

Groton Daily Independent

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Wed., February 24

School Breakfast: Egg omelette, fruit, juice, milk.

School Menu: BBQ, French fries, romaine salad, fruit.

Senior Menu: Baked chicken, baked potato with sour cream, green beans, chocolate cake, whole wheat bread.

Birthday: Madison Sippel

7:00am: United Methodist Men's Bible Study

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

3:45pm: St. John's Confirmation

7:00pm: St. John's Lutheran Lenten Service

Thursday, February 25

FFA Farm Safety Day at Elementary School

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

School Lunch: Turkey gravy, mashed potatoes, corn, tea bun, fruit.

School Board Petitions

The positions of Merle Harder, Dorene Nelson and Lars Hanson are up for 3-year renewal.

Merle Harder and Clint Fjelstad have taken out and returned valid nominating petitions. Corey Mitchell has taken out a petition but has not yet returned it to be validated.

Deadline to submit a petition is 5:00 pm, Friday, February 26th.

2016 Groton Area Elementary Preschool Developmental Screening for 4 and 5 year olds February 29 and March 1

Parents of children ages 4 and 5 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. If your child is already receiving services or enrolled at Groton Elementary School they will not need to be screened.

Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate and immunization record.

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

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper
recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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Mark Malmberg, DDS
19 North 6th St.

Oakes, N.D.
701-742-3401



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Follow The Groton
Activities On-Line



gdilive.com

Coming up this week at gdilive.com

Girls Regional Game

4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23

Groton Area vs. Tiospa Zina at Britton

Ready to bring your heart and expertise to a team that feels more like a family? Bring your passion for patient care to the Golden LivingCenter in Groton. The Groton facility is now hiring for CNAs and Nurses. They have new wages with an excellent benefits package. All shifts are open. Join the team today by calling Jessica at 397-2365. The Golden LivingCenter of Groton is looking for you!

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Region 1A Girls Basketball Tournament

Aberdeen Roncalli 45, Milbank Area 27
 Britton-Hecla 39, Sisseton 23
 Groton Area 54, Tiospa Zina Tribal 37

#1 Webster Area

Score:

Date: February 25

Time: 6:00

Site: Britton Hecla Arena

Britton-Hecla

Score:

Score:

Date: March 1st

Time: 7:00

Site: Britton Hecla Arena

CHAMPION

State Qualifier

#4 Sisseton

Score:

Date: February 23rd

Time: 20 minutes following 2nd

Site: Britton Hecla Arena

Score:

#5 Britton-Hecla

#3 Aberdeen Roncalli

Score:

Date: February 23rd

Time: 20 minutes following first

Site: Britton Hecla

Score:

Roncalli

Score:

#6 Milbank Area

Date: February 25th

Time: 20 minutes following

Site: Britton Hecla Arena

Score:

#2 Groton Area

Score:

Date: February 23rd

Time: 4:30

Site: Britton Hecla Arena

Score:

Groton

Score:

#7 Tiospa Zina

Region 1	Seed Points	W-L
Webster Area	45.60	18-2
Groton Area	42.65	14-6
Aberdeen Roncalli	40.95	11-9
Sisseton	40.70	11-9
Britton-Hecla	39.28	7-11
Milbank Area	39.00	6-14
Tiospa Zina	36.89	4-15

Follow the Lady Tigers on

gdilive.com

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Lady Tigers beat Tiospa Zina in first round region game

Groton Area played all of its players Tuesday night in its 54-37 win over Tiospa Zina. It was the first round of the girls basketball regions being played in Britton.

Harleigh Stange led the Tigers with 14 points while Carly Wheeting had 13, Audrey Wanner nine, Katie Koehler seven, Miranda Hanson six, Gia Gengerke three and Hattie Weismantel two.

Aubree Bearsheart led the Wambdi with 16 points while Persephone Eastman had seven, Lily Smith five, Kiana Bearsheart had four, Jordan Leblanc three and Jennifer Rondell two.

Groton made 21 of 59 in field goals for 36 percent while Tiospa Zina made 13 of 42 for 31 percent. Both teams had 14 turnovers. Groton had 13 steals with Koehler, Harleigh Stange and Emily Locke with three each. Wheeting had 10 of Groton's 30 rebounds and she had seven of Groton's 15 assists. In blocks, Wheeting had three and Gengerke had one. Groton made eight of 14 free throws for 57 percent off of Tiospa Zina's 12 team fouls. Tiospa Zina made eight of 10 free throws for 80 percent off of Groton's 12 team fouls.

Groton will play Aberdeen Roncalli in the second game Thursday night in Britton.



Payton Maine dribbles the ball, looking for an open teammate. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Carly Wheeting fights her way to the basket to score two of her 13 points. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Katie Koehler made this three-pointer to give Groton a 48-26 lead. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

gdilive.com had 322 viewers of the Groton-Tiospa Zina GBB Game

Coverage Sponsored by

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Producer's Hybrids -

John Wheeting

Groton Dairy Queen

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Groton Lions Club

Elementary School News

Third Grade - Kristi K. Anderson

February finds us in love with many things – good books, being independent, and proving all we've learned since last fall. Third graders should feel proud to strut their stuff as they grow more confident in what they are able to do. We welcome senior helper, Kaili Aberle. She assists us in a variety of ways, and the students enjoy having a new friendly face in our room.

We have been doing a variety of area and perimeter problems in math. Our third grade Common Core Standards have many objectives for these skills. Students are using fact families to master their multiplication and division facts. Knowing our math facts quickly and accurately becomes more important every day. We will continue working on fractions and measurement. Age word puzzles give us a needed challenge.

Between shared reading, reading class, and RtI, students have completed several novels. We are just finishing up the sequels to Sarah, Plain and Tall during shared reading. We want our students reading a book every spare minute they have. These minutes add up incredibly fast, and reading for enjoyment is the best thing students can do to become better readers.

Students recently completed weather posters in science. They will begin studying rocks and minerals. Social studies finds us doing Washington and Lincoln activities as well as learning about African Americans that contributed to the history of our country. Students are also working on poems for the Groton Auxiliary contest. The theme this year is "Joining Together For Our Veterans". We are working hard in all areas to use text evidence to support our answers. This is also known as finding the "proof in the passage". This requires students to go back and comb over what they've read, slowing down to find proof for their answers.

Old Man Winter has been quite good to us so far, but we still anxiously anticipate spring. Meanwhile, the buzz of our classroom keeps us warm!

1st Grade - Mrs. Eichler and Mrs. Milbrandt

Another month is flying by and the first graders are learning so much before our eyes! We have had a very eventful year and are excited to share what we have been learning since our last update.

Reading class is made up of skill practice and reading amazing stories by awesome authors and illustrators. Our daily skill practice has helped us learn about the long sounds of u, o, i, e, and a. There are about four or five ways to make these sounds through different letter combinations. We have learned to 100 new high-frequency words so far this year. That is a lot of new words, especially since we still have three more months of school left! We have been reading a wide array of stories in our reading textbooks and have a hard time deciding which story is our favorite so far. Every time we read a story, we work on making predictions, finding the main idea and details, drawing conclusions, comparing and contrasting, and retelling. Discussing our stories helps us learn how to comprehend what we read.

Math class has proved fun and challenging for us as we learn about solid shapes, work with graphs and tables, measure, compare with shapes and patterns, and solve mixed story problems.

Science and social studies have been a blast for us! The students are learning about weather. We have learned about temperature, thermometers, clouds and wind. We will also learn about wet weather (rain, snow, sleet) and the seasons. In social studies we are learning about where our ancestors came from and what unites us as Americans. The students sure enjoy science and social studies class!

K, 1st, and 2nd Grades Physical Education - Lynette Grieve

We finished our Basketball unit just after Christmas break. We then started a Tumbling unit. We learned and/or practiced log rolls, forward rolls, backward rolls, the crab walk, the bridge, sit-ups, push-ups, and had wheel barrel races. We also learned and practiced how to do cart-wheels and head stands.

We are now playing Floor Hockey. We will start our Dance unit next week. We will learn and practiced the Twist, the Chicken Dance, the Hokey Pokey, the Conga, and the Bunny Hop. Other dances we will learn and practice are; the Limbo, Cotton Eyed Joe, the Macarena, YMCA, and the Cha Cha Slide.

Following the dance unit we will do station activities. Before too long, we will be back outside and getting ready for Track and Field day.

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Junior Kindergarten- Kayla Krause

Junior kindergarten students have been quite busy lately. We are quickly learning the names of all of the letters, the sounds they make, and how to correctly write them. We are orally counting to 20 and beyond in math and learning math vocabulary words like less, more, and equal.

During our science center time, students are loving the opportunity to explore science tools like balances and magnifying glasses, but have most recently had the pleasure of working with magnets. This is such a fun, hands on science unit!

Our social studies unit through the month of February is called healthy habits. We have an at-home project that challenges students to stay active and try healthy foods. In school, we are learning the difference between fruits and vegetables and enjoying some healthy treats during snack time.

With the snow melting and Punxsutawney Phil promising an early spring, we have enjoyed some spring related art projects as well. Making rainbows from dyed rice and kites from colorful scrapbook paper brightens up our room with the hope that spring will soon arrive. Our JK students are very excited to be a part of this great school every afternoon.



Kumla \$10 Dinner

Sunday, Feb. 28th

Serving 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Groton Community Center

**(From US 12, go south on Main Street,
then go east on 2nd Ave for one block.)**

Sponsored by

**Heaven Bound Ministries
of Pierpont**



With Assistance from Thrivent Action Program

By placing an order through Schwans.com a portion of the sales will come back in support of our congregation! Your support of Heaven Bound Ministries is greatly appreciated! (When you check out, under Step 2: Coupon Codes and Fundraising, Click on "I would like to contribute to a new fundraiser." Then enter Campaign ID 26276. Campaign starts Monday, Feb. 22.

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SCHOOL LAND LEASE AUCTION

A school land lease auction will be held at the Brown County Courthouse in Aberdeen, SD on March 17, 2016 at 1:15 PM (CT) on the following tract:

16 125N 65W E2NE, E2SE

A list of tracts available for lease may also be obtained at the Brown County Auditor's Office or by contacting the Office of School & Public Lands at (605) 773-4172. For more information contact Mike Cornelison, Office of School & Public Lands, 500 E Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501-5070 or phone (605)773-4172. Disabled individuals needing assistance should contact the Office of School and Public Lands at least 48 hours in advance of the auction to make any necessary arrangements.



