fourth 39. Milbank got its first first-down of the game 2:55 left in the first half. In fact, they had three first downs on that drive before Stevie Fey came up with a fumble recovery on Groton's own 34 yard line with less than a minute to go in the half. On the next play, Bennett Shabazz dashed for 65 yards and tried to score on a dive, but was just short. With the ball about a foot from the goal line, Shabazz ran to the side and scored for Groton Area with eight seconds left in the half. The PAT conversion was no good and Groton Area took a 13-0 lead at half time.

Milbank Area started the second half with a long drive. Starting at their own 25 yard line, the Bulldogs marched down the field, getting three first downs and recovering their own fumble. Then on fourth and five, Adam Herman intercepted the ball and Groton took over on its own 13 yard line. Groton was unable to convert a first down and had to punt on fourth and six. Milbank did not



Carter Jondahl battles for each yard before being brought down by the Bulldogs.



Bennett Shabazz sees an opening and runs for 18 yards to score Groton Area's first touchdown of the game.

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fare any better and ended up punting on fourth and 12. The Tigers punted on fourth and six as the third quarter ended with Groton Area leading, 13-0.

Milbank Area started its next possession on its own 45 yard line and two first downs later and on fourth and goal from the one-yard line, Milbank Area would score with a one-yard run by Kyle Montag. Tanner Gaven kicked the PAT and it was 13-7, Groton Area, with 6:50 left in the game.

Groton Area got one first down, but had to punt on fourth and nine. Milbank Area started on its own 13 yard line with 2:50 left in the game. The Bulldogs went to the air in an attempt to make a big play, and a big play did happen, but not by Milbank. Trevor Pray intercepted the ball and Groton settled in on the Bulldog 23 yard line. Groton got a first down and it was enough to run out the clock as Groton Area spoiled Milbank Area's homecoming, 13-7.

The whole game was a defensive one as there was a total of 307 yards of total offense by both teams. Groton Area had 136 yards rushing and 10 yards passing while Milbank Area had 111 yards rushing and 50 yards passing. Milbank Area had more first downs, 13-10.

"Linemen don't get a lot of stats," Wanner said. "I thought our defensive line played their best so far this

year. Steven Fey, Chris Zarycki, Joe Groeblichhoff, Brandyn Anderson and Jack McKiver. Hunter Lerew has been improving with each game. Brandon Keith, as a sophomore, was our leading tackler. Trevor Pray had a key interception. And we saw some good senior leadership and they are helping the younger kids. We knew that we had the potential, but we have to go out and show it. All I can say is that everyone is stepping up to the task and we have a team that is really working well together."

Bennett Shabazz led the Tigers with 22 carries for 102 yards and two touchdowns and he completed three of eight passes for 10 yards. Lucas Hinman had seven carries for 27 yards while Carter Jondahl had two carries for five yards and Trevor Pray had three



Lucas Hinman gains a couple of yards before being brought down.



Carter Jondahl brought down Milbank Area's Tanner Gauer.

Photos and Story by Paul Kosel

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for two yards. Pass receivers were Adam Herman with two catches for two yards and Lucas Hinman with one for eight yards.

Tanner Gauer was the leading ball carrier for Milbank Area with 11 carries for 33 yards while Tristan Hall had nine for 22 yards. Isaac Snaza completed five of 10 passes for 50 yards Tanner Gaven had three catches for 15 yards, Jacob Jackson had one for 18 yards and Kyle Montag had one for 17 yards.

Defensive leaders for Groton Area were Carter Jondahl with 14 tackles followed by Patrick Gengerke with 13, Brandon Keith 12 and Bennett Shabazz 10. The Bulldgos were led by Jake Anderson with seven while Ben Nelson, Tanner Kettwig, Tanner Gaven and Isaac Snaza each had six.

Groton Area is now 4-0 on the season and will host Aberdeen Roncalli in the homecoming game on Friday. "It will be a fun week with Roncalli," Wanner said. "Roncalli is sitting 2-1 and top of the polls and we're 4-0 and right behind them in the polls. Roncalli has good team speed, but I was worried about team speed with Milbank and we did a great job limiting their speed and we'll have to do the same thing against Roncalli. They are always well prepared and they play hard. They had a bye week so they've had two weeks to prepare for us. It will come down to who makes the least mistakes and makes the big plays."

**Want to watch the game, go to
www.thecube.com/cube/paperpaul**

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Today in Weather History

September 19, 1991: Near record or record cold hit central and northeast South Dakota on this day in 1991. Temperatures fell into the 20s during the morning bringing a hard freeze to much of the area. Pierre and Mobridge had record lows of 24 degrees while Timber Lake set a record low of 21 degrees. Near record lows of 28 degrees and 22 degrees occurred at Aberdeen and Kennebec, respectively.

1947: A hurricane made landfall near the Chandeleur Islands, LA on September 19, 1947. Wind gusts of 112 mph and a central pressure of 967 mb were measured at Moisant International Airport. A storm surge of 9.8 ft reached Shell Beach, Lake Borgne. Moisant Airport field was under 2 ft of water while Jefferson Parish was flooded to depths of 3.28 ft. New Orleans suffered \$100 million in damages. Total loss of life was 51 persons. As a result of this storm, hurricane protection levees were built along the south shore of Lake Pontchartrain to protect Orleans and Jefferson Parishes from future storm surges.

