

Groton Daily Independent

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Dairy Queen Help Wanted

HELP WANTED: Part-time, flexible hours. Apply at Dairy Queen in Groton.

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

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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Thursday, May 12

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

School Lunch: Mini corn dogs, baked beans, carrots and dip, fruit.

Senior Menu: Turkey chow mein, rice/chow mein noodles, broccoli, breadsticks, sour cream apple pie square.

Birthdays: Cindy Hinman

11:00am: Girls Golf at Madison

1:00pm: 7th/8th Track at Clark

Friday, May 13

School Breakfast: Cereal, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Cook's Choice.

Senior Menu: Baked fish, au gratin potatoes, 3-bean salad, peach cobbler, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Doris Strom • Nicole Koehler

11:00am: NEC Track at Clark

Saturday, May 14

Birthdays: • Linda Johnson • Pam Rix • Sheila Johnson • Kevin Radke • Madisyn Waage • Alesha Peterson • Ryan Schelle

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

Sunday, May 15

Birthdays: • Charlotte Lange • Beth Hendrickson • Betty Weihrauch • Pearl Dean • Brandee Sundstrom • Casey Dennert • Marcy Blackmun


9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran worship with communion

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

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

11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

2:00pm



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Groton School May 9, 2016 General Meeting

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6
REGULAR MEETING
May 9, 2016

President Steve Smith called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m. in the High School conference room. Members present: Hanson, Harder, Kjelden, Nelson, Rix, Smith, and Weismantel. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principals A. Schwan and B. Schwan and Business Official Weber.

Moved by Weismantel, second Rix to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Harder, second Nelson to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: District minutes of April 11 and 25; North Central Special Ed Coop items; transportation report, school lunch report, financial reports; agency accounts; investments; bills; and open enrollment applications #17-01 for a student in grade 2 from Aberdeen, #17-02 for a student in Kindergarten from Aberdeen, #17-03 for a student in grade 5 Aberdeen and #17-04 for a student in grade 9 from Aberdeen. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND: Net Salary – 165,853.44; FIT – 18,020.45; Medicare – 6,279.76; FICA – 26,851.10; American Funds – 702.40; Washington National – 98.40; SD Retirement – 27,185.74; First National Bank HSAs – 100.00; Waddell & Reed – 1,216.54; Horace Mann – 318.51; Thrivent – 205.80; AFLAC – 2,216.49; Delta Dental – 4,226.10; SD Supplemental Retirement – 830.80; Wellmark BCBS – 55,847.00; Reliastar Life – 538.90; A&B Business – pens, 15.23; Aberdeen Awards – awards, 4,142.00; Acme Tools – supplies, 68.29; Agency Fund – advance payments, 13,942.99; Award Emblem – awards, 919.27; Building Sprinkler – repairs, 539.46; Carquest Auto – supplies, 440.86; City of Groton – utilities/services, 12,770.09; Coca-Cola – pop, 259.50; Cole Papers – paper/supplies, 1,258.19; Country Inn & Suites – cheer lodging, 82.99; Crossroads Hotel – lodging, 161.98; CWD – supplies, 69.98; Dakota Fence – bushings/pins, 46.30; Dakota Outdoors – repairs, 94.95; Dakota Supply Group – filters, 245.28; Dependable Sanitation – services, 1,238.00; Far From Normal – supplies, 372.42; G&K Services – services, 430.06; GASD Food Service – supplies, 229.20; Groton Daily Independent – notices, 59.58; Groton Rescue Squad – services, 500.00; Harlow's – parts, 203.02; Hauff Mid-America Sports – supplies, 310.00; Hillyard – services, 435.81; House of Glass – services, 285.71; Instrumentalist Awards – award, 77.00; Interstate All Battery – batteries, 89.70; JW Pepper – music, 206.92; James Valley Telecom. – services, 824.94; Jerke Irrigation – services, 196.45; Jostens – pins/medals, 219.49; Locke Electric – services, 2,300.01; Matheson – supplies, 255.92; McFarland Supply – part, 41.06; Mike-n-Jo's – repairs, 48.00; Northside Implement – services, 4,539.10; Northwestern Energy – utilities, 2,072.49; Otis Elevator – services, 460.00; Ron Parker – accompanist, 2,428.40; Pearson Education – math curriculum review, 1,069.33; Ramkota Hotel – lodging, 191.98; J. Siebel – gas, 45.05; Sewer Saver – services, 217.30; Sheraton – lodging, 134.00; Spellman Painting – services, 3,031.95; Taylor Music – repairs/supplies, 253.93; L. Tietz – meals, 24.17; University of Sioux Falls – registration, 190.00; Veblen Asbestos – inspections, 325.00; Walmart – supplies, 81.91; M. Weber – meals/suppl, 12.55

