

Groton Daily Independent

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Thursday, October 1

School Breakfast: Egg and cheese omelet, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Chicken dummies, sweet potato tots, fruit, broccoli and dip.

Senior Menu: Roast beef, potatoes, carrots and onions, gravy, honey dew melon or peaches, dinner roll.

Birthdays: • Joe Gustafson • Turner Thompson

9:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran India Circle

2:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Nigeria Circle

4:00pm: 7th Grade FB host Roncalli

4:30pm: 7th/8th VB host Webster

4:30pm: Cross Country at Sisseton

5:00pm: 8th Grade FB hosts Roncalli

6:00pm: VB hosts Webster with C/JV matches starting at 6 pm followed by the varsity match

Friday, October 2

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

School Lunch: Pizza crunchers, carrots and dip, fruit, corn.

Senior Menu: Swiss steak with mushroom gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, rice and raisins, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: • Michael Protas • Gertie Erickson

• Gary Baule • Cassie Siders • Winifred Fawcett

7:00pm: Football at Sisseton

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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Schuring, Sombke qualify for state

Sean Schuring and Brody Sombke both qualify for the state golf meet to be held Oct. 5-6 in Milbank. Milbank was also the site for the regional held September 28.

Schuring placed 18th with a score of 92 and Sombke placed 22nd with a score of 95.

Also participating Landon Marzahn with a score of 104, Cade Guthmiller with a score of 108 and Treyton Diegel with a score of 113.

Aberdeen Roncalli won the team title with 341 followed by Dell Rapids with 343, Sisseton 351, Madison 352, Sioux Valley 366, Groton Area 399, Milbank Area 421, Tri-Valley 457 and McCook-Montrose 512.

Service Notice: Charles Meister

Services for Charles Meister, 77, of Groton will be 11:00 a.m., Saturday, October 3rd at St. John's Lutheran Church, Groton. Rev. Craig Grams will officiate. Burial will follow in Union Cemetery, Groton under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held at the chapel from 5-7 p.m. on Friday.

Charles died September 29, 2015 at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls.

Estate Tag Sale

Announcing Another Zinnias Estate Tag Sale!!! This is a sale not to be missed. 4 Generations of Unique one of a kind items. Antiques including furniture, Collectibles, Advertising Items, Petroleum Cans, Nail Kegs, Glassware, Vintage Holiday Decorations. View more photos at www.facebook.com/ZinniasBrittonSD

Sale will be held 1/2 mile east of Britton SD on October 10th 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and October 11, Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Zinnias 605-448-2122 Paulette 605-467-1108 Melinda 612-810-9389

Netters beat Tiospa Zina

Groton Area netters defeated Tiospa Zina in three games, 25-7, 25-15 and 25-8.

In serves, Gia Gengerke was 14 of 14 with six ace serves and Marlee Jones was 17 of 17 with five ace serves.

In attacks, Carly Wheeting was 17 of 19 with 10 kills, Audrey Wanner was 15 of 22 with six kills and Payton Bonn was 14 of 15 with six kills.

Marlee Jones was 64 of 65 in assists sets with 27 assists and Katie Koehler was three of three with two assists.

Maine had 13 digs while Koehler and Tori Bjerke each had seven. Gengerke had two blocks and Wheeting had one.

Groton also won the junior varsity match by game scores of 25-12 and 25-15 and the C match by game scores of 25-17 and 25-20.

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Today in Weather History

October 1, 1971: A rare October tornado touched down in Sully County. This short lived tornado damaged a ranch home and large barn, 6 miles WSW of Onida.

October 1, 2012: A drought continued to intensify and expand across parts of central and northeast South Dakota through October, resulting in severe to exceptional drought conditions. Many locations continued the trend of recording well below normal precipitation totals for the month. Exceptional drought conditions expanded into Stanley, Jones and southern Lyman counties. Extreme drought conditions spread into southern Dewey, Sully, Hughes, Lyman, Jones, southwest Hyde, Hamlin, Codington, Grant and Deuel counties. Severe drought conditions spread into Corson, Dewey, northwest Hyde, Hand, Faulk, Edmunds, McPherson, Brown, eastern Clark and southern Roberts Counties.

1890: The weather service is first identified as a civilian agency when Congress, at the request of President Benjamin Harrison, passes an act transferring the meteorological responsibilities of the Signal Service to the newly-created U.S. Weather Bureau in the Department of Agriculture.

1893: On this day, the village of Caminadaville was wiped out by a massive hurricane. Caminadaville was a vibrant fishing community in the late 19th century, located on Cheniere Caminada, adjacent to Grand Isle in coastal Jefferson Parish in Louisiana. Click [HERE](#) for more information from The Times-Picayune, Greater New Orleans.

1752 - The second severe hurricane in two weeks hit the Carolinas. The Onslow County Courthouse was destroyed along with all its records, and Beacon Island disappeared. (David Ludlum)

1893 - The second great hurricane of the 1893 season hit the Mississippi Delta Region drowning more than 1000 persons. (David Ludlum)

1987 - A blast of cold arctic air hit the north central U.S. An afternoon thunderstorm slickened the streets of Duluth MN with hail and snow, and later in the afternoon, strong northerly winds reached 70 mph. Unseasonably warm weather continued in the Pacific northwest. Afternoon highs of 90 degrees at Olympia WA, 92 degrees at Portland OR, and 89 degrees at Seattle WA, were records for the month of October. For Seattle WA it marked the twenty- first daily record high for the year, a record total in itself. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Afternoon and evening thunderstorms produced severe weather across central Oklahoma and the eastern half of Texas. Thunderstorms in Texas produced softball size hail northwest of Nocona, and baseball size hail at Troy and Park Springs. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather in the southeastern U.S. through the daytime and evening hours. Severe thunderstorms spawned eleven tornadoes, with seven of those tornadoes in Georgia. A tornado southwest of Moultrie, GA, killed two persons and injured a dozen others. Tornadoes also injured one person north of Graceville, FL, and two persons at Bartow, GA. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)