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Today in Weather History

February 24, 2001: Heavy snow of 6 to 14 inches fell across central and northeast South Dakota as well as west central Minnesota. Along with the heavy snow came blizzard conditions across northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota during the morning hours of the 25th as northwest winds increased to 25 to 45 mph. As a result of the heavy snow and blizzard conditions, travel became difficult, if not impossible, resulting in some accidents and stranded motorists. Some snowfall amounts included, 6 inches at Waubay, Onida, Murdo, and Artas, 7 inches at Aberdeen, Faulkton, Ipswich, Kennebec, and Clark, 8 inches at Miller, Castlewood, 23 N Highmore, and Pierre. Nine inches of snow fell at Browns Valley, Wheaton, Clinton, Graceville, Dumont, Roy Lake, Mellette, Blunt, and Watertown. Other snowfall amounts included, 10 inches near Summit, 11 inches at Webster, Ortonville, and Artichoke Lake, and 14 inches at Milbank.

1852 - The Susquehanna River ice bridge at Havre de Grace, MD, commenced to break up after forty days of use. A total of 1738 loaded freight cars were hauled along rails laid on the ice. (David Ludlum)

1936 - Vermont and New Hampshire received brown snow due to dust from storms in the Great Plains Region. A muddy rain fell across parts of northern New York State. (24th-25th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1969: The famous "100-Hour Storm" began at Boston, MA. Snow fell much of the time between early on the 25th through noon on the 28th. The 26.3 inches at Logan Airport is the 2nd greatest snowstorm in Boston's history. 77 inches fell at Pinkham Notch Base Station in New Hampshire bringing their February total to 130 inches. Their snow cover on the 27th was 164 inches. Mt. Washington, NH received 172.8 inches of snow in the month.

1988 - Strong winds produced snow squalls in the Great Lakes Region which created "white-out" conditions in eastern Upper Michigan. Squalls produced up to 14 inches of snow in Geauga County of northeastern Ohio. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2001: Over a dozen tornadoes were spawned in central and eastern Arkansas. The strongest tornado (F3) was in Desha County, with parts of a farm shop found six miles away from where it was blown apart. An 18 month old boy was killed in Fulton County by an F2 tornado.










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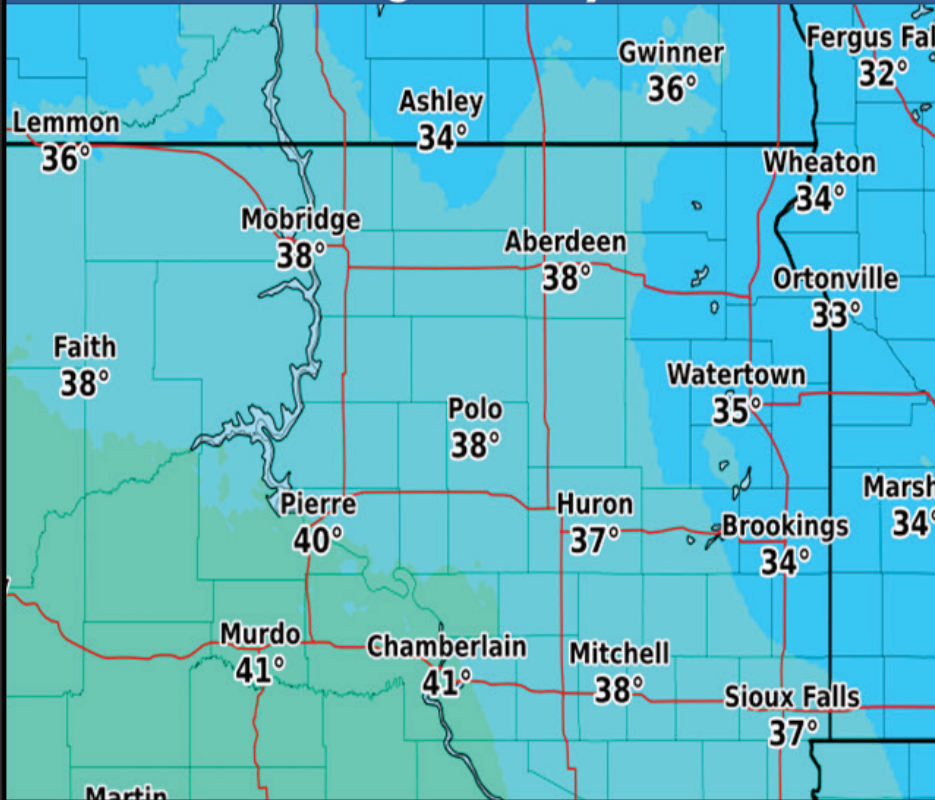
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Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday
						
Partly Sunny then Chance Rain/Snow	Slight Chance Snow Showers	Partly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny
High: 38 °F	Low: 25 °F	High: 33 °F	Low: 21 °F	High: 44 °F	Low: 28 °F	High: 53 °F

Rain and Snow Showers Today and Tonight

Highs Today



Gusty Winds

Rain/Snow showers becoming all snow late this afternoon

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 2/24/2016 3:11 AM Central

Published on: 02/24/2016 at 3:14AM

An area of low pressure will move through the region today and tonight. This system will bring rain and snow showers this morning. Showers will transition to all snow by late afternoon. Up to an inch of accumulation is possible. Gusty winds of 15 to 25 mph may cause reduced visibility in snow showers this evening and tonight.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 38.8 at 3:58 PM

Low: 24.7 at 11:47 PM

High Gust: 22 at 3:05 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 62° in 1976

Record Low: -26 in 1940

Average High: 31°F

Average Low: 11°F

Average Precip in Feb.: 0.45

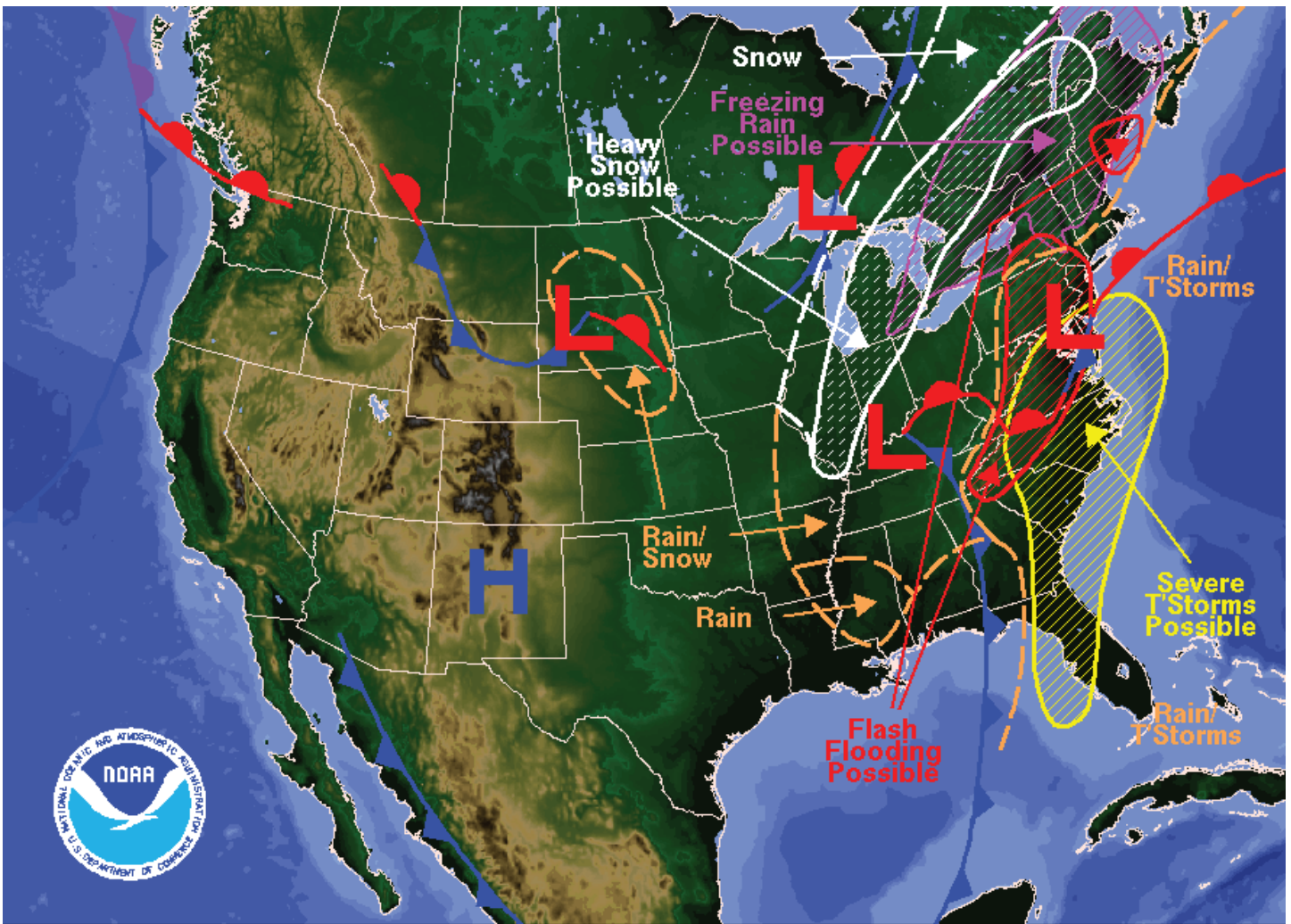
Precip to date in Feb.: 0.60

Average Precip to date: 0.92

Precip Year to Date: 0.60

Sunset Tonight: 6:13 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:19 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Wed, Feb 24, 2016, issued 3:55 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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NEVER GIVE UP!

Winston Churchill is recognized as one of the most outstanding leaders in the history of the world. He held England together during World War II and brought encouragement and hope to the entire nation and the world.

He attended a preparatory school that was recognized for having high academic standards and making students study and earn their grades by spending hours at their desks and in the library. He is known to have excelled in all of his studies.

Toward the end of his life he was invited to return to the school to address the students. When he was being introduced to the students, the Headmaster said, "Our Prime Minister is one of the greatest orators in the world. Listen carefully and take notes."

Churchill stood to his feet, gazed intently at the young people who gathered to hear him and said, "Never give up. NEVER GIVE UP! NEVER!" And sat down.

Paul put this another way for Christians: "So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless."

Often we work hard for the Lord yet see no rewards. However, we must "Never Give Up!" His reward will come when we need it most.

Prayer: Encourage our hearts, Lord, to know that we may not receive rewards in this world, but surely in the one to come with You in heaven. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Scripture for Today: 1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Wild Card 2 lottery comes to an end in 4 northern states

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A lottery game played in some northern states for nearly two decades is ending, due to a drop in popularity.

Wild Card 2 currently is played in North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Idaho. The game dates to 1994, and lottery officials in the participating states say it's run its course. The final drawing is Wednesday.

Through the years, the game that also was played for a brief time in Nebraska has had dozens of jackpot winners and paid out tens of millions of dollars in prizes.

