

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Sept. 25, 2015 ♦ Vol. 19 - No. 066 ♦ 1 of 17

- 1- Midwest Masonry Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailers in Groton
- 1- Daily Homecoming Week Themes
- 1- Today's Information
- 2- Treeline Tree Service ad
- 2- Junge Day Bazaar Ad
- 3- Netters lose to Clark-Willow Lake
- 4- Today in Weather History
- 5- Local Weather Forecast
- 6- National Weather Map
- 6- Local Weather
- 7- Daily Devotional
- 8 - News from the Associated Press

Friday, September 25

Spirit Day

School Breakfast: Breakfast bagel, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Tailgate Party

Senior Menu: Lemon baked fish, rice pilaf, California blend veggies, peach crisp, whole wheat bread.

Anniversary: Jason & Kathy Holm

Birthdays: • Grant Rix • Jarrett Rix • Joey Padfield

11 am to 3 pm: Jungle Day Bazaar at the First Presbyterian Church

1:00pm: Homecoming Parade

7:00pm: Football hosts Aberdeen Roncalli

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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Midwest Masonry & Concrete Pumping

Greg Heilman, owner

405 E 1st Ave., Groton

Greg: 253/929-9137

Mike: 605/492-7041

midwestmasonry1@yahoo.com



Jungle Day Bazaar

Friday, Sept. 25, 2015

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

Groton

Serving BBQs

Chicken Salad Sandwiches,
Pie



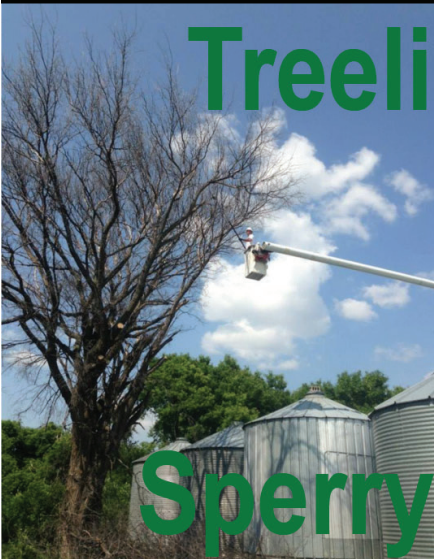
Food - Candy - Crafts - White Elephant Sale

Treeline Tree Service

Over 30 Years
of Combined
Experience!

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

Sperry Stump Removal



Cyclones beat Groton Area, 3-1

Clark-Willow Lake rallied from a first game defeat to beat Groton Area, 3-1.

Groton won the first game, 25-17. The game was tied nine times and there were six lead changes before Groton Area took control of the game for the win.

The second game featured three ties. Groton Area led for most of the game, holding a 17-11 lead. Then the Cyclones rallied to tie the game at 18 and to take the lead, 23-18, outscoring Groton Area, 12-1, to win the game, 25-20.

The third game featured three lead changes and the game was tied four times. Clark-Willow Lake had the upper hand for most of the game. Groton jumped out to a 4-0 lead before falling behind, 11-6. Groton recaptured the lead at 15-12. The Cyclones rallied to tie the game at 17 and then went on to win, 25-20.

Groton Area led only once in the fourth game as the Cyclones jumped out to a 6-1 lead. Groton led, 15-14 and tied the game at 20, but the visitors hung on for the 25-21 win.

In serving, Groton Area was 71 of 75 with 11 assists. Audrey Wanner was 14 of 17 with four assists and Payton Maine was 12 of 13 with two assists.

In sets, Groton Area was 154 of 156 with 22 ace serves. Marlee Jones was 143 of 145 with 22 ace serves and Katie Koehler was 11 of 11 with one ace serve.

Groton Area was 135 of 163 in spikes with 33 kills. Gia Gengerke was 13 of 15 with nine kills and Carly Wheeting was 43 of 48 with eight kills.

Gengerke had two and Wheeting had one in blocks. Groton Area had 74 digs with Maine and Koehler each having 26.

Groton will be at Florence on September 28.



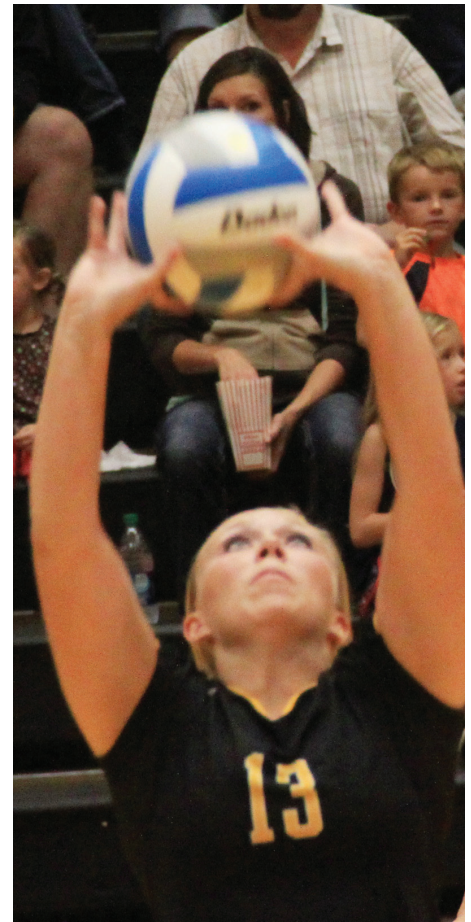
Gia Gengerke



Carly Wheeting



Payton Maine



Marlee Jones

Today in Weather History

September 25, 1981: A late September tornado touched down briefly 14 miles west of Pierre during the early evening hours with no damage occurring.