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Today



Mostly Sunny and Breezy

High: 70 °F

Tonight



Partly Cloudy

Low: 44 °F

Friday



Mostly Sunny

High: 62 °F

Friday Night



Partly Cloudy

Low: 41 °F

Saturday



Mostly Sunny

High: 60 °F

Saturday Night



Slight Chance Showers

Low: 40 °F

Sunday



Slight Chance Showers

High: 61 °F



Fall-Like To Start October

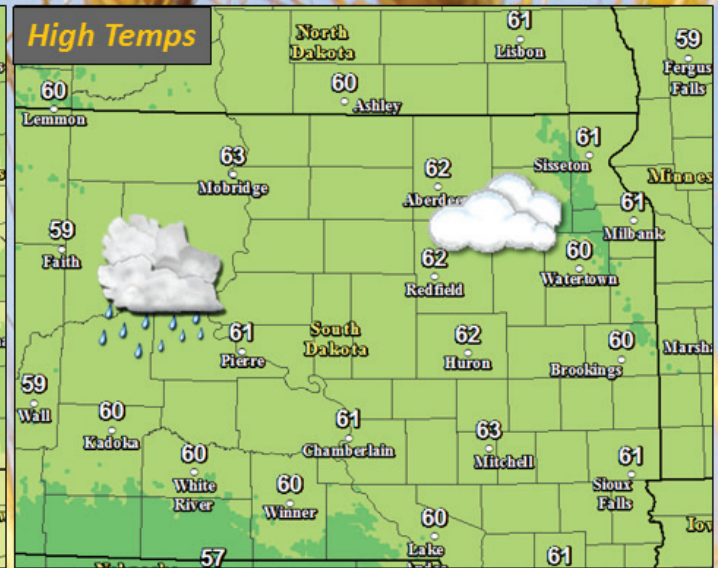
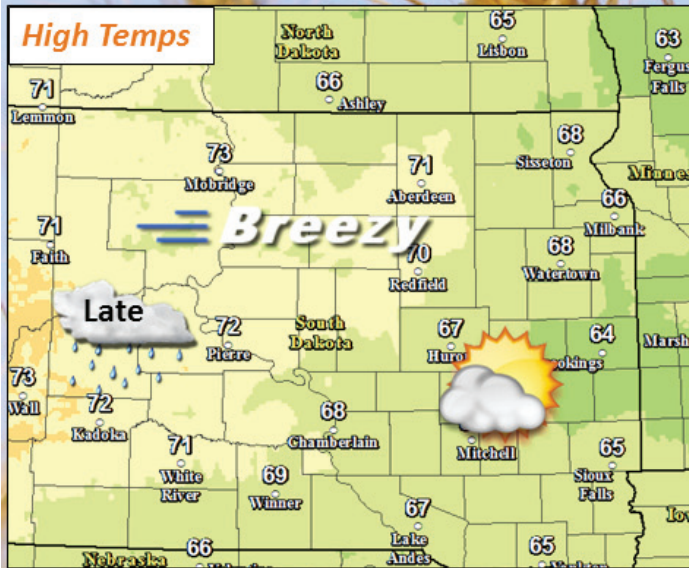


Thursday

- Breezy southeasterly winds with gusts up to 30 mph, Mild

Friday

- Cloud cover increases
- Rain showers Missouri River + west



National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 10/1/2015 4:59 AM Central

Published on: 10/01/2015 at 5:10AM

Happy first day of October! Thursday will be fairly similar to yesterday: breezy southeasterly winds, mild temperatures and a mixture of sun and clouds. A few showers and storms may linger across the North Dakota/South Dakota border for the first half of the day, too. Then, we'll begin to feel the effects of western low pressure as it slides towards the High Plains by Thursday night. Those of you across and west of the Missouri River will see scattered rain showers late Thursday through Saturday while the rest of the area stays mostly dry. Cloud cover and cool temperatures will be felt by all by Friday however and not a whole lot changes for the weekend.

