

# Groton Daily Independent

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**The Webster Area School board voted Thursday night to not pursue a wrestling co-op with Groton Area.**

## Friday, December 11

**School Breakfast:** Pancake on stick, fruit, juice, milk.

**School Lunch:** Super nachos, French fries, lettuce, fruit.

**Senior Menu:** Creamed chicken, buttermilk biscuit, peas, pineapple/mandarin orange sauce.

**Anniversary:** Dave & Connie Nilsson

**Birthday:** Carly Guthmiller

## Saturday, December 12

Conference Debate (location TBD)

**Birthdays:** Brittany Ronning • Jason Warrington • Robert Meister • Alan Nierman

9:00am: Santa Day at Professional Management Services

9:00am: Robotics at Rapid City Stevens

10:00am: Wrestling Tourney at Lamoure

2:00pm: Double Header hosts Leola-Frederick (Girls JV at 2 pm, Boys JV at 3 pm, Varsity girls at 4:40 pm and boys varsity at 6 pm)

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

Sunday, December 13

**Birthdays:** Jon Vedvei • Jessica Adler • Blake Fliehs • Gabriella Merkel • Melissa Gilbert, Dean Townsend

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran School

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

9:00am: St. John's Lutheran Worship

9:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Fellowship

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

## 2015 Groton Area Elementary Preschool Developmental Screening for 3 year olds

**Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2015**

Parents of children ages 3 in the Groton Area School District are asked to contact Heidi Krueger at the Groton Area Elementary School during school hours at 397-2317 to set up a screening time or to confirm their screening time.

The Developmental Screening will take place at the Groton Area High School Arena. Please park and use the east entrance to the gym.

**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**

© 2015 Groton Daily Independent

"From minor scratches to a complete rebuild... we can do it all"

**NOW OPEN**

*Harris*  
Auto Body ABDN

**225 Brown County Hwy 19 South  
Aberdeen: 605/725-4900**

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## Groton girls open season with win over Ipswich

The Groton Area girls opened its basketball season with a 62-46 win over Ipswich in a game played Thursday night in Groton.

Groton Area led at the quarterstops at 10-9, 26-21 and 45-35.

"We'll take the win," said Coach Shaun Wanner. "We scored a lot of points, but we need to rebound better. We gave Ipswich too many second chances. There are a few areas that we need to work on, but overall, the girls played well."

Katie Koehler led Groton Area with 24 points followed by Harleigh Stange with 12, Carly Wheeting 10, Audrey Wanner eight and Jessica Bjerke and Emily Locke each had four points.

Groton Area had 30 rebounds with Emily Locke and Wheeting each having six, 11 assists with Stange having three, two steals - one each by Koehler and Wheeting, Koehler had one block and the team had 21 fouls with Bjerke fouling out. Groton Area made 46 percent of its field goals and nine of 15 free throws. Groton Area made 11 three-point shots - six by Koehler, four by Stange and one by Wanner.

Ipswich was led in scoring by Kamryn Heinz with 20 points followed by Elizabeth Grabowske with 16 and adding two points each were Autumn Pitz, Kayler Braun, Allison Sorenson, Aleah Steger and Abby Grabowske.

Ipswich had 28 rebounds, 14 turnovers, 16 team fouls, five steals, seven assists and made 36 percent of its field goals while making 16 of 28 free throws.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 32-33. Scoring for Groton Area were Taylor Holm with 11, Portia Kettering seven, Jenny Doeden and Madison Sippel each with four and adding two points apiece were Miranda Hanson, Alex Stange, Sam Menzia and Jodi Hinman. Allison Severson led Ipswich with 10 points and Aleah Steger added eight.



Harleigh Stange brings the ball up court for the Tigers.



Katie Koehler goes up for the shot and gives Groton Area 45-32 lead in the third quarter.



Audrey Wanner grabs the rebound before it reached the hands of this Ipswich player.

## No Girls JV Game on Saturday

There will be NO JV girls game this Saturday (12th) at 2pm vs L/F! Leola/Frederick does not have enough girls at this time to play a JV game. So, the JV boys game will start at 3pm on Saturday....followed by the Varsity girls and Varsity boys!



## Groton Chamber Holiday Boxes are out & about in Groton!

This Week (thru 12/11) – Lori's Pharmacy  
\*\*\$25 Chamber Bucks OR Savory Seasoning!\*\*

Next Week (thru 12/18) – Professional  
Management Supply  
\*\*\$25 Chamber Bucks OR Mystery Gift!\*\*

Stop by each participating business and register for \$25  
Groton Chamber Bucks – or a prize supplied by the business.  
Prizes will be drawn weekly – starting over each week with  
entries!



Merry  
Christmas



## **A Long-Term Highway Bill for South Dakota** **By Senator Mike Rounds**

A healthy economy is dependent on a strong and reliable transportation system. In South Dakota, we rely on the Interstate System and the National Highway System to travel across the state to do business and visit friends and family in other towns. We, and others, also use these roads to transport roughly \$20 billion in goods each year. All of this wear and tear on our highway system means our roads and bridges must be regularly repaired and updated. But this routine maintenance has become increasingly difficult in recent years due to Washington gridlock that has prevented a long-term highway bill from being reauthorized. Fortunately, the era of short-term highway funding extensions is over.

The Republican-led Senate and House recently passed a much-needed, long-term transportation bill to fund America's highway and transit program for the next five years. The bill, called the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, allocates \$1.6 billion for South Dakota transportation projects over the next five years. It passed the House and Senate with strong bipartisan support and was signed into law on December 4, 2015.

This is the first time in more than a decade that any kind of long-term highway bill has been enacted. For the past 10 years, highway funding had been authorized by 36 temporary, short-term patches. This has made it much more difficult for contractors, states and local governments to plan for the future. Finally, under the FAST Act, they will now have the certainty they need to efficiently execute both major transportation projects and conduct necessary routine maintenance. This will allow them to implement a long-term, strategic plan to restore, repair and update important infrastructure like roads, tunnels and bridges, which will make travel easier and safer. It will also spur job creation and economic growth across the country, including rural states like South Dakota.

Additionally, the FAST Act increases funding for the existing Tribal Transportation Program that addresses tribal road and bridge needs. Tribes will have increased funding to fix roads in need of repair on tribal land, making them safer and spurring economic development in Indian country.

Our veterans will also benefit from a provision of the FAST Act that will expand opportunities for young vets with a commercial driver's license (CDL) and help them transition into civilian life after their service. Under the pilot program, veterans 18 and older will now be able to make trips across state lines with their CDL. The age used to be 21, as it is for civilians. This will help these veterans to use their military skills to help them find employment after they return from being deployed.

The FAST Act gives long-term certainty that is needed by states and local governments to plan projects efficiently. For the first time in ten years, we will be able to fix the rusted-out bridges and crumbling roads that Americans drive on every day. We will make them safer and more reliable for families and businesses in South Dakota and across the country.

## **S & S Lumber/Hardware Hank of Groton will be closing at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 16th, for inventory and will reopen at normal hours on Thursday.**

### **Obama signs education law rewrite shifting power to states**

**JENNIFER C. KERR, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Calling it a “Christmas miracle,” President Barack Obama signed a sweeping overhaul of the No Child Left Behind education law on Thursday, ushering in a new approach to accountability, teacher evaluations and the way the most poorly performing schools are pushed to improve.

Joined by lawmakers, students and teachers in a White House auditorium, Obama praised the George W. Bush-era No Child Left Behind for having the right goals. He said that in practice, it fell short or applied a cookie-cutter approach that failed to produce desired results. Under the new law, the federal government will shift more decision-making powers back to states.

“With this bill, we reaffirm that fundamentally American ideal that every child— regardless of race, gender, background, zip code — deserves the chance to make out of their lives what they want,” Obama said. “This is a big step in the right direction.”

The overhaul ends more than a decade of what critics have derided as one-size-fits-all federal policies dictating accountability and improvement for the nation’s 100,000 or so public schools. But one key feature remains: Students will still take federally required statewide reading and math exams. Still, the new law encourages states to limit the time students spend on testing and diminishes the high stakes for underperforming schools.

The long-awaited bill to replace the 2002 law easily passed the Senate on Wednesday and the House last week, in a rare example of the Republican-controlled Congress and Obama finding common ground on major legislation. Obama held it up as an “example of how bipartisanship should work,” noting that opposing sides had compromised to reach a deal.

“That’s something that you don’t always see here in Washington,” Obama said. “There wasn’t a lot of grandstanding, a lot of posturing, just a lot of good, hard work.”

Rep. John Kline, R-Minn., who chairs the House’s education panel, said under the new approach, American classrooms will no longer be “micromanaged” by the Education Department in Washington.

“Instead, parents, teachers, and state and local education leaders will regain control of their schools,” said Kline, part of the bipartisan quartet that spearheaded the bill.

Here’s how the major stakeholders fare:

#### **TEACHERS**

The new law eliminates the federal mandate that teacher evaluations be tied to student performance on the statewide tests. Teachers’ unions hated that idea, saying the high stakes associated with the tests were creating a culture of over-testing and detracting from the learning environment. States and districts will still be able, but not required, to link scores or consider them as a factor in teacher performance reviews.

#### **STUDENTS**

Don’t start applauding yet, kids. The nation’s 50 million students in public schools will still have to take the federally mandated statewide reading and math exams in grades three to eight and once in high school — so parents, teachers and others can see how they are doing against a common measuring stick. But the law also encourages states to set caps on the amount of time students spend on testing.

More children from low- and moderate-income families will have access to preschool through a new grant program that is to use existing funding to support state efforts.

## SCHOOLS

No more Common Core — maybe.

The law says the federal government may not mandate or give states incentives to adopt or maintain any particular set of academic standards, such as Common Core.

The college and career-ready curriculum guidelines were created by the states but became a flashpoint for those critical of Washington's influence in schools. The administration offered grants through its Race to the Top program for states that adopted strong academic standards for students.

Already, some states have begun backing away from Common Core.

## PARENTS

The law provides for more transparency about test scores, meaning parents and others in the community will get a better look at how students in their states and in local schools are doing. It requires that test scores be broken down by race, family income and disability status.

Parents also will be able to see how per-pupil funding breaks down by state, district and school.

## STATES

States and districts will now be responsible for coming up with their own goals for schools, designing their own measures of achievement and progress, and deciding independently how to turn around struggling schools. Testing will be one factor considered, but graduation rates and education atmosphere could also be factored in.

To make sure all children get a fair shot at a quality education, states will be required to intervene in the lowest-performing 5 percent of schools, in high schools with high dropout rates and in schools with stubborn achievement gaps.

## DIMINISHED FEDERAL ROLE

The measure substantially limits the federal government's role, barring the Education Department from telling states and local districts how to assess school and teacher performance.

The measure also ends the waivers the Obama administration has given to more than 40 states — exemptions granted around the more onerous parts of No Child when it became clear that requirements such as having all students proficient in reading and math by 2014 would not be met.

## **South Dakota's reaction to education bill**

South Dakota's Secretary of Education, Dr. Melody Schopp, has issued the following statement in response to the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act, which President Obama signed into law earlier today.

"We are pleased with the decision to put more control of education policy back in the hands of states and local school districts where it belongs. We will be investigating every opportunity in the bill to pursue state and local decision-making. The new law also ends federal mandates related to teacher evaluation, which has been a sticking point for South Dakota. This would allow us to maintain the model evaluation system we have developed for our state."

## GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #06-6

### School Board Meeting

December 14, 2015 – 7:00 PM – GHS Conference Room

#### AGENDA:

1. Call to Order with members present. Approve agenda as proposed or amended.

#### CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of November 9, 2015 school board meeting as drafted or amended.
2. Approval of minutes of November 23, 2015 school board meeting as drafted or amended.
3. Approval of North Central Special Education Co-Op (NCSEC) agenda items...*as school of record*.
4. Approval of October 2015 School Transportation Report and School Lunch Report.
5. Approval of November 2015 School Transportation Report and School Lunch Report.
6. Approval of November Financial Report, Agency Accounts, and Investments.
7. Approval of November District bills for payment.

#### OLD/CONTINUING BUSINESS:

1. Open Forum for Public Participation...in accordance with Board Policy & Guidelines.
2. School Board Committee Reports:
  - a. **Building, Grounds, & Transportation:** Lars Hanson, Marty Weismantel, Merle Harder
  - b. **Personnel, Policy, & Curriculum:** Dorene Nelson, Grant Rix
  - c. **Negotiations:** Kelly Kjelden, Steve Smith
3. Continued discussion on wrestling program with potential action on cooperative agreement.
4. Administrative Reports: (a) Superintendent's Report; (b) Principal's Reports; (c) Business Manager Report

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Appoint Legislative Action Network (LAN) representative for 2016 legislative session.
2. SDRS Notice of Election.
3. Discussion of 2016-17 school district calendar draft.
4. Executive session pursuant SDCL 1-25-2(1) for personnel.

#### ADJOURN



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Here is how the Schwan's fundraiser works.

Customers phone in the order or order online  
They use the code. 25179

If they regularly order online they are asked if they want to contribute to a fundraiser

That is when they put the code in.

Between Dec 2 and Jan 16, we will earn 20% of sales

If a customer orders an ecertificate-and online gift card we get \$10 for the \$25 ecertificate.

When you get an ecertificate, you can go in and purchase right away or you can print it out if you want to give it as a gift or save it for later.

Customers are limited to one ecertificate...BUT if you use an alternate email address you can purchase more than one

If you are not a regular Schwan's customer, when you place your order they will tell you what day  
And approximate (2 hour) time they plan to deliver.

You can be a one time customer and support us.

If you order online you must give them a credit card number, however you can switch payment at the door.

It took me a few fundraisers to realize that if I purchase during the first 45 days I contribute 20% and save my ecertificates for after the Jan 16 date, duh! Before that I was purchasing ecertificates and using them right away.

Our greatest income will be during this 45 day period.  
After that we will earn 5% until April 16.

**Schwan's**  
**Cares**™  
A Fundraising Network



*Support Us*

*Giving back to your community  
never tasted so delicious.*

Schwan's Home Delivery offers over 350 delicious foods, flash-frozen at the peak of freshness and conveniently delivered to your door. Through Schwans-Cares.com, you can order from Schwan's Home Delivery and help our organization meet its fundraising goals. When you order by **January 16th, 2016**, 20% of product and 40% of eGift Card sales will go back to the organization.

**Here are two ways to support us!**

Order Online:

1. Visit Schwans-Cares.com
2. Enter Campaign ID: **25179** into the search box located in the upper right hand corner then click to open campaign.
3. Click "Shop to Give" and then select either the "Buy Now" or "Shop Now" option.
4. Select team member, if applicable
5. Start shopping!

Order by Phone:

Call 1-855-870-7208 and provide Campaign ID: **25179**

**Thank you for your support!**

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Shop online at [Schwans-Cares.com](http://Schwans-Cares.com)  
or call 1-855-870-7208





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## Today in Weather History

December 11, 1965: Ice, up to 3 inches thick, with even more in some locations, accumulated from freezing rain on utility lines and trees in northern South Dakota, causing extensive damage. The damage was estimated at \$1 million each to telephone lines and power lines, with the greatest losses in the northeast quarter of the state. The first accumulation of the glaze began as a heavy rime due to dense fog and freezing temperatures prior to the 11th. Freezing rain, which started the afternoon of the 11th and continued into the 12th, formed a coating of ice over the heavy rime accumulation. The glaze remained for a week or more in most areas. In west central Minnesota, freezing drizzle and freezing rain at night on the 11th caused ice accumulations of 1/2 to 1 inch thick on roads, telephone, and electric wires, as well as tree limbs. Power and other services were disrupted over a wide region. Some services were out for up to four days.

December 11, 2004: High winds gusting to around 60 mph caused some spotty damage in northeast South Dakota. In Watertown, some trees were downed. One tree fell onto a house, causing some minor damage. In Milbank, two rail cars were blown down a railroad track and derailed.

December 11, 1905: The highest temperature ever recorded in South America was recorded at Rivadavia, Argentina with a temperature of 120 degrees.

December 11, 1992:

A complex storm system moved eastward from the Gulf Coast of Texas to eastern Georgia on December 9 and 10th. In the next 24 hours, the low pressure system moved to the Chesapeake Bay and rapidly intensified. This system produced gale force winds with gusts exceeding hurricane force affected not only the Mid-Atlantic coastline, but also as far southwest as the southern Appalachians where trees were downed and roofs damaged. This storm also produced 20 to 30 foot waves in Massachusetts on December 12 and 13th. Precipitation amounts with the Nor'easter varied greatly. Rainfall amounts of 8 inches occurred in southeast Massachusetts, while several areas in New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Maryland recorded more than 30 inches of snow. Precipitation ended during the evening hours on the 12th. Ten deaths resulted from the storm with insured losses totaling near \$850 million and non-insured losses near \$2 billion.



**December 12, 2015**

**9:00am – 11:00am**

At Professional Management Services (on Main St.)

Chamber Holiday Box will be available.








K & A Photography (Angela Dobbins & Kandi Weismantel) will be available to capture your moments with Santa.

Will have order form for pictures or option for CD.

If would like more information please call (605) 228-9549.

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Today	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
						
Cloudy then Chance Snow	Cloudy	Cloudy then Slight Chance Snow	Snow Likely then Chance Snow	Slight Chance Snow then Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
High: 35 °F	Low: 26 °F	High: 33 °F	Low: 27 °F	High: 34 °F	Low: 22 °F	High: 30 °F



Cloudy and Cooler Today, Light Snow North

Follow us on Social Media

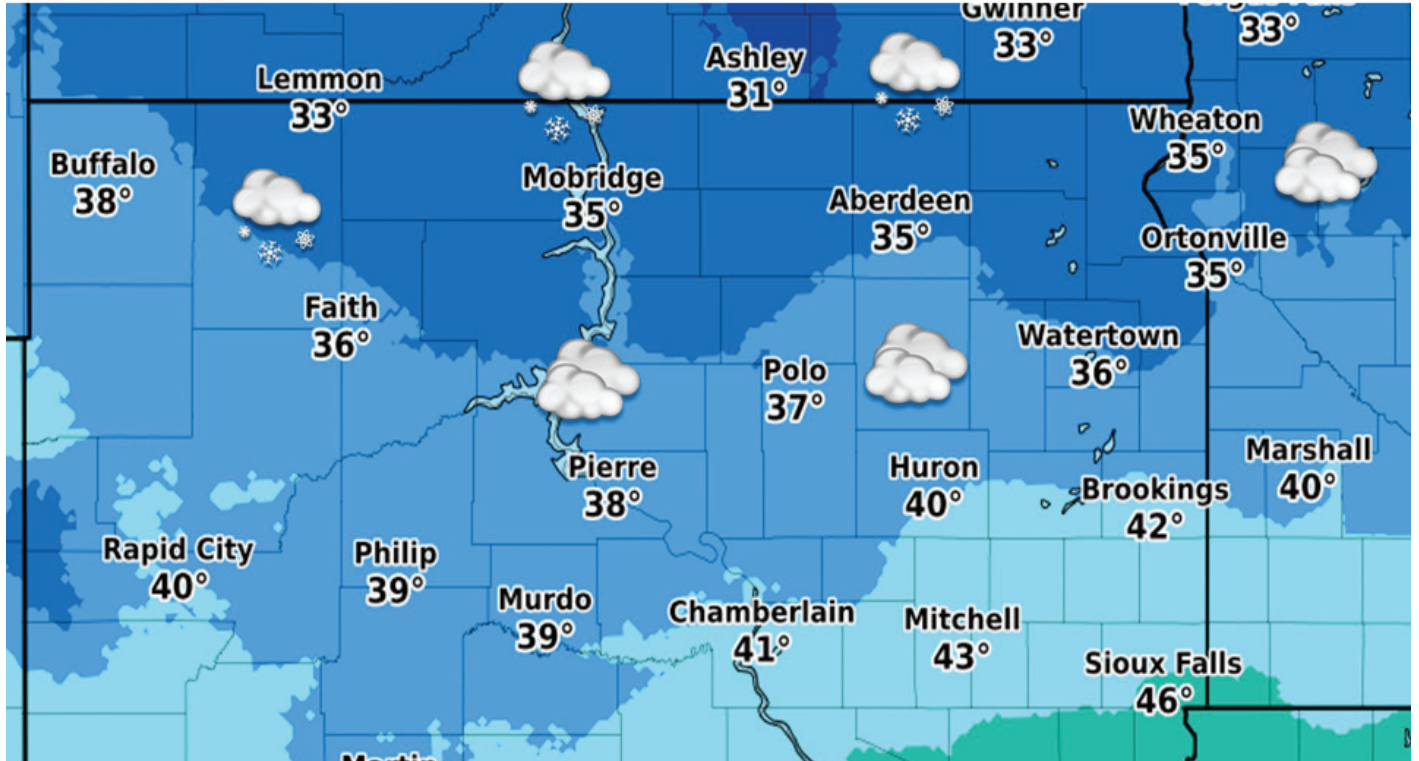
[weather.gov/Aberdeen](http://weather.gov/Aberdeen)



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen



Published on: 12/11/2015 at 5:41AM

Cooler air has settled in over the region and highs will be down in the 30s today. Although, these temperatures are still above normal for this time of year. Skies are expected to remain cloudy for most areas today, with light snow across North Dakota and far northern South Dakota. Any accumulations over northern South Dakota are expected to be light.

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## Yesterday's Weather

**High:** 46.8 at 11:50 AM

**Low:** 34.3 at 11:55 PM

**High Gust:** 32 at 12:48 PM

Precip: 0.03

## Today's Info

**Record High:** 59° in 1939

**Record Low:** -22° in 1927

**Average High:** 26°F

**Average Low:** 7°F

**Average Precip in Dec.:** 0.19

**Precip to date in Dec.:** 0.55

**Average Precip to date:** 21.39

**Precip Year to Date:** 20.37

**Sunset Tonight:** 4:50 p.m.

**Sunrise Tomorrow:** 8:04 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Fri, Dec 11, 2015, issued 4:56 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



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## IT'S AS BIG AS WE WANT IT TO BE!

He was deeply in love with his fiancé, and saved as much money as he could to buy her a beautiful engagement ring. Finally, he took his savings to the jeweler and bought the biggest diamond he could afford.

As he presented it to her he said, "I'm sorry dear, that it is not bigger. It's all that I had."