September 25, 1996: An early fall storm over the Black Hills of northeast Wyoming and western South Dakota re-acquainted area residents with their winter driving techniques. Snow totals ranged from 4 to 8 inches. U.S. Highway 385, south of Deadwood South Dakota, was temporarily closed after a semi-truck jack-knifed on Strawberry Hill. Numerous minor accidents were reported in the Black Hills due to slick roads. Heavy wet snow closed the Needles Highway and Iron Mountain Road in the central/southern Black Hills until snowplows could clear the roads.

1939 - A west coast hurricane moved onshore south of Los Angeles bringing unprecedented rains along the southern coast of California. Nearly five and a half inches of rain drenched Los Angeles during a 24 hour period. The hurricane caused two million dollars damage, mostly to structures along the coast and to crops, and claimed 45 lives at sea. "El Cordonazo" produced 5.66 inches of rain at Los Angeles and 11.6 inches of rain at Mount Wilson, both records for the month of September. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Hurricane Emily crossed the island of Bermuda during the early morning. Emily, moving northeast at 45 mph, produced wind gusts to 115 mph at Kindley Field. The thirty-five million dollars damage inflicted by Emily made it the worst hurricane to strike Bermuda since 1948. Parts of Michigan and Wisconsin experienced their first freeze of the autumn. Snow and sleet were reported in the Sheffield and Sutton areas of northeastern Vermont at midday. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Low pressure off the Northern Pacific Coast brought rain and gale force winds to the coast of Washington State. Fair weather prevailed across most of the rest of the nation. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Twenty-three cities in the south central U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Topeka KS with a reading of 33 degrees, and Binghamton NY with a low of 25 degrees. Showers and thunderstorms in the southeastern U.S. drenched Atlanta GA with 4.87 inches of rain, their sixth highest total of record for any given day. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Sept. 25, 2015 ♦ Vol. 19 - No. 066 ♦ 5 of 17

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
Areas Dense Fog then Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny then Sunny and Breezy	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Slight Chance Showers
High: 77 °F	Low: 58 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 56 °F	High: 74 °F



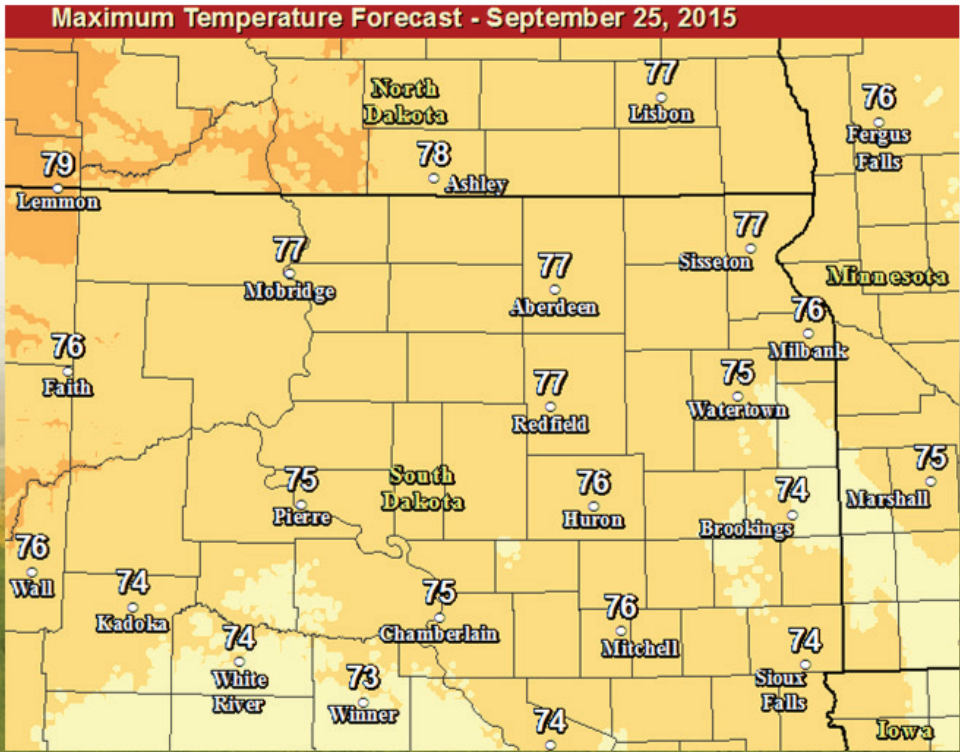
Foggy AM, Sunshine

Friday

- Areas of locally dense fog will exist this morning – be cautious on the roadways
- Sunny and mild by noon
- Lows: Mid to upper 50's

Saturday

- High pressure continues bringing clear skies
- Highs into the lower 80's



National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

weather.gov/Aberdeen National Weather Service Aberdeen @NWSAberdeen | Updated: 9/25/2015 5:09 AM Central

Published on: 09/25/2015 at 5:12AM

Areas of fog have developed this morning in the wake of a low pressure system. Until it dissipates later this morning, take it slow on the roadways. Once it does burn off, expect a rather typical set of fall days Friday through Sunday... minus the above average temperatures. Highs should reach the 80's both Saturday and Sunday with dry conditions persisting.