The jackpot for the final drawing is \$375,000. If there's a winner, the person will have six months to claim the prize, as usual. If no one wins it, remaining funds will be divided among the four participating states.

Polygamous sect leaders facing on food stamp fraud charges

BRADY McCOMBS, Associated Press

LINDSAY WHITEHURST, Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Investigators say they noticed something strange when they began tracking food stamp transactions coming out of two small convenience stores in a polygamous community on the Arizona-Utah border.

The volume of food stamp purchases was so large that it rivaled big-box stores like Wal-Mart and Costco.

They said they later learned that residents were scanning their food stamp debit cards at the stores but getting no items in return, letting leaders of the polygamous sect divert the money to front companies. The proceeds paid for a John Deere loader, a Ford truck and \$17,000 in paper products, federal prosecutors said Tuesday.

The alleged scheme is at the heart of what marked a major takedown of top leaders of the secretive sect in which followers adhere to the belief that having multiple wives brings exaltation in heaven.

Eleven people were charged with food stamp fraud and money laundering, including Lyle Jeffs and Seth Jeffs, top-ranking leaders of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and brothers of imprisoned sect leader Warren Jeffs.

Lyle Jeffs runs the day-to-day operations in the polygamous community of Hildale, Utah, while Seth Jeffs leads a branch of the group in South Dakota. Their brother Warren Jeffs is serving a life sentence in Texas for sexually assaulting girls he considered brides at a secretive church compound in that state.

Prosecutors accuse church leaders of orchestrating a yearslong fraud scheme that included meetings where they told members how to use the use food-stamp benefits illegally for the benefit of the faith and avoid getting caught, charging documents show.

One common tactic was buying groceries with the food stamps and giving the supplies to the church's communal storehouse for leaders to choose how to divvy up.

The practice has been called "bleeding the beast," taking money from a government they disdain and using as they see fit, said Amos Guiora, a University of Utah law professor who has studied the church.

The arrests — which were made Tuesday in Salt Lake City; Custer County, South Dakota; and the sister cities of Hildale, Utah and Colorado City, Arizona — are the government's latest move targeting the sect based on the Utah-Arizona border, coinciding with legal battles in two states over child labor and discrimination against nonbelievers.

The arrests come amid a civil rights trial in Phoenix against the twin polygamous towns of Hildale and Colorado City, Arizona, in which prosecutors say the communities discriminated against people who were not members of the church by denying them housing, water services and police protection.

Federal labor lawyers also are going after the group on allegations that leaders ordered parents to put their kids to work for long hours for little pay on a southern Utah pecan farm.

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The communities deny those allegations.

Prosecutors said the actions in this new case weren't coordinated. But Sam Brower, a private investigator who has spent years investigating the group, said one common theme in all the cases is that authorities are finding more willing witnesses with inside knowledge because large numbers of people who have been kicked out or left.

Lyle Jeffs and Seth Jeffs and the others are expected to make their initial court appearances in Wednesday in three different federal states.

Federal prosecutors are asking the judge to keep them behind bars, arguing in court documents that they are flight risks. They contend if allowed out on bail, they polygamists are likely to flee and seek hiding in the group's elaborate network of houses throughout North and South America, using aliases, disguises, false identification documents and pre-paid cellphones to help people avoid being caught.

The sect does not have a spokesman or a phone listing where leaders can be contacted. The Associated Press could not verify if the defendants had attorneys yet.

Blake Hamilton, an attorney representing Hildale, said none of those indicted was serving in a government position and that it had nothing to do with the city government.

U.S. Attorney John Huber said repeatedly Tuesday that the indictment was not about religion, but fraud.

Guiora said the bust goes well beyond fraud — putting in doubt who will lead the group and how members will respond to a decisive message from government officials they have historically despised.

Tuesday's Scores The Associated Press

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Central 61, Brookings 55

Custer 65, Hill City 52

Huron 76, Pierre 63

Sturgis Brown 72, Douglas 51

Watertown 69, Harrisburg 50

Yankton 57, Mitchell 38

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Central 64, Brookings 43

Harrisburg 55, Watertown 44

Huron 59, Pierre 51

Mitchell 42, Yankton 41

Rapid City Central 59, Rapid City Stevens 56

Region 1A

First Round

Aberdeen Roncalli 45, Milbank Area 27

Britton-Hecla 39, Sisseton 23

Groton Area 54, Tiospa Zina Tribal 37

Region 3A

First Round

Flandreau 54, Flandreau Indian 25

Madison 58, Baltic 28

Sioux Falls Christian 56, Garretson 34

Region 4A

First Round

Dakota Valley 77, Canton 70

Lennox 52, Beresford 40

Vermillion 67, Tea Area 46

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District 5A
First Round
McCook Central/Montrose 55, Bon Homme 42
Wagner 61, Tri-Valley 52
West Central 59, Parkston 19
Region 6A
First Round
Chamberlain 54, Crow Creek 51
McLaughlin 78, Stanley County 43
Mobridge-Pollock 43, Miller 38, OT
Region 7A
First Round
Pine Ridge 103, Bennett County 38
Red Cloud 67, Todd County 60
Winner 63, St. Francis Indian 59
District 1B
Semifinal
Waverly-South Shore 59, Florence/Henry 54, 2OT
Wilmot 36, Waubay/Summit 33
District 2B
Semifinals
Leola/Frederick 58, Northwestern 48
Warner 54, Langford 25
District 3B
Semifinal
Herreid/Selby Area 45, Potter County 29
Ipswich 51, Faulkton 38
District 4B
Semifinal
Hitchcock-Tulare 65, Lower Brule 57
Sully Buttes 73, Highmore-Harrold 21
District 5B
First Round
Arlington 39, Estelline 37
Deubrook 62, Lake Preston 25
District 6B
Semifinal
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 65, Wessington Springs 28
District 7B
First Round
Colman-Egan 53, Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 41
District 8B
First Round
Howard 60, Bridgewater-Emery 37
Mitchell Christian 44, Canistota 41
District 9B
Semifinal
Freeman 59, Freeman Academy 47
Menno 58, Parker 49
District 10B

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Semifinal

Irene-Wakonda 64, Gayville-Volin 44

Viborg-Hurley 56, Alcester-Hudson 28

District 11B

Semifinal

Platte-Geddes 58, Kimball/White Lake 43

Tripp-Delmont/Armour 48, Andes Central/Dakota Christian 42

District 12B

Semifinal

Avon 56, Colome 31

Burke/South Central 58, Marty Indian 39

District 13B

Semifinal

Jones County 53, Kadoka Area 43

Lyman 68, White River 53

District 14B

Semifinal

New Underwood 37, Philip 35

Wall 64, Oelrichs 32

District 15B

Semifinal

Lemmon 58, Dupree 26

Timber Lake 59, McIntosh 42

District 16B

Semifinal

Faith 81, Bison 34

Harding County 40, Newell 24

Gov. Dennis Daugaard puts retirement system changes into law

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard has signed into law a measure to create a new retirement plan for future public employees that includes a two-year increase in the normal retirement age to 67 for many new workers.

Daugaard signed the bill Tuesday.

Advocates say the measure is intended to maintain the sustainability of the retirement system. The governor says the changes keep secure the benefits of future public employees.

The governor's office says the new design accommodates longer life expectancies.

The changes remove subsidies for early retirement to pay for an increase in base benefits for public employees such as teachers and city and county workers.

The normal retirement age for new public safety officials will jump two years to 57.

The changes apply to people starting work after June 30, 2017.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard meets with group of transgender people

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard heard from several transgender people during a meeting Tuesday at the Capitol, where activists gathered to urge the governor to veto a bill that would require students to use bathrooms and locker rooms that match their sex at birth.

A Sioux Falls nonprofit asked for the time because Daugaard said he hadn't knowingly met a transgender person, though he is now weighing a bill at his desk that would make South Dakota the first state in the U.S. to approve such a law.

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The Republican governor heard the personal stories of three young transgender people and one of their mothers during the roughly 30-minute private meeting. The governor was genuine, responsive and asked questions, said Kendra Heathscott, one of the attendees and a board member of the Center for Equality in Sioux Falls.

"It helped me see things through their eyes a little bit and understand their perspective," Daugaard said shortly afterward.

Advocates for transgender rights rallied and talked to state lawmakers at the Capitol before the meeting with Daugaard. Opponents of the bill also said they delivered more than 80,000 signatures to the governor pushing him to veto the bill.

Critics ranging from transgender Sioux Falls high school student Thomas Lewis to Olympic gold medalist Caitlyn Jenner have called for him to do so. Lewis, who was in the meeting, said he tried to make Daugaard understand that "we're all human and we all just want to use the bathroom."

"I really think he got from our stories that we're human beings and we want to be treated like every human being deserves to be treated — with respect," Lewis said.

Daugaard is weighing both sides of the issue before deciding how he will act, and he has also met with the bill's sponsors.

Republican Rep. Fred Deutsch, the measure's main House sponsor, said he gave the governor some documents during the brief meeting and explained why he brought the bill forward.

The deadline for Daugaard to act on the proposal is March 1.

"Of course, I have my own set of values," Daugaard said. "They're going to, in the end, drive the decision with the information I have."

The bill spurred early condemnation from the American Civil Liberties Union of South Dakota and LGBT-rights organizations. As it passed its final vote in the state Senate, opponents across the country starting using a Twitter hashtag created by South Dakota's Tourism Department to pan lawmakers for advancing the legislation and take aim at the state's roughly \$3.8 billion visitor industry.

Under the plan, schools would have to provide a "reasonable accommodation" for transgender students, such as a single-occupancy bathroom or the "controlled use" of a staff-designated restroom, locker room or shower room.

"If the governor were to sign this, we'd be the only state in the nation that has laws for accommodating the needs of transgender students," Deutsch said. "The only one."

State accepting reservations for Memorial Day weekend

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Saturday is the first day that people can reserve South Dakota campsites and cabins for Memorial Day weekend.

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department says reservations for a May 27 arrival can be made by calling 1-800-710-2267 or going online to CampSD.com beginning at 7 a.m. CST.

Campsite and cabin reservations can be made as many as 90 days before campers arrive. Custer State Park accepts reservations beginning one year before arrival.

Children ID program coming to Belle Fourche

BELLE FOURCHE, S.D. (AP) — Belle Fourche parents will get a chance to register their children in a comprehensive child identification program this week.

Officials with the state's Child Identification Program will be in Belle Fourche Thursday and Friday to collect identifying items from children.

The items, including dental impressions, a DNA cheek swab and a photo, are put in a package for parents or guardians to keep. If a child goes missing, parents can use the kit to help authorities in the investigation.

Participation is free. The registration events are scheduled from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday at Belle Fourche South Park Elementary School.