"It's perfect!" she shouted in her excitement. "It is as big as we make it!"

What a beautiful response. Sincerity is much more important than size and thoughtfulness more than any "thing." Size had nothing to do with our salvation. Our salvation depended on someone's sacrifice.

If we want more from God, we must give more to God. That's His way. And He invites us to make His way, our way. "Give and it will be given to you," Jesus said.

When we share our time, He will increase our talents so we can do more. When we share our treasures, He will make up the difference – and then some. When we share our strength, He will enable us to reach far beyond the limits we place on ourselves. But we must give in faith, believing and trusting that He will provide for our every need in ways we never imagined.

**Prayer:** Help us, Heavenly Father, to have enough faith to trust, knowing that You will never fail us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

**Scripture for Today:** Colossians 3:14-25 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

## News from the Associated Press

### **\$6.7 million Hot Lotto jackpot won in Johnson Siding**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A ticket sold in Johnson Siding won the \$6.7 million Hot Lotto jackpot. South Dakota lottery officials say winning numbers in the Wednesday drawing were 12, 22, 31, 33 and 47, and the Hot Ball was 3.

The odds of winning the Hot Lotto jackpot are 1 in about 29 million. The winner has about six months to claim the prize.

Hot Lotto is played in 14 states and the District of Columbia. The jackpot starts again at \$1 million for the next drawing, on Saturday.

### **Suspect apprehended in robbery of Hartford liquor store**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A suspect is in custody in the robbery of a liquor store in Hartford. The Minnehaha County Sheriff's Office says a male entered the Heart T Stop shortly before 9 p.m. Thursday and demanded money before fleeing in a car. It wasn't clear if he had a weapon. The suspect eventually was apprehended in Turner County. No one was hurt.

### **SD cities, co-ops receive \$740K in hazard mitigation grants**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Office of Emergency Management says nearly \$740,000 in Hazard Mitigation Grant money has been awarded since September to South Dakota cities and rural electric cooperatives for electrical infrastructure protection.

The money from the Federal Emergency Management Agency is made available through a presidential disaster declaration from the Wessington Springs tornado and statewide flooding that occurred in 2014.

The awards include \$140,000 to Pierre to move an electrical line from the flood plain; \$400,000 to the city of Bryant to bury seven miles of line from the substation to the city limits; \$75,000 to West Central Electric to bury four miles of line serving Okaton; and \$37,000 to Codington/Clark Electric to bury two miles of line in rural Clark County.

### **ND man gets 33 months in prison for assault conviction in SD**

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — A North Dakota man has been sentenced to 33 months in prison for assaulting and seriously injuring a man in South Dakota.

U.S. District Judge Charles Kornmann has ordered 18-year-old Victor Twinn to follow his prison term with three years of supervised release. Twinn, of Fort Yates, North Dakota, earlier pleaded guilty to assault resulting in serious bodily injury.

Authorities say Twinn got into a fight with a man on Jan. 1 in front of a house in McLaughlin. They say Twinn knocked the victim to the ground, kicked him in the head, rendered him unconscious and continued assaulting him by repeatedly stomping on his head.

Authorities say the victim was hospitalized for some time due to his injuries.

Twinn is now under the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service.

## **Thursday's Scores** The Associated Press

### **BOYS' BASKETBALL**

Gillette Tournament

Cheyenne East, Wyo. 52, Rapid City Central 38

### **GIRLS' BASKETBALL**

Andes Central/Dakota Christian 38, Colome 28

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Castlewood 63, Deuel 37  
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 44, Mobridge-Pollock 36  
Custer 68, Hill City 42  
DeSmet 53, Arlington 44  
Deubrook 50, Lake Preston 25  
Dupree 51, Stanley County 23  
Estelline 38, Dell Rapids St. Mary 33  
Fairmount-Campbell-Tintah, N.D. 42, Sisseton 39  
Florence/Henry 43, Waverly-South Shore 37  
Freeman 58, Parker 50  
Groton Area 62, Ipswich 46  
Hitchcock-Tulare 54, Highmore-Harrold 45  
James Valley Christian 46, Wessington Springs 28  
Kadoka Area 51, White River 49  
Northwestern 61, Aberdeen Christian 19  
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 43, Colman-Egan 36  
Potter County 51, Miller 49  
Rosholt 36, Great Plains Lutheran 35  
Sioux Valley 77, Howard 34  
St. Francis Indian 82, Bennett County 42  
St. Thomas More 50, Spearfish 35  
Tri-Valley 52, Garretson 26  
Tripp-Delmont/Armour 45, Kimball/White Lake 36  
Waubay/Summit 48, Wilmot 39  
Wolsey-Wessington 48, Corsica/Stickney 41  
Gillette Tournament  
Rapid City Central 67, Rock Springs, Wyo. 56

## Idaho, South Dakota universities to expedite degree programs

**KIMBERLEE KRUESI, Associated Press**

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Officials with Idaho State University say a new agreement with South Dakota State University will help students earn a bachelor's degree in physics along with a master's degree in nuclear engineering in just five years.

The memorandum of understanding would reduce the time it would take to earn a bachelor's degree in physics and a master's degree in nuclear engineering by one year. This will be possible because students will be able to apply credits collected during their graduate program to their undergraduate studies.

"We don't expect this to be a huge thing. Even if we just get two or three more students, that will be really good," said Mary Lou Dunzik-Gougar, chairwoman of ISU's Nuclear Engineering and Health Physics Department. "We really just want the top achievers."

The new plan has no expected extra costs because the expenses will be covered through the students' tuition.

ISU is regionally unique because it is one of the rare universities to have the infrastructure, resources and experts to offer a robust nuclear and physics program, Dunzik-Gougar said. For example, the closest school with similar programs is in Oregon.

School officials discussed the new plan Thursday during the Idaho State Board of Education meeting.

"Idaho State University is to be applauded," said board member David Hill. "This provides a broader range of opportunities. Doing something like this benefits everyone."

However, while the new plan has the backing of ISU and the board, SDSU spokesman Matt Schmidt said school officials are still reviewing the plan. He had no timeline when it might be approved.

Earlier this year, business and governmental officials with Idaho's STEM Action Center began brainstorming efforts to fatten the pipeline of students choosing science, technology, engineering and math careers.



The state's Department of Labor has estimated that Idaho will face a workforce shortage starting 2022, with most of those jobs expected to require some sort of STEM education.

## St. Francis man gets 22 years in fatal double stabbing

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A 33-year-old St. Francis man has been sentenced to nearly 22 years in prison after being convicted in the stabbing death of two men with whom he had been drinking.

Daryl Dean Fool Bull was sentenced on two counts of second degree murder this week by U.S. District Judge Roberto Lange.

U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says Fool Bull was drinking with two men and a woman in a Todd County house in March when he became upset. Authorities say that without provocation, Fool Bull repeatedly stabbed Russell Sharpfish and Kirby Sharpfish with a kitchen knife before dragging the woman away from the home.

A child who was inside the home went to a bedroom and called 911.

Fool Bull was turned over to the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service.

## Court: County within jurisdiction to rescind resolution

**DIRK LAMMERS, Associated Press**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Supreme Court ruled Thursday that Fall River County acted within its jurisdiction when it rescinded a resolution and passed a nearly identical one to approve a company's plan to take in and clean oil-contaminated soil near Edgemont.

The second resolution was referred to a public vote, but a circuit judge ruled in October 2014 that commissioners did not have the authority to rescind the original resolution and ordered that referendum votes should not be counted. The Supreme Court on Election Day 2014 ruled that the county could count the ballots, but some of the commissioners opposed tallying the votes and the ballot boxes sat dormant, said Fall River County State's Attorney James Sword.

The Supreme Court ordered the lower court to quash the writ of prohibition, saying High Plains Resources LLC had an alternative remedy — an appeal — to determine whether the board exceeded its powers.

"The existence of such a remedy precluded the 'extraordinary remedy' of a writ of prohibition," the justices said in their written opinion Thursday.

High Plains attorney Brad Gordon did not immediately return a phone call for comment.

Sword said Fall County's auditor will now count the year-old ballots as soon as the circuit court quashes the writ.

"They're kept and locked away," Sword said.

The county commission approved the High Plains Resources soil farm, in which contaminated soil would be delivered to the site and repeatedly turned over to gradually remove toxins, in March 2014. It later sought to rescind its decision because residents were not given proper notice that the issue was being considered.

Residents also complained that a single printed copy of the ordinance was available for commissioners to share, and no copies were made available to the two residents in attendance.

The question came up again in June 2014, with the commission giving the public a chance to comment before rescinding its March resolution and passing one that was nearly identical. Unhappy residents collected petition signatures to refer the resolution to last November's ballot.

The votes were never tallied, and the case made its second appearance before the state's high court in October.

## Animal board reports bovine trichomoniasis in 3 herds

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Animal Industry Board says a reproductive cattle disease has been diagnosed in three South Dakota herds.

The board says bovine trichomoniasis, or trich, has recently been diagnosed in two Oglala Lakota county cattle herds and one herd operating in Corson and Ziebach counties.

Trichomonas foetus is transmitted between cows and bulls during breeding and can result in early term abortions. Ranchers are often unaware of the problem until the disease is established in the herd.

Signs include a high number of open cows and cows showing signs of heat when they should be pregnant.

The board is requiring that any non-virgin bull be tested negative for trichomoniasis before being sold, loaned or leased for breeding. The same rule applies to non-virgin bulls entering South Dakota.

## **BLS: 28 fatal work injuries reported in South Dakota in 2014**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Bureau of Labor Statistics says that 28 fatal work injuries were reported in South Dakota in 2014.

Of those reported to the U.S. Department of Labor bureau, 12 people in South Dakota were killed in transportation incidents, eight died from falls, slips or trips and five people were killed by contact with objects and equipment.

Fatal occupational injuries in the state have ranged from a high of 46 in 1999 to a low of 20 in 2013.

Nationwide, transportation incidents also marked the most frequent fatal workplace events, accounting for 40 percent of fatal work injuries.

The statistics were released Thursday.

## **Oilfield firm donates \$172M in software to School of Mines**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Oilfield services company Schlumberger has donated \$172 million worth of software to the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology to strengthen the school's energy resources initiative, the Rapid City school announced Thursday.

Houston-based Schlumberger provides technology and other support services for the oil and gas industry in areas such as western North Dakota's oil patch.

The software will be used in courses supporting the new petroleum systems minor and graduate certificate program, other petroleum-related curricula and faculty research, said School of Mines President Heather Wilson.

"Close partnerships with industry are a very important part of Mines' success," Wilson said.

School officials say hands-on use of commercial-grade software enhances graduating students' job prospects. Schlumberger currently employs more than 30 School of Mines graduates, including four who have been hired in the past five years.

The 12 software technologies will allow students to interpret seismic data, correlate well logs and build reservoir models and maps. They will also help students analyze wells for surveillance and forecast modeling and simulate flow for oil and gas production.

Courses using the software include petroleum production and drilling engineering, the petroleum field camp and petroleum geology.

Schlumberger gave a similar software donation to the school valued at \$49 million in 2012.

## **Ex-Oklahoma cop's rape conviction symbol of national problem**

**NOMAAN MERCHANT, Associated Press**

**SEAN MURPHY, Associated Press**

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The teenager's mother clapped her hands and screamed with joy as she watched an Oklahoma City jury convict a former police officer of raping her daughter and sexually assaulting seven other women.