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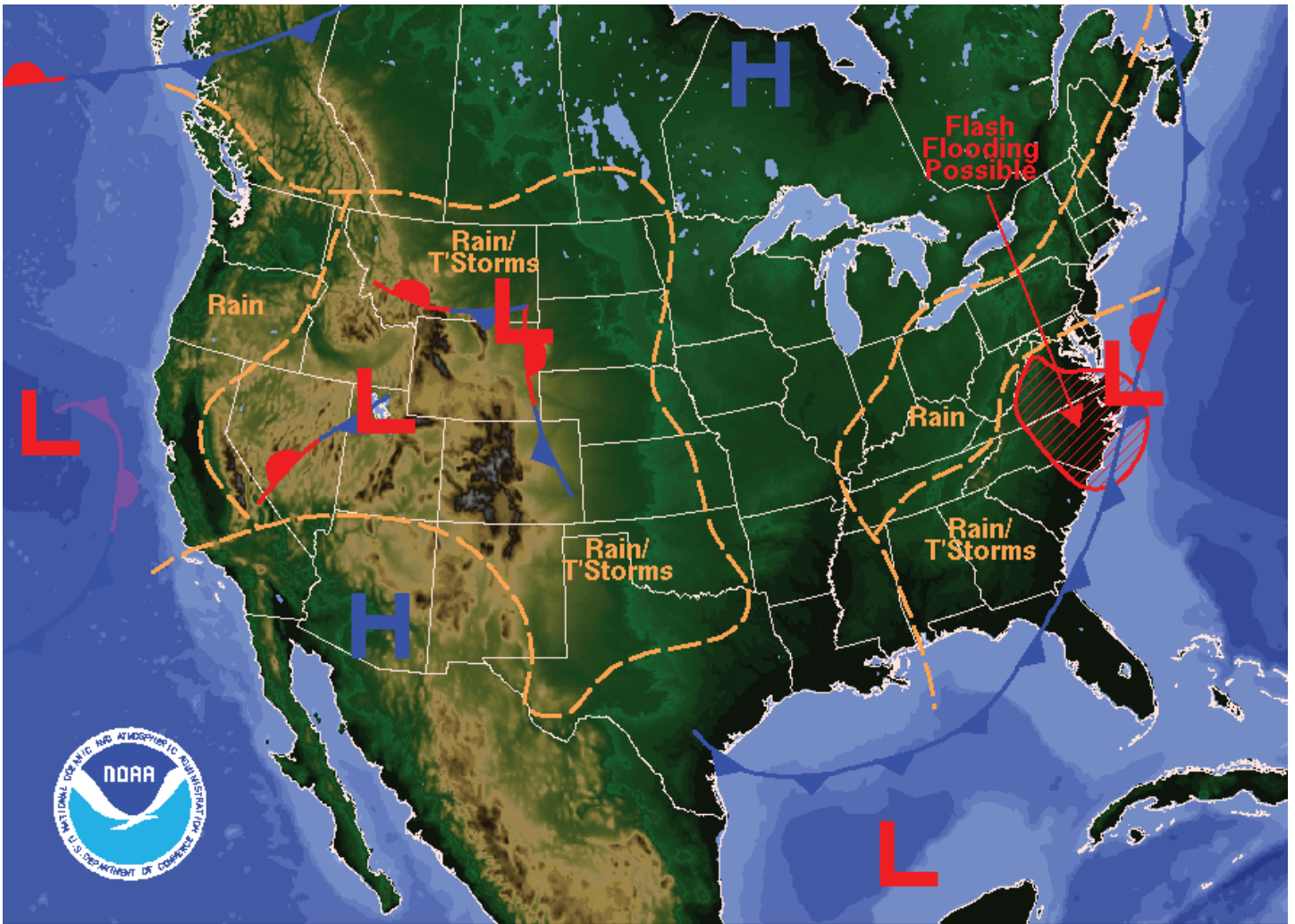
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Yesterday's Weather

High: 71.6
Low: 49.9
High Gust: 27
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 92° in 1922
Record Low: 21° in 1974
Average High: 65°F
Average Low: 39°F
Average Precip in Oct.: 0.08
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.00
Average Precip to date: 18.56
Precip Year to Date: 18.12
Sunset Tonight: 7:14 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:32 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Thu, Oct 01, 2015, issued 4:42 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



ACORNS AND WATERMELONS

A father and his son were walking through a grove of oak trees. Suddenly the boy turned to his Dad and said, "You know, I think God really goofed. He put a watermelon on a small vine and an acorn on a big oak. I would have done it the exact opposite."

As he was about to continue his speech, an acorn fell from a tree, landed on his head and bounced to the ground. Quickly the father said, "Aren't you glad that wasn't a watermelon?"

We are often puzzled by the events that occur in our lives. We do our best to understand them only to realize that we lack wisdom and insight to interpret them. Try as we might, there are some things that simply do not make sense to us. What then?

God's Word reminds us that "If any of you lack wisdom and insight, ask Me for help and I'll give them to you." These are two of God's greatest gifts that are available to any of us. But they only come from reading His Word and taking time to be with Him in prayer and meditation. He is willing to give us all the knowledge and courage to do whatever He asks of us but it will take time and discipline. His answers are always available but we must show Him that we are willing to do our part to get them.

Prayer: Lord, may we hear and obey Your instructions and find direction and protection for our lives. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Proverbs 3:5-7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil.

News from the Associated Press

Survey gives another sign of Midwest economic slowdown

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A second straight monthly survey of nine Midwest and Plains states suggests a slowdown in the region's economy.

A report issued Thursday says the overall Mid-American Business Conditions Index dropped to 47.7 last month, compared with 49.6 in August.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss oversees the survey, and he cited the strong U.S. dollar and global economic weakness among the reasons for the region's economic slide.

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

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

Prayer service set in Harrisburg after school shooting

HARRISBURG, S.D. (AP) — The community of Harrisburg is holding a prayer service after a school shooting that injured an administrator.

Authorities say high school Principal Kevin Lein was shot by a student Wednesday morning and suffered a minor flesh wound to an arm. He'll be OK, and no students were injured. The student who fired the shot was subdued by school officials and arrested.

The prayer service is 7 p.m. Thursday at the Harrisburg Performing Arts Center. Organizers say it will enable people of all faiths to join together to pray for peace and safety.

School of Mines getting federal mine-safety funding grant

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota School of Mines at Technology is getting a share of \$8.4 million in federal grant funding to reduce mining accidents and injuries and for training programs.

The grants from the U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration are aimed at providing miners with federally mandated training.

The school in Rapid City is in line for \$69,000 in funding.

The agency says the grants cover training and retraining of miners working at surface and underground coal and metal and nonmetal mines, including miners engaged in shell dredging or employed at surface stone, sand and gravel mining operations.

The funding announced this week is headed to 47 states and the Navajo Nation. States first received funding to provide this kind of training in 1971.

South Dakota corn stocks up 16.5M bushels from last year

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The USDA says South Dakota September 1 corn stocks rose by 16.5 million bushels from last year.

The agency's National Agricultural Statistics Service says the stocks totaled 92.4 million bushels on September 1. Of the total, 45 million bushels were stored on farms, up 29 percent from a year ago. More than 47 million bushels were stored off-farm, up 16 percent from last year.