Total General Fund – \$368,949.24.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: Agency Fund – adv pmts, 2,082.75; Connecting Point – nibs, 17.65; Hauff Mid-America Sports – track equipment, 1, 449.15; Marco – copier leases, 1,978.17; Matheson – vise assembly, 38.81; MidAmerica Books – lib books, 428.02; Textbook Warehouse, texts, 113.30; Walmart – grill, 99.00; Wells Fargo Securities – east addn pmts, 110,913.15. Total Capital Outlay - \$117,120.00.

SPECIAL ED: Net Salary – 27,728.76; FIT – 2,509.44; Medicare – 1,042.68; FICA – 4,458.06; SD Retirement – 4,450.84; Waddell & Reed – 250.00; AFLAC – 409.66; Delta Dental – 845.22; SD Supplemental Retirement – 200.00; Wellmark BCBS – 11,098.00; Reliastar Life – 207.26; Agency Fund – adv pmts, 117.65; Avera St. Luke's – services, 9,224.07; M. Erickson – supplies, 30.99; Walmart – supplies, 51.27. Total Special Education – \$62,623.90.

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BOND REDEMPTION: First National Bank – arena interest, 4,992.88.

ENTERPRISE: Food Service: Net Salary – 6,276.10; FIT – 448.69; Medicare – 220.48; FICA – 942.58; SD Retirement – 590.74; AFLAC – 54.22; Wellmark BCBS – 1,372.00; Reliastar Life – 1.30; Agency Fund – adv pmts, 5.55; CWD – food/suppl, 2,112.60; Dean Foods – dairy products, 1,612.66; Earthgrains – bakery products, 281.97; G&K Services – linen serv, 258.04; Mid-American Research Chemical – cleaner, 125.37; Reinhart Foodservice – food, 1,848.50; SD DOE-CANS – processed commodities, 309.62; Sewer Saver – services, 307.40; Sysco – food, 2,677.98; US Foods – food/suppl, 2,611.15; Woodman Refrigeration – repairs, 1,034.31. Total Food Service – 23,091.26. OST: Net Salary – 1,445.95; FIT – 56.31; Medicare – 49.64; FICA – 212.26; SD Retirement – 156.48; AFLAC – 135.98; Wellmark BCBS – 604.00; Reliastar Life -- .65; Agency Fund – adv pmts, 528.30; GASD-Food Serv – milk, 8.50; Menards – supplies, 71.81. Total OST -- \$3,269.88. Total Enterprise Funds – \$26,361.14.

AGENCY: Total - \$61,038.89.

RECEIPTS: Local Source, Taxes – 185,612.19; Other Local Sources – 84,934.50; County Sources – 4,570.33; Federal Sources – 8,108.14. Total Receipts – \$283,225.16.

Members of the public were allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public members present to speak, the board proceeded with their remaining agenda items.

Representatives from Fosters, Jacobs and Johnson presented a buildings report intended as a proposed building improvement measures draft. The draft included design options and cost estimates. A committee Smith, Harder and Weismantel will meet three times before the June board meeting to prioritize the multiple design options.

There were no school board committee reports given.

The following items were discussed in administrative reports: elementary kitchen plumbing issue, FJJ conference call, faculty in-service, landscaping work on south side of high school, issues with Johnson Controls and Allied Climate Professionals, first grade schedule, track and field day, kindergarten visitation, elementary field trips, DARE graduation, coop board representation options, Teachscape, Seniors, Dual Credit, 2016 Schedule, Teacher appreciation and student recognition.

Scott Thorson presented an idea for taking Sophomore students on an east coast trip from June 8-12, 2017. The cost per student will be approximately \$2,300 and Thorson will keep the school board updated. No action was taken.