Minutes after 29-year-old Daniel Holtzclaw was found guilty, the mother of his youngest accuser said she hoped the case would show that the problem of police sexual misconduct wasn't limited to one officer or one department.

"It's a problem for the nation," she told The Associated Press.

Holtzclaw was convicted Thursday night of preying on the teenager and other women he met on his

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police beat in a minority, low-income neighborhood. He could spend the rest of his life in prison based on the jury's recommendation that he serve a total of 263 years, including a 30-year sentence on each of four first-degree rape convictions.

In total, the jury convicted Holtzclaw of 18 counts connected to eight of the 13 women, all of whom were black, who testified against him. Jurors acquitted him on 18 other counts. He sobbed as the verdict was read aloud.

His case brought new attention to the problem of sexual misconduct committed by law enforcement officers, something police chiefs have studied for years.

Holtzclaw's case was among those examined in an Associated Press investigation of sexual misconduct by law enforcement. The AP's yearlong probe revealed about 1,000 officers had lost their licenses for sex crimes or other sexual misconduct over a six-year period.

The AP's finding is undoubtedly an undercount of the problem. Not every state has a process for banning problem officers from re-entering law enforcement. And of those states that do, great variations exist in whether officers are prosecuted or reported to their state licensing boards.

A common thread among cases of police sexual misconduct was they involved victims who were among society's most vulnerable: juveniles, drug addicts, and women in custody or with a criminal history.

That's exactly who authorities accused Holtzclaw of targeting.

After receiving a report from a grandmother who said Holtzclaw forced her to perform oral sex during a traffic stop, police identified a dozen other women who said Holtzclaw had victimized them.

The youngest was the 17-year-old girl. She was the last to testify at Holtzclaw's trial.

The girl recalled Holtzclaw pulling up in his police car as she walked home one night in June 2014. Holtzclaw drove her to her family's home and walked her to the porch, where he told her he had to search her. She said he grabbed her breasts, then pulled down her pink shorts and raped her.

She testified that he asked if it was the first time she had ever had sex with a cop. Her DNA was found on his uniform trousers.

Holtzclaw's attorney, Scott Adams, asked the girl during the trial about perceived inconsistencies in her testimony as well as her use of drugs. She pushed back at one point, telling him, "I'm really getting upset by the way you're coming after me."

The jury convicted Holtzclaw of first-degree rape, second-degree rape and sexual battery in the girl's case.

Her mother said her daughter didn't want to talk about the case anymore, but that she was relieved about the conclusion of a "long journey to justice."

"I feel like justice has been served today," she said. "It is a comfort to us all."

The AP generally does not identify victims of sex crimes and is not using the mother's name so as not to identify her daughter.

Several of Holtzclaw's accusers had been arrested or convicted of crimes, and his attorney made those issues a cornerstone of his defense strategy. Adams questioned several women at length about whether they were high when they allegedly encountered Holtzclaw. He also pointed out that most did not come forward until police identified them as possible victims after launching their investigation.

Ultimately, that approach did not sway the jury to dismiss all the women's stories.

Holtzclaw was convicted of one of two charges related to a woman who testified he gave her a ride home, then followed her into her bedroom where he forced himself on her and raped her, telling her, "This is better than county jail."

That woman testified in orange scrubs and handcuffs because she had been jailed on drug charges hours before appearing in court. But the jury still convicted Holtzclaw of forcible oral sodomy in her case.

Adams declined to comment after the verdict was read.

Holtzclaw, who turned 29 on Thursday, was a former college football star who joined law enforcement after a brief attempt at pursuing an NFL career. He was fired before the trial began.

His father — a police officer in Enid, about 100 miles northwest of Oklahoma City — his mother and sister were in the courtroom as the verdict was read. At least one accuser was present, as well as several black community leaders.



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Oklahoma County District Attorney David Prater said after the verdict that Holtzclaw's attorneys were responsible for ensuring there was an all-white jury considering the case. Some supporters of the women questioned whether the jury would fairly judge their allegations. Holtzclaw is half-white, half-Japanese.

Prater said he wanted a jury that was a "good cross-section of our community," but defense attorneys eliminated every potential black juror during the selection process.

He added that he hoped the case showed that his office and local law enforcement will stand up for any one, no matter their race or background.

"I don't care what they look like, where they go to church, what god they worship, or how much money they make," he said. "We stand up for people in this community."

## 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 OKLAHOMA CITY OFFICER'S VERDICT SYMBOLIZES

Daniel Holtzclaw's conviction for raping or sexually assaulting eight women he encountered on his beat draws further attention to the problem of sexual misconduct by law enforcement officers examined by the AP in a yearlong probe.

### 2. OFFICIALS SEEK CLUES IN SAN BERNARDINO

Lawmakers say the government appears to have missed signals that extremist messages were exchanged during the online courtship between Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik.

### 3. AMID DISPUTES, CLIMATE TALKS RUN OVERTIME

Negotiations will continue at least one more day as diplomats try to overcome disagreements over how — or even whether — to share the costs of fighting climate change and shift to clean energy on a global scale.

### 4. HOW ELECTORATE VIEWS TRUMP

Republican voters don't think the GOP front-runner is likable or compassionate — but he is overwhelmingly viewed as decisive and competent.

### 5. FALLOUT FROM TRUMP REMARKS CONTINUES

The presidential hopeful's image and name is removed from parts of a Dubai golf course and housing development amid the uproar over his comments about banning Muslims from traveling to the U.S.

### 6. FIRST WAVE OF SYRIAN REFUGEES ARRIVE IN CANADA

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is pushing forward with his pledge to resettle 25,000 Syrian refugees by the end of February.

### 7. SAMSUNG SETTLEMENT PLAN HITS SNAG

The tech giant's hopes of ending years of bad publicity over whether its chip factories caused cancer have some sickened workers saying they won't accept its conditional offer of financial assistance.

### 8. WHERE HILLARY SEES BILL 'FITTING IN'

Hillary Clinton tells host Seth Meyers of "Late Night" that her husband might be useful in the White House as a host and adviser.

### 9. HEY SANTA, SOBER UP

New York City's SantaCon aims to end naughty-or-nice debate, with new efforts to revel responsibly.

### 10. CARDINALS CLINCH PLAYOFFS

Dwight Freeney strips the ball from quarterback Teddy Bridgewater with 5 seconds to play to deprive Minnesota a chance at the tying field goal and Arizona holds on for a 23-20 win.

## With no headgear, US Olympic boxers are struggling with cuts

GREG BEACHAM, AP Sports Writer

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Antonio Vargas never had a cut in his boxing life until blood trickled down his forehead Wednesday during his most important bout.

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The touted flyweight fought through the surprise and pain, but his Olympic dreams were imperiled when he lost a split decision at the U.S. team trials.

"It happened so fast," Vargas said. "It was just a clash of heads. I had that fight, man."

Vargas didn't blame his loss on the blood, but facial cuts are a growing problem worldwide for Olympic-style boxers fighting for places in Rio de Janeiro at the first Olympics since the International Boxing Association (AIBA) decided male boxers will no longer wear protective headgear.

Seven fighters developed significant cuts during the first three days of the U.S. Olympic trials in Reno this week, including heavyweight favorite Cam F. Awesome and Vargas, the Pan Am Games champion who might be the Americans' best chance to end their 12-year gold medal drought. They both fought on, but three other boxers were cut badly enough to force them out of the tournament.

Mark Dawson was done after he needed 18 stitches in his forehead to seal a grotesque cut, also the first of his career. Even Chris Ousley's Olympic dream died because his opponent, Carlos Monroe, was cut down to the skull and couldn't continue, yet still won their bout on the scorecards.

The problems aren't confined to the U.S., with serious cuts reported from tournaments around the world since the 2013 rule change. AIBA reportedly reassessed its headgear decision during the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow when Australian boxer Daniel Lewis was cut too badly to continue, but quickly confirmed the plan would move forward to Rio.

Even AIBA's detractors realize the absence of headgear has made Olympic boxing more television-friendly. While AIBA acknowledges the danger of cuts, it claims the change was made because concussions will decrease without the heavy protective padding, although many American coaches and fighters chuckle at the science used to justify the decision.

"I don't like it, and I don't think it's necessary," said Virgil Hunter, the respected veteran trainer behind Olympic gold medalist Andre Ward's career. "Because what does it really say about the sport? You're subjecting a kid to trauma for nothing. It's one thing to get cut, and you get a million-dollar check when you get out of there. It's another thing to get cut, and you get a trophy or a handshake."

Boxers have worn headgear in every Olympics since the 1984 Los Angeles Games, and women still wear it. The proliferation of cuts is fueling complaints throughout the sport from athletes and trainers who believe head guards are the only practical way to compete in an Olympic-style, multi-fight tournament.

WBO 140-pound champion Terence Crawford was an accomplished amateur boxer, but the unbeaten pro star wouldn't be interested in the current version of the sport.

"These kids are getting cut up and not getting paid for it, and it's potentially coming back to haunt them in their pro career," said Crawford, who traveled to Reno to support friends from Nebraska. "I've already seen four cuts in one day, and then you ask them to get stitched up and go fight tomorrow."

In a sport long dominated by tedious complaints about judging, AIBA's move from computer scoring to a traditional 10-point judging system has drawn widespread praise.

Instead, American fighters won't be surprised if cuts are the biggest story out of Rio.

Cuts usually result from two heads banging together. That's a frequent occurrence in pro boxing, but Olympic-style fighters don't have the luxury of months off to heal. They usually must fight the next day or be disqualified.

"If they're going to make us fight without headgear, there should be some kind of payment," said Ousley, who plans to turn pro. "They're making us take drug tests, do all this other stuff, and we're basically fighting for charity. We're volunteering. I can't stay in amateur boxing."

AIBA has encouraged fighters to wear cut-reducing creams, and it has started an initiative called Head-sUp! to encourage fighters to compete with fewer inadvertent head-butts.

USA Boxing officials hold a precarious position between their amateur fighters and AIBA, which has eliminated the word "amateur" from even its name while creating several professional ventures for its fighters. USA Boxing doesn't want fighters sabotaged by cuts, but also wants to support the international governing body in a notoriously political sport.

Headgear decisions in domestic tournaments could be taken out of the hands of USA Boxing soon. Various state athletic commissions already have expressed concern about headgear-free boxing by amateurs, with some refusing to allow it.

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"I think AIBA wants to work with us as well," said Mike Martino, USA Boxing's executive director. "They realize this could be a public relations nightmare if it continues."

Headgear-free fighting also has American supporters.

Awesome, a veteran amateur and national champion, was cut along his left eyebrow in his opening bout in Reno. He strung together three straight wins to reach the brink of an Olympic team berth.

"It's making boxing more exciting," Awesome said. "If I tell people I box before, they say, 'Oh, you wear the helmet? That's not real boxing.' Now, people are more excited about the sport. ... It's risk for reward. Our sport is not very exciting to Americans. We're sacrificing our safety for the good of the sport.

"It hurts sometimes, but I want boxing to thrive."

## Vikings scare Cardinals, but Arizona's in the playoffs

**BOB BAUM, AP Sports Writer**

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Dwight Freeney has been harassing NFL quarterbacks for 14 years.