Groton Daily Independent

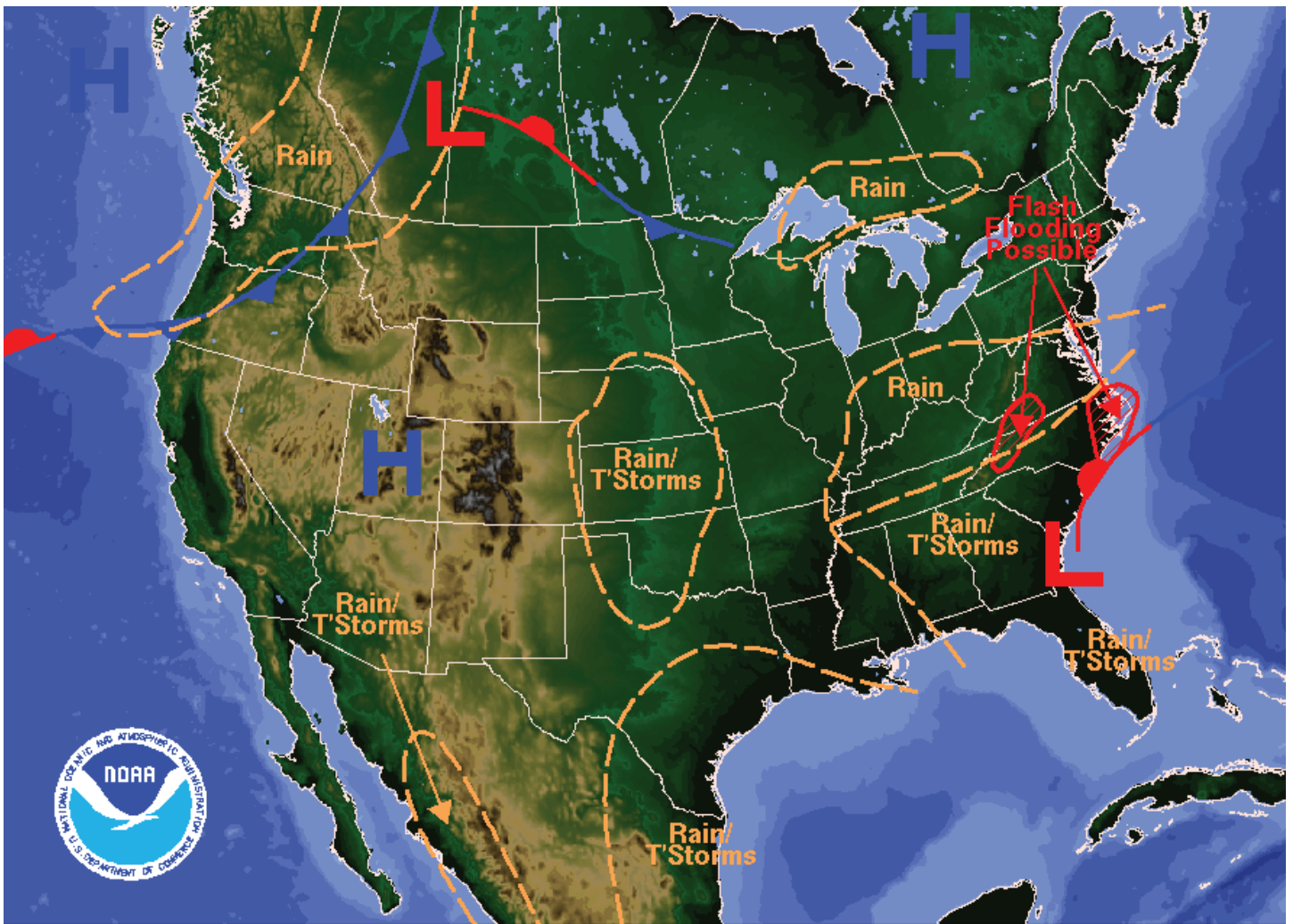
Friday, Sept. 25, 2015 ♦ Vol. 19 - No. 066 ♦ 6 of 17

Yesterday's Weather

High: 73.1
Low: 59.7
High Gust: 10
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 95° in 1938
Record Low: 19° in 1926
Average High: 68°F
Average Low: 42°F
Average Precip in Sept.: 1.83
Precip to date in Sept.: 1.32
Average Precip to date: 18.12
Precip Year to Date: 18.12
Sunset Tonight: 7:25 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:25 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Fri, Sep 25, 2015, issued 4:29 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



WHAT IF IT'S YOUR LAST DAY?

A radio talk show host asked his audience an interesting question. "If you knew that this was the last day of your life, what would you do?" The responses were overwhelming and most enlightening.

The first caller said, "I'd hurry to an organ donor bank and make sure that some worthy persons would benefit from my body parts."

Another said, "I would crowd everything that I thought was fun in this, my last day. I'd want to go out laughing."

The third caller said, "I would phone all of my friends and tell them how much I appreciated all that they had done for me. I'd want each of them to know how much our friendship meant."

Finally, one said, "I'd want to take time to be alone with God and pray and make sure that my heart is right with Him. I'd want Him to know how much I was looking forward to meeting Him, too."

Although it is not a pleasant thought, we each have a date with death. Few know the day or the hour. But we all know for certain that there is life after this life.

Prayer: Father, "Now is the acceptable time" for us to be sure that Your Son is our Savior and Lord. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: 2 Corinthians 6:2 Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

News from the Associated Press

No foul play suspected in death of Dakota Wesleyan student

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Investigators say a 19-year-old student found dead in a dormitory at Dakota Wesleyan University was exhibiting flu-like symptoms, and they don't suspect any foul play.

Mitchell Police Detective Lt. Don Everson says an autopsy indicates Beau Keeter died a natural death, though the investigation is ongoing.

Keeter was a freshman athletic training student and a member of the school's men's basketball team. His body was found Wednesday morning.

Keeter's funeral is scheduled for Wednesday morning at the armory in Miller.

Defense rests in trial over death of football player's son

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The defense has rested in the trial of a South Dakota man accused of killing the 2-year-old son of Minnesota Vikings running back Adrian Peterson.