City of Groton representatives were present to discuss the soccer field lease agreement.

Weber presented the District FY16 District and Coop Preliminary Budget in accordance with SDCL 13-11-12.

A list of unwanted inventory items from staff were presented. Moved by Weismantel, second Nelson to declare items as surplus property for disposal. Motion carried.

Members of the Groton Youth Rally committee requested waiver of the facility use fee for November 16, 2016. Moved by Nelson, second Kjelden to approve. Motion carried

Moved by Rix, second Nelson to approve North Central Special Education Cooperative Agreement for 2016-17. Motion carried.

Moved by Kjelden, second Harder to cast ballot for Jim Aisenbrey for SDHSAA Division IV Representative. Motion carried.

Moved by Nelson, second Weismantel to cast a yes vote for SDHSAA Constitutional Amendment #1. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Rix to approve resignation for paraprofessional Glenna Remington at the end of the 2015-16 school year. Motion carried.

Moved by Nelson, second Kjelden to approve resignation for Junior High Track Coach Shaun Wanner at the end of the 2015-16 school year. Motion carried.

Moved by Harder, second Nelson to hire Jordan Kjellsen as Junior High Track Coach for 2016-17. Motion carried.

Moved by Nelson, second Rix to hire Becky Erickson as Assistant Girls Basketball Coach for 2016-17. Motion carried.

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Moved by Rix, second Kjelden to hire Justin Hanson as Head Boys Basketball Coach for 2016-17. Motion carried.

Moved by Nelson, second Harder to approve signed auxiliary staff work agreements for 2016-17. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Kjelden to approve summer library work agreements for Becky Lewandowski for 54 hours at \$11.20 per hour. Motion carried.

Moved by Nelson, second Rix to approve summer school work agreements for Deb Winburn and Julie Milbrandt for 88 hours at \$15.00 per hour. Motion carried.

Moved by Harder, second Nelson to approve special education extended school year services agreements for Deb Winburn for 6 hours at \$15.00 per hour, Gail Kyar for 56 hours at \$11.20 per hour, Joni Groebinghoff for 56 hours at \$10.50 per hour and Amanda Bisbee for 12 hours at \$10.50 per hour. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Kjelden to issue work agreement for salaried auxiliary staff members Loren Bahr, Kathryn Bury, Beth Gustafson, Mike Nehls and Chuck Padfield and off-staff coaches Chelsea Hanson, Sandi Sippel, Mike Becker, Cory Harder and Joann Donley. Motion carried 6-0 with Harder abstaining.

Moved by Nelson, second Weismantel to approve educational advancement lane change for Diane Kurtz from MS to MS +15 for the 2016-17 school year. Motion carried.

Moved by Kjelden, second Weismantel to go into executive session at 9:22 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(4) for negotiations. Motion carried.

President Smith declared the board out of executive session at 10:00 pm.

Moved by Kjelden, second Nelson to approve Administrative Staff Negotiated Agreement. Motion carried.

Moved by Nelson, second Kjelden to approve amended and signed administrative contracts for 2016-17. Motion carried.

Moved by Nelson, second Rix to adjourn. Motion carried.

M. J. Weber, Business Manager

Steven R. Smith, President

The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

Groton to graduate 53 seniors

Groton will be having its graduation ceremony on Sunday, May 15, 2 p.m., in the GHS Arena.

Seniors graduating are Kaili Aberle, Hayden Anderson, Mikaela Blumhardt, Isaiah Cutler, Josephine Doeden, Steven Fey, Dustin Fish, Brady Graf, Hailey Hanson, Jerick Hanson, Kari Hanson, Aubray Harry, Adam Herman, Joy Htoo, Kelsey Iverson, John Jensen, Landon Johnson, Carter Jondahl, Marlee Jones, Brady Keith, Jamie Krueger, Hunter Lerew, Jayleen Lier, Angela Locke, Zara Maag, Kiernan McCranie, Jack McKiver, Katie Miller, Kyle Miller, Alexia Musch, Jaden Oliver, Emily Raap, Matthew Richards, Kaitlyn Ringgenberg, Taryn Rossow, Jasmine Schaller, Keegan Schelle, Aaron Severson, Maggie Simon, Brody Sombke, Sarah Stange, Garrett Stene, James Thompson, Tia Thompson, Megan Unzen, Hannah Webb, Allison Weber, Toby Weber, Lane Weig, Carly Wheeting, Alex Worlie and Christopher Zarycki.