1947 - The eye of a hurricane passed directly over New Orleans, and the barometric pressure dipped to 28.61 inches. The hurricane killed fifty-one persons, and caused 110 million dollars damage. It produced wind gusts to 155 mph while making landfall over Fort Lauderdale FL two days earlier. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1967 - Hurricane Beulah deluged Brownsville, TX, with 12.19 inches of rain in 24 hours, to establish a record for that location. Hurricane Beulah made landfall on the 20th near the mouth of the Rio Grande River, where a wind gust to 135 mph was reported by a ship in the port. (19th-20th) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Cool autumn-like weather invaded the Central Rockies. Temperatures dipped into the 30s and 40s, with readings in the teens and 20s reported in the higher elevations. Gunnison CO was the cold spot in the nation with a morning low of 15 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Thunderstorms developing along a fast moving cold front produced severe weather in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan. Eight tornadoes were reported, including five in Indiana. Thunderstorm winds gusted to 74 mph at Wabash IND. Winds associated with the cold front itself gusted to 69 mph at Kenosha WI. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Showers and thunderstorms produced heavy rain in the Middle and Northern Atlantic Coast Region. Cape Hatteras NC was deluged with nearly 3.50 inches of rain in three hours. Syracuse NY reported 1.77 inches of rain, a record for the date, and Chatham NJ reported an all-time record of 3.45 inches in one day. Hurricane Hugo headed for the Bahamas, and Tropical Storm Iris, following close on its heels, strengthened to near hurricane force. (The National Weather Summary)

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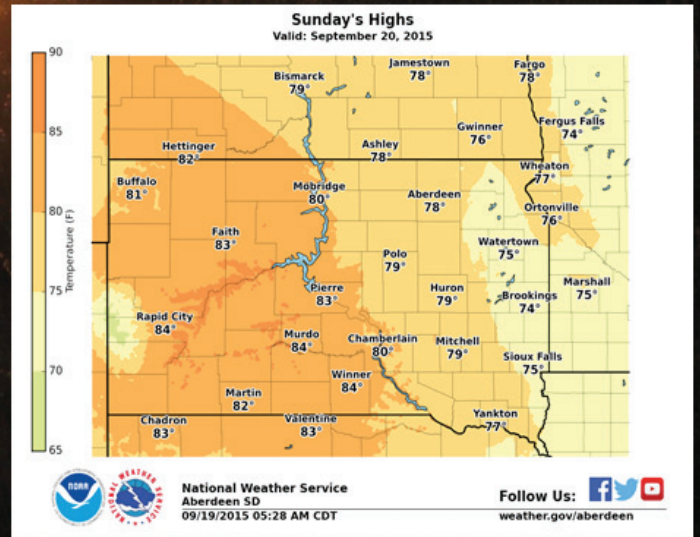
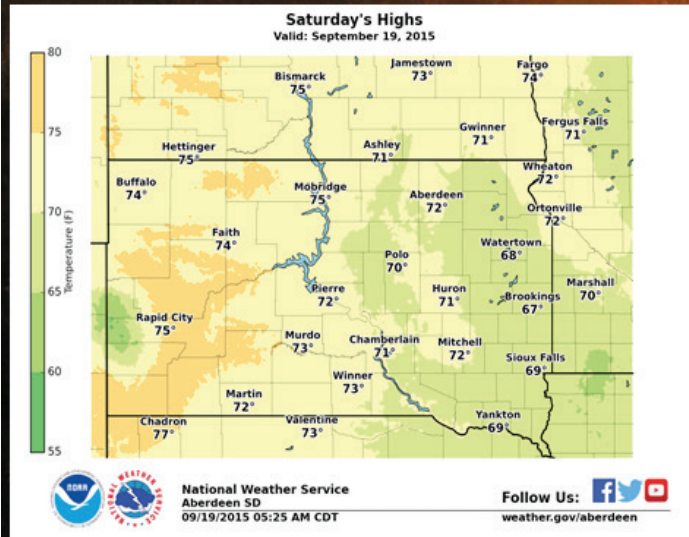
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This Afternoon	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
						
Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny
High: 72 °F	Low: 47 °F	High: 77 °F	Low: 53 °F	High: 84 °F	Low: 51 °F	High: 73 °F



Gorgeous Weekend Ahead!



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Published on: 09/19/2015 at 5:43AM

Very pleasant temperatures are forecast through the weekend, with mostly sunny skies and dry conditions. Highs today will range from the upper 60s to mid 70s, with mid 70s to mid 80s on Sunday. This weekend will be a great opportunity to enjoy being outside or get some outdoor projects done!