Soybeans stored in all positions totaled 7.9 million bushels, up 128 percent from last year. And all wheat stored in all positions totaled 95.8 million bushels, down 4 percent from a year ago.

Sorghum off-farm stocks totaled 83,000 bushels, down 93 percent, and oats stored in all positions totaled 12.2 million bushels, up 34 percent. Barley on-farm stocks totaled 290,000 bushels, down 49 percent from 2014.

Nuggets sign Mike Miller to 1-year deal

DENVER (AP) — The Denver Nuggets signed veteran forward Mike Miller to a one-year deal Wednesday. Miller played last season for the Cleveland Cavaliers, where he saw action in 52 games and averaged 13.5 minutes. The 15-year veteran has also played for Memphis, Miami, Washington, Minnesota and Orlando.

Drafted fifth overall by the Magic in 2000, he has averaged 11.3 points a game over his career. He is a good 3-point shooter, hitting 41 percent from behind the arc.

In addition to Miller, Denver signed Matt Janning, Oleksiy Pecherov and Devin Sweetney to bring its training camp roster to 19 players. The Nuggets are practicing at the United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado, this week.

They play their first preseason game Friday in Los Angeles against the Clippers.

Higher education board names new Dickinson State president

DAVE KOLPACK, Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — A South Dakota native with a background in chemistry was named Wednesday as president of Dickinson State University, the western North Dakota college that has dealt with a series of setbacks in recent years.

Thomas Mitzel has spent the last two years as vice president and faculty dean at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, after a stint as the dean of natural resources at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas. He was offered the job after a formal interview during the state Board of Higher Education meeting Wednesday in Dickinson.

"I texted my wife and let her know and got back all smiley faces," Mitzel told the board after he was announced as president.

Mitzel noted in his interview with the board that 67 percent of DSU students are from North Dakota, as compared to 51 percent for the rest of the university system. He said that shows room for growth and he believes the school can increase enrollment by about 5 percent per year.

The Dickinson school has been dogged by a series of setbacks in the last five years, beginning with a controversy over inflated enrollment that cost one president his job in 2011. Earlier this month, the state attorney general announced that he would dissolve the college's independent foundation after finding that the group's financial records were in disarray. A new foundation is in the works.

"Dickinson has gone through some difficult projects and some difficult times," Mitzel said. "I was pleasantly surprised at how enthusiastic everybody is and how forward-thinking everybody was, with most of the groups with whom I met. You almost feel a little tension in the air in a positive way."

Mitzel said he was forced to make some tough decisions when he was asked to cut 10 percent of the budget at Trinity College. He said that experience was a "wake-up call" that taught him how to work with faculty and others to make changes work.

Donna Jurick, executive vice president at St. Edward's University, called Mitzel "a creative problem-solver who brought resolution to a number of thorny challenges."

Mitzel, 48, was born and raised in Aberdeen, South Dakota. He received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from hometown Northern State University in 1990 and his doctorate in organic chemistry from Boston College in 1994.

"Much of my family still resides in South Dakota and I have retained a great appreciation for the strong Midwest ethos and high academic standards," Mitzel said.

Former Dickinson State President D.C. Coston stepped down in August due to health concerns. Mitzel became the lone finalist for the position after Peru State College President Daniel Hanson withdrew from consideration earlier this month.

SD officials, inmates group adjust ceremonial tobacco policy

DIRK LAMMERS, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Attorneys for the South Dakota Department of Corrections and an organization of Native American inmates have agreed to some policy changes, which will make it easier for inmates to get tobacco for Lakota religious ceremonies.

U.S. District Court Judge Karen Schreier ruled in 2012 that the prison system's ban on tobacco in religious ceremonies substantially burdened Native American inmates' religious rights and ordered the parties to come up with a less restrictive policy. The state had argued that ceremonial tobacco inside the state penitentiary was increasingly abused.

Under the original agreement, tobacco mixtures had to be brought in only through volunteers approved by the Department of Corrections. But under last week's amendment, Native American inmates can purchase tobacco from a downtown Sioux Falls smoke shop and have it shipped directly to the prison, where it can be mixed by designated department staff.

"They use this mixture several times a day, so getting volunteers to bring the mixture in was just very, very difficult to have any kind of regular schedule," said the inmates' attorney, Pamela Bollweg.

Corrections Secretary Denny Kaemingk said the department is committed to providing all inmates with the ability to freely exercise their religion while ensuring the safety and security of both inmates and staff.

The state's prison system went tobacco-free in 2000 but made an exception for tobacco used in Native American ceremonies. Officials in October 2009 eliminated that exemption, saying tobacco was being sold or bartered and inmates had been caught separating it from their pipe mixtures and tobacco ties, which embody a small amount of tobacco in cloth.

Members of prison-based Native American Council of Tribes sued, saying the policy change violated their constitutional rights that ensured no prisoner be penalized or discriminated against for their religious beliefs or practices.

Inmates Blaine Brings Plenty and Clayton Creek argued that for Native American prayer to be effective, it must be embodied in tobacco and offered within a ceremonial framework. The inmates' position was bolstered by a brief filed by the Justice Department, which said the state's position ran contrary to the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act and U.S. Supreme Court precedent. The state appealed Schreier's ruling, but the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the decision in 2014.

Bollweg said the parties also agreed to remedy a disagreement over the location of powwows, which will once again be allowed in either the penitentiary's gymnasium or visiting room. An inmate had complained that limiting the powwow to only the visiting room, which is smoke-free, essentially prevented the use of tobacco during the ceremonies.

Sobriety checkpoints planned in 16 counties in October

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol says it is targeting 16 counties with sobriety checkpoints in October.

The monthly checkpoints are conducted to discourage people from drinking and driving.