Add Teddy Bridgewater to the list.

Freeney knocked the ball out of Bridgewater's hand as the Minnesota quarterback prepared to pass. Arizona's Calais Campbell recovered with 5 seconds to go and the Cardinals escaped with a 23-20 victory over the Vikings on Thursday night.

"Freeney is a heck of a player," Minnesota tight end Kyle Rudolph said, "and he's been doing that for a long time."

The Vikings, as they did much of the night, moved swiftly downfield to the Arizona 31, well within Blair Walsh's range for a game-tying field goal.

But it never came to that, thanks to the 35-year-old Freeney, who didn't sign with Arizona until Oct. 13.

"That's why I came back, because moments like this, you can't duplicate those in life," Freeney said. "... Yeah, it was one of my spin moves. It's funny because I spun three times on that series."

The third time was a charm.

Carson Palmer threw for 310 yards and two touchdowns and the Cardinals (11-2) won their seventh in a row and clinched a spot in the playoffs.

"We don't know where or when, but we're in," coach Bruce Arians said.

The Cardinals' goal is at least a No. 2 seed in the NFC West, which would mean a first-round bye. With this victory, Arizona pulled 2 1/2 games ahead of Green Bay and three ahead of Minnesota for that No. 2 spot with three to play.

Palmer even had a 6-foot-5, 331-pound receiver. Left guard Mike Iupati caught a deflected pass and carried it for an 11-yard gain to help set up what proved to be a 47-yard game-winning field goal with 1:25 left.

Minnesota (8-5) fell a half-game behind Green Bay for first place in the NFC North.

Here are five things to take from a wild game.

**BRIDGEWATER'S BIG NIGHT:** The fumble aside, Bridgewater had one of the best games of his young career.

He completed 25 of 36 passes for a career-high 335 yards and a touchdown.

**INSPIRATIONAL DEFEAT:** The Vikings were coming off an embarrassing 38-7 home loss to Seattle and they didn't have four starters on defense.

It seemed pre-game to be a recipe for a one-sided defeat. But Minnesota gave Arizona fits all night.

"I thought our team resembled more of what I am used to seeing," Vikings coach Mike Zimmer said. "We played with a lot of physicality, a lot of heart, a lot of effort."

Most impressive was the 11-play, 88-yard drive that Bridgewater engineered in the fourth quarter, capped by his seven-yard touchdown pass to Mike Wallace that tied it at 20-20 with 4:50 to play.

"I think we took a big step as a unit," Bridgewater said. "We showed we're capable of doing some great things. Whenever we're clicking on all cylinders we're a tough team to stop."

**PALMER HITS 4,000:** Palmer passed 4,000 yards in a season for the fifth time in his career, third in the last four years. He became the first player with multiple 4,000-yard seasons for the Cardinals. He's easily on pace to top his career best of 4,274 yards set two years ago in his first season in Arizona.

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Palmer's touchdown passes were his 30th and 31st of the season, breaking the franchise record of 30 TDs set by Kurt Warner in Arizona's 2008 Super Bowl season.

"Kurt has been a great player for a long time, in a bunch of leagues it seems like," Palmer said. "I've been a fan of his, the way he played the game. To break that record is a tremendous honor."

**COSTLY MISTAKES:** The Vikings lost three fumbles. The Cardinals had no turnovers.

That statistic goes a long way in explaining Arizona's victory.

Deone Bucannon knocked the ball from Darius Wright's hands deep in Cardinals territory in the first half. Later, Peterson lost the ball trying to pitch it on a reverse and Alex Okafor recovered for the Cardinals. Finally, the strip of Bridgewater that saved the win for Arizona.

**PETERSON'S NIGHT:** Peterson said earlier this week that the Vikings were "outplayed and outcoached" in the blowout loss to Seattle. He undoubtedly was not pleased with just eight carries for nine yards in that contest.

He carried 23 times for 69 yards Thursday night, but 38 of them came on four carries on the Vikings' opening possession, culminating in his nine-yard run for his 100th career touchdown. After that drive, he managed just 31 yards in 19 attempts.

## Hillary Clinton says Bill might be useful in White House

**BETH J. HARPAZ, Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — Hillary Clinton says her husband wouldn't be much use picking out flower arrangements for the White House, but if she's elected president, he would come in handy as a host and adviser.

"I'll ask him about the economy, what we should do with dealing with a lot of difficult people in the world," Clinton said on NBC's "Late Night with Seth Meyers" in a segment taped Thursday. She identified one of those "difficult people" as Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Clinton made the comments after Meyers asked her, "Having been a first lady, what qualities does your husband have that would be good for that job?"

She said Bill Clinton is "a great host" and "loves giving tours," but "picking out flower arrangements, maybe not." And because he is "vegan-ish" — he eats fish but not meat or dairy — she said "he might have useful information about menus" for vegan guests.

Meyers asked if it would be hard to keep Bill Clinton "out" if she were president.

"Maybe there will be occasions when I don't want to," she said. Recalling Bill Clinton's 2009 trip to North Korea to free two Americans who were being held there, she said, "You never know why you might need to use him."

On Donald Trump, Clinton said: "What he's saying now is not only shameful and wrong, it's dangerous. ... This latest demand that we not let Muslims in to our country really plays right into the hands of the terrorists. I don't say that lightly but it does. He is giving them a great propaganda tool, a way to recruit more folks from Europe and the United States."

Clinton also agreed with Meyers' assertion that Democrats and gun-control supporters have failed to connect with gun owners who support measures like universal background checks and closing gun-buying loopholes.

"We all bear some responsibility for that," she said. "It's not a total foreign, alien concept that people have guns and use them for appropriate purposes. I do think we don't have the right approach to it. We do need to reach out to responsible gun owners and say we can do more to prevent as many deaths as possible."



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## Today in History The Associated Press

### Today in History

Today is Friday, Dec. 11, the 345th day of 2015. There are 20 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 11, 1844, the first experimental use of an inhaled anesthetic in dentistry took place as Dr. Horace Wells of Hartford, Connecticut, under the influence of nitrous oxide, had a colleague extract one of his teeth.

### On this date:

In 1792, France's King Louis XVI went before the Convention to face charges of treason. (Louis was convicted, and executed the following month.)

In 1816, Indiana became the 19th state.

In 1928, police in Buenos Aires announced they had thwarted an attempt on the life of President-elect Herbert Hoover.

In 1936, Britain's King Edward VIII abdicated the throne so he could marry American divorcee Wallis Warfield Simpson; his brother, Prince Albert, became King George VI.

In 1941, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States; the U.S. responded in kind.

In 1946, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) was established.

In 1964, Che Guevara addressed the United Nations; in his speech, the Argentine revolutionary declared that "the final hour of colonialism has struck." Singer-songwriter Sam Cooke was shot to death by a motel manager in Los Angeles; he was 33.

In 1972, Apollo 17's lunar module landed on the moon with astronauts Eugene Cernan and Harrison Schmitt aboard; during three extravehicular activities (EVAs), they became the last two men to date to step onto the lunar surface.

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed legislation creating a \$1.6 billion environmental "superfund" to pay for cleaning up chemical spills and toxic waste dumps. "Magnum P.I.," starring Tom Selleck, premiered on CBS.

In 1994, leaders of 34 Western Hemisphere nations signed a free-trade declaration in Miami.

In 1997, more than 150 countries agreed at a global warming conference in Kyoto, Japan, to control the Earth's greenhouse gases.

In 2008, Bernie Madoff was arrested, accused of running a multibillion-dollar Ponzi scheme. (Madoff is serving a 150-year federal prison sentence.)

**Ten years ago:** Thousands of drunken white youths, angered by reports that youths of Lebanese descent had assaulted two lifeguards, attacked police and people they believed were Arab immigrants at a beach in Sydney, Australia; young men of Arab descent retaliated in several Sydney suburbs, fighting with police and smashing cars. Explosions ripped through a major fuel depot north of London, injuring 43 people; the cause of the blasts was later found to be accidental. Paramount Pictures announced it was buying independent film studio DreamWorks SKG Inc.

**Five years ago:** The eldest son of disgraced financier Bernard Madoff, 46-year-old Mark Madoff, hanged himself in his Manhattan apartment on the second anniversary of his father's arrest. A U.N. conference in Cancun, Mexico, adopted a modest climate deal. Auburn quarterback Cam Newton won the Heisman Trophy.

**One year ago:** CIA Director John Brennan, responding to a U.S. Senate torture report, acknowledged that "abhorrent tactics" were used on terror detainees but said it was "unknown and unknowable" whether the harsh treatment yielded crucial intelligence that could have been gained in any other way. An outbreak of the mumps, a highly contagious illness more typically associated with children, continued to spread throughout the National Hockey League.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Jean-Louis Trintignant is 85. Actress Rita Moreno is 84. Former California state lawmaker Tom Hayden is 76. Pop singer David Gates (Bread) is 75. Actress Donna Mills is 75. U.S.

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Ambassador to China, former Sen. Max Baucus, is 74. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry is 72. Singer Brenda Lee is 71. Actress Lynda Day George is 71. Music producer Tony Brown is 69. Actress Teri Garr is 68. Movie director Susan Seidelman is 63. Actress Bess Armstrong is 62. Singer Jermaine Jackson is 61. Rock musician Mike Mesaros (The Smithereens) is 58. Rock musician Nikki Sixx (Motley Crue) is 57. Rock musician Darryl Jones (The Rolling Stones) is 54. Actor Ben Browder is 53. Singer-musician Justin Currie (Del Amitri) is 51. Rock musician David Schools (Hard Working Americans, Gov't Mule, Widespread Panic) is 51. Actor Gary Dourdan (DOOR'-dan) is 49. Actress-comedian Mo'Nique is 48. Actor Max Martini is 46. Rapper-actor Mos Def is 42. Actor Rider Strong is 36. Actress Xosha (ZOH'-shah) Roquemore is 31. Actress Karla Souza is 29. Actress Hailee Steinfeld is 19.

**Thought for Today:** "Every man has his dignity. I'm willing to forget mine, but at my own discretion and not when someone else tells me to." — Denis Diderot, French philosopher (1713-1784).

## US launches trial of facial, eye scans on Mexican border

ELLIOT SPAGAT, Associated Press

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The federal government on Thursday began collecting facial and eye scans of foreigners entering the U.S. at a busy border crossing with Mexico, a first step in one of its most ambitious efforts to track people who stay in the country illegally after their visas expire.

Up to half of the people in the U.S. illegally are believed to have overstayed their visas, but the absence of a checkout system has left authorities with no way to identify them.

In a push to change that, Customs and Border Protection began scanning foreigners entering on foot at San Diego's Otay Mesa port of entry. In February, it will start collecting the same information on foreigners walking into Mexico through the checkpoint.

The trial run, which lasts through June, will help determine if authorities expand screening to foreigners at all land crossings on the 1,954-mile border with Mexico. Authorities will look at the accuracy of the cameras.

Congress has long demanded biometric screening such as fingerprints, facial images or eye scans from people leaving the country, but the task poses enormous financial and logistical challenges, especially at land crossings.

On Thursday, foreigners put their travel documents on a reader at one of the San Diego crossing's six kiosks and looked into a camera positioned at arms' length. The process took seconds. Then, they walked a few steps to a border inspector for questioning.