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 56.5 at 1:15 PM

Low: 39.2 at 11:19 PM

High Gust: 19 at 3:39 PM

Precip: 0.19

Today's Info

Record High: 101° in 1895

Record Low: 26° in 1938

Average High: 71°F

Average Low: 44°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 1.41

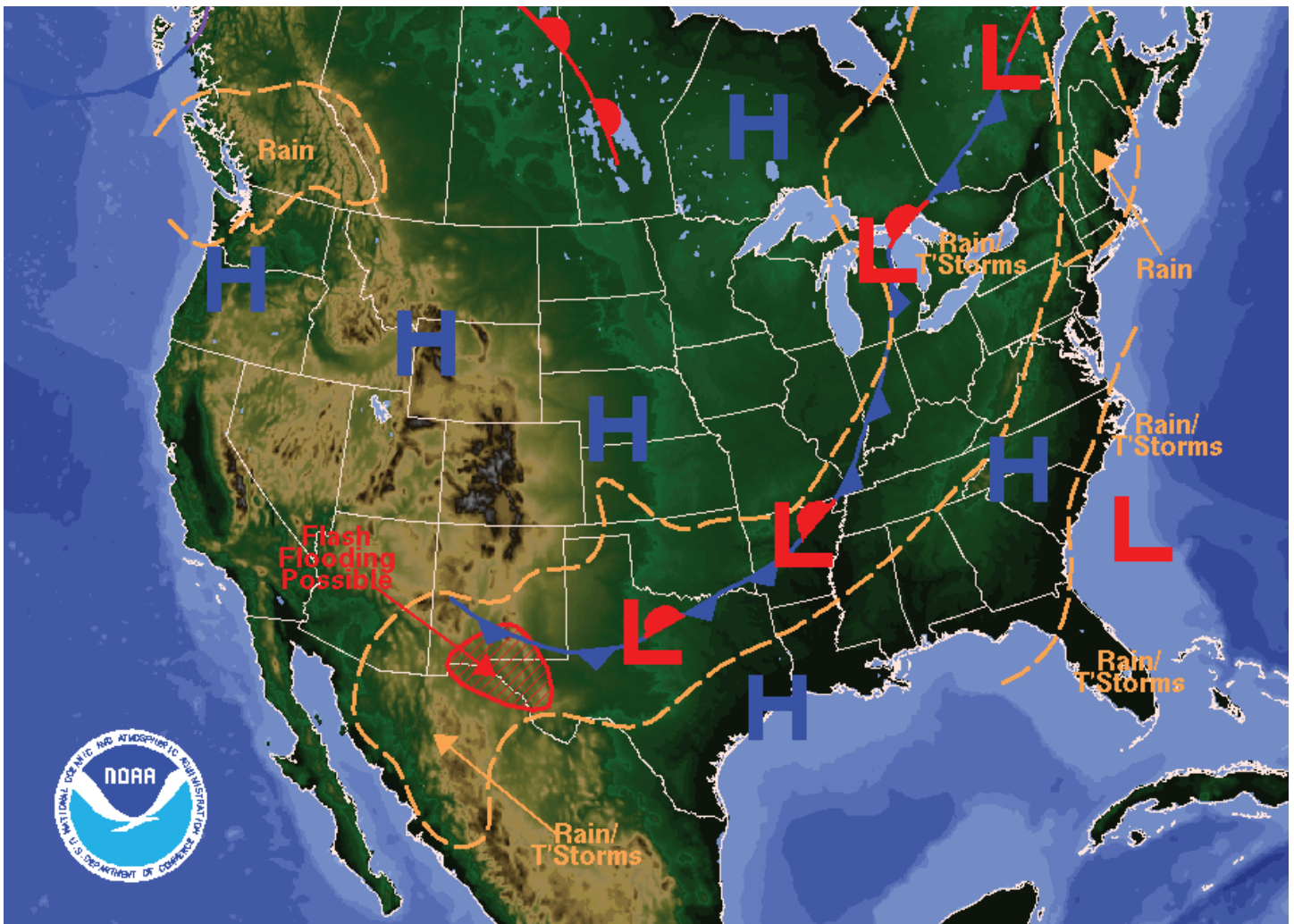
Precip to date in Sept.: 0.35

Average Precip to date: 17.70

Precip Year to Date: 17.15

Sunset Tonight: 7:37 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:17 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sat, Sep 19, 2015, issued 4:32 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Santorelli based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



SALVATION AND CHANGE

"Never trust Tom. I did and he disappointed me. Not only once, but twice!" said his employer.

"But why should I not trust him?" his friend asked.

"People never change. Once a thief, always a thief! Once a liar, always a liar," he raged.

But that is not always true.

Few people were more despised than the tax collectors in Jesus' day. The Romans were attempting to establish a world empire and it was a costly venture.

To accomplish their goal they levied heavy taxes on all of the nations that were under their control. Without the tax collectors the Empire could not survive. So it was no surprise that the people were shocked when Jesus went to the home of Zacchaeus. How could someone as honest as Jesus associate with such a dishonest thief and liar?

However, when he met Jesus, he realized that he needed to straighten out his life. And he did! "Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor. If I have cheated anyone of anything, I will pay him back four times." And he did.

The new birth brings new behaviors. When we change on the inside, people will see it on the outside.

Prayer: Forgive us, Father, if we claim to be born again but live as we always have. May we repent, now. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 90:17 And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, And establish the work of our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands.

News from the Associated Press

6 ethanol tanker cars derail, catch fire in South Dakota

SCOTLAND, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say six ethanol tanker cars caught fire Saturday morning after a Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad train derailed on a bridge southeast of Scotland.

Bon Homme County Emergency Management spokesman Lee Rettig says one rural road is shut down as firefighters from several departments fight the blaze, which was still burning. He said BNSF hazardous materials teams are also responding to help with the cleanup.

A BNSF representative did not immediately respond to a message seeking details.

Rettig says the crash occurred between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. Saturday near a railroad crossing and there appear to be no injuries.

The six cars were near the front of the train.

Ag specialists: Corn farmers could be looking at losses

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Farm management specialists in the Dakotas say corn farmers will likely face per-acre losses this season with high seed, land and fertilizer costs eating up any potential profits from low commodity prices.

South Dakota Center for Farm/Ranch Management director Jared Hofer says some grain farmers either broke even or faced small losses last year, but this year's spread between input costs and sale prices will likely widen. Hofer says revenue is about half of what it was three years ago, but expenses are just as high.

NDSU Extension farm management specialist Andrew Swenson says the total production cost for a bushel of corn in North Dakota will likely be about \$4, though expected higher yields could bring that cost down to about \$3.80. Unfortunately, bushels will likely sell for \$3.10.

ND Guard promoting SD native to brigadier general

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The North Dakota Army National Guard will promote Col. Robert A. Fode of Bismarck to brigadier general on Sunday.

A 2 p.m. ceremony is planned at the Raymond J. Bohn Armory theater in Bismarck. North Dakota adjutant general Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk (sprihn-sih-NAT'-ihk) will preside over the ceremony.

Fode is a native of Mobridge, South Dakota. He enlisted as motor transport operator in the South Dakota Army National Guard in 1978 and later transferred to the North Dakota Army National Guard. In 1985, Fode attended the North Dakota Army National Guard's Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers branch.

Fode has held various key leadership positions within the organization throughout his career.