Iverson receives first Susan Clawson Grace teaching scholarship
L-R Lee Schinkel, longtime friend and 1961 classmate of late Susan Clawson; Kelly Iverson, Groton High School scholarship award winner; and Amanda Hogg, granddaughter of Susan Clawson, and NSU student. Lee and Amanda are presenting the plaque and first annual Susan Clawson Grace teaching scholarship to Kelly.

Britton-Hecla Track Meet Awards

The following awards were presented at the Britton-Hecla Track meet held earlier this week.

Most Valuable Jumper:

Girls - Shyla Henricks (Britton Hecla)
Boys - Jared Rabenberg (Britton Hecla)

Most Valuable Hurdler:

Girls - Brooke Skoglund (Britton Hecla)
Boys - Tylan Glover (Tylan Glover)

Most Valuable Thrower:

Girls - Carly Wheeting (Groton)
Boys - Steve Fey (Groton)

Most Valuable Sprinter

Girls - Kassi Jones (Britton Hecla)
Boys - Adam Herman (Groton)

Distance:

Girls - Abby Flanery (Britton Hecla)
Boys - Noah Kujanson (Sargent Co.)

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Today in Weather History

May 12, 1984: An F3 tornado wiped out seven farms, crippled fifteen others, killed livestock and scattered several cars and machinery in its path. The tornado first touched down seven miles north and one mile east of Clark and moved southeast through the southwestern sections of Henry until it dissipated at Grover in Codrington County. The path of destruction began on a farm where two barns, a steel grain bin, and a pole barn were demolished, and machinery was damaged. As the tornado moved further southeast, it struck the southwest sections of Henry and split into two tornados that moved in two different directions. One went to the northeast that inflicted no damaged and dissipated while the other went southeast that continued its destruction path to Grover. Small hail, accumulation to fifteen inches deep, was experienced at Henry and tornado damage included broken windows, numerous homes and three trailer homes were demolished. Along the path, 80 power poles and several miles of power lines were lost, affecting the power to over 1,000 people. A small plane, southwest of Garden City, was wrapped around a pole.

1760: Ben Franklin was the first person to identify nor'easters. In a letter on this date to Alexander Small of London, Franklin described an experience that happened to him in November 1743 when storm clouds in Philadelphia blocked his view of an eclipse. Franklin assumed that the storm had blown in from the northeast because the surface winds at his location were from that direction. He was puzzled to find out later that his brother had viewed the eclipse with no problems and that the storm had arrived in Boston four hours later. The information caused Franklin to surmise correctly that the storm had moved from southwest to northeast. [Click HERE](#) to read the letter to Alexander Small.

1886: An estimated F4 tornado touched down in Vermilion County near Armstrong, Illinois, and passed between Alvin and Rossville before moving into Indiana. At least five houses were destroyed, two of which were entirely swept away. Three people were killed. Five other strong tornadoes occurred across Illinois that day: two near Mt. Carroll, one near Odell, one near Jacksonville, and one in Iroquois County.

1997: A towering F1 tornado ripped its way through the middle of Miami, Biscayne Bay, and Miami Beach right after lunch Monday, smashing cars and windows, tossing trees skyward and scaring the dickens out of thousands of people.