Twenty-nine-year-old Joseph Patterson has pleaded not guilty to second-degree murder and other charges in the October 2013 death of Tyrese Robert Ruffin, who was the son of his girlfriend and Peterson.

Patterson maintains that Tyrese choked on a fruit snack. A doctor on Thursday testified for the defense, saying autopsy photos indicate injuries consistent with a child being given CPR after choking.

Investigators allege that Patterson assaulted Tyrese while they were alone in an apartment.

The trial resumes with rebuttal testimony Monday and closing arguments Tuesday. It'll be the trial's third week.

Patterson faces a mandatory life prison sentence if convicted of second-degree murder.

State approves \$8.5M for wastewater and solid waste projects

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The state Board of Water and Natural Resources has approved \$8.5 million for wastewater and solid waste projects.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard says the Department of Environment and Natural Resources grant and loan awards will result in improved wastewater treatment and enhanced protection of the environment. The total includes about \$360,000 in grants and nearly \$8 million in low-interest loans.

The largest chunk of the money goes to Sioux Falls for a \$6.6 million loan amendment for outfall line replacement.

Yankton will receive \$750,000 in loan and grant money for transfer station entrance reconfiguration and scale replacement. Dimock will receive a \$50,000 grant and \$478,000 loan for wastewater treatment facilities, and the Lake Madison Sanitary District is getting a \$428,000 loan for lift station upgrades.

South Dakota officials remind hunters of bait station ban

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota wildlife officials say hunters should remember that it is illegal to use bait stations and salt licks to attract game animals.

The state Game, Fish and Parks Department says regulations prohibit the use of food or salt to entice big game.

Wildlife officials say a bait station is defined as any location where grains, fruits, vegetables, nuts, hay, minerals or other food and by-products are placed specifically to attract big game animals for hunting purposes. The use of scents alone does not constitute a bait station.

The bait station ban runs from Aug. 15 through Feb. 1, and from March 15 through May 1.

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Sept. 25, 2015 ♦ Vol. 19 - No. 066 ♦ 9 of 17

Thursday's Scores The Associated Press

Volleyball

Aberdeen Roncalli def. Deuel, 23-25, 25-15, 25-19, 25-17
Arlington def. Oldham-Ramona/Rutland, 20-25, 25-11, 23-25, 25-19, 14-10
Bison def. Rapid City Christian, 25-17, 25-23, 25-16
Bon Homme def. Burke/South Central, 25-20, 25-9, 25-11
Brandon Valley def. Brookings, 25-13, 25-18, 25-18
Bridgewater-Emery def. Canistota, 25-18, 30-28, 25-22
Castlewood def. DeSmet, 25-11, 25-13, 20-25, 25-22
Chester def. Garretson, 25-7, 25-11, 25-13
Clark/Willow Lake def. Groton Area, 17-25, 25-20, 25-20, 25-21
Colman-Egan def. Deubrook, 25-23, 14-25, 25-22, 14-25, 16-14
Custer def. Belle Fourche, 25-21, 25-22, 26-24
Dakokta Hills def. Florence/Henry, 25-16, 25-21, 25-17
Douglas def. Rapid City Central, 25-18, 25-21, 10-25, 25-27, 15-10
Elk Point-Jefferson def. Alcester-Hudson, 25-20, 25-21, 21-25, 25-22
Elkton-Lake Benton def. Dell Rapids St. Mary, 25-10, 25-22, 25-6
Ellendale, N.D. def. Leola/Frederick, 25-16, 25-17, 25-22
Estelline def. Lake Preston, 25-20, 25-13, 25-23
Ethan def. Scotland, 25-20, 25-23, 23-25, 25-19
Eureka/Bowdle def. Aberdeen Christian, 25-6, 25-6, 25-10
Fairmount-Campbell-Tintah, N.D. def. Rosholt, 25-14, 25-22, 25-23
Faith def. New Underwood, 25-16, 26-24, 21-25, 25-10
Freeman Academy def. Andes Central/Dakota Christian, 25-23, 25-8, 25-7
Great Plains Lutheran def. Waverly-South Shore, 20-25, 25-21, 26-24, 25-19
Gregory def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-23, 24-26, 25-12, 25-23
Hanson def. Marion, 25-8, 25-21, 25-15
Harrisburg def. Watertown, 25-19, 25-23, 28-26
Huron def. Pierre, 23-25, 17-25, 25-19, 25-23, 15-9
Ipswich def. Langford, 25-16, 25-16, 25-18
Irene-Wakonda def. Avon, 25-20, 25-22, 23-25, 25-18
James Valley Christian def. Wolsey-Wessington, 25-22, 25-23, 25-23
Jones County def. Todd County, 25-8, 25-16, 22-25, 25-11
Linton-HMB, N.D. def. Herreid/Selby Area, 25-23, 25-17, 28-26
Lyman def. Chamberlain, 25-10, 13-25, 25-12, 25-21
Madison def. Tri-Valley, 25-19, 25-15, 25-21
McCook Central/Montrose def. Parkston, 25-23, 25-22, 25-17
McIntosh def. Dupree, 25-6, 25-16, 25-17
McLaughlin def. Edmunds Central, 25-12, 25-16, 25-8
Menno def. Freeman, 25-22, 25-12, 25-15
Milbank Area def. Britton-Hecla, 25-17, 25-20, 25-17
Mitchell Christian def. Tripp-Delmont/Armour, 25-16, 27-25, 25-20
Mobridge-Pollock def. Lemmon, 25-16, 25-15, 25-9
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Canton, 25-12, 25-11, 25-7
Parker def. Baltic, 25-18, 26-24, 25-18
Potter County def. Stanley County, 25-8, 25-21, 25-10
Red Cloud def. Hot Springs, 25-14, 20-25, 26-24, 25-21
Redfield/Doland def. Webster, 25-17, 25-18, 25-21
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket def. Iroquois, 25-12, 25-12, 25-18