North Dakota bottling company suing PepsiCo over contract

MINOT, N.D. (AP) — A North Dakota Pepsi distributor is accusing the soft drink company of breaking a 60-year-old contract on exclusive sales rights.

Northern Bottling Co., Inc., of Minot, has filed a complaint in federal court against PepsiCo, Inc. The suit accuses the company of violating a 1955 deal that established sales rights in several North Dakota counties. The pact was expanded in 1972 to include three South Dakota counties.

The suit says PepsiCo is knowingly selling its beverages to other distributors who are selling them to Northern Bottling's customers. The complaint seeks unspecified damages.

PepsiCo officials did not return an email message seeking comment.

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South Dakota's grouse and partridge hunting seasons open

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's grouse and partridge hunting seasons open on Saturday.

State Game, Fish and Parks upland game biologist Travis Runia (ROON'-yuh) expects grouse hunting to be better than last year. Nearly 11,000 hunters harvested more than 35,000 prairie grouse in 2014.

Runia says prairie grouse numbers are not as easily determined as they are with pheasants, but spring surveys indicate an increase in adult prairie grouse with average reproduction.

The season runs through Jan. 3.

Friday's Scores The Associated Press

PREP FOOTBALL

Alcester-Hudson 56, Parker 22
Baltic 47, Centerville 16
Belle Fourche 57, Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 6
Beresford 20, Elk Point-Jefferson 6
Bison 22, Timber Lake 16
Bon Homme 38, Kimball/White Lake 24
Brandon Valley 43, Rapid City Stevens 0
Brookings 28, Sioux Falls Lincoln 22
Canistota 48, Elkton-Lake Benton 0
Canton 21, Tri-Valley 14
Chamberlain 26, Red Cloud 0
Chester 48, Howard 8
Colman-Egan 58, Deubrook 6
Colome 44, Burke/South Central 8
Corsica/Stickney 52, Avon 0
Dell Rapids St. Mary 24, Castlewood/Estelline 0
Deuel 50, Tri-State 0
Garretson 56, Viborg-Hurley 18
Gayville-Volin 30, Andes Central 0
Gordon/Rushville, Neb. 44, Bennett County 0
Gregory 20, Miller 12
Groton Area 13, Milbank Area 7
Hamlin 56, Great Plains Lutheran 6
Hot Springs 60, Pine Ridge 0
Kadoka Area 28, Platte-Geddes 6
Langford 27, DeSmet 24
Lyman 52, Rapid City Christian 7
Madison 52, Lennox 21
McCook Central/Montrose 28, Flandreau 0
Mitchell 62, Sturgis 7
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 58, Irene-Wakonda 26
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 33, Menno-Marion 30
Parkston 47, Redfield/Doland 14
Pierre 37, Huron 12
Potter County 34, Faulkton 20
Sioux Falls Christian 30, Sioux Valley 7
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 41, Harrisburg 8
Sioux Falls Washington 39, Sioux Falls O'Gorman 23
Sisseton 40, Mobridge-Pollock 7

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Spearfish 35, Douglas 20
Stanley County 41, Wall 0
Sully Buttes 52, Sunshine Bible Academy 0
Tea Area 14, Dell Rapids 6
Tiospa Zina Tribal 53, McLaughlin 0
Todd County 48, St. Francis Indian 0
Tripp-Delmont/Armour 44, Marty Indian 18
Vermillion 36, Dakota Valley 34, OT
Wagner 12, Jones County/White River 0
Warner 42, Northwestern 6
Watertown 27, Rapid City Central 19
Waverly-South Shore 40, Florence/Henry 0
Winner 51, Valentine, Neb. 0
Wolsey-Wessington 58, Hitchcock-Tulare 0
Yankton 36, Aberdeen Central 25

Volleyball

Rapid City Central Quadrangular
Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Rapid City Central, 25-21, 25-16, 25-12
Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Rapid City Stevens, 25-23, 13-25, 20-25, 25-19, 15-12
Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Rapid City Stevens, 26-24, 25-16, 17-25, 30-28
Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Rapid City Central, 25-14, 25-9, 25-13

Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate council votes to reinstate chairman

SISSETON, S.D. (AP) — The tribal council on the Lake Traverse Indian Reservation voted Friday to reinstate its chairman, who was suspended earlier this month for ordering mandatory drug tests for all tribal government employees.

Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Chairman Bruce Renville said he was pleased with the council's vote and now wants to move forward to address issues on the reservation such as housing and employment opportunities.

"I think I and the council can put this behind us now and work on some projects that will help our community," he told The Associated Press. "It's much better to work together than to try to solve something on your own."

Renville was suspended earlier this month for ordering mandatory drug tests for all tribal government employees in August, which council members said violated personnel policies that spell out conditions for drug testing. Renville said he was within his authority as chairman to order the drug tests and was doing the right thing.

He said drugs are still a "major problem" on the reservation and he will work to combat them.

Renville's attorney, Brendan Johnson, who until recently served as the U.S. attorney for the state, said the council approached Renville's reinstatement judiciously. Before the hearing, which lasted about seven hours, he said he was worried the council members had already made up their minds.

"They asked good, strong, intelligent questions," Johnson told the AP. "They weighed the evidence fairly and gave Chairman Renville a fair hearing."

Vice Chairman Garryl Rousseau Sr., who had been acting chairman after Renville's suspension, told the Argus Leader newspaper that the decision came after what he called "a spirited discussion."

"There was some compromise on both sides," Rousseau said.

The Lake Traverse reservation spans five counties in South Dakota and two in North Dakota.

Military operations begin at expanded bomber training area

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The first military flying operations took to the air Friday at an enormous bomber training area over the northern Plains that was approved this spring after years of consideration.