The state's Attorney General's Office and the South Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants are among the groups that help implement the program.

Bathrooms become battlegrounds in anti-discrimination debate

JONATHAN DREW, Associated Press

GARY D. ROBERTSON, Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — As bathrooms become battlegrounds in the national debate over anti-discrimination laws, a city council's decision to protect the restroom choices of transgender people in Charlotte, North Carolina, was cheered Tuesday by rights advocates as a courageous move. But it may not stand for very long.

Gov. Pat McCrory told The Associated Press that the bathroom provision denies privacy rights for people who expect to share restrooms or locker rooms only with people born with the same anatomy.

"It's an extreme regulation that changes the basic norms of society," the Republican governor said, adding that he would like the state legislature to pre-empt any local governments from enforcing such ordinances. "I don't want to have 100 different rules" across the state, he said.

As sweeping changes take hold across America in the wake of the Supreme Court's decision legalizing gay marriage last year, advocates for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people have sought to build on that momentum by securing broad protections against discrimination in cities and states nationwide.

Most of the 20 largest U.S. cities now enforce state laws or local ordinances that include allowances for people to use the bathroom of the gender they identify with, said Cathryn Oakley, an attorney with the Washington-based Human Rights Campaign who helped generate support for Charlotte's ordinance.

And as conservatives push back, they are increasingly finding that concerns about bathroom encounters resonate more with voters than other aspects of such laws. In Jacksonville, Florida, a council member withdrew a measure similar to Charlotte's last week after encountering just such pressure.

"We're currently tracking 192 bills, the vast majority of which are anti-LGBT with major themes being trans bathrooms and rfras (religious freedom restoration acts) focused on marriage," Mark Daniel Snyder, spokesman for the Equality Federation, a gay rights group, said in an email.

Charlotte's ordinance is broader than just bathrooms, prohibiting hotels for example from refusing to rent a room to a lesbian couple, City Attorney Robert Hagemann stressed.

"The restroom issue has gotten an awful lot of attention," Hagemann said. "The primary aspect of what the council did is to prohibit discrimination in public accommodation. That's not just restrooms."

A turning point was Houston, whose city council approved an ordinance similar to Charlotte's. After a campaign that invoked concerns about bathroom safety last year, voters overwhelmingly overturned the ordinance in a referendum.

"The opposition has really run with this inflammatory, discriminatory messaging, and unfortunately they have found some traction," Oakley said.

Transgender advocates, meanwhile, have worried openly that conservatives are using the bathroom issue to drive a wedge between them and other members of the LGBT movement.

"It's absolutely not fair. What they're trying to do is roll back some of the progress that the LGBT community as a whole has made over the last several years by targeting some of the most vulnerable — and unfortunately least understood — members of our community," said Demoya Gordon, a Lambda Legal staff attorney who works on its Transgender Rights Project.

Charlotte's vote drew an overflow crowd on both sides Monday night. While supporters carried signs broadly asserting "equal rights," opponents urged the council to "Vote No on the Bathroom Bill."

The ordinance was approved by a vote of 7-to-4, adding "sexual orientation," "gender identity" and "marital status" as attributes protected from discrimination when it comes to public accommodations in restaurants, retail stores and other businesses.

The ordinance legalizes the ability of transgender people to use bathrooms based on the gender they identify with, even if it's different from their anatomy at birth. The local law doesn't define gender identity, but federal workplace guidelines suggest that transgender people should be able to choose either the men's room or the women's room, depending on which feels most appropriate or safest to them.

Violations could be treated as misdemeanors, punishable by fines of \$500 or 30 days in jail, although the council staff noted that nobody has ever faced such punishment under other aspects of the city's existing anti-discrimination ordinance.

The ordinance does not address accommodations in public schools, another flashpoint in the national debate. In South Dakota on Tuesday, transgender activists were trying to persuade the governor to veto a bill requiring students statewide to use bathrooms corresponding to their sex at birth.

North Carolina's cities and counties are creations of the state, and the General Assembly can override local ordinances. Republican lawmakers have passed several laws recently to rein in city councils — particularly those led by Democrats — who they believe overstepped their authority.

House Speaker Tim Moore said Tuesday that he and other Republicans will be "exploring legislative intervention to correct this radical course" once the legislature convenes again in late April.

If Charlotte's bathroom protections are overturned, Gordon said it would send a message that transgender people can't do "one of the most essential things that people do every day ... except under really dangerous and harassing conditions."

Saudi oil minister says market should handle low prices

DAVID KOENIG, AP Business Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Saudi Arabia's oil minister said Tuesday that production cuts to boost oil prices won't work, and that instead the market should be allowed to work even if that forces some operators out of business.

Ali Al-Naimi said production cuts by big, low-cost producers like Saudi Arabia would amount to subsidizing higher-cost ones — an apparent reference to U.S. shale oil drillers.

Booming U.S. production effectively ended oil trades at more than \$100 per barrel that were taking place less than two years ago. A barrel of U.S. crude is now hovering around \$30, a price at which many shale operators are assumed to be losing money.

"The producers of these high-cost barrels must find a way to lower their costs, borrow cash or liquidate," Naimi said. "It sounds harsh, and unfortunately it is, but it is the more efficient way to rebalance markets."

Naimi disputed a common view in the industry: that Saudi Arabia has kept pumping oil to protect its market share and undercut shale producers. "We have not declared war on shale or on production from any given country or company," he said.

Naimi spoke at a gathering of global energy leaders in Houston.

The price of benchmark U.S. crude fell Tuesday by nearly 5 percent to \$31.81 a barrel. Brent crude, used to price oil internationally, dropped \$1.36 to \$33.31 a barrel in London.

Just a day earlier, oil prices surged after the International Energy Agency predicted that oil supply and demand would balance next year because of a steep drop in new drilling, namely in the U.S. The group's executive director, Fatih Birol, predicted that crude would more than double to \$80 a barrel by 2020.

Shale and other new sources attracted by years of high oil prices pushed the supply of oil much higher than global demand, leading to the sharp drop in crude prices since mid-2014.

OPEC decided in late 2014 that it would not cut production to prop up prices, and Naimi echoed OPEC's thinking. "Cutting low-cost production to subsidize higher-cost supplies only delays an inevitable reckoning," he said.

Analysts expect more U.S. shale operators will fail unless prices rise. Mark Papa, now an investment firm executive and the former CEO of EOG Resources, an early shale-gas producer, said the shale boom created many new companies. In the next year or so there will be "bodies all over the place — a lot of bankruptcies," and drillers who survive will emerge weaker, he said.

Others say that it might not take much of a rally in oil prices for shale drillers to thrive.

Vance Scott, an Ernst & Young consultant to oil and gas companies, said shale operators are continuing to cut costs and can squeeze subcontractors more and improve efficiency with technological advances in drilling.

"They could make a go at \$40 and maybe even lower" depending on the field, Scott said. "They will innovate."

While Naimi rejected production cuts as politically unworkable, he endorsed a freeze on production at current levels if major oil-producing countries go along. The freeze idea, floated last week by Saudi Arabia, Russia, Venezuela and Qatar, would be a more gradual path to higher oil prices, but it faces uncertain prospects. Iran, just coming off international sanctions, wants to boost its production.

"If a freeze even gets done it really does not accelerate the rebalancing of the global market, especially with Iran not participating," said Dominick Chirichella, an analyst with the Energy Management Institute. Matching supply to demand would still linger "well into 2017," he said.

The 81-year-old Naimi, who joined Aramco, the old Arabian American Oil Co., as an office boy in 1947, said he had seen oil prices swing from \$2 to \$147 a barrel. The current price slump, which has led to layoffs across the U.S. oil industry, is just another of oil's inevitable boom-and-bust cycles, he said.

"It is going to end," Naimi said. "When, I don't know, but it will end."

Lentsch leaving post as South Dakota Agriculture Secretary

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Agriculture Secretary Lucas Lentsch says he'll leave his post next month for an opportunity in the private sector.

Lentsch has served as secretary of the South Dakota Department of Agriculture since April 2013. He previously served as the department's director of agricultural development.

Lentsch says he is looking forward to taking on a challenging leadership role in the ag sector as well as being more engaged in his family cattle operation. He's originally from Marshall County.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard praised Lentsch for his service. Daugaard says Lentsch has been instrumental in reorganizing the department to be more reflective of the dynamic agriculture industry it serves.

Daugaard and his leadership team are beginning a search for Lentsch's replacement immediately.

Purdue: US farm entrapments fall to lowest level in decade

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) — Grain bin entrapments and other confined space accidents on the nation's farms fell to their lowest level in a decade last year, a Purdue University study has found.

The U.S. had 47 accidents in grain bins or other confined spaces in 2015. That's 34 percent less than 2014's 71 such accidents and the fewest since 46 were recorded in 2006, the study found.

Last year's accidents were reported in 13 states, mostly in the Midwest's Corn Belt region.

The study, an annual report prepared by Purdue, found that 25 people died last year in either grain bin entrapments or other confined space accidents. That's down from 31 deaths in 2014.

Fourteen of last year's deaths were caused by grain entrapments, which typically occur when a farm worker enters a grain bin or silo to dislodge clumps of grain and becomes engulfed by shifting grain, resulting in suffocation.

Last year's other fatalities included workers entangled in machinery, falling or struck by heavy objects.

Bill Field, a Purdue professor of agricultural safety and health, said many nonfatal entrapments go unreported each year because there's no mandatory national reporting system. He said some victims and their employers are reluctant to report accidents because doing so can create work delays or higher insurance costs.

Field said getting an accurate accident count is crucial to efforts to improve farm safety.

"We need to know where the needs are so we can focus our prevention and rescue training efforts in those areas," he said.

Iowa led the nation with seven accidents last year. Others were reported in Arkansas, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Wisconsin and South Dakota.

65-year-old man dead after SUV crash east of Sioux Falls

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A 65-year-old man is dead after a one-vehicle crash just east of Sioux Falls. The Highway Patrol says the man was driving a sport utility vehicle that went through a T-intersection 3 miles east of Sioux Falls and came to rest in a grove of trees. The man was dead at the scene of the crash that happened about 7:45 p.m. Monday. Authorities did not immediately identify the man. He was alone in the vehicle.

Caitlyn Jenner urges veto of South Dakota transgender bill

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Transgender Olympic gold medalist Caitlyn Jenner has called on South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard to veto a bill that would require transgender schoolchildren to use bathrooms and locker rooms that correspond with their sex at birth.

Jenner urged her Twitter followers on Monday to tell Daugaard to reject the measure and to not make South Dakota the first state to adopt such a law. She also tweeted a link to an American Civil Liberties Union page opposing the bill.

The measure would require schools to make a “reasonable accommodation” for transgender children, such as a single-occupancy bathroom.