"It's very fast, not inconvenient in the least," said Rosendo Hernandez of Tijuana, who was on a trip to buy tools.

The government has not announced details on how faces and eyes will be scanned when foreigners leave the country, but an official said most won't have to stop walking. Scanners will read chip-enabled travel documents at a distance and match the information to entry records.

"It's basically to verify that the same person that came to the United States is the same person that's exiting the United States," said Joe Misenhelter, assistant director at Otay Mesa, the nation's fourth-busiest port of entry last year.

Starting in February, U.S. citizens heading to Mexico on foot will use a separate lane at the California crossing with scanners that collect biographic information, including name and birth date, but not biometrics, Misenhelter said. They won't have to stop if their travel documents are chip-enabled.

Marc Rosenblum, deputy director for U.S. immigration policy at the Migration Policy Institute, said the effort aims to fix "the biggest deficiency in the whole system."

"It's a huge deal," he said. "What they likely hope is this could be a fast exit check that won't be terribly expensive or time-consuming to implement."

Biometric screening has raised objections from privacy advocates who worry authorities may misuse the information or make it vulnerable to identity theft. Jay Stanley, a senior policy analyst at the American Civil Liberties Union, said facial and eye scans may open the door for countries to do the same on

American visitors.

Screening also has fueled concerns among businesses and travelers who fear bottlenecks at already congested crossings.

"We have historically controlled our borders coming in but not out," said Jim Williams, a former Department of Homeland Security official who oversaw efforts to introduce biometric screening at border crossings from 2003 to 2006. "It's been a lack of infrastructure and lack of investment."

A 2006 study by Pew Hispanic Center estimated that between 40 percent and 50 percent of people in the country illegally overstayed visas — a figure that is generally accepted by immigration experts but notoriously difficult to pin down. The Center for Migration Studies estimates that more people stayed on expired visas than entered the country illegally from 2008 to 2012.

Between 7,000 and 8,000 pedestrians cross at Otay Mesa daily from Tijuana, and slightly less than half of them are U.S. citizens, Misenhelter said. Several had no objections to being scanned.

Marta Alicia Castillo of Ensenada, Mexico, who was headed to a casino, said it was seamless but that Americans should acknowledge that Mexico has the right to demand similar information from visitors if it chooses.

"If you're visiting a foreign country, they set the rules and you have to obey them," she said.

## **Armed man arrested at Arkansas State University; no shots**

JONESBORO, Ark. (AP) — An armed man who had posted on Facebook that he was homicidal drove onto the Arkansas State University campus Thursday, sparking a lockdown before police took him into custody without any shots fired, university and police officials said.

Jonesboro Police Chief Rick Elliott said Brad Kenneth Bartelt, 47, of Jonesboro, had a 12-gauge shotgun and containers of gasoline and propane with him when he drove his truck onto a plaza east of the student union. University spokesman Bill Smith said the man, once a student at a remote campus, was taken into custody about an hour after the incident began.

The university lifted a lockdown for most of the campus, but still canceled final exams set for Thursday afternoon and evening. Campus activities are to resume Friday and a graduation ceremony set for Saturday will go on.

Campus police chief Randy Martin said Bartelt had formerly attended classes at Arkansas State's Newport campus, 45 miles away. In a Facebook post Wednesday, Bartelt had complained about a recent decision in a Social Security case. Police didn't offer details about the case.

Elliott said at a Thursday news conference that Bartelt never pointed a weapon toward officers.

"He was pointing the gun at himself. He wanted to do harm to himself," Elliott said.

The chief said that, when he arrived, Bartelt was sitting in the truck with his foot out the window and the shotgun visible, yelling something inaudible. He said from "time-to-time" Bartelt would get out of the truck and slosh gasoline on the truck or hold the shotgun to his chin.

Elliott said investigators were still interviewing Bartelt to learn more about his reasons and he would be screened by mental health professionals. He said charges were likely but did not know what they would be.

A day earlier, officers had gone to Bartelt's home after receiving a call about a Facebook post where he said he was "suicidal and now homicidal." In the post, Bartelt referred to the Social Security Administration, according to a police report that also noted Bartelt was seeking medical attention.

The school sent an alert early Thursday afternoon urging everyone to leave the student union amid reports of an active shooter.

City police spokesman Paul Holmes said a negotiator went to the scene to talk with Bartelt. It wasn't clear what was said in discussions, but Bartelt eventually threw the shotgun down and surrendered, Elliott said.

John Miller, a junior at Arkansas State, told the Arkansas Democrat Gazette in a phone interview that he was taking a test in the humanities building when he saw through a window a green pickup drive onto the lawn in front of the union.

About five minute later, after finishing his test, Miller said "people came running and screaming freaking

out.”

At that point, Miller ran with several women to the library as police and SWAT team officers began descending on the campus, he said.

The university is in Jonesboro, about 130 miles northeast of Little Rock. Its enrollment is more than 13,000, but not all students were on campus Thursday because it was the second day of final exams.

Jonesboro is also home to Westside Middle School, where an 11-year-old and 13-year-old fatally shot four students and a teacher in 1998.

## **Lone profitable ACA insurance co-op losing millions**

**TOM MURPHY, AP Business Writer**

The lone health insurance cooperative to make money last year on the Affordable Care Act's public insurance exchanges is now losing millions and suspending individual enrollment for 2016.

Maine's Community Health Options lost more than \$17 million in the first nine months of this year, after making \$10.9 million in the same period last year. A spokesman said higher-than-expected medical costs have hurt the cooperative.

The announcement casts further doubt on the future of the cooperatives, small nonprofit insurers devised during the ACA's creation to inject competition in insurance markets. These co-ops immediately struggled to build their businesses. A dozen of the 23 created have already folded.

An Associated Press review of financial statements from 10 of the 11 surviving co-ops shows that they lost, on average, more than \$21 million in the first nine months of this year. Those losses range from \$3.9 million reported by Maryland's Evergreen Health Cooperative to \$50.7 million booked by Land of Lincoln Mutual Health Insurance Co. in Illinois.

“Clearly the remaining health care co-ops are in dire circumstances,” said Robert Laszewski, a health care consultant and former insurance executive who has been a frequent critic of the Affordable Care Act. “I don't know how any of them can survive another year.”

The state-based co-ops were seen as a fallback option by liberals who initially wanted a government-run insurer to compete with for-profit companies that control the U.S. commercial coverage market.

The cooperatives, like other health insurers, have been hit by soaring medical and prescription drug costs. Plus they've had to spend money building a network of care providers, negotiating rates with them and then marketing their plans to customers. They have also received considerably less financial support than they expected from a federal government program designed to support insurers as the exchanges got under way.

“It is probably impossible for a startup in the health insurance space to make any significant money in the first couple years,” said Standard & Poor's analyst Deep Banerjee.

Established players also have struggled to sell coverage on the ACA's state-based health insurance exchanges, which are a key element behind the law's push to cover millions of uninsured people. UnitedHealth Group Inc. recently reported deep losses from its exchange business and said it would decide next year whether to even remain in the exchanges in 2017.

But other insurers like the Blue Cross-Blue Shield carrier Anthem Inc. and Medicaid coverage provider Molina Healthcare Inc. have said they are making money off their exchange business.

Maine's Community Health Options booked about \$217 million in medical costs through the first nine months of this year, as its enrollment approached 71,000 people. Its costs so far this year are 72 percent higher than what the insurer recorded all of last year.

Spokesman Michael Gendreau said the company decided to freeze individual enrollment for 2016 in order to ensure “that we are able to provide the same level of care and service that we provided last year.”

He said the cooperative was not in danger of closing.

Community Health Options is spending 89 percent of the premiums it collects on medical costs and claims.

Laszewski, the health care consultant, said small co-ops probably don't want to spend more than 85 percent of their premiums on claims. Aside from paying claims, insurers need to collect enough revenue



to run their business.

Eight of the 10 surviving co-ops reviewed by The Associated Press were spending 89 percent or more of their premium income on medical costs.

Banerjee, the Standard & Poor's analyst, said he expects more co-ops to struggle heading into 2016, but it's hard to say how many will survive or fail.

"What it comes down to is they need to turn a profit very quickly because the funding source is drying up," he said.

The closing of additional co-ops would mean fewer insurer choices for customers shopping on the ACA's exchanges.

The exchanges are currently accepting applications for coverage that starts Jan. 1, but that enrollment period will end Dec. 15.

## Can trading pollution like stocks help fight climate change?

**BERNARD CONDON, AP Business Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — The gas produced by hog manure at farms across the U.S. punches holes in the ozone layer, overheats the planet, and angers neighbors with its peculiar odor, a mix of rotten egg and ammonia.

All that's needed to clear the air is to cover the manure with a system of tarps that captures the gas, but many farms don't do it because it's too expensive.

"If you don't give people incentives to come up with solutions, they're not going to do it," says Rudi Roeslein, a wealthy entrepreneur who thinks he's found a fix.

His plan: Raise money to help pay for the tarp systems through a greenhouse gas trading market in California, where companies can pay others who are helping the environment so that they can continue to pollute.

Widely derided by politicians on the left and the right, once thought dead even by its supporters, the idea of allowing companies to buy and sell pollution "rights" like stocks is now at the fore again as 151 heads of state and government at the Paris climate conference grope for ways to avert environmental havoc.

Under such "cap-and-trade" systems, polluters are required to keep emissions below a certain level or hand over money to polluters that have managed to fall below theirs and have surplus pollution permits to sell. To cut greenhouse gases, the statewide level, or "cap," is gradually lowered, forcing companies to figure out new ways of running their businesses to cut emissions.

If all goes well, Roeslein, an Austrian immigrant who made a fortune building metal can factories around the world, hopes to eventually capture gases from nine hog farms in Missouri that, left to rise in the atmosphere, would have done the same damage as releasing 850,000 tons of carbon dioxide every year. His project will be like taking 180,000 cars off the road.

Roeslein is so convinced the idea will work, maybe enough to turn a profit, he's putting \$25 million of his own money behind the venture.

California Gov. Jerry Brown, who's created a bit of stir at the Paris talks scheduled to conclude Friday, has been touting his state's emissions trading market as a model to help solve the global climate crisis. One study, from the non-profit Environmental Defense Fund, says emissions from companies in the market fell 11 percent below the "cap" allowed in 2013, according to the latest data available, while economic growth doesn't appear to have been harmed.

"It has got nothing to do with do-gooders. It's about the almighty dollar," says Lenny Hochschild, managing director of emissions broker Evolution Markets. "It's about incentivizing people."

There are deep concerns about whether these pollution trading systems can cut emissions as much as scientists say is needed, or even if they can work at all.

First proposed by economists in the 1960s, a pollution permit market remained mostly an academic idea until President George H. W. Bush championed it as a way of getting power plants to cut emissions of sulfur dioxide, which leads to acid rain. Annual emissions plunged, at much less cost than expected, and the program is widely considered a success.

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The European Union followed with a carbon dioxide trading program in 2005. In addition to buying surplus permits from cleaner polluters, power plants and factories emitting more than their limit could buy permits from "offsets" around the world, projects capturing methane fumes from hogs, for instance, or chlorofluorocarbons used in refrigeration, another ozone killer.

But critics complained some projects got money that didn't appear to help the environment much. In China, companies ramped up chlorofluorocarbon emissions after permits began to trade, leading to accusation of fraud.