The counties scheduled for sobriety checkpoints in October are: Bennett, Brown, Butte, Clay, Codington, Davison, Day, Edmunds, Gregory, Hamlin, Lawrence, Lincoln, Minnehaha, Moody, Sanborn and Spink.

S. Dakota high school principal shot, wounded; students safe

DIRK LAMMERS, Associated Press

HARRISBURG, S.D. (AP) — A shooting at a South Dakota high school that left the principal with a minor injury may have turned out far worse if not for staff members who tackled the student suspected of firing at the administrator, authorities said Wednesday.

Just moments afterward, Harrisburg High School Principal Kevin Lein took to the intercom to announce a lockdown and tell students he had been hit, "but was fine," senior Aanna Okerlund said. Other than Lein, who was struck in the arm, no one was reported hurt.

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Police said the student had confronted Lein in his office about 10 a.m. Wednesday before pulling out a handgun and firing a single shot that left the principal with a flesh wound. Assistant Principal Ryan Rollinger tackled the student and held him down with help from athletic director Joey Struwe, said Harrisburg Superintendent Jim Holbeck.

"You really never know what this student would have done if they haven't confronted him," Holbeck said. "I believe what happened there, what those guys did, probably helped saved somebody else from maybe getting shot. I can't tell you what was in his mind, but if he already shot once, who knows."

Officers quickly took the student into custody. Lincoln County State's Attorney Tom Wollman declined to confirm the student's identity but said he expected charges to be filed within a day. South Dakota law gives prosecutors some latitude in deciding whether to pursue felony charges against those under 18 years of age in juvenile or adult court.

A South Dakota man told The Associated Press that his 16-year-old son is the student who shot Lein. He said his ex-wife, with whom his son lives, called to tell him that their son had been arrested following the shooting. He said his son's been quiet over the past year.

"Something's just going on inside of him and he's just mad at everybody, I think," the father said. "I don't know what would've made him do something like this."

He didn't say where his son got the handgun, but said that he and his son would regularly target shoot outside and that his son had taken gun safety courses.

The Associated Press is not naming the man so as not to identify his son, who has not been charged in the shooting or identified by authorities.

Officials say they don't know what spurred the dispute at the school, which has about 635 students from Harrisburg and other communities. Harrisburg, a town of about 5,000 residents, sits 10 miles south of Sioux Falls.

Okerlund, 18, said she was in college algebra when a classmate ran into the room to tell everyone he had seen a student near the principal's office with a gun.

She said Lein came onto the intercom shortly afterward to tell students there was a school-wide lockdown. Lein later told students by intercom that he had been shot.

"You could hear the franticness in his voice," she said. "It's just so surreal."

Okerlund said her classmates were crying and shaking in the corner of the classroom while they waited for news during the lockdown.

As authorities continued to shut off access to the high school, students were taken by bus to Harrisburg South Middle School, where parents were asked to pick them up.

Junior Jerica Warwick, 16, said students were texting or calling parents to let them know they were safe after they were all gathered at the middle school.

"Everybody either was shocked or crying," Warwick said.

Warwick's mother, Sheryl Holt, 35, of Sioux Falls, arrived to pick up her daughter. Holt said she hopes more safety measures will be put in place at the school, which does not have metal detectors.

Nick Pohlmann, who lives just across the street and has a son who is a senior at the school, said he found out about the shooting through a friend who called him asking if his son was OK. Pohlmann said he immediately drove back to his home and ran over to the school to try to get some information.

"This is good ol' Harrisburg," Pohlmann said. "This doesn't happen here."

South Dakota has seen a handful of firearm incidents at schools. In 2013, a Britton-Hecla student was injured in the school parking lot when a .22-caliber handgun, thought to be unloaded, went off. And as far back as 1961, a Delmont High School student was killed after being accidentally struck with a .22-caliber bullet during a school play rehearsal.

Police: Officer fatally shoots man in Rapid City

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Rapid City police say an officer responding to a domestic assault call fatally shot a man who lunged at him with an apparent metal bar.

Authorities say officers Tuesday night responded to a report of a domestic assault at a residence with a man and woman inside, and forced their way in after the man refused to open the door.

Police say 46-year-old Patrick Lundstrom lunged at Officer Matt Macrander with what appeared to be a metal bar raised over his head, and Macrander shot him. Lundstrom was pronounced dead at the scene. No one else was hurt.

The state Division of Criminal Investigation will look into the shooting. Macrander is on leave pending the probe. Both are standard procedure.

Macrander has been a Rapid City officer since February 2013.

Body of former South Dakota Gov. Miller to lie in state

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The body of former South Dakota Gov. Walter Dale Miller will lie in state in the Rotunda of the Capitol building in Pierre on Monday morning.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard says public viewing will be allowed from 7-11 a.m. Central time on Monday, with a memorial ceremony to begin at 1 p.m.

Miller died Monday night at age 89. Arrangements are pending for his funeral in Rapid City.

Miller stepped in as the state's leader in 1993 after a plane crash killed his predecessor, Gov. George Mickelson. Miller served as the state's 29th governor through 1995.

Sage grouse provision left out of defense bill

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Congress has failed to advance a measure that would have blocked new land-use plans meant to protect a wide-ranging Western bird, the greater sage grouse.

The sage grouse provision backed by Republican U.S. Rep. Rob Bishop of Utah had been approved in May by the House as part of a \$612 billion defense policy bill.

Bishop's office said Wednesday the measure was left out of a House-Senate compromise on the defense bill.

The Interior Department said last week that sage grouse don't need Endangered Species Act protections. But the agency adopted plans that limit oil and gas drilling, mining and other activities within the sage grouse's 11-state range.

Officials in Idaho and Nevada and some mining companies have sued Interior Secretary Sally Jewell over the changes.