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Sept. 25, 2015 ♦ Vol. 19 - No. 066 ♦ 10 of 17

Sioux Falls Christian def. Dakota Valley, 25-22, 27-25, 25-19
Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Yankton, 25-13, 18-25, 25-18, 25-21
Sioux Falls Washington def. Pipestone, Minn., 25-10, 17-25, 25-16, 25-27, 15-10
Sisseton def. Hamlin, 25-8, 25-17, 25-17
Sully Buttes def. Sunshine Bible Academy, 25-17, 25-15, 25-18
Tiospa Zina Tribal def. Flandreau Indian, 25-20, 25-19, 25-19
Viborg-Hurley def. Centerville, 25-19, 25-8, 25-23
Warner def. Northwestern, 25-17, 25-22, 25-14
West Central def. Lennox, 25-12, 25-16, 25-18
Hill City Triangular
Hill City def. Newell, 25-7, 25-16, 25-10
Lead-Deadwood def. Hill City, 25-9, 25-19, 25-20
Lead-Deadwood def. Newell, 25-8, 25-13, 25-14
White River Triangular
Kadoka Area def. Pine Ridge, 10-25, 16-25, 25-22, 25-17, 15-9
Pine Ridge def. White River, 25-16, 16-25, 25-12, 20-25, 15-10
White River def. Kadoka Area, 25-18, 25-23, 25-16

Lyman County grand jury indicts in beating death

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Attorney General's office says a Lyman County grand jury has indicted one woman on a murder charge and another on an accessory charge in the beating death of a man earlier this month.

Attorney General Marty Jackley says 27-year-old Whitney Renae Turney of Oacoma faces one count of second degree murder, and 27-year-old Dayna Wells of Oacoma faces one count of accessory to a crime.

Prosecutors allege that Turney killed Calvin J. Shields on Sept. 4, and Wells helped her in an attempt to conceal, destroy or alter evidence. Attorney information wasn't immediately available.

The case was investigated by the Chamberlain Police Department, the Brule and Lyman county sheriff's offices, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the South Dakota Highway Patrol and the state Division of Criminal Investigation.

Services set for family of 6 that died in murder-suicide

PLATTE, S.D. (AP) — Funeral services have been set in the six South Dakota deaths resulting from what authorities have classified a murder-suicide.

Authorities say they believe Scott Westerhuis shot his wife and four children last week and then set the family home near Platte ablaze before shooting himself.

A service will be held 11 a.m. Saturday at the Platte-Geddes Elementary School gymnasium for 16-year-old Michael, 14-year-old Connor, 10-year-old Jaeci and 9-year-old Kailey. A private committal will follow.

A service for Scott Westerhuis is planned for 9 a.m. Saturday at the First Reformed Church in Platte, with a committal service following at Edgerton Cemetery.

A private service is planned for Nicole Westerhuis.

The bodies of the couple and their children were found in the burned ruins of their home the morning of Sept. 17.

Police investigating Rapid City's 6th homicide of 2015

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Rapid City police say they're investigating the city's sixth homicide of the year. Officers arrived at of 1st and North streets about 9 p.m. Wednesday and found a man who had been assaulted with a baseball bat lying in the street. Medical crews rushed the man to a local hospital but he died from the injuries.

Police identified the victim as 49-year-old Charles Quiver of Rapid City.

Witnesses tell officers that two men were seen running northeast from the scene. The incident remains under investigation.

Chief of Police Karl Jegeris says that Rapid City has had 14 homicides in the past three years, and the victim has been a Native American in all but one. He called on local community leaders to address the ongoing problem of disproportionate minority victimization.

Lyman County woman, 27, accused of killing man indicted

KENNEBEC, S.D. (AP) — A grand jury in Lyman County has indicted a 27-year-old woman on one count of second-degree murder.

Attorney General Marty Jackley says Whitney Turney, of Oacoma, was indicted Wednesday. She's accused of killing Calvin Shields on Sept. 4. Authorities say Shields was stabbed to death.

Jackley says 27-year-old Dayna Wells was also indicted on one count of accessory to a crime. Authorities allege Wells assisted Turney in her attempt to conceal, destroy or alter evidence.

Theresa Maule Rossow, Turney's attorney, says her client intends to plead not guilty.

Turney is in custody in Winner. She has a bond hearing scheduled for Friday morning.

If convicted, Turney faces a mandatory life sentence in prison.

An attorney is not listed for Wells. She could face up to five years in prison.

Former DCI agent alleges retaliation after sexual harassment

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A former Division of Criminal Investigation special agent is suing over the agency's response to alleged sexual harassment of her by a county deputy.

Laura Zylstra Kaiser of Aberdeen alleges she was harassed by a Brown County deputy in 2011. Her federal lawsuit claims she was demoted after the alleged harassment.

Zylstra Kaiser says she filed unsuccessful grievances with DCI Director Bryan Gortmaker and Attorney General Marty Jackley.

Her lawsuit says her work relationships suffered after another agent spread word of the alleged harassment.

She says the agency has impeded her outside employment since she left in 2012.

The suit names Gortmaker in his official capacity and the former agent. It doesn't name the deputy as a defendant.

The attorney general's office says it hasn't seen the lawsuit.

School on Standing Rock votes to stop using 'midget' mascot

MCLAUGHLIN, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota school district on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation is abandoning its nickname and mascot because it is offensive to little people.