Daugaard plans to discuss the bill later Tuesday with a group of transgender people.

2 accused in separate incidents of assaulting fed officers

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Two South Dakota men have pleaded not guilty to assaulting a federal officer, in separate incidents.

Thirty-two-year-old Norman Blue Coat, of Eagle Butte, is accused of resisting and injuring an officer with the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe last Nov. 11.

Twenty-seven-year-old Dustin Bear Heels, of Rosebud, allegedly assaulted an officer on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation on Feb. 2.

U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says both suspects face up to 20 years in prison if convicted.

US, Brazilian health teams go into slums to start Zika study

JENNY BARCHFIELD, Associated Press

JOAO PESSOA, Brazil (AP) — Teams of U.S. and Brazilian health workers ventured into dicey slums, fought through snarled traffic and braved torrential downpours on the first day of their effort to determine if the Zika virus is causing babies to be born with a birth defect affecting the brain.

The eight teams, each made up of one “disease detective” from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and three Brazilian health workers, went to work Tuesday in Paraiba, the impoverished state in northeastern Brazil that is one of the epicenters of the country’s tandem outbreaks of Zika and microcephaly.

Their goal is to persuade about 100 mothers of infants recently born with the defect as well to enroll in the study. They also need participation as controls of two to three times as many mothers from the same areas who delivered babies without microcephaly at about the same time.

The study aims to determine if the Brazilian government is right that Zika can cause microcephaly, or whether the mosquito-borne virus is not in fact to blame or is only partially responsible, as a growing chorus of doctors in Brazil and beyond have begun to suggest.

The seemingly straightforward task of locating the women and infants was fraught on day one by traffic jams, logistical snags and menacing weather, though the teams soldiered stoically on.

Stuck in the chronic gridlock of the state capital, Joao Pessoa, one team missed its first appointment, and the two home visits that it had scheduled for morning didn’t get underway until well after lunchtime.

“Obviously, we’ve seen the problems of logistics — to be able to reach the families, to have them be there,” said Dr. Alexia Harrist, a Boston-born pediatrician who works for the CDC’s Epidemic Intelligence Service. “If things take longer, things take longer, but I think we’re all really dedicated to getting it done.”

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Packed into a small sedan, Harrist, three Brazilian health workers and a driver weaved from the CDC's headquarters in a beachfront hotel to the outskirts of Joao Pessoa along pothole-marred streets swimming with runoff from recent rains.

They turned onto a side street lined with trash, then turned again and again onto successively narrower and more pocked streets that carried them deep into the heart of the Taipa shantytown. The *Aedes aegypti* mosquito that spreads Zika proliferates in such neighborhoods, where omnipresent trash provides breeding grounds in discarded margarine tubs, yogurt containers and plastic bottle caps.

When the going got too rough, Harrist and her colleagues parked and headed on foot along a dirt road running with raw sewage and dotted by foraging chickens and goats to a three-room cinderblock home.

Janine dos Santos, a 23-year-old unemployed former towel factory worker, shares the space with her mother, two siblings and two children, including Shayde Henrique — born in November with the truncated head and brain damage caused by microcephaly.

"I didn't expect to see all these people," Santos said, adding that the visit renewed her hopes of understanding what happened to Shayde. "Not only me, but all the mothers, we want to understand the mystery behind all this — what really causes microcephaly?"

She and the family answered an extensive questionnaire probing everything from whether she used insect repellent during pregnancy to what was the source of their drinking water. The team also drew blood samples from mother and infant, setting off screams from a child who, like many infants with microcephaly, is rarely quiet.

Down the street, the team knocked at an abandoned warehouse where another new mother, 26-year-old Aline Ferreira, squats with her fisherman husband and three kids.

Her 4-month-old, Angeline Karolayne, is in good health and doesn't suffer from microcephaly, and Ferreira agreed to take part in the study as a control case. Such cases will be a critical element in understanding whether Zika is triggering microcephaly and, if so, whether it's doing so alone or with contributing factors.

Ferreira patiently responded to the litany of questions. "When I was pregnant, there were all these problems with Zika and microcephaly and ... I could very well be in the place of any mother whose baby has microcephaly," she said.

Organizers expect it will take a month to gather data, but acknowledge it could take longer. Ferreting out results from the data will take several more months.

Despite Tuesday's rocky start, the CDC's Harrist said the generosity and openness of the two young mothers her team managed to contact gave her hope.

"I'm actually encouraged by what happened today," said Harrist, who worked in Sierra Leone during the Ebola outbreak in West Africa.

She said Santos and Ferreira seemed enthusiastic to join in the study. "I hope that means they think that the study is important," she said.

With woman running S. Korea, North's insults turn sexist

FOSTER KLUG, Associated Press

KIM TONG-HYUNG, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea's description of South Korea's president as an "old, insane bitch" destined for violent death may take the rivals' hateful propaganda battle to a new level of hostility, which is saying something for neighbors with such a long, bloody history of hating each other's guts.

The North called President Park Geun-hye's predecessors traitors and even rat-like, but the invectives it throws at the South's first female president tend to be uglier, often casting her relationship with her American allies in crude sexual terms.

Carved in two by the Soviets and Americans at the end of WWII, the halves of the Korean Peninsula fought a vicious war in the early 1950s, and have spent much of the years since then promising, and sometimes trying very hard to engineer, each other's destruction.

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North Korea, even as it builds a nuclear arsenal, has in recent decades been outgunned diplomatically, economically and militarily by the richer South; it has therefore relied more on words as a weapon. It has been especially likely to do so under conservative South Korean leaders such as Park and her immediate predecessor, Lee Myung-bak; before Lee took office in 2008, nearly a decade of liberal leaders pushed for cooperation with Pyongyang and sent huge shipments of aid northwards.

The North's attacks may be meant to "reduce hopes for unification, which the North Korean elite really doesn't want, because there's no way they'd keep their privileges on the other side," says Robert Kelly, a political scientist at Pusan National University in the South.

North Korea's overwhelmingly male-dominated culture may have something to do with it as well. Kelly says Pyongyang may not understand that sexist language disgusts many.

Brian Myers, an expert on North Korean propaganda at South Korea's Dongseo University, suggests that young North Korean leader Kim Jong Un may either not remember or not care that his country once carefully tailored its propaganda to influence millions of potential leftist sympathizers in the South.

Myers says that could be bad news for the near future. If it becomes impossible for a South Korean party devoted to accommodation to come to power in Seoul, he says, "I'm afraid we could see the North shift more and more toward outright bullying and intimidation."

Here's a look at North Korea's long history of insults:

"MURDEROUS DEMON"

In perhaps its lengthiest and harshest verbal attack on Park since she took office in 2013, the North's official Korean Central News Agency on Saturday called her a "tailless, old, insane bitch," a "senile old woman" and a "murderous demon" destined to meet "a sudden and violent death."

This was likely a response to her reaction to the North's recent nuclear test and rocket launch. She closed a jointly run factory park, started missile defense talks with Washington and mentioned the potential for a "regime collapse" in Pyongyang, something North Korea's dictator is extremely sensitive about.

KCNA wrote that Park complains about North Korean nukes, but "takes much pleasure and even throws out her underwear in welcoming the murderous nuclear war devices brought in by the American Yankees."

North Korea previously called Park a "prostitute" and said she lives on the "groin of her American boss." It has frequently questioned her womanhood because she has no children, which the North labels as an "obligation" for women. North Korea also frequently refers to the "swish of her skirts," a Korean phrase used to describe women seen as overly aggressive.

"The swishes of Park Geun-hye's skirt, created by her American boss, are so unpredictable they're dumbfounding," an unnamed spokesman of the North's Joint National Organization of Working People said in a statement last year published by the KCNA. "This is all because the United States' black, hairy hands reach deep into Park Geun-hye's skirt."

"RAT-LIKE"

The North's propaganda writers spent years attacking Lee, Park's predecessor, by saying he looked like a rat.

In a statement against Lee during his final days as president in January 2013, the North's Committee for Peaceful Reunification of Korea compared Lee and his "treacherous group" to rats five different times, saying that they should be "beaten (to death) in time" and "completely exterminated."

In July 2012, KCNA said the "death-bed frenzy" of Lee's "group of traitors reminds one of the rat-like hoodlums being dragged to gallows."

Lee drew Pyongyang's anger by departing from the rapprochement policies of his two liberal predecessors and slapping the North with broad trade sanctions in 2010 following the sinking of a South Korean warship that killed 46 sailors and which Seoul blamed on a North Korean torpedo attack.

"FASCIST DICTATOR"

North Korea has described Park Geun-hye as a worse "traitor" than her dictator father, Park Chung-hee, who ruled South Korea for 18 years until his assassination by his spy chief in 1979.

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The North attempted to assassinate the elder Park by sending a team of 31 commandos across the border in 1968, but they were stopped near Park's presidential mansion in Seoul.

Shortly after his death, the North's official Rodong Sinmun newspaper called Park a "a truculent fascist dictator" who "plunged South Korea into a sea of blood, arresting, imprisoning and brutally murdering (those) ... who called for the democratization of society and the reunification of the country."

SLAPS AGAINST U.S.

North Korea often extends its insults to the presidents and other key officials of the United States, which Pyongyang labels as an imperialist aggressor and puppet master of the Seoul government.

The North hurled racist insults at U.S. President Barack Obama more than once, with Pyongyang's powerful National Defense Commission calling him a "monkey in a tropical forest" in December 2014 over the hacking row involving the movie "The Interview," a comedy that depicts Kim's assassination.

The North's state media has called U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry a wolf with a "hideous" lantern jaw, and his predecessor, Hillary Clinton, as a "funny lady" who sometimes "looks like a primary schoolgirl and sometimes a pensioner going shopping."

Former U.S. President George W. Bush, who in 2002 bracketed North Korea with Iran and pre-war Iraq as part of an "axis of evil," was labeled as a "world dictator," and a "hooligan bereft of any personality as a human being." His vice president, Dick Cheney, was described by the North in 2005 as "the most cruel monster and bloodthirsty beast as he has drenched various parts of the world in blood."

Israel rights groups: Dozens of Palestinian detainees abused

JERUSALEM (AP) — A report by two Israeli rights groups released Wednesday says dozens of Palestinian detainees at an Israeli detention facility are subjected to mistreatment, which in some cases amounts to torture.

The report by B'Tselem and HaMoked presents accounts by 116 Palestinian detainees on conditions at the Shikma interrogation facility, run by the Israeli Shin Bet internal security agency.

The report says the detainees are incarcerated small, rank cells, often in isolation. Palestinian detainees told the Israeli rights groups that they were at times exposed to extreme heat or cold, bound to a chair and denied access to a shower for days or weeks. The detainees are shouted at and spit on, are deprived of sleep and are provided little, substandard food, the report says.