Rapid City man pleads guilty in lake crash that killed woman

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Rapid City man involved in a fatal crash on Lake Pactola has pleaded guilty to manslaughter and boating under the influence.

Authorities say 29-year-old Jody Kreycik was drunk when his personal watercraft collided with a boat on Aug. 14. The crash killed 33-year-old Gabrielle Fisher, one of two people on the boat.

Kreycik faces up to 10 years in prison. A sentencing date was not immediately set.

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. MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS URGED TO END SYRIA WAR

As Russia enters the fray militarily, Europe and the U.S. are split on who should be invited to the table, with the Americans preferring a tight grouping of itself, Russia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Turkey.

2. KABUL COUNTERACTS TALIBAN TAKEOVER

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Afghan forces push into the strategic northern city of Kunduz captured by insurgents, forcing them to retreat in heavy street fighting.

3. WHERE HURRICANE JOAQUIN IS HEADED

The Category 3 storm is bearing down on the Bahamas, and forecasters say it is following a path that would take it near the U.S. East Coast by the weekend.

4. HOW CLINTON'S HOMEBREW SERVER WAS COMPROMISED

Russia-linked hackers tried at least five times to trick Hillary Rodham Clinton into infecting her computer systems while she was secretary of state, newly released emails show.

5. BIPARTISANSHIP ON PENTAGON BILL NOT IN OFFING

The House is scheduled to vote on a defense bill that Obama threatens to veto amid a bitter dispute about government spending.

6. CANNABIS FANS CHECK OFF ANOTHER STATE

Oregon marijuana shops begin selling pot for the first time to recreational users, marking a big day for the budding pot industry in the state.

7. SENATORS REACH REDUCED PRISON TIME DEAL

Some non-violent drug offenders could get less time in jail under a bipartisan package that would overhaul the criminal justice system and encourage rehabilitation.

8. WHAT IS WORRYING U.S. LEGAL EXPERTS

Police across the country are increasingly using GPS tracking devices hidden in stacks of cash, pill bottles and other objects to catch thieves.

9. 'DANCING WITH THE STARS' REQUIRES GRIT

AP's Lynn Elber finds that there have been so many injuries and health woes during the hit ABC competition that it could be renamed "Triage with the Stars."

10. BLUE JAYS SOAR INTO PLAYOFFS

Toronto routs Baltimore 15-2 in the first game of a doubleheader to clinch its first AL East title in 22 years.

AP News in Brief

Russia says warplanes hit Islamic State and coordinated with US, denying criticism

PARIS (AP) — Russia on Thursday insisted its warplanes in Syria were hitting at the same extremists targeted by the United States and contradicted American criticism that its military failed to coordinate the airstrikes, describing the allegations as a "war of disinformation."

Alexander Orlov, the Russian ambassador to France, said Moscow's intervention came only after a year of airstrikes by the U.S. and its partners failed to dislodge Islamic State extremists, and predicted that Syria could be ready for "free elections" within a year. Russia's military said it carried out 20 airstrikes Wednesday.

The Russian Defense Ministry said its warplanes on Wednesday targeted and destroyed eight positions belonging to extremists from the IS group, also known as ISIL or ISIS, in what President Vladimir Putin called a pre-emptive strike against the militants.

The ministry gave no specific locations, but Orlov said the targets were installations for Islamic State and the Nusra Front, al-Qaida's affiliate in Syria — "two terrorist organizations recognized as such." Orlov told France Info radio the planes were acting as air support for Syrian ground troops.

The U.S. and Russia agree on the need to fight the Islamic State but not about what to do with President Bashar Assad. The Syrian civil war, which grew out of an uprising against Assad, has killed more than 250,000 people since March 2011 and sent millions of refugees fleeing to other countries in the Middle East and Europe.

9 nations? 5? Europe, US split over who should sit at the table for Syria talks

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Nine nations or five? In speeches at this year's U.N. gathering of world leaders, major powers are increasing calls for multilateral negotiations to end the war in Syria. But Europe and the United States are split on who should be at the table.

The Europeans invoke the success of the Iran nuclear talks in arguing for a similar format — with key additions.

There, Iran negotiated with the United States, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany to reach their July 14 agreement. French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius on Wednesday called for a similar arrangement "enlarged with regional partners."

The Americans, in contrast, want a tighter group, without the Europeans.

Fabius did not elaborate on his vision. But two diplomats told The Associated Press that this time, instead of making demands on Iran, as was the case at the nuclear talks, the Europeans want Tehran to work with them, the Americans, Russians and Chinese on finding a peace formula. Saudi Arabia and Turkey also would be included.

Afghan government forces push into Kunduz city, forcing Taliban to retreat amid street battles

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghan government forces pushed overnight into the strategic northern city of Kunduz that was captured by the Taliban earlier this week, forcing the insurgents to retreat amid heavy street battles that were still underway Thursday.

But despite prompt claims from officials that much of the city had been liberated, by midday, residents remaining inside Kunduz and hunkering down at their homes said they could still hear explosions and shootings outside.

The fall of Kunduz to the Taliban on Monday marked a major setback for Afghan government forces, which have struggled to combat insurgents with limited aid from the U.S. and NATO troops. The international forces' role shifted to training and support after all NATO combat forces withdrew from Afghanistan at the end of last year.

The Taliban denied they had lost the city and the group's spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed on Thursday that it was still in their hands, saying "the Taliban flag is still flying" over Kunduz.

The spokesman for the Interior Ministry said the operation to take back Kunduz was launched late Wednesday, with ground forces moving from the airport — where they had massed since the city fell — over roads that had been mined by the insurgents.

Hurricane Joaquin closes in on central Bahamas, then could head for possible US landfall

MIAMI (AP) — Hurricane Joaquin gained power as it bore down on the central Bahamas early Thursday, and forecasters said it was likely to grow into a major storm while following a path that would near the U.S. East Coast by the weekend.