The midget has been the mascot of McLaughlin School District since 1929, but the board voted to drop it this week, the American News in Aberdeen reported (<http://bit.ly/1QAspFn>).

School board president Juliana White Bull-Taken Alive said the nonprofit group Little People of America recently reached out to the district asking for the change.

She said there was little opposition and that amending the nickname and mascot has been talked about for years. Students are in charge of creating a new mascot and nickname.

"Our uniforms do not include midgets. We don't have to replace a lot of things because the students have already taken that step on their own," White Bull-Taken Alive said. "The board just needed to make it official."

On its website, Little People of America says midget is "a word that many people of short stature consider a slur and a word closely associated with the public objectification of people of short stature."

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Sept. 25, 2015 ♦ Vol. 19 - No. 066 ♦ 12 of 17

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. WHAT PONTIFF'S ITINERARY IS IN NEW YORK

From the U.N. to an inner-city school, Francis is emphasizing themes that have shaped his popular papacy as he packs in encounters with the powerful and the poor.

2. HOW WORLD POWERS WILL TEST LIMITS OF TIES

Obama and Xi Jinping wade into issues that have worsened tensions between their countries: China's cyberspying in the U.S. and Beijing's territorial disputes in the Asian Pacific.

3. EPA TO CHANGE DIESEL TESTS TO THWART CHEATING

The shift could include on-road testing, a response to Volkswagen's ability to fool tests done on treadmill-like devices called dynamometers in the agency's labs.

4. AMBITIOUS AGENDA AWAITS U.N. SUMMIT

The global body will formally approve high-price goals for addressing poverty, disease and education.

5. WITNESSES DESCRIBE FATAL SEATTLE BUS CRASH

Two Philadelphia friends travelling in an SUV say they saw the "duck boat" tour vehicle's left tire "lock up" as it swerved into a charter bus, T-boning it, and killing four students.

6. HOUSE GOP MAY OPT AGAINST SHUTDOWN

Republican leaders are looking for a way to fight taxpayer funding of Planned Parenthood without having the battle lead to a government shutdown next week.

7. WHO TRUMP IS COURTING NEXT

The billionaire businessman is wooing a wing of the Republican Party that might seem antithetical to his brand: evangelical Christians.

8. STUDY DELVES INTO YOUNG ADULTS' MEDIA HABITS

A sizable group of millennials — 4 of every 10 — actively seeks out the news, an analysis by Media Insight Project finds.

9. MADONNA: 'I LIKE THE NEW POPE'

At a Philadelphia concert, the pop star gives Francis her endorsement during his first U.S. visit, calling him "open-minded."

10. THE NEW KINGS OF KANSAS CITY

The Royals clinched the AL Central for their first division title in 30 years, beating the Seattle Mariners 10-4.

AP News in Brief

Pope Francis set to bring his message to world leaders at UN, but also to immigrants at school

NEW YORK (AP) From the world stage of the United Nations to an inner-city school, Pope Francis is emphasizing themes that have shaped his popular papacy as he packs in encounters with the powerful and the poor in New York City.

His agenda for Friday reflects both his global stature and his of-the-people approach, while taking him from the solemnity of ground zero to the struggles of East Harlem. It includes events as large as a processional drive through Central Park, as personal as meeting schoolchildren and immigrants, and as inspiring for the faithful as Mass for thousands in the Madison Square Garden arena.

Francis, who on Thursday became the first pope to address a joint session of the U.S. Congress, is now set to speak to world leaders gathered for a U.N. General Assembly summit to adopt new global goals to fight poverty and preserve the environment.

The Vatican has said Francis is expected to discuss the need for peace, the plight of refugees and the role of poverty and bad government in driving conflict and migration. But inequality, poverty, the environ-

ment and religious persecution may also be among the issues he highlights for the international audience.

Francis has exhorted wealthy countries to “open doors” to migrants seeking better lives, a message that resounded in Thursday’s speech to a rapt Congress. He also touched on the conflicts that have sparked the greatest refugee crisis since World War II and, in some places, have spurred killings of Christians and other religious minorities by Islamic extremists. The pontiff has expressed deep concern about those killings, but he cautioned in his speech to Congress that the world must be thoughtful about how it responds to extremism.

The Latest: Officials say 14 Indians, 4 Turks among dead in hajj disaster in Saudi Arabia

MECCA, Saudi Arabia (AP) The latest developments on the crush and trampling to death of hundreds of Muslim pilgrims near a holy site in Saudi Arabia, the worst disaster at the hajj in a quarter-century (all times local).

10:40 a.m.

Authorities say at least 14 Indians and four Turks were killed in the hajj crush near a holy site in Saudi Arabia.

On Twitter, Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj gave the death toll Friday and said 13 Indians were injured in the crush and stampede near Mina. She says Indian volunteers are aiding local officials.

The Latest: Finnish government condemns ‘racist protests’ against asylum-seekers

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

11:45 a.m.

Finland’s government says it strongly condemns “racist protests against asylum-seekers” after a protester met asylum seekers dressed in Ku Klux Klan-like attire.

In a joint statement on Friday, the leaders of the country’s three-party government coalition said Finland is an “open and tolerant country” where the population is “positive toward immigrants.”

Fate holds cruel twist for Syrian family sent to asylum center in town that saw neo-Nazi riots

HEIDENAU, Germany (AP) From the bright lights of Berlin to a grim former Nazi military barracks near the Czech border, the Syrian refugee family’s new life in Germany has been a roller-coaster of euphoria and despair.

Last week, fate reserved yet another nasty surprise for the Habashieh family, as they were shuttled from the miserable army barracks to an even more dismal refugee center in a town that made international headlines last month because of neo-Nazi riots against plans to house migrants there.