"They were pumping out more just for the sake of destroying them," says Jeff Cohen, founder of EOS Climate, which helps offset projects involving refrigerants in the U.S. "It was bizarre, upside down."

What's more, the European trading system allowed too many permits at the outset, which had the effect of pushing the price to pollute down sharply. Then the global recession hit in 2008 and polluters didn't need as many permits because they were producing less. With supply and demand out of whack, prices to pollute plunged to near zero.

One result: Utilities kept running their coal-fired power plants instead of switching to cleaner burning gas-fired ones.

But two newer carbon trading schemes in the U.S., the one in California and another in the Northeast that launched in 2009, learned from some of Europe's mistakes and seem to be working so well they may soon be expanded.

The Northeast program, covering nine states, sold permits at an auction rather than give them away. That, plus a few other improvements, appears to have helped. Emissions have fallen 40 percent over 2005 levels.

For its trading system launched three years ago, California made even more tweaks, setting a floor and ceiling for buying permits, for instance.

Many expect that as U.S. states are forced to comply with a new Environmental Protection Agency regulation aimed at reducing emissions from power plants they will join these programs, leading the U.S. closer to a nationwide carbon trading system.

Still, some economists have doubts. They note that heavy regulations and other factors, like plunging gas prices, may explain the drop in emissions in California and elsewhere more than the pollution trading.

"Most of the emission cuts from the power sector has come from switching from coal to natural gas because gas prices are incredibly low," says David G. Victor, an economist at the School of International Relations and Pacific Studies at the University of California, San Diego. He says the pollution markets aren't providing much of a push to change how companies behave.

For Roeslein, it's clearly helped, though.

Roeslein, whose company will start trading permits next month, figures he can generate as much as \$7 million a year from selling in the California market. Add in money from sales of methane produced by the manure, and maybe he makes enough of a profit to convince others to try their hand at similar ventures.

"It has to be profitable to be repeatable, for other people to follow this model," he says.

## **Bergdahl says he left base to expose 'leadership failure'**

**REBECCA BOONE, Associated Press**

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl says he walked off his base in Afghanistan to cause a crisis that would catch the attention of military brass.

He wanted to warn them about what he believed were serious problems with leadership in his unit. And he wanted to prove himself as a real-life action hero, like someone out of a movie.

Bergdahl hasn't spoken publicly about his decision or his subsequent five-year imprisonment by the Taliban and the prisoner swap that secured his return to the United States. But over the past several months he spoke extensively with screenwriter Mark Boal, who shared about 25 hours of the recorded interviews with Sarah Koenig for her popular podcast, "Serial."

"As a private first-class, nobody is going to listen to me," Bergdahl says in the first episode of the podcast,

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released Thursday. "No one is going to take me serious that an investigation needs to be put underway."

Bergdahl, of Hailey, Idaho, was charged in March with desertion and misbehavior before the enemy. He faces up to life in prison, though an Army officer has recommended that Bergdahl's case be moved to a special misdemeanor-level military court.

His attorney Eugene Fidell says politicians and would-be politicians have been using Bergdahl as a talking point to push their own agendas for months, a situation he described as creating "gale-force political winds."

The more the public can hear Bergdahl's own words, the better, Fidell told The Associated Press.

"Some of the information that is going to come out is inevitably not going to be what we would have preferred in a perfect universe, but net-net, we'll take it and allow people in our democratic society to form their own opinions," Fidell said.

Bergdahl's interview is another coup for makers of "Serial," which established podcasts as a viable outlet when the first season was downloaded more than 100 million times. Makers wouldn't say how long the new season would last; the first one was 12 separate episodes.

In the episode, Bergdahl says he wanted to expose the "leadership failure" he experienced in Afghanistan. The episode does not elaborate on what that failure was, but he says he believed at the time his disappearance and his plan to reappear at another location would give him access to top officials. After leaving the base after midnight, he worries about the reception he'll get once he reappears, and decides to try to get information on who was planting bombs in the area. That information will help smooth things over with angry military officials, he figures.

Sarah Koenig, the host and executive producer of "Serial," describes Bergdahl as a "radical, idiosyncratic" man in the episode. She says Bergdahl shipped his personal items home, bought local attire and pulled out \$300 in U.S. dollars and Afghanis ahead of leaving the base.

Bergdahl acknowledges his motives weren't entirely idealistic.

"I was trying to prove to myself, I was trying to prove to the world, to anybody who used to know me ... I was capable of being what I appeared to be," Bergdahl says. "Doing what I did was me saying I am like Jason Bourne. I had this fantastic idea that I was going to prove to the world I was the real thing."

He says after the sun came up, a group of men on motorcycles captured him as he walked through nearby flatland desert.

He also discusses the psychological torment of being held captive for years.

"It's like how do I explain to a person that just standing in an empty dark room hurts?" Bergdahl recounts. "It's like well, a person asked me, 'Why does it hurt? Does your body hurt?' Yes, your body hurts but it's more than that. It's mental, like, almost confused. ... I would wake up not even remembering what I was."

He adds: "It's like you're standing there, screaming in your mind."

## Energy stocks, beaten down all week, help push market higher

**BERNARD CONDON, AP Business Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — Investors took a chance on some beaten-down shares on Thursday, helping the U.S. stock market to its first gain in four days.

The gain was modest, but broad, with eight of the 10 industry sectors of the Standard and Poor's 500 index ending higher. Drillers and other energy companies, down sharply in previous days, climbed 0.6 percent, much more than the rest of the market. Among individual stocks, Chevron rose nearly 2 percent.

Some suppliers of raw materials posted gains, too. Aluminum giant Alcoa and miner Freeport-McMoRan each rose 5 percent.

The climb came despite a continuing slump in the price of commodities that has been rattling markets all year. Benchmark U.S. crude oil fell to another seven-year low.

The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 82.45 points, or 0.5 percent, to 17,574.75. The S&P 500 index rose 4.61 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,052.23. The Nasdaq composite increased 22.31 points, or 0.4 percent, to 5,045.17.

Natural gas and coal producer Consol Energy jumped 10 percent. It's still the biggest loser in the S&P 500 this year, however, down 78 percent.

In economic news, applications for unemployment benefits in the U.S. rose last week, but the number of Americans seeking aid remains close to historic lows. The report comes a week before the Federal Reserve is expected to raise interest rates for the first time in nine years. That would signal the central bank is confident the economy is strong enough to withstand higher borrowing costs.

"There is a fear over the market. China is slowing, emerging markets are slowing," said James Dunigan, chief investment strategist at PNC Wealth Management. "But if the Fed can say we're comfortable with U.S. employment and economic growth, that will be a positive."

The price of crude oil fell 40 cents, or 1 percent, to \$36.76 a barrel in New York. Oil is trading at its lowest level since early 2009.

The upside to lower oil is that consumers save money at the gas pump, giving them more money to spend at stores and elsewhere. But that boost hasn't helped much yet.

"You just don't have anything to show in retail sales or consumer spending," said James Paulsen, chief investment strategist at Wells Capital Management. "Where is the stimulus from lower oil?"

Among other stocks making big moves, Men's Wearhouse plunged \$3.12, or 17 percent, to \$15.27 after reporting earnings per share that were half what financial analysts expected, according to FactSet. The struggling clothes chain is down 65 percent since the start of 2015.

First Solar dropped \$4.50, or nearly eight percent, to \$54.35 after the solar energy company released earnings and a forecast that disappointed investors.

U.S. government bond prices fell slightly. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 2.23 percent from 2.21 percent late Wednesday. The dollar rose to 121.62 yen from 121.19 yen. The euro fell to \$1.0936 from \$1.1028.

Precious and industrial metals futures closed mostly lower. Gold edged down \$4.50 to \$1,072 an ounce, silver lost eight cents to \$14.11 an ounce and copper was up less than a penny at \$2.07 a pound.

Brent crude, the international benchmark, fell 38 cents, or 0.9 percent, to \$39.73 a barrel in London.

In other trading of energy futures in New York, wholesale gasoline rose 4.9 cents to \$1.28 a gallon, heating oil lost 1.4 cents to \$1.225 a gallon and natural gas fell 4.7 cents to \$2.105 per 1,000 cubic feet.

## Shelters for immigrant children to open in Texas, California

**NOMAAN MERCHANT, Associated Press**

**SETH ROBBINS, Associated Press**

DALLAS (AP) — A new spike in unaccompanied Central American minors crossing illegally into the United States is pushing federal officials to open shelters in Texas and California.

A total of 10,588 unaccompanied children crossed the U.S.-Mexico border in October and November, more than double the 5,129 who crossed during the same two months last year, according to the U.S. Border Patrol. The number of family members crossing together has nearly tripled, to 12,505.

Increasing gang violence is pushing people out of Central America, said Maureen Meyer, a senior associate for Mexico and migrant rights at the Washington Office on Latin America.

"We need to look at this as much more a refugee situation," she said. Migrating through Mexico and across the U.S. border is very dangerous, but "the level of desperation" in their home countries is making families decide it's worth the risk, she said.

Incoming family groups are usually sent first to detention centers, and adult migrants are often jailed when they are apprehended, but children traveling alone need special treatment under federal law, so officials plan to open at least three shelters — two in Texas and one in California — to accommodate them.

The additional beds will enable the U.S. Health and Human Services Department to shelter up to 9,800 unaccompanied minors at a time.

"What we don't want to have happen is have a backup of people" at the border, agency spokesman Mark Weber said. "We are making sure we have the capacity in place to take care of the children."

By law, the Border Patrol has 72 hours to turn unaccompanied minors from Central America over to Health and Human Services, which is then responsible for their care until they are placed with a sponsor or have an immigration hearing.



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Border crossings have not reached the levels of two summers ago, when a migrant surge prompted Texas officials to deploy the National Guard. More than 10,000 children arrived in the United States that June alone.

Still, the numbers began to pick up again this June, and have remained high since then. It remains to be seen whether this is a true resurgence, but Meyer says it is a telling sign that more families and children are coming during fall and winter months, when migration generally slows down.

As many as 1,000 of the children will stay at two rural camps outside Dallas: the Sabine Creek Ranch in Rockwall County and the Lakeview Camp and Retreat Center in Ellis County.

Lakeview's executive director, Jaroy Carpenter, announced that a team of 200 adults are ready to work with new arrivals at the camp.

"While here, these students will experience recreation, education, church services, and other typical camp programming," Carpenter said in a letter on the camp's website. "It is an absolute privilege that we have the facility, infrastructure, and support to coordinate such an opportunity in service to displaced children."

U.S. Rep. Joe Barton, a Texas Republican who represents Ellis County, said he expects the children to stay no more than 21 days, and that local authorities will hire off-duty police officers or sheriff's deputies to help with security.

Barton said he's against keeping the children in North Texas, and would support requiring unaccompanied minors to be returned immediately to their home countries.

"As soon as we do change it, you won't have these thousands and thousands coming," Barton said. "They're coming because they've found a back-door way into the country. If we close that back door, they won't try to come."

Some Texas officials said they weren't consulted beforehand, and that security is a concern. Judge David Sweet, Rockwell county's top administrator, said Thursday he's been told that 300 children, all from Central America, are arriving in his county.

"It goes without saying that we're very sensitive (to) the plight of unaccompanied children," Sweet said. But, he added, public safety "has to be my No. 1. Public safety has to be first and foremost."