Some minor damage was reported by Bahamas officials late Wednesday, and islanders rushed to prepare for storm surges and heavy rain from the approaching Joaquin. Authorities said the center was likely to pass near or over several islands during the night and Thursday.

Joaquin was a Category 3 storm with maximum sustained winds of 115 mph (185 kph) and hurricane strength winds extending 35 miles (55 kilometers) from the eye late Wednesday, the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said. The center of the storm was about 170 miles (275 kilometers) east of the central Bahamas and moving southwest at 6 mph (9 kph).

The storm was predicted to turn to the north and northwest toward the United States late Thursday or

Friday, but forecasters were still gathering data trying to determine how it might affect the U.S.

"We've got Air Force reconnaissance planes continuously giving us data from inside the hurricane this morning, and we're going to be throwing a lot more aircraft resources at this problem over the next few days because it still is not certain whether or not Joaquin will directly impact the U.S. East Coast or stay out to sea," said Rick Knabb, director of the National Hurricane Center.

Oregon marijuana shops begin sales to recreational users, marking big day for budding industry

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Oregon marijuana shops began selling marijuana Thursday for the first time to recreational users, marking a big day for the budding pot industry.

Some of the more than 250 dispensaries that already offer medical marijuana in Oregon opened their doors soon after midnight — just moments after it became legal to sell to anyone who is at least 21.

At Portland's Shango Premium Cannabis, co-founder Shane McKee said the first sale to an excited customer came about a minute after midnight, with many others waiting.

"It looks like there is about 60-70 in line out front," he said in a telephone interview shortly after midnight. "They all seem extremely eager."

That first buyer, Davia Fleming of Portland, said the sales launch was important.

Clinton private account on homebrew server targeted 5 times in Russia-linked email scam

WASHINGTON (AP) — Russia-linked hackers tried at least five times to trick Hillary Rodham Clinton into infecting her computer systems while she was secretary of state, newly released emails show. It is unclear whether she was fooled into clicking any attachments to expose her account.

Clinton received the virus-riddled emails, disguised as speeding tickets from New York, over four hours early on the morning of Aug. 3, 2011. The emails instructed recipients to print the attached tickets — and opening them would have allowed hackers to take over control of a victim's computer.

Security researchers who analyzed the malicious software in September 2011 said that infected computers would transmit information from victims to at least three server computers overseas, including one in Russia. That doesn't necessarily mean Russian intelligence or citizens were responsible.

Nick Merrill, a spokesman for Clinton's Democratic presidential campaign, said: "We have no evidence to suggest she replied to this email or that she opened the attachment. As we have said before, there is no evidence that the system was ever breached. All these emails show is that, like millions of other Americans, she received spam."

Practically every Internet user is inundated with spam or virus-riddled messages daily. But these messages show hackers had Clinton's email address, which was not public, and sent her a fake traffic ticket from New York state, where she lives. Most commercial antivirus software at the time would have detected the software and blocked it.

House to vote on defense policy bill that Obama threatens to veto even though he backs funding

WASHINGTON (AP) — The defense policy bill is one of the few bipartisan measures in Congress that has readily become law for more than a half-century. Not so fast this year, as President Barack Obama threatens to veto the bill moving through the House amid a bitter dispute about government spending.

The argument is whether Congress should break through spending caps when it comes to defense, but adhere to them for domestic agencies. Obama and his Democratic supporters say no. Republicans, citing global threats around the world, say yes.

The \$612 billion defense policy bill for next year gives Obama the increase in funding he requested, but

he's unhappy with the way lawmakers did it. They increased defense spending by padding a war-fighting account with an extra \$38.3 billion. That account — for Overseas Contingency Operations, or OCO — is not subject to the caps.

The House is scheduled to vote on the bill Thursday.

Among other things, the bill maintains restrictions on transferring terror suspects out of the military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; provides a 1.3 percent pay increase to service members; authorizes lethal assistance to Ukraine forces fighting Russian-backed rebels; extends the ban on torture to the CIA; and authorizes the president's request of \$715 million to help Iraqi forces fight Islamic State militants.

The town that Volkswagen built from scratch girds for tough times in wake of emissions scandal

WOLFSBURG, Germany (AP) — Wolfsburg is the town that Volkswagen built — literally put on the map in 1938 by the Nazis in pursuit of their dream of a "People's Car."

The town rode the company's postwar boom to financial wealth and today the two are inseparable. There's a top league soccer club that wears the VW logo and plays in the Volkswagen arena; Volkswagen's headquarters and manufacturing plant take up much of its real estate. There's a Volkswagen bank, a Volkswagen real estate dealer, and even a Volkswagen sausage factory.

So when it was revealed this month that the automaker had cheated on U.S. emissions tests, causing its shares to plummet, the mood here darkened.

"People are feeling a little down, like heads will roll, and not up high but at the lower levels," said 65-year-old Mark Graff, waiting outside the VW gates to pick up his daughter after her shift on the assembly line.

Graff, whose son also works full-time at the plant, said there was worry that if sales slumped, shifts would be cut.

Chinese journalist says he resisted police pressure to confess during year of detention

BEIJING (AP) — Journalist Liu Hu says that once he was detained by police the pressure for him to confess was unrelenting. They told him that, unless he confessed, he would stay behind bars longer and his wife would abandon him.

They cajoled him, deprived him of sleep, and kept him away from lawyers and relatives. They even recruited fellow inmates to persuade him to admit his guilt in accusations that he had deliberately spread falsehoods and stirred up trouble online.