The Habashiehs arrived well after the protests, but residents have been quick to tell them how unlucky they are: Heidenau is one of Germany’s most depressed, racism-infested towns. In late August, more than a hundred drunken rioters threw stones inside the shelter and blocked the road so buses packed with asylum-seekers could not enter the compound. More than 20 police officers were injured by firecrackers and broken bottles thrown by neo-Nazis.

“I keep telling my mom that soon we will be done here and start our lives again,” said 19-year-old Reem Habashieh. “But really, it’s unbearable here.”

Reem, her mother Khawla Kareem, brothers Mohammed, 17, and Yaman, 15, and younger sister Raghad, 11, are desperately trying to make the best of a bad situation. But it’s hard to keep up a brave face when

authorities keep shuttling you from place to place because of the “no vacancy” message at processing centers.

Obama, Xi to test limits of personal ties in tense talks on cyber, territorial disputes

WASHINGTON (AP) President Barack Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping (shee jihn-peeng) will test the limits of their personal ties Friday as they wade into issues that have increased tensions: China’s cyberspying in the U.S. and Beijing’s territorial disputes in the Asian Pacific.

Discussions on both matters will play out against the backdrop of White House pageantry as Obama hosts Xi for a grand state visit, including a glitzy black-tie dinner. In keeping with the spirit of a state visit an honor bestowed on close partners the U.S. is emphasizing areas of agreement, including on climate change.

U.S. officials said Obama and Xi would release a joint statement on climate change, fleshing out how they would achieve targets for cutting carbon emissions set at a summit in Beijing last year.

China plans to launch national cap-and-trade system to limit greenhouse gas emissions

WASHINGTON (AP) China is preparing to announce plans to launch a national system to limit greenhouse gases and force industries to purchase pollution credits, Obama administration officials said Thursday.

Beijing plans to put the system known as cap-and-trade into place in 2017 as part of measures aimed to address climate change in cooperation with the U.S. and others.

A joint statement to be released following Friday’s summit between President Barack Obama and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping aims to flesh out how their two countries plan to achieve targets for cutting emissions set at a bilateral summit in Beijing last year.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity so they wouldn’t pre-empt China’s official announcement, said it’s hoped the announcement will give impetus to a broader global treaty on climate change at a Paris conference in December.

The announcement will also cover components of the cap-and-trade strategy, including the individual sectors covered under the plan, which range from power production to papermaking, the officials said. Those sectors produce “a substantial percentage of China’s climate pollution,” one official said.

UN summit to approve 15-year blueprint to eradicate extreme poverty and combat climate change

UNITED NATIONS (AP) World leaders open a summit Friday to formally approve an ambitious and costly 15-year blueprint to eradicate extreme poverty, combat climate change and address more than a dozen other major global issues.

Implementing the new development goals expected to cost between \$3.5 trillion and \$5 trillion every year until 2030 is expected to be the focus of the three-day summit that will include speeches by U.S. President Barack Obama, China’s President Xi Jinping and the leaders of Egypt, India, Iran, Germany, Britain and France.

Kenya’s U.N. Ambassador Macharia Kamau, one of the facilitators of negotiations, insisted in early August when the goals were agreed on by the U.N.’s 193 member states that the trillions needed are “not unattainable” because most money will come from domestic resources raised in countries, complemented by international development assistance.

But Microsoft co-founder and philanthropist Bill Gates said Thursday that “there’s certainly no chance that that amount of money will be available next year,” adding that “we’d be doing very well to have anywhere near that amount of money available by 2030.”

Gates said, however, that if there is new innovation, for instance in nutrition by getting better seeds or a vaccine against tuberculosis, as well as economic growth, "we still think we can meet the goals, even though that specific number will be very, very hard to reach."

After Volkswagen scandal, EPA to change diesel emissions tests to stop cheating

DETROIT (AP) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency plans sweeping changes to the way it tests for diesel emissions after getting duped by clandestine software in Volkswagen cars for seven years.

Chris Grundler, head of the EPA's office of transportation and air quality, indicated the agency would add on-road testing to its regimen. VW's sophisticated software allowed its cars to pass tests in the lab and then spew pollution into the atmosphere while on the highway.

The revelations meant unwanted scrutiny for the EPA. Its testing procedures have been criticized for being predictable and outdated, making it relatively easy for VW to cheat. What's more, the EPA did not initially uncover the problem; researchers at West Virginia University did, using on-road testing.

Grundler says the changes are designed to detect software and other methods automakers might use to rig a test.

The EPA and the California Air Resources Board have engineers who are "developing clever ways in which these things can be detected," Grundler says.

'Fun introduction to Seattle' for new college students turns into nightmare in bus crash

SEATTLE (AP) A fun day designed to introduce new international college students to Seattle turned into a nightmare when a "duck boat" tour vehicle collided into their charter bus on a busy bridge, killing four students and injuring dozens.

Rujia Xie and other North Seattle College students were on their way to the city's iconic Pike Place Market and Safeco Field for new student orientation events Thursday when she heard the crash from the back of the bus.

She smelled gas and felt glass falling on her face. She and others jumped from the bus.

Traveling in the opposite direction, two Philadelphia friends on a road trip across the country, Brad Volm and Bradley Sawhill, were cruising over picturesque Lake Union when they said they saw the duck boat's left tire "lock up" as it swerved into the charter bus, T-boning it. Their SUV hit another truck head-on, but they escaped injuries.

"It all happened so fast. I got out of my car, and there were just bodies, just everywhere. People lying in the street," Volm said.

At Philadelphia concert, a breezy Madonna says 'I like the new pope,' jokes he's stalking her

PHILADELPHIA (AP) A woman with plenty of experience tangling with the Vatican has given Pope Francis her endorsement during his first U.S. visit.