The expansion of the Powder River Training Complex over the Dakotas, Montana and Wyoming roughly quadruples the training airspace to span nearly 35,000 square miles, making it the largest over the continental U.S. Flight operations began after the Federal Aviation Administration finished mapping work on the expanded airspace, a spokeswoman for the 28th Bomb Wing at Ellsworth Air Force Base said in an email.

The airspace will be used by B-1 bombers from Ellsworth in South Dakota and B-52 bombers from Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota. The U.S. Air Force says the expansion will significantly boost training opportunities for Ellsworth and Minot aircrews.

"It'll be the first flights in the newly charted airspace, which again, is something that we think has very positive, beneficial national security implications for our ability to train air crews," said South Dakota U.S. Sen. John Thune, who began pushing for the expansion nearly a decade ago. "At the same time, it's saving money."

The expansion is expected to save Ellsworth up to \$23 million a year in fuel costs by reducing the number of training flights to other states.

Ellsworth delayed the first flights for a day after the training complex went active to ensure a smooth transition into the new airspace, said 1st Lt. Rachel Allison, 28th Bomb Wing public affairs chief. Thune, a Republican, told The Associated Press that parts of the expanded airspace won't be active until communications equipment has been installed.

Allison said the complex's first flights took off as scheduled on Friday morning. Outside of large-scale exercises, she said, operations in the new airspace will be similar to flights in the former training area.

Any given location across the training area could experience up to nine low-altitude overflights annually. Supersonic flights would be limited to 10 days a year during large-scale exercises involving roughly 20 aircraft.

The Air Force has said as many as 88 civilian flights a day could be delayed when large-scale exercises are conducted but that the number would likely be smaller.

Opponents of the airspace expansion have argued that the bombers would disrupt rural communities and scare livestock as they roar overhead on maneuvers, dropping flares and chaff, or fiber clusters intended to disturb radar waves.

Thune said he will continue working with the Air Force to make sure that concerns are being addressed.

Community mourns South Dakota family found dead after fire

PLATTE, S.D. (AP) — A rural South Dakota community is mourning a family of six found dead in the ruins of their burned home, as authorities investigate what one official described as an unusual house fire.

Hundreds of people turned out for a memorial service at the Christian Reformed Church on Thursday night to remember Scott and Nicole Westerhuis and their four children.

"It's like a bad dream that we can't wake up from," the Rev. Harry Koops told the crowd. "We realize we can't wake up, and that it is our reality."

Firefighters were called to the Westerhuis home, 3 miles south of Platte, about 5:30 a.m. Thursday after a passer-by reported the blaze. Authorities did not immediately name the fire victims, but Platte-Geddes School Superintendent Joel Bailey said local agencies informed him that the family had perished. He said the children killed were Kailey, a third-grader; Jaeci, a fifth-grader; Connor, an eighth-grader; and Michael, a high school sophomore.

"Their family was inseparable," family friend Kristina Sprik told the Argus Leader. "They did everything together."

Local, state and federal officials are investigating the cause of the fire.

Investigators aided by cadaver-searching dogs completed their search of the home Friday and recovered

the last of six bodies, said Charles Mix County Sheriff Randy Thaler.

He said investigators are confident that all the victims have been recovered, but are awaiting autopsy results to positively identify them. He offered no comment on a suspected cause.

Platte Fire Chief Rick Gustad told The Daily Republic newspaper that the house was "pretty well destroyed" when firefighters arrived.

"It's not a real common occurrence to have a fully engulfed structure fire on arrival," Gustad said.

It took three dozen firefighters seven hours to extinguish the blaze, authorities said.

About 1,200 people live in Platte, about 110 miles west of Sioux Falls.

"Everyone in the community is affected by this because in many ways, we're a big family," Koops said.

Scott and Nicole Westerhuis both worked for Mid-Central Educational Cooperative, providing speech, language and hearing services to schools. The Westerhuis children participated in several activities including baseball, football, basketball, track, swim team, gymnastics and choir, according to Sprik.

Members of the Platte-Geddes football team planned to honor their fallen teammate as they traveled to Kadoka for a road game. Each player plans to wear a No. 28 helmet sticker in memory of Michael Westerhuis.

Sheriff says last of 6 bodies recovered from fire

PLATTE, S.D. (AP) — The Charles Mix County sheriff says investigators have recovered the last of six bodies from a South Dakota home that burned to the ground.

Sheriff Randy Thaler says that investigators aided by cadaver-searching dogs from Codington County completed their search of the home near Platte on Friday. He says they are confident all victims have been recovered.

Thaler offered no comment on a suspected cause.

Firefighters were called to the home of Scott and Nicole Westerhuis early Thursday after a passer-by reported the blaze. Authorities did not immediately name the fire victims, but Platte-Geddes School Superintendent Joel Bailey says local agencies informed him that the family had perished.

He says the children killed were Kailey, a third-grader; Jaeci, a fifth-grader; Connor, an eighth-grader; and Michael, a high school sophomore.

Sioux Falls reaches \$1M settlement over events center panels

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The city of Sioux Falls has reached a \$1 million settlement with Denny Sanford Premier Center contractors regarding metal siding that's bulging.

The announcement Friday came two weeks after the city said it was going to sue.

The settlement is between the city and M. A. Mortenson Co., Sink Combs Dethlefs PC, Koch Hazard, M.J. Dalsin Inc. and Innovative Metals Co. Inc.

The \$117 million events center opened a year ago. Mayor Mike Huether says resolving the matter of the bulging panels has "been a long and challenging process."

The city says the bulging panel issue is one of aesthetics. An investigation concluded that the metal siding is structurally sound and doesn't need replacing. The 20-year finish warranty on the siding remains in effect.

South Dakota Community Foundation invests in lab project

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Community Foundation is investing \$2 million in an experiment at the Sanford Underground Research Facility at Lead.