"Conditions at the Shikma facility are an inherent part of interrogations there: they serve to weaken both mind and body, complementing the actual interrogation of detainees in the interrogation room," the report said. "The combination of conditions both in and outside the interrogation room constitutes abuse and inhuman, degrading treatment, at times even amounting to torture."

Israeli agencies are bound by a Supreme Court's 1999 prohibition on torture and work under legal supervision. Far more serious abuses of detainees are rampant in other countries across the region.

The report comes as Israel struggles to cope with months of near-daily Palestinian attacks on civilians and security forces.

In another attempted attack Wednesday, the Israeli military says a knife-wielding Palestinian rushed toward an Israeli in the West Bank and tried to stab him. A soldier on the scene opened fire, hitting the assailant but also seriously wounding the stabber's target. Both have been evacuated to the hospital.

The rights groups' report is based on affidavits and personal accounts from Palestinians held for security reasons at the facility between August 2013 and March 2014. The prisoners interviewed spent a maximum of 58 days in detention.

In their report, the groups also say that at least 14 of the Palestinian detainees endured torture in interrogations by Palestinian Authority security services before being arrested by Israeli security forces.

Daniel Shenhar, a HaMoked lawyer, said the report shows interrogators have violated the Supreme Court ruling with the use of intentional sleep deprivation and prolonged stress positions.

The Shin Bet in a statement said it would not comment on the report, which it dubbed "twisted." It said interrogations are conducted according to law in order to prevent attacks and "activities that damage the

security of the country.”

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. WITH NEVADA WIN, TRUMP HAS TRIFECTA

A tight race for second between Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz offers little evidence that Republicans are ready to coalesce around one strong alternative to the businessman billionaire.

2. GOP SAYS NO HEARINGS, NO VOTES FOR SUPREME COURT NOMINEE

In an extraordinary election-year rebuff, Republicans insist that replacing Justice Antonin Scalia rests with voters in November's election and the next president.

3. U.S., BRAZILIAN HEALTH TEAMS GO TO SHANTYTOWNS

They are trying to determine if the Zika virus is causing babies to be born with a birth defect affecting the brain.

4. WHERE POWERFUL STORMS ARE TURNING DEADLY

A storm system that spawned tornadoes in Gulf Coast states, killing at least three people, is expected to bring severe weather to the Carolinas by Wednesday afternoon. SOUTH-SEVERE WEATHER

5. WHO LAUNCHES SEXIST ATTACKS AGAINST SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT

North Korea's description of Park Geun-hye as an "old, insane bitch" destined for a violent death may take the rivals' propaganda battle to a new level of hostility, which is saying something.

6. WHY HEALTHCARE.GOV DRAWS FIRE

Congressional investigators say the Obama administration has taken a "passive" approach to identifying potential fraud involving the health care law even with billions in taxpayer dollars at stake, The AP learns.

7. SMART RATS SNIFFING OUT CAMBODIA'S VAST MINEFIELDS

Unlike standard mine detectors, the super-sniffers pick up only TNT and not other metal objects. And unlike wage-earning humans, they work for peanuts.

8. SECONDHAND CLOTHES FROM ISRAEL POPULAR AT GAZA FLEA MARKET

Demand for the garments becomes a barometer for the economic situation in Gaza, where after nearly a decade of rule by the Hamas militant group, poverty and unemployment levels are higher than ever.

9. MADONNA MAKES SURPRISE VISITS TO MANILA CHILDREN'S SHELTERS

Pictures on her Instagram account showed her carrying a baby in one arm while holding hands with a girl guiding her on a tour of the Hospicio de San Jose orphanage.

10. NONPROFITS TO NFL: STOP PUSHING FANTASY SPORTS ON KIDS

They're concerned the games could lead some young sports fans down the path of gambling addiction.

With NV win, Trump has trifecta; Rubio-Cruz still jostling

STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

NANCY BENAC, Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — With a big win in Nevada, Donald Trump claimed a third straight commanding victory in the race for the Republican presidential nomination. A tight race for second between Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz offered little evidence that Republicans were ready to coalesce around one strong alternative to the businessman billionaire.

With victories now under his belt in the West, the South and Northeast, a gleeful Trump was oozing even more confidence than usual Tuesday night that the GOP nomination is within reach.

"It's going to be an amazing two months," he told a raucous crowd at a Las Vegas casino. "We might not even need the two months, folks, to be honest."

Trump's rivals know they are running out of time to stop his juggernaut.

Rubio, who was already in Michigan on caucus night, didn't speak after the results came in but earlier sought to project confidence that he can consolidate the non-Trump voters who have been splintering among an assortment of GOP candidates, saying, "We have incredible room to grow."

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But after finishing third in Iowa, fifth in New Hampshire and second in South Carolina, Rubio needs a win soon to support the idea he can beat Trump.

Cruz, for his part, skipped right past Nevada's underwhelming verdict for him in his caucus-night speech and pinned his hopes on the big round of voting that's coming up next, saying: "One week from today will be the most important night of this campaign: Super Tuesday."

The candidates were fanning out to their next targets of opportunity as the lights went out in Las Vegas: Trump was campaigning Wednesday in Virginia, then on to Texas and Oklahoma. Rubio and Cruz both headed for Texas.

Entrance polls in Nevada captured the sentiment propelling Trump's insurgent campaign: Six in 10 caucus goers said they were angry with the way the government is working, and Trump got about half of them.

Cruz, a fiery conservative popular among voters on the GOP's right, had finished a disappointing third in South Carolina after spending much of the past two weeks denying charges of dishonest campaign tactics and defending his integrity. Nevada raises more questions about his viability.

But Cruz harked back to his win in Iowa's leadoff caucuses to remind supporters that his is "the only campaign that has defeated Donald Trump is this campaign."

The election calendar suggests that if Trump's rivals don't slow him by mid-March, they may not ever.

Trump won at least 12 delegates in Nevada, while Rubio and Cruz won at least five apiece. Eight delegates were still left to be allocated.

Overall, Trump has 79 delegates, Cruz has 16 and Rubio has 15. John Kasich has five delegates and Ben Carson has three. It takes 1,237 delegates to win the Republican nomination for president.

Trump, in his victory speech, took on the notion advanced by both Rubio and Cruz that if more GOP candidates drop out of the race, they'll coalesce around an alternative.

"They keep forgetting that when people drop out, we're going to get a lot of votes," he said.

Nevada's caucusing played out in schools, community centers and places of worship across the state — a process that's been chaotic in the past.

Count Tracy Brigida, fed up after her husband was laid off from his mining job, among those caucusing for Trump.

"I want a businessman to run the biggest business in the world," Brigida said as she caucused at a Las Vegas high school.

Jeremy Haight drove straight from his marketing job to caucus for Marco Rubio at the same high school.

"He's the most level-headed. He hasn't said anything stupid or crazy ... which is really what I think the country needs," Haight said.

It was Cruz for Megan Ortega, who declared: "He's consistent, he's bold and he's a class act."

Preliminary results of the entrance poll found that about 3 in 10 early caucus goers said the quality that mattered most to them in choosing a candidate was that he shares their values, slightly more than the quarter who said they want a candidate who can win in November. About a quarter said they want a candidate who can bring change. About 2 in 10 want one who "tells it like it is."

Trump — no surprise here — was supported by nearly 9 in 10 of the "tell it like it is" voters.

Lagging far behind in the Nevada vote were Kasich and Carson.

The entrance poll survey was conducted for The Associated Press and the television networks by Edison Research as Republican voters arrived at 25 randomly selected caucus sites in Nevada.

AP Exclusive: HealthCare.gov 'passive' on heading off fraud

RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — With billions in taxpayer dollars at stake, the Obama administration has taken a "passive" approach to identifying potential fraud involving the president's health care law, nonpartisan congressional investigators say in a report due out Wednesday.

While the Government Accountability Office stops short of alleging widespread cheating in President Barack Obama's signature program, investigators found that the administration has struggled to resolve eligibility questions affecting millions of initial applications and hundreds of thousands of consumers who

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were actually approved for benefits.

The agency administering the health law — the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services — “has assumed a passive approach to identifying and preventing fraud,” the GAO report said. In a formal written response, the administration agreed with eight GAO recommendations while maintaining that it applies “best practices” to fraud control.

The report is being released by Republicans on the House Energy and Commerce Committee in connection with a hearing on the Department of Health and Human Services budget. A copy was provided to The Associated Press.

GAO “raises many red flags,” said committee chairman Rep. Fred Upton of Michigan. “Perhaps the most unsettling is that while HHS agrees there are many vulnerabilities, the agency has no urgency or plan to fix these critical errors.”

The health care law provides subsidized private insurance to people who don’t have access to job-based coverage, provided that they are citizens or legal immigrants, and fall within a certain income range. The GAO report raised numerous questions about the government’s system for verifying eligibility for those benefits.

Advocates for low-income people say the problem isn’t fraud, but a convoluted documentation system that leaves out hundreds of thousands of consumers legally entitled to benefits because their personal information may not exactly match what’s in government files. About 12.7 million have signed up for coverage this year.

When people apply for coverage through HealthCare.gov and state insurance exchanges, a behind-the-scenes electronic system called the “data services hub” pings federal agencies such as Social Security, IRS, and Homeland Security to verify their personal details. In a key finding, the GAO said that the administration does not aggregate, track and analyze the results of data hub inquiries — instead just using the responses to process individual applications.

By not tracking, the administration “foregoes information that could suggest potential program issues or potential vulnerabilities to fraud,” GAO said.

Its investigators approached the individual agencies assigned to verify personal information and found large numbers of inquiries in which the data hub could not confirm details.

For example, for the 2014 coverage year Social Security could not verify citizenship for about 8.2 million inquiries in which the applicants claimed they were citizens, the report said. (For 2015, that number was down by more than half, to 3.6 million.)

At IRS, income and family size information — critical for health insurance subsidies — was not available for inquiries representing 30.7 million people in 2014. GAO said the number hadn’t changed much for 2015. It was down to 29.2 million.

All those inquiries don’t result in final applications, much less ones that get approved.

And HealthCare.gov is legally permitted to approve applications with unresolved documentation issues. Consumers then get about three months to straighten out paperwork issues.

However, GAO concluded that the process for resolving documentation issues does not appear to be highly reliable.

The investigators’ analysis determined that 431,000 applications from 2014 still had unresolved paperwork issues in April of 2015, months after the coverage year had ended. Those applications involved \$1.7 billion in taxpayer subsidies.

In addition, there were 35,000 applications with unresolved questions involving matching Social Security numbers, which represented \$154 million in subsidies for insurance premiums.