"Under such circumstances, most people will give in and admit their guilt," said Liu, who spent almost a year in detention and only recently had his name cleared when prosecutors decided not to bring any charges against him.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Liu recounted how the police — in cooperation with the Chinese state's propaganda machine — try to draw out confessions and then air them on state television to shame suspects and sway public perceptions ahead of their trials.

Although a clear violation of Chinese law, the tactics have become popular since 2013 under the sanction of authorities eager to shape public opinion. Police coerce the confessions, which are filmed and made to appear voluntary, and then are aired on China's main state broadcaster CCTV. There have been at least 17 cases of televised confessions in the past two years.

US teams hope to find their next Paralympians at scouting combines nationwide

BOSTON (AP) — Two years after losing his lower leg in a car crash, Matthew Freitas is faster and stronger than ever.

The 14-year-old is nearing a 6-minute mile on the track, running with a prosthetic foot. He was the star goalie on his youth lacrosse team, and next spring the freshman will compete for his high school's squad. His swift progress has stunned doctors, teammates and, to his delight, opponents.

"Before games, I hear a lot of people going, 'Oh, that goalie has one foot. It's going to be easy to score goals on him,'" said Freitas, of Weymouth, Massachusetts, on the state's south shore. "Last game I heard somebody say that, we won 6-0, and I ran full-field and scored a goal."

But lately, he's been training for something else: This weekend, Freitas will join other athletes with physical and visual disabilities hoping to get noticed at a scouting event for the U.S. Paralympics. Coaches from national teams will run them through a circuit of tests, looking for the next top talent.

The event is one of four regional "Gateway to Gold" stops across the country, a campaign by the U.S. Paralympics to route promising athletes into the pipeline for national teams. In Boston, coaches will work with athletes to gauge their potential in swimming, rowing, skiing, and track and field events.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, October 1, the 274th day of 2015. There are 91 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On October 1, 1940, the first section of the Pennsylvania Turnpike - described as America's first super-highway - opened to the public, stretching 160 miles from Carlisle to Irwin.

On this date:

In 1890, Congress passed the McKinley Tariff Act, which raised tariffs to a record level.

In 1908, Henry Ford introduced his Model T automobile to the market.

In 1932, Babe Ruth of the New York Yankees made his supposed called shot, hitting a home run against Chicago's Charlie Root in the fifth inning of Game 3 of the World Series, won by the New York Yankees 7-5 at Wrigley Field.

In 1939, Winston Churchill described Russia as "a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma" during a radio address on the invasion of Poland by Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union.

In 1955, the situation comedy "The Honeymooners," starring Jackie Gleason, Art Carney, Audrey Meadows and Joyce Randolph, premiered on CBS-TV.

In 1957, the motto "In God We Trust" began appearing on U.S. paper currency.

In 1961, Roger Maris of the New York Yankees hit his 61st home run during a 162-game season, compared to Babe Ruth's 60 home runs during a 154-game season. (Tracy Stallard of the Boston Red Sox gave up the round-tripper; the Yankees won 1-0.)

In 1964, the Free Speech Movement began at the University of California, Berkeley. Japan's first high-speed "bullet train," the Tokaido Shinkansen, went into operation between Tokyo and Osaka.

In 1965, the science-fiction novel "Dune" by Frank Herbert was published by Chilton Books. The Byrds' single "Turn! Turn! Turn!" was released by Columbia Records.

In 1971, Walt Disney World opened near Orlando, Florida.

In 1987, eight people were killed when an earthquake measuring magnitude 5.9 struck the Los Angeles area.

In 1995, Sheik Omar Abdel-Rahman and nine other defendants were convicted in New York of conspiring to attack the United States through bombings, assassinations and kidnappings.

Ten years ago: Three suicide bombers struck three restaurants in Bali, Indonesia, killing 20 victims. U.S. millionaire scientist Gregory Olsen and an American-Russian crew blasted off from Kazakhstan on a

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journey to the international space station.

Five years ago: White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel, planning an ultimately successful Chicago mayoral run, relinquished his post to Pete Rouse. CNN fired anchor Rick Sanchez a day after he called Jon Stewart a bigot during a radio interview in which he also questioned whether Jews should be considered a minority. Georgy Arbatov, 87, a foreign policy adviser to Soviet presidents and the Kremlin's top America watcher, died in Moscow.

One year ago: Secret Service Director Julia Pierson abruptly resigned in the face of multiple revelations of security breaches, bumbling in her agency and rapidly eroding confidence that the president and his family were being kept safe. (Pierson was succeeded by Joseph Clancy.) In a striking public rebuke, the Obama administration warned Israel that plans for a controversial new housing project in east Jerusalem would distance Israel from "even its closest allies" and raise questions about its commitment to seeking peace with Palestinians.

Today's Birthdays: Former President Jimmy Carter is 91. Actress-singer Julie Andrews is 80. Actress Stella Stevens is 77. Rock musician Jerry Martini (Sly and the Family Stone) is 72. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Rod Carew is 70. Jazz musician Dave Holland is 69. Actress Yvette Freeman is 65. Actor Randy Quaid is 65. Rhythm-and-blues singer Howard Hewett is 60. Alt-country-rock musician Tim O'Reagan (The Jayhawks) is 57. Singer Youssou N'Dour is 56. Actor Esai Morales is 53. Retired MLB All-Star Mark McGwire is 52. Actor Christopher Titus is 51. Actress-model Cindy Margolis is 50. Rock singer-musician Kevin Griffin (Better Than Ezra) is 47. Actor Zach Galifianakis (ga-lih-fih-NA'-kihs) is 46. Singer Keith Duffy is 41. Actress Sarah Drew is 35. Actor-comedian Beck Bennett is 31. Actress Junee Smollett is 29. Actress Brie Larson is 26.

Thought for Today: "Everybody favors free speech in the slack moments when no axes are being ground." - Heywood C. Broun, American journalist (1888-1939).