The investment made at the request of the South Dakota Science and Technology Authority will help researchers at the federally supported lab in their search for dark matter, an elusive substance that scientists believe makes up about one-fourth of the universe.

Scientists are fairly certain that dark matter exists, but they don't know what it's made of or how it interacts with ordinary matter. It's considered vital to scientific theories on how the universe is expanding

and how galaxies move and interact.

"The foundation's investment in this project will help the U.S. keep a science-leadership role in the global competition to detect dark matter," said Mike Headley, executive director of the Science and Technology Authority.

The Sanford lab is nearly a mile underground in the former Homestake Gold Mine. Researchers there are studying many complex subjects, such as nuclear reactions within stars.

The South Dakota Community Foundation is a public nonprofit created in 1987 to connect donors and charitable nonprofits around the state. The \$2 million investment is the largest single-project funding in the foundation's 28-year history. Unlike grants the foundation typically gives to nonprofits, the investment will eventually be repaid.

The money will be used to buy a material known as Xenon that's necessary for the dark matter research. Once the experiment is complete in 2026, the Xenon will be sold on the open market with the proceeds going to the foundation.

"(The) investment in a future experiment will benefit the lab and the state of South Dakota for years to come, both economically and educationally," said Casey Peterson, that authority's board chairman.

3 more statues added to Trail of Governors in Pierre

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Three more statues have been placed along the Trail of Governors in Pierre, bringing the total to 12.

The statues added Thursday were of South Dakota's fourth governor, Charles Herreid; its 18th governor, George T. Mickelson; and its 25th governor, Richard Kneip.

Statues that will be completed next year are Warren Green, the 13th governor, Nils Boe, the 23rd, and Mike Rounds, the 31st. Those statues will mark the halfway point of the project.

AP News in Brief

Prosecutors likely want alleged church shooter's friend to testify, legal experts say

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — Charging Dylann Roof's friend may help prosecutors get him to testify about the alleged Charleston church shooter's state of mind before nine people were killed.

According to an indictment, Joey Meek knew about Roof's plans to shoot black church members during Bible study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal, didn't report it and lied to the FBI after the massacre.

Meek, 21, faces federal charges that, if convicted, could land him in prison for years. But with Roof already in jail facing federal hate crime charges and nine state counts of capital murder, why would there be a case against Meek?

Legal experts say prosecutors likely want to show Roof's alleged acts were premeditated and intentional, which are vital to pursuing a death penalty case.

"By having a charge against him (Meek), they have more leverage with him to go ahead and make some sort of plea bargain: You testify. You tell us the truth, and we'll give consideration on the charges or penalty involved," long-time criminal defense attorney Jack Swerling said.

SWAT team arrests man suspected in string of Phoenix-area freeway shootings

PHOENIX (AP) — Police arrested a man Friday for a string of seemingly random freeway shootings in Phoenix, adding that they had linked the man's gun to four of the 11 cars hit.

Leslie Allen Merritt Jr., 21, was arrested at a Wal-Mart in Glendale, a suburb west of Phoenix at about 7 p.m., said Daniel Scarpinato, a spokesman for Gov. Doug Ducey.

Department of Public Safety Director Frank Milstead, announcing the arrest at a news conference two

hours later, said Merritt had not been formally charged yet.

Milstead said the suspect was arrested in the first four shootings, which took place on Aug. 29 and 30. The agency says the suspect faces a range of charges that include criminal endangerment, assault and unlawful discharge of a firearm.

The four shootings that police say he committed hit a tour bus, SUV and two cars, all of them on Interstate 10. No one was injured.

Pope to offer solidarity with Cubans and highlight critical role of Hispanics in US church

HAVANA (AP) — Pope Francis begins a 10-day trip to Cuba and the United States on Saturday, embarking on his first trip to the onetime Cold War foes after helping to nudge forward their historic rapprochement. He will be offering a show of solidarity with Cubans and making clear that Hispanics in the United States are the bedrock of the American church.

The visit boasts several firsts for history's first Latin American pope: Francis will become the first pope to address the U.S. Congress and he will also proclaim the first saint on U.S. soil by canonizing the controversial (and Hispanic) missionary, Junipero Serra.

Francis though will also be following in the footsteps of his predecessors, becoming the third pontiff to visit Cuba in the past 17 years — a remarkable record for any country much less one with such a tiny Catholic community. And he will join three of his predecessors in grabbing the world stage at the United Nations to press his agenda on migration, the environment and religious persecution while over 100 world leaders listen in.

It's largely unknown territory for the 78-year-old Argentine Jesuit, who has never visited either country and confessed that the United States was so foreign to him that he would spend the summer reading up on it. His popularity ratings are high in the U.S., but he also has gained detractors, particularly among conservatives over his critiques of the excesses of capitalism.

That has endeared him to Cuban President Raul Castro, who vowed earlier this year that if Francis kept it up, he would return to the Catholic Church.

AP WAS THERE: Pope John Paul II arrives in Cuba

HAVANA (AP) — EDITOR'S NOTE: On Jan. 21, 1998, Pope John Paul II became the first Catholic pontiff to visit Cuba, and more than 20 AP writers, editors, photographers and TV staffers arrived to cover the historic visit.

Victor L. Simpson, then the AP's Vatican correspondent, traveled with John Paul on the trip, which culminated on Jan. 25 with a Mass in Havana's Plaza of the Revolution.

Seventeen years later, as Pope Francis prepares to visit the island, the AP is again making this report about John Paul's arrival available, along with photos.

Welcomed by President Fidel Castro and multitudes of Cuba's hard-pressed but hopeful people, Pope John Paul II began a historic pilgrimage Wednesday to this island of embattled faith and struggling revolution.