Finally, there were about 22,000 applications where it wasn’t clear if the beneficiary was serving a prison sentence. Those accounted for \$68 million in subsidies. (Prisoners are not eligible for coverage under the health care law.)

It would be a clear waste of taxpayer dollars if “Obamacare” subsidies are going to prisoners, Upton said.

HealthCare.gov “is at risk of granting eligibility to, and making subsidy payments on behalf of, individuals who are ineligible to enroll,” said the report.

Powerful storms roll across South, causing death and damage

KEVIN MCGILL, Associated Press

CHEVEL JOHNSON, Associated Press

KENNER, La. (AP) — A deadly storm system that spawned tornadoes in Gulf Coast states Tuesday night was expected to bring severe weather to the Carolinas by Wednesday afternoon.

The Tuesday storms mangled trailers at an RV park, ripped roofs from buildings and killed at least three people in Louisiana and Mississippi, authorities said.

One of the hardest-hit areas in the Gulf Coast appeared to be a recreational vehicle park in the town of Convent, in southern Louisiana. Two people were killed there, said St. James Parish Sheriff Willy Martin, speaking on local television. Authorities were working into the early morning to look for people possibly trapped under the debris, Martin said.

Thirty-one people were taken to area hospitals and seven of them were in critical condition, he said.

"We never had anything like this; we never had this many people injured in one event, and so much destruction in one event," Martin told WVUE news. "We won't stop searching until we're satisfied we've searched every pile."

Martin said three people were still believed to be missing but efforts to account for them were hampered because authorities didn't know how many people were at the park when the storm hit or how many people were taken to hospitals in private vehicles.

Jerome Picou, who lives near the park, said just before the tornado hit that it was raining and the skies grew dark. Then he heard what sounded like a freight train.

"The wind was blowing a little bit, but then it stopped. Then all of a sudden all kinds of wind and rain started. It was so bad, I had to go inside the house or I would have been blown away with it," Picou said.

In Alabama and Georgia, forecasters issued flash flood watches ahead of the storm system, which was expected to drop 1 to 2 inches of rain. The warnings were expected to be in effect through Wednesday afternoon. The northern part of Georgia was also under a wind advisory.

The Wednesday forecast for the Carolinas calls for possible flash flooding and severe thunderstorms, including damaging winds, hail and isolated tornadoes.

Raleigh forecasters said straight-line wind gusts may be particularly strong, reaching 70 mph or greater.

News outlets in Georgia, South Carolina and Florida reported that schools in those states canceled Wednesday classes ahead of the storm threat.

In Mississippi, officials Tuesday night were sorting through reports of damage to some buildings, but Vann Byrd of the Lamar County Emergency Management Agency said one person died in a mobile home west of Purvis. Lamar County Coroner Cody Creel said that Dale Purvis, 73, died of blunt-force trauma.

The reported tornadoes are part of a line of severe weather and storms that ripped through the region.

At least seven tornadoes hit southeast Louisiana and southwest Mississippi, said Ken Graham, the meteorologist in charge for the National Weather Service's southeast Louisiana office.

That number includes the one in Convent and near Purvis, Mississippi, he said. Teams will be sent out in the morning to document the damage and rate the tornadoes, he said.

The harsh weather even affected the National Weather Service, Graham said. At one point the staff in the Slidell office took shelter because a tornado was nearby, and lightning took out the office's radar, forcing them to use backups, he said.

"We felt the shockwave go through the building," Graham said.

In Florida, the National Weather Service said a tornado hit Pensacola. Meteorologist Steve Miller said the service has had many reports of property damage and people injured in storms Tuesday night.

Reported tornadoes and severe weather caused damage in other parts of both states.

A reported tornado caused some damage but no injuries near New Orleans' main airport, while high winds ripped off roofs and downed trees around the greater New Orleans area. Other suspected tornadoes were reported north of Lake Pontchartrain and west of the city in St. Charles and Ascension parishes and in Prairieville, between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, heavy damage was reported to some buildings, including a fitness gym.

Ronald Myers lives across the street from New Mount Bethel Baptist Church in Kenner, Louisiana, just

outside of New Orleans. He recalled the sky darkening and high winds — he believes it was a tornado. He and his wife came outside when they heard the church's alarm go off. High winds sheared the brick and mortar from the rear wall of the church.

"My wife came over to turn the alarm off and she came back home and said, 'Baby, the wall behind the church has done fell down,'" said Myers. He said he struggled to keep his footing in the wind, and it nearly knocked his wife down.

GOP says no hearings, no votes for Supreme Court nominee

MARY CLARE JALONICK, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — No hearing. No vote. Don't even bother knocking on our door.

That's the message Senate Republicans delivered to President Barack Obama and his sometime-soon nominee for the Supreme Court, an extraordinary election-year rebuff as the GOP insists that replacing Justice Antonin Scalia rests with voters in November's election and the next president.

Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said Tuesday that his 54-member GOP caucus was united against taking any step in the Senate's "advise and consent" process. The Judiciary Committee will not hold confirmation hearings for the nominee. The panel and the full Senate will not vote. And a handful of Republicans, including McConnell, said they would not even meet with the nominee when the individual makes introductions on Capitol Hill.

"Why would I? We've made the decision," said Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, a member of the Judiciary panel.

After winning unanimous public backing from the 11 Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee, McConnell told reporters that the panel would hold no hearings and ruled out a full Senate vote until the next president offers a nomination. Such steps would defy many decades of precedent that have seen even the most divisive choices questioned publicly by the Judiciary Committee and nearly always sent to the entire chamber for a vote, barring nominees the White House has withdrawn.

"In short, there will not be action taken," McConnell told reporters.

As one rationale for their decision, Republicans pointed to a June 1992 speech by Vice President Joe Biden, then the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, in which Biden said that if a seat on the court were to open up that year, "action on a Supreme Court nomination must be put off until after the election campaign is over."

Obama is expected to announce a nomination in the next few weeks. With the issue certain to roil this year's presidential and congressional elections, Democrats accused Republicans of following the lead of billionaire Donald Trump, a leading GOP presidential candidate who's called on Senate Republicans to derail any Obama court selection. Democrats and some Republicans believe that if Trump is the GOP presidential nominee, he will cost Republicans seats in Congress.

"The party of Lincoln is now the party of Donald Trump," Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., told reporters.

Filling the vacancy left by Scalia's unexpected death on Feb. 13 is crucial because without him, the Supreme Court is left in a 4-4 ideological knot between justices who are usually conservative and its liberal wing. The battle has invigorated both sides' interest groups and voters who focus on abortion, immigration and other issues before the court.

"He hasn't seen the pressure that's going to build," Reid said when asked if he thinks McConnell might relent. "It's going to build in all facets of the political constituency and the country."

After meeting privately with GOP senators for the first time since Scalia's death, McConnell and other leaders said rank-and-file Republicans were overwhelmingly behind the decision to quickly halt the nomination process.

"Why even put that ball on the field?" Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., said of hearings. "All you're going to do is fumble it. Let the people decide."

Moderate Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, and Sen. Mark Kirk, R-Ill., who faces a tough re-election race this fall, are among the few who've voiced support for at least holding hearings on an Obama nominee. Democrats are hoping that other Republican senators facing re-election in states Obama won twice —

New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin — will relent over time or face retribution from voters.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest said it was “absolutely” possible the Senate would end up holding hearings, pointing to statements by Collins, Kirk and others. Earnest said Obama has spoken in the last day to Republican lawmakers, including some on the Judiciary panel.

Democrats note that in 1988, a Democratic-led Senate confirmed Anthony Kennedy to the court, though he’d been nominated by President Ronald Reagan the preceding year. Republicans say it’s been over eight decades since a nomination occurred and was filled in the same election year.

Since the Senate started routinely referring presidential nominations to committees for action in 1955, every Supreme Court nominee not later withdrawn has received a Judiciary Committee hearing, according to the Senate Historical Office.

In remarks Tuesday at Georgetown University law school, Justice Samuel Alito sounded resigned to spending the rest of this year in a court whose members are locked in a 4-4 tie.

“We will deal with it,” Alito answered when asked about Republicans’ resolve to oppose anyone Obama nominates.

Cruz, Rubio and Kasich all face must-wins in home states

WILL WEISSERT, Associated Press

SCOTT BAUER, Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — In their efforts to derail Donald Trump from the Republican presidential nomination, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, Florida Sen. Marco Rubio and Ohio Gov. John Kasich are all facing enormous pressure in their home state primaries, which account for about a fourth of the delegates up for grabs in the next three weeks.

Failure to defend their turf could leave each explaining what states they can win going forward — and make the New York billionaire look all the more inevitable.

After Trump’s impressive win in Nevada, the presidential race now shifts to Super Tuesday, featuring 11 largely Southern states, including Texas, with 155 GOP delegates. Those delegates will be awarded proportionally. On March 15 will come primaries in Florida, with 99 delegates, and Ohio with 66, and they are winner take all.

If no one can dent Trump’s advantage by then, the race for the nomination may be all but over. But home states have buoyed candidates in the past. Four years ago, eventual GOP nominee Mitt Romney used his native Michigan to quash a surprisingly stout challenge from Rick Santorum. Newt Gingrich won his home state of Georgia and neighboring South Carolina but did little elsewhere.

Of the trio with looming home-state primaries, Cruz may be in the strongest position. “I wanna say, I cannot wait to get home to the great state of Texas,” Cruz said Tuesday night after losing in Nevada to Trump. “Tonight, I’ll sleep in my bed for the first time in a month.”

But Cruz will have to win more than just Texas on Tuesday if he doesn’t want to be looking up at Trump in the delegate count.

Kasich and Rubio, meanwhile, may be battling for many of the same votes from traditional Republicans uneasy with the bombastic Trump and the firebrand conservative Cruz. As long as both remain in the race, they could continue to split the establishment bloc. And they’ll have to run Tuesday’s gauntlet before they can even reach must-wins at home.

The home-state jockeying is underway.

FLORIDA

Current and former members of Congress from Florida who had been backing Jeb Bush signed on with Rubio this week after the ex-governor left the race. That’s not to say Rubio’s a slam dunk in his state.

Trump is the only Republican still in the race who had an obvious campaign presence in Florida — office space and paid employees on the ground — as of late last month. Trump is a part-time resident. Bush also was building a Florida operation and some of that may flow to Rubio.

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"Now that Jeb is out of the race, that helps Marco tremendously," said Marcelo Llorente, a former Republican legislator in Florida who knows both men well.

Cruz strategist Jason Johnson released a memo arguing that if Rubio's hopes are built around winning Florida, that won't work because almost half of the delegates needed to win the nomination will have been awarded by then. "That's an even less plausible path to victory than Mayor Rudy Giuliani's 'wait for Florida' strategy in 2008," Johnson said, referring to Giuliani's short-lived presidential run. But Johnson's argument presumes Rubio won't do well Super Tuesday.