## Ex-Fogle associate gets 27 years on child porn charges

**RICK CALLAHAN, Associated Press**

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The former director of a foundation started by ex-Subway pitcher Jared Fogle was sentenced to 27 years in prison Thursday for producing child pornography that played a role in Fogle's criminal case.

A federal judge sentenced Russell Taylor, who agreed in September to plead guilty to child exploitation and child porn charges and admitted using hidden cameras to produce pornography of 12 children. Taylor also will have lifetime supervision after he serves his sentence.

Taylor was executive director of the Jared Foundation, a nonprofit that Fogle started to raise awareness and money to fight childhood obesity, from 2009 until May, when prosecutors filed child porn charges against Taylor.

The minimum sentence under federal law was 15 years. Prosecutors sought a 35-year sentence for the 44-year-old Indianapolis man. His attorneys wanted a sentence ranging from 15 years to nearly 23 years.

Authorities said Taylor secretly filmed 12 children who were nude, changing clothes or engaged in other activities. They said he used cameras hidden in his Indianapolis-area homes to produce child pornography.

Indiana authorities who raided Fogle's suburban Indianapolis home in July have said their probe began in September 2014 based on a tip to Indiana State Police regarding Taylor's sexual interest in children.

Federal prosecutors said Fogle, a 38-year-old father of two, received photos or videos from Taylor of eight of Taylor's 12 child victims and encouraged him to produce more child pornography.

Fogle was sentenced last month to more than 15 years in prison after pleading guilty to trading in child pornography and having sex with two underage prostitutes.

Taylor's attorneys said in a court filing that Taylor is deeply remorseful for his actions, that he has a history

of mental illness and that he was sexually abused as a child. They also said that Fogle was psychologically abusive to Taylor and exercised financial control over Taylor after hiring him to run his foundation.

## 'Zombie nativity' back in Ohio yard a year after controversy

CINCINNATI (AP) — A "zombie nativity" that spurred complaints and zoning violation notices last year is on display again in a suburban Cincinnati yard, with a change to avoid fines.

Officials have concluded Jasen Dixon's display complies with local zoning laws because he has removed its roof. Sycamore Township zoning administrator Harry Holbert says the issue was always about the structure and zoning rules, not the zombie figures.

The scene includes a sharp-toothed, grayish figure with black-ringed eyes sitting in the manger where the baby Jesus would be in traditional Christmas nativities.

Dixon was threatened with fines last year when officials said the display violated rules on size and placement of yard structures. WCPO-TV (<http://bit.ly/1Q06PxD>) reports he removed it before being cited and didn't have to pay fines.

## Wal-Mart to launch own mobile pay system

**ANNE D'INNOCENZIO, AP Retail Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — The mobile payment wars are heating up.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest retailer, said it's launching its own mobile payment system that will allow shoppers to pay with any major credit or debit card or its own store gift card through its existing smartphone app at the cash register.

It started testing the new payment feature Thursday at its stores in the Bentonville, Arkansas area, where the retailer is based. It plans to launch the payment system called Walmart Pay in all 4,500-plus U.S. stores in early next year.

It's part of Wal-Mart's overall mobile strategy to making shopping easier and faster, but the launch is the latest salvo in the battle for mobile payments that's in the early stages. Wal-Mart has moved into the field as Apple's one-year-old tap-and-pay system is being expanded to other merchants like Best Buy and KFC and several months after Google launched the Android Pay mobile wallet app and Samsung came out with Samsung Pay. They're all trying to get a piece of what could be a very lucrative business, but none of them have cracked the market so far.

The move signals that Walmart believes it's best to build its own system to better serve its customers, even as it backs a retail industrywide mobile payment program that is in test phase.

"We are creating a seamless shopping experience that includes payment," Neil Ashe, president and CEO of Wal-Mart's global eCommerce, told reporters on a conference call on Wednesday. "It's fast. It's simple, and it's a secure way for customers to use their smartphone."

Twenty-two million customers use the Wal-Mart app each month, and more than half of Wal-Mart's online orders are now coming from a mobile device. This holiday season, Wal-Mart added new features like allowing online shoppers to check in once they get to the parking lot so they could have their online orders ready for pickup.

Wal-Mart executives said that after evaluating various mobile options, they found that they had different constraints, working only on certain devices or payment types. Apple Pay requires iPhones. But Google's own tap-and-pay services, Android Pay and Samsung's Samsung Pay require Android phones.

However, Ashe and Daniel Eckert, Wal-Mart's senior vice president of services, told reporters the system is designed to integrate with other payment applications like Apple Pay — if the retailer decides to include them.

Wal-Mart's move could be a blow to Merchant Customer Exchange, or MCX, set up a few years ago by a consortium of retailers and restaurants to create an industrywide mobile payment system. Wal-Mart has been a key player. But Wal-Mart executives told reporters they remain excited about the MCX pilot program for the payment system called "CurrentC." A pilot test is being conducted in Columbus, Ohio, and

it involves Wal-Mart and 10 other retailers.

Nevertheless, Eckert noted, "We are listening to the needs of the customer. We are looking at innovating the checkout experience and using payment to do that."

Wal-Mart's new mobile payment systems works this way: Shoppers download the Walmart app and then select a payment method. At the register, they open up the app and then they activate the camera function to scan a QR code on the reader. That connects the phone to the basket of items they're checking out. Customers can put the phone away and an e-receipt application will be sent to the app.

Mobile-payment services from Apple, Google and Samsung all rely on wireless technology called NFC. The customer merely taps the phone next to a payment machine at the store and authorizes the purchase, usually with a fingerprint ID. But it works only in stores with newer, NFC equipment. Samsung goes further in offering a backup: The phone can mimic the old-school magnetic signals produced by card swipes and work with most existing equipment.

JPMorgan Chase, meanwhile, is working on its own system for mobile payments. But Chase Pay won't use NFC when it debuts next year. Rather, it will rely on QR that can be scanned by a register.

All of these services offer security benefits: They store and transmit an alternate card number that's generated by the card issuer. The merchant never gets the real card number, so it remains safe even if the store's system gets hacked. With Wal-Mart Pay, the company says no card information is stored on the phone, but the real card number is still stored at what it says is a secure data center.

The retail consortium's CurrentC system is similar to Apple — but customers don't use a fingerprint, and it doesn't use NFC technology. Customers scan a QR code on the reader.

Apple and others have faced some challenges to change the behavior of shoppers accustomed to just taking out their wallets to pay. Technology at the stores also has not kept pace with the efforts of the like of Apple.

When Apple launched in the U.S., the U.S. had 200,000 tap-capable machines. That's expected to surpass 1.5 million this year. The growth includes about 100,000 small to medium-sized merchants each month, Apple said. Apple has said that Cinnabon will add Apple Pay to all its U.S. locations next year, while Domino's company-owned pizza stores will get it by year's end. Apple also is conducting a pilot program with Starbucks, with a broader rollout next year, while KFC will launch next spring.

## Obama's executive actions could open a door for successors

**KATHLEEN HENNESSEY, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — While the White House has condemned Donald Trump's call for a ban on Muslim immigrants as "disqualifying" and "toxic," President Barack Obama may have only himself to blame if a President Trump ever succeeds in putting his plan, or some version of it, into action.

In his efforts to work around Congress, Obama has made the aggressive use of executive power, particularly on immigration, an increasingly effective and politically accepted presidential tool. While legal scholars are divided on whether Obama has accelerated or merely continued a drift of power toward the executive branch, there's little debate that he's paved a path for his successor.

Depending on who that is, many Obama backers could rue the day they cheered his "pen-and-phone" campaign to get past Republican opposition in Congress. The unilateral steps he took to raise environmental standards, tighten gun control measures and ease the threat of deportation for millions of immigrants in the U.S. illegally, may serve as precedent for moves they won't cheer.

"Democrats have been remarkably shortsighted in embracing of this type of uber-presidency," said Jonathon Turley, a George Washington University law professor. Although Turley represents House Republicans in a challenge to Obama's health care law, he says he agrees with the policies Obama has enacted in some other actions.

"Unfortunately I think the bill will come due for many Democrats," Turley said. "In a future administration, they will hear the same arguments played back to them as they watch a different president go after a different set of priorities."

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Peter Spiro, an expert on immigration and constitutional law at Temple University, doesn't believe Obama has overstepped his constitutional bounds. But he does think he's given future presidents political cover, particularly in the area of immigration.

"The next president would say, 'Well, look, President Obama was a strong defender of this and I'm just following in his footsteps,'" he said.

To be sure, the verdict is still out on how much Obama's presidency may have tipped the scales in the balance of powers between the courts, the executive and Congress. Some court challenges are undecided, most notably one contesting his second major immigration action granting temporary reprieve to millions of immigrants living in the U.S. illegally. Meanwhile, the White House has yet to decide whether to go ahead on two significant executive actions prompted by opposition in Congress — one that would expand background checks on gun sales and another that would close the prison at Guantanamo Bay and move detainees to U.S. soil.

How such actions, particularly the latter, would play out in the courts and court of public opinion would be important factors in how Obama's record is judged by history and his successor.

Experts view Obama's influence as considerable when it comes to war powers, particularly his case for killing American suspects of terrorism on foreign soil. But a paradox is evident on immigration issues — where he has very publicly seized the broad authority given to the executive and where the gap between his policies and his potential Republican successors is wide.

In 2012 and 2014, after long maintaining he did not have such authority, Obama ordered federal immigration authorities not to deport certain groups of immigrants living in the U.S. illegally. The administration asked immigrants to apply for a temporary new legal status. The White House said it was using its prosecutorial discretion — the power to determine how limited resources should be used to enforce the law.

That power has been used by all presidents on a broad range of issues, but rarely has a president called a news conference to announce it or created a formal system to use it, said Hiroshi Motomura, a University of California at Los Angeles professor and expert in immigration law.

"Every president has different priorities, but Obama has actually changed things by being more systematized and transparent and that's what led to critics and the legal challenge," Motomura said.

A future president might take the same principle into another arena, Turley argued, choosing not to enforce pollution regulation against some businesses or temporarily granting some taxpayers a reprieve.

If not a full ban on Muslim visitors, as Trump proposed, prosecutorial discretion might be used to argue for prioritizing deportation of Muslim immigrants. A president might place visitors from Muslim countries under special screening or ask them to register, moves that would have some recent precedent.

Whether such executive moves would survive a lawsuit is far from clear. In the wake of Trump's proposed ban, many legal scholars lambasted the idea but didn't label it impossible.

Congress already has granted broad authority for the president to bar "any class of aliens" entry into the United States if he determines it would be "detrimental to the interests of the United States." While some argue barring entry based on religion would be discriminatory, precisely how constitutional and legal protections against discrimination apply to a foreign national is unclear.

These murky legal questions don't always rule the day in presidential politics, noted Eric Posner, a University of Chicago law professor.

"The Supreme Court very rarely issues rulings on presidential power. It tends to try to duck cases where somebody tries to say the president doesn't have the power to do something," said Posner, who has written on the rise of executive power in "The Executive Unbound."

"When a president tries to do something, they tend to rely on a previous action from another president. It's a particularly powerful argument if the president is from another party and a particularly powerful argument if Congress did not object to what the president tried to do. Sort of like a court relies on a precedent — but not judicial precedent, political precedent."