Thousands of migrants surge into Austria after being stuck for days in southeastern Europe

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Thousands of migrants who had been stuck for days in southeastern Europe started arriving in Austria early Saturday after Hungary escorted them to the border.

Austrian police reported 6,700 new arrivals from Hungary since midnight. Spokesman Helmut Marban said that about 4,200 people crossed the border at Heiligenkreuz, near the southern city of Graz, while the rest used the Nickelsdorf crossing near Vienna.

Police said border controls continue to be in place, with vehicles being selectively checked and those inside asked for valid travel documents.

The development comes after thousands of migrants, many lacking food and water, were trapped in southeast Europe, in some cases for several days, after countries began putting up barriers that blocked their passage to Western Europe.

The migrant path was first blocked by Hungary, which sealed off its southern border with Serbia with a razor-wire fence and tough other tough measures to keep people out.

The Latest: More than 1,000 migrants arrive in Slovenia, hundreds more waiting, police say

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — The latest developments as European governments rush to cope with the huge number of people moving across Europe. All times local (CET):

11:55

Slovenian police say more than 1,000 migrants have entered the country and hundreds more are camping on the border crossings with Croatia waiting to pass.

Police said Friday they were processing the migrants and placing them in refugee centers around the country, although most migrants have said they want to go further toward Western Europe.

UN nuclear agency chief leaving for Tehran to try and speed probe of alleged nuke arms work

VIENNA (AP) — With a key deadline approaching, the head of the U.N. nuclear agency is leaving for Tehran Saturday for high-level meetings as he tries to accelerate his probe of allegations that Iran worked in the past on nuclear weapons.

Diplomats had said Friday that Yukiya Amano of the U.N.'s International Atomic Energy Agency was planning such a trip. Confirming Amano's trip, IAEA spokesman Fredrik Dahl said that Amano would arrive Sunday for meetings aimed at "clarifications of past and present outstanding issues" linked to the agency's probe.

The diplomats say Amano plans to push for long-delayed interviews with Iranian scientists linked to alleged experiments as well as to discuss a planned inspection of Parchin. The agency has identified that site, southeast of Tehran, as where some of the suspected work took place.

The diplomats, who are accredited to the IAEA, demanded anonymity because they are not authorized to discuss Amano's agenda.

The trip is significant. Amano is traveling less than a month before an Oct. 15 deadline to gather information on allegations that Iran tried to build atomic weapons.

AP Interview: Black Lives Matter won't endorse in 2016, but is committed to political activism

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Black Lives Matter network will not make a presidential endorsement but will keep up its political activism by confronting candidates about the treatment of African-Americans in the United States, one of the group's founders says.

In an Associated Press interview, Alicia Garza discussed the organization's refusal to settle on a preferred candidate in the 2016 race to succeed President Barack Obama and pledged to press ahead with protests and interruptions during the campaign.

"Sometimes you have to put a wrench in the gears to get people to listen," said Garza, who spoke at the 7th Annual Black Women's Roundtable Policy Forum last week.

The Black Lives Matter movement traces its roots to the fatal shooting of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin in Florida in 2012, and gained national ground after 18-year-old Michael Brown was shot and killed by a

white police officer in Ferguson, Missouri, last summer. Since then, deaths of other unarmed black males at the hands of law enforcement officers have inspired protests under the "Black Lives Matter" moniker.

Some are affiliated with the original network founded by Opal Tometi, Patrisse Cullors, Garza and their allies. Some are not, although they use the slogan.

Russia steps up campaign to brand people with Western ties as 'traitors' amid Ukraine conflict

MOSCOW (AP) — When Gennady Kravtsov sent a cover letter to a Swedish company, he reasoned that, even if a job didn't come of it, he at least would know whether his engineering skills were valued outside Russia.

Instead, he found himself charged with treason and facing a possible 15 years in prison.

Kravtsov worked for Russia's GRU military intelligence agency from 1990 to 2005 as a radio engineer in satellite intelligence. For five years after he quit, he was barred from leaving Russia or taking certain security jobs because of the sensitive nature of the work. But when that period was up he sent a cover letter to a Swedish company he found online. Nothing ever came of it.

In 2013, Russian counter-intelligence officers asked Kravtsov about the contact, and last year grabbed him on the street and threw him in jail.

The Russian government increasingly has portrayed any cooperation with foreign companies or nationals as a potential security threat, a throwback to Soviet times when any interaction with foreigners aroused suspicion. The eclectic group of Russians charged with treason this year includes a mother of seven, a Sochi traffic controller, a Black Sea Fleet sailor, a Siberian police major, a Russian Orthodox Church employee, a Moscow university lecturer and a retired nuclear scientist. The variety of suspects is not in itself evidence of a harsher crackdown, but Russia is clearly widening its net on treason and hauling in the most people in years.

In aftermath of California wildfire, AP reporter reunites dog with his owner

MIDDLETOWN, Calif. (AP) — Lawrence Ross looked beat, his head hanging and his eyes bloodshot five days after fleeing his home in the path of a wall of flames.

Ross showed up at a high school in the small Northern California town of Lower Lake, where authorities were escorting residents briefly into the evacuation zone to inspect their homes and check on pets and livestock. They had not let residents return since the fire erupted Saturday about 100 miles north of San Francisco, scorching thousands of acres and reducing more than 800 homes to ash.

When told officials were no longer letting residents in at all, not even with escorts, Ross sighed heavily, shook his head and fought back tears. "I think my house is OK, but I don't know, and my dog is there, and my goats and horses and alpacas," he told me. "My dog, my dog."

I had been covering the fire for much of the week and was planning to head back out to scout for more stories. So I grabbed my map and said, "Show me where your house is. I'll swing by while I'm out there."

Ross, 76, circled a spot off Big Canyon Road and tapped it twice with the pen.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Saturday, September 19, the 262nd day of 2015. There are 103 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On September 19, 1985, the Mexico City area was struck by a devastating earthquake that killed at least 9,500 people.