TEXAS

The Texas senator has spent more time in the South than his rivals and built networks of supporters he hopes can not only help him in Texas but also nearby states. That approach did not work in South Carolina, the only Southern state where it has been tested.

Cruz has for years been considered his state's most popular politician and Gov. Greg Abbott is his friend, mentor and ex-boss — although Abbott has so far held off making a presidential endorsement.

Cruz also has the backing of former Texas Gov. Rick Perry and current Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick, along with nearly one-fourth of the Republicans representing Texas in Congress and about half of the Republicans in the state Legislature. He's also built a strong ground game, boasting 27,000 volunteers, but a similarly strong organization didn't spell victory in South Carolina.

Texas may not have a decisive winner, unless the top candidate can get a majority of the votes cast statewide and in each congressional district. Otherwise, delegates will be awarded proportionally based on full-state results and results in each district.

The only campaign or outside group advertising in Texas so far supports Rubio. Ads by the Conservative Solutions PAC tag Cruz as "calculated, underhanded." Still, polls suggest Cruz is the favorite.

"He's a native-son candidate," GOP strategist Matt Mackowiak said. "Support for him is very strong."

OHIO

Kasich is looking to the Midwest and Michigan's March 8 primary to help carry him through to his neighboring home state a week later. His bid for the nomination is already a longshot and whatever viability he might have now surely would vanish if he faltered in Ohio.

A new Quinnipiac survey has Kasich lagging Trump but within 5 percentage points of him, marking progress for the governor.

Kasich brushes off any notion he may not win his state. "The last thing I'm worried about is how we'll do in Ohio," he said Tuesday.

Spots in Van Gogh bedroom replica going quickly on Airbnb

CHICAGO (AP) — Availability is tight for a \$10 Airbnb rental in Chicago designed to look like a Vincent Van Gogh masterpiece.

Openings for the space the Art Institute of Chicago modeled after Van Gogh's famous painting of his bedroom have sold out quickly. The promotion for the museum's "Van Gogh's Bedrooms" exhibition was announced earlier this month, and future dates will be announced in waves on the Art Institute's social media channels.

Curator Gloria Groom says Van Gogh's bedroom in the south of France represented something he was looking for all of his life, a place of his own.

The blue walls, yellow chairs and painted floor in Chicago are all familiar, but this version comes with a double bed, Wi-Fi and an indoor bathroom.

The exhibition runs through May 10.

Entrance poll: Strong desire for outsider drives Trump win

EMILY SWANSON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A clear majority of those attending the Nevada caucuses want the next president to be from outside the political establishment, driving businessman Donald Trump to victory.

The 6 in 10 caucus-goers who said they prefer an outsider over someone with political experience was a higher percentage than in any other GOP primary or caucus so far, according to the entrance poll conducted for the Associated Press and television networks by Edison Research.

But in a silver lining for Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, he earned majority support from those who'd rather have the next president be someone with political experience. That made him the first candidate to consolidate that support in any early primary or caucus state.

A closer look at Nevada Republican caucus-goers:

ANGRY ELECTORATE

Among those arriving at Nevada's Republican caucuses Tuesday, nearly 6 in 10 said they are angry at the way the government is working, according to the entrance poll. Another third of caucus attendees said they are dissatisfied with the government.

That means Nevada caucus-goers were significantly angrier than Republicans in earlier primary and caucus states. Only about 4 in 10 of those participating in Iowa's caucuses or New Hampshire and South Carolina primaries said they were angry.

Trump was supported by about half of the angry Nevada caucus attendees. Among those who said they were merely dissatisfied, Trump held a somewhat smaller lead over Rubio, with Trump supported by about 4 in 10 and Rubio by about a third.

Nevada caucus-goers were also significantly more likely than those in earlier voting states to want a political outsider as the next president, and those who did overwhelmingly supported Trump. More than half of those wanting someone with political experience supported Rubio.

EVANGELICALS GIVE NO BUMP TO CRUZ

About 4 in 10 Nevada caucus-goers were born-again Christians, but they failed to give much of a bump to Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, who has campaigned hard for their support. In fact, about 4 in 10 of them supported Trump. Even Rubio caught Cruz among that group, with about a quarter of evangelicals supporting each.

Cruz came closest to Trump among those calling themselves very conservative, who accounted for about 4 in 10 caucus-goers. But Trump was supported by half of those who said they were only somewhat conservative, and more than half of moderates.

TRUMP FOR CHANGE, RUBIO FOR ELECTABILITY

Trump was supported by an overwhelming majority — nearly 9 in 10 — of those caring most about having a candidate who "tells it like it is" and by 6 in 10 who wanted a candidate who can bring change. Rubio was supported by about half those who cared most about electability.

Cruz was favored among those wanting someone who shares their values, but by a narrower margin — about 4 in 10 supported him, while about a quarter supported Rubio and 2 in 10 supported Trump.

About 3 in 10 said the quality that mattered most in choosing a candidate was someone who shared their values. That's slightly more than said they want a candidate who can win in November or who can bring change, each chosen by about a quarter of caucus attendees.

OLDER AND NON-COLLEGE CAUCUS GOERS BIG FOR TRUMP

Nearly half of Nevada caucus-goers over age 45 said they came to support Trump, but his margin of victory was somewhat narrower among those under 45, with about 4 in 10 saying they supported him. Another 3 in 10 of those under 45 said they supported Rubio, and about a quarter supported Cruz.

About half of caucus attendees without a college degree supported Trump, compared with 4 in 10 col-

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lege grads.

Among those who decided who to support in the last week, about 4 in 10 supported Rubio, while about a quarter supported Trump and Cruz.

But a majority of those deciding before the last week supported Trump, and they accounted for about 7 in 10 caucus attendees.

IMMIGRATION, ECONOMY KEY TO VICTORY

Caucus attendees were most likely to say the top issues facing the country are the economy or government spending, each listed by about 3 in 10. Immigration and terrorism were each chosen by slightly fewer — about 2 in 10.

Trump was supported by about 6 in 10 of those who said they care most about immigration, and nearly half of those who said they care most about the economy. Among those who cared most about terrorism, about a third supported Trump and a third supported Rubio. Those who cared most about government spending were slightly more likely to support Trump than Rubio or Cruz.

The survey was conducted for The Associated Press and the television networks by Edison Research as Republican voters arrived at 25 randomly selected caucus sites in Nevada. The results include interviews with 1,573 Republican caucus-goers and have a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 24, the 55th day of 2016. There are 311 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 24, 1868, the U.S. House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson following his attempted dismissal of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; Johnson was later acquitted by the Senate.

On this date:

In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII issued an edict outlining his calendar reforms. (The Gregorian Calendar is the calendar in general use today.)

In 1803, in its *Marbury v. Madison* decision, the Supreme Court established judicial review of the constitutionality of statutes.

In 1912, the American Jewish women's organization Hadassah was founded in New York City.

In 1920, the German Workers Party, which later became the Nazi Party, met in Munich to adopt its platform.

In 1938, the first nylon bristle toothbrush, manufactured by DuPont under the name "Dr. West's Miracle Toothbrush," went on sale.

In 1946, Argentinian men went to the polls to elect Juan D. Peron their president.

In 1955, the Cole Porter musical "Silk Stockings" opened at the Imperial Theater on Broadway.

In 1966, Kwame Nkrumah, the first president of Ghana, was overthrown in a military coup while he was visiting Beijing; he was replaced by Joseph Arthur Ankrah.

In 1975, the Congressional Budget Office, charged with providing independent analyses of budgetary and economic issues, began operating under its first director, Alice Rivlin.

In 1986, the Supreme Court struck down, 6-3, an Indianapolis ordinance that would have allowed women injured by someone who had seen or read pornographic material to sue the maker or seller of that material.

In 1988, in a ruling that expanded legal protections for parody and satire, the Supreme Court unanimously overturned a \$150,000 award that the Rev. Jerry Falwell had won against *Hustler* magazine and its publisher, Larry Flynt.

In 1996, Cuba downed two small American planes operated by the group Brothers to the Rescue that it claimed were violating Cuban airspace; all four pilots were killed.

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Ten years ago: Suicide bombers attempted to drive explosive-packed cars into the world's largest oil processing facility in Saudi Arabia, but were foiled by guards who opened fire, detonating both vehicles; al-Qaida claimed responsibility. Julia Mancuso won gold in the women's giant slalom at the Turin Olympics. Death claimed actors Don Knotts in Los Angeles and Dennis Weaver in Ridgway, Colorado; both were 81.

Five years ago: Discovery, the world's most traveled spaceship, thundered into orbit for the final time, heading toward the International Space Station on a journey marking the beginning of the end of the shuttle era.

One year ago: President Barack Obama, defying a Republican-led Congress, rejected a bill to approve construction of the Keystone XL oil pipeline. The Justice Department announced that George Zimmerman, the former neighborhood watch volunteer who fatally shot Trayvon Martin in a 2012 confrontation, would not face federal charges. A Texas jury rejected the insanity defense of Eddie Ray Routh, convicting him of murdering famed "American Sniper" author Chris Kyle and Chad Littlefield. A Metrolink passenger train collided with a truck at a crossing in Oxnard, California, killing the engineer and injuring 29 other people. Alaska became the third U.S. state to legalize the recreational use of marijuana.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Steven Hill is 94. Actress Emmanuelle Riva is 89. Actor-singer Dominic Chianese (kee-uh-NAY'-see) is 85. Movie composer Michel Legrand is 84. Opera singer-director Renata Scotta is 82. Singer Joanie Sommers is 75. Former Sen. Joseph Lieberman, I-Conn., is 74. Actor Barry Bostwick is 71. Actor Edward James Olmos is 69. Singer-writer-producer Rupert Holmes is 69. Rock singer-musician George Thorogood is 66. Actress Debra Jo Rupp is 65. Actress Helen Shaver is 65. News anchor Paula Zahn is 60. Baseball Hall of Famer Eddie Murray is 60. Country singer Sammy Kershaw is 58. Actor Mark Moses is 58. Actress Beth Broderick is 57. Singer Michelle Shocked is 54. Movie director Todd Field is 52. Actor Billy Zane is 50. Actress Bonnie Somerville is 42. Jazz musician Jimmy Greene is 41. Rhythm-and-blues singer Brandon Brown (Mista) is 33. Rock musician Matt McGinley (Gym Class Heroes) is 33. Actor Wilson Bethel is 32. Actor Alexander Koch is 28. Rapper-actor O'Shea Jackson Jr. (Film: "Straight Outta Compton") is 25.

Thought for Today: "It is my feeling that Time ripens all things; with Time all things are revealed; Time is the father of truth." — Francois Rabelais, 16th century French writer and physician.