At her concert Thursday night in Philadelphia, where Francis is scheduled this weekend to make the last stop of his tour, a tongue-in-cheek Madonna dedicated a section of her show to him.

She later announced: "Rules are for fools. That's why I like the new pope. He seems very open-minded."

It was just one of many comments about Francis at a concert that featured lots of religious imagery, including female performers wearing nuns' habits and little else pole dancing on crosses.

"The pope is stalking me," she said, noting she recently performed in New York, where Francis is until Saturday morning. "Either he's a copycat or he's secretly in love with me."

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Sept. 25, 2015 ♦ Vol. 19 - No. 066 ♦ 16 of 17

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Friday, September 25, the 268th day of 2015. There are 97 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On September 25, 1890, President Benjamin Harrison signed a measure establishing Sequoia National Park.

On this date:

In 1513, Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa crossed the Isthmus of Panama and sighted the Pacific Ocean.

In 1690, one of the earliest American newspapers, Publick Occurrences, published its first - and last - edition in Boston.

In 1775, American Revolutionary War hero Ethan Allen was captured by the British as he led an attack on Montreal. (Allen was released by the British in 1778.)

In 1789, the first United States Congress adopted 12 amendments to the Constitution and sent them to the states for ratification. (Ten of the amendments became the Bill of Rights.)

In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson collapsed after a speech in Pueblo, Colorado, during a national speaking tour in support of the Treaty of Versailles (vehr-SY').

In 1932, the Spanish region of Catalonia received a Charter of Autonomy (however, the Charter was revoked by Francisco Franco at the end of the Spanish Civil War).

In 1957, nine black students who'd been forced to withdraw from Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, because of unruly white crowds were escorted to class by members of the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division.

In 1965, the first installment of "In Cold Blood," Truman Capote's account of the 1959 murders of the Clutter family in Holcomb, Kansas, appeared in The New Yorker. (The work was published in book form the following year.)

In 1974, Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Tommy John underwent an experimental graft reconstruction of the ulnar collateral ligament in the elbow of his throwing arm to repair a career-ending injury; the procedure, which proved successful, is now referred to as "Tommy John surgery."

In 1978, 144 people were killed when a Pacific Southwest Airlines Boeing 727 and a private plane collided over San Diego.

In 1981, Sandra Day O'Connor was sworn in as the first female justice on the Supreme Court.

In 1997, President Bill Clinton pulled open the door of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, as he welcomed nine blacks who'd faced hate-filled mobs 40 years earlier.

Ten years ago: President George W. Bush wrapped up a three-day trip designed to convey hands-on leadership during the Gulf Coast hurricanes, promising to act on military leaders' request for a national search-and-rescue strategy. A U.S. military helicopter crashed in Afghanistan, killing all five American crew members. Actor-comedian Don Adams died in Los Angeles at age 82.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama, in his weekly radio and Internet address, said the Republicans' plan to slash taxes and cut spending if the GOP were to retake the House in November was no more than "an echo of a disastrous decade we can't afford to relive." Three crew members, including American astronaut Tracy Caldwell-Dyson, touched down safely, although a day late, in Kazakhstan aboard their Soyuz capsule following a six-month stay aboard the International Space Station.

One year ago: Attorney General Eric Holder announced his resignation. President Barack Obama, in a sober assessment of international efforts to stem a deadly Ebola outbreak, warned a high-level United Nations gathering that there was a "significant gap" between what had been offered so far and what was actually needed to stem the health crises in West Africa. Derek Jeter capped his Yankee Stadium farewell with a game-winning single in the bottom of the ninth inning to give New York a 6-5 victory over the Baltimore Orioles.

Today's Birthdays: Broadcast journalist Barbara Walters is 86. Folk singer Ian Tyson is 82. Former Defense Secretary Robert Gates is 72. Actor Josh Taylor is 72. Actor Robert Walden is 72. Actor-producer Michael Douglas is 71. Model Cheryl Tiegs is 68. Actress Mimi Kennedy is 67. Movie director Pedro Almodovar

Groton Daily Independent

Friday, Sept. 25, 2015 ♦ Vol. 19 - No. 066 ♦ 17 of 17

is 66. Actor-director Anson Williams is 66. Actor Mark Hamill is 64. Basketball Hall of Famer Bob McAdoo is 64. Polka bandleader Jimmy Sturr is 64. Actor Colin Friels is 63. Actor Michael Madsen is 57. Actress Heather Locklear is 54. Actress Aida Turturro is 53. Actor Tate Donovan is 52. TV personality Keely Shaye Smith is 52. Basketball Hall of Famer Scottie Pippen is 50. Actor Jason Flemyng is 49. Actor Will Smith is 47. Actor Hal Sparks is 46. Actress Catherine Zeta-Jones is 46. Rock musician Mike Luce (Drowning Pool) is 44. Actress Bridgette Wilson-Sampras is 42. Actress Clea DuVall is 38. Actor Robbie Jones is 38. Actor Joel David Moore is 38. Actor Chris Owen is 35. Rapper T. I. is 35. Actor Van Hansis is 34. Actor Lee Norris is 34. Actor/rapper Donald Glover (AKA Childish Gambino) is 32. Actor Zach Woods (TV: "Silicon Valley"; "The Office") is 31. Singer Diana Ortiz (Dream) is 30. Actor Jordan Gavaris (TV: "Orphan Black") is 26. Olympic silver medal figure skater Mao Asada is 25. Actress Emmy Clarke is 24.

Thought for Today: "It is as fatal as it is cowardly to blink (at) facts because they are not to our taste."
- John Tyndall, English physicist (1820-1893).