On this date:

In 1777, the first Battle of Saratoga was fought during the Revolutionary War; although British forces succeeded in driving out the American troops, the Americans prevailed in a second battle the following

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month.

In 1796, President George Washington's farewell address was published.

In 1881, the 20th president of the United States, James A. Garfield, died 2½ months after being shot by Charles Guiteau; Chester Alan Arthur became president.

In 1915, vaudeville performer W.C. Fields made his movie debut as "Pool Sharks," a one-reel silent comedy, was released.

In 1934, Bruno Hauptmann was arrested in New York and charged with the kidnap-murder of Charles A. Lindbergh Jr.

In 1945, Nazi radio propagandist William Joyce, known as "Lord Haw-Haw," was convicted of treason and sentenced to death by a British court.

In 1955, President Juan Peron of Argentina was ousted after a revolt by the army and navy.

In 1959, Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev, visiting Los Angeles, reacted angrily upon being told that, for security reasons, he wouldn't get to visit Disneyland.

In 1960, Cuban leader Fidel Castro, in New York to visit the United Nations, angrily checked out of the Shelburne Hotel in a dispute with the management; Castro ended up staying at the Hotel Theresa in Harlem.

In 1970, the situation comedy "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" debuted on CBS-TV.

In 1989, a Paris-bound DC-10 belonging to French airline UTA was destroyed by a bomb over Niger, killing all 170 people on board. (A French court later convicted six Libyans in absentia for the bombing; Libya agreed in 2004 to pay \$170 million in compensation, although it stopped short of acknowledging responsibility.)

In 1995, The New York Times and The Washington Post published the manifesto of Unabomber Ted Kaczynski, which proved instrumental in identifying and capturing him.

Ten years ago: North Korea pledged to drop its nuclear weapons development and rejoin international arms treaties, but its leaders backpedaled the next day, demanding civilian nuclear reactors from the U.S. In a statement aired on a pan-Arab TV station, Al-Qaida deputy Ayman al-Zawahri (AY'-muhn ahl-ZWAH'-ree) said his terror network had carried out the July 7 London bombings that killed 52 people. Former Tyco CEO L. Dennis Kozlowski was sentenced in New York to 8 1/3 to 25 years in prison for looting the company of hundreds of millions of dollars; Tyco's former finance chief, Mark Swartz, received the same sentence. (Both men were later paroled, Swartz in 2013, Kozlowski in 2014.)

Five years ago: The BP oil well at the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico was declared "effectively dead" by retired Coast Guard Adm. Thad Allen, the government's point man on the blowout disaster, after it was sealed with a permanent cement plug. On the final day of his four-day visit to Britain, Pope Benedict XVI celebrated Mass to beatify Cardinal John Henry Newman, the 19th century Anglican convert.

One year ago: President Barack Obama signed legislation authorizing the military to arm and train moderate Syrian rebels fighting Islamic State militants in the Middle East. Shortly after President Obama and his daughters left the White House by helicopter, a man with a knife jumped the fence and made it into the presidential residence before being tackled. (Omar Gonzalez, an Army veteran with mental health issues, was later sentenced to 17 months in prison.) A federal jury in Albany, Georgia, convicted the owner of a peanut plant and two others in a salmonella outbreak linked to several deaths that prompted one of the largest U.S. food recalls. (Peanut Corporation of America owner Stewart Parnell is scheduled to be sentenced on September 21.) Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba debuted as a publicly traded company and swiftly climbed nearly 40 percent in a mammoth IPO.

Today's Birthdays: Author Roger Angell is 95. Host James Lipton (TV: "Inside the Actors Studio") is 89. Actress Rosemary Harris is 88. Former Defense Secretary Harold Brown is 88. Actor Adam West is 87. Actor David McCallum is 82. Singer-songwriter Paul Williams is 75. Singer Bill Medley is 75. Singer Sylvia Tyson (Ian and Sylvia) is 75. R&B singer Freda Payne is 73. Golfer Jane Blalock is 70. Singer David Bromberg is 70. Actor Randolph Mantooth is 70. Rock singer-musician Lol Creme (10cc) is 68. Former NFL running back Larry Brown is 68. Actor Jeremy Irons is 67. Actress Twiggy Lawson is 66. TV personality Joan Lunden is 65. Singer-producer Daniel Lanois (lan-WAH') is 64. Actor Scott Colomby is 63. Musician-producer Nile Rodgers is 63. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Reggie Williams is

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61. Singer-actor Rex Smith is 60. Rock singer Lita Ford is 57. Actor Kevin Hooks is 57. Actress Carolyn McCormick is 56. Celebrity chef Mario Batali is 55. Country singer Jeff Bates is 52. Country singer Trisha Yearwood is 51. Actress-comedian Cheri Oteri is 50. News anchor Soledad O'Brien is 49. Rhythm-and-blues singer Espranza Griffin (Society of Soul) is 46. Celebrity chef Michael Symon is 46. Actress Sanaa Lathan (suh-NAH' LAY'-thun) is 44. Actress Stephanie J. Block is 43. Rock singer A. Jay Popoff (Lit) is 42. "Tonight Show" host Jimmy Fallon is 41. TV personality Carter Oosterhouse is 39. Actress-TV host Alison Sweeney is 39. Rock musician Ryan Dusick is 38. Folk-rock singers-musicians Sara and Tegan (TEE'-gan) Quin are 35. Actor Columbus Short is 33. Rapper Eamon is 32. Christian rock musician JD Frazier is 32. Actor Kevin Zegers is 31. Actress Danielle Panabaker is 28.

Thought for Today: "Do not let yourself be tainted with a barren skepticism." - Louis Pasteur, French scientist (1822-1895).