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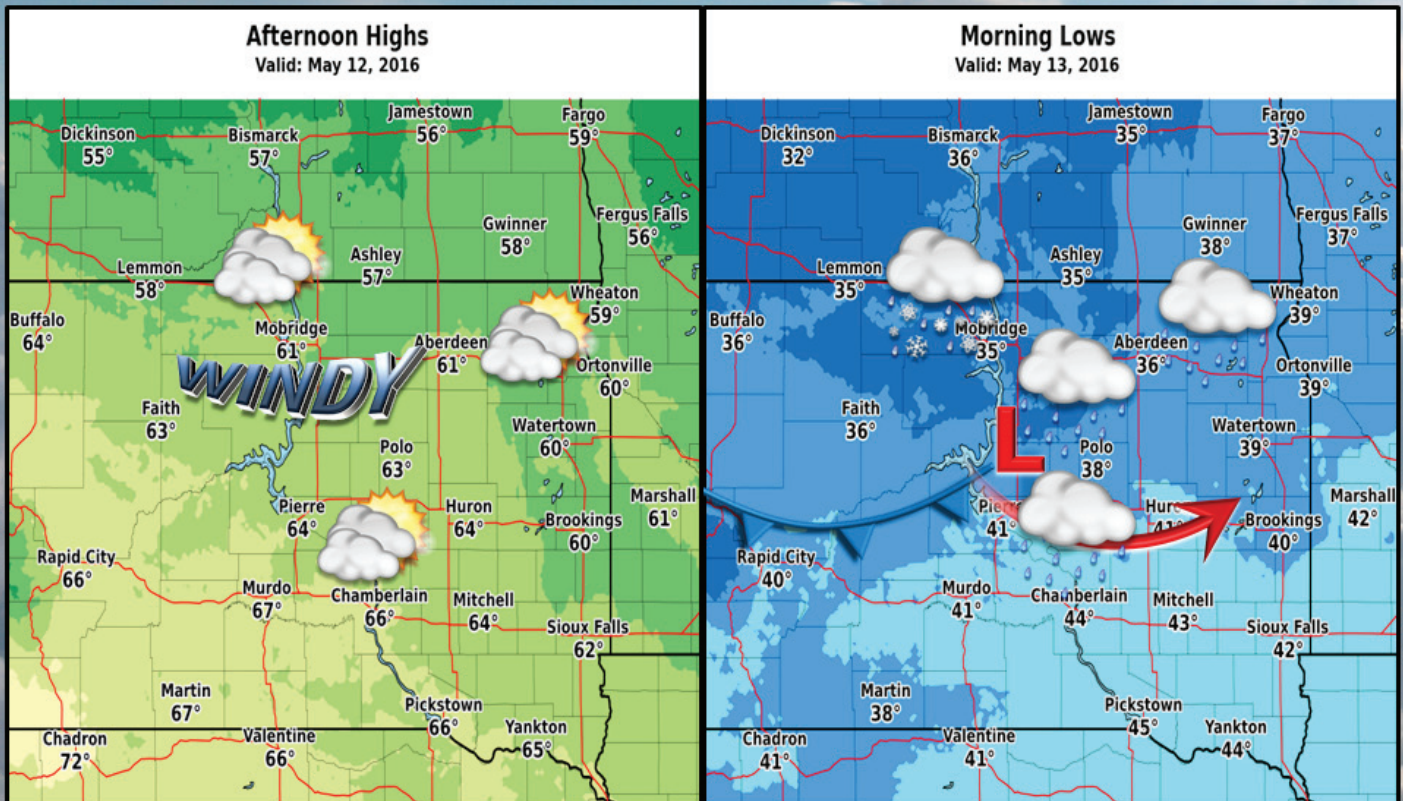
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Today	Tonight	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
						
Decreasing Clouds	Partly Cloudy then Rain Likely	Rain/Snow Likely then Chance Rain and Breezy	Partly Cloudy and Blustery then Frost	Frost then Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Patchy Frost then Mostly Sunny
High: 61 °F	Low: 36 °F	High: 50 °F	Low: 31 °F	High: 56 °F	Low: 35 °F	High: 63 °F

Breezy Today – Light Rain Tonight



National Weather Service, Aberdeen SD

Published on: 05/12/2016 at 4:41AM

Another breezy/windy day is expected across South Dakota. A weak system will also zip across the forecast area overnight. This system will bring some light rain - which may briefly mix with wet snow as the system departs. Colder air behind the system could result in a widespread frost or freeze for the Dakotas and Minnesota Saturday morning.

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Yesterday's Weather

High: 63.1 at 2:05 PM

Low: 45.8 at 4:07 AM

High Gust: 33 at 2:29 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 90° in 1900

Record Low: 17 in 1946

Average High: 68°F

Average Low: 43°F

Average Precip in May: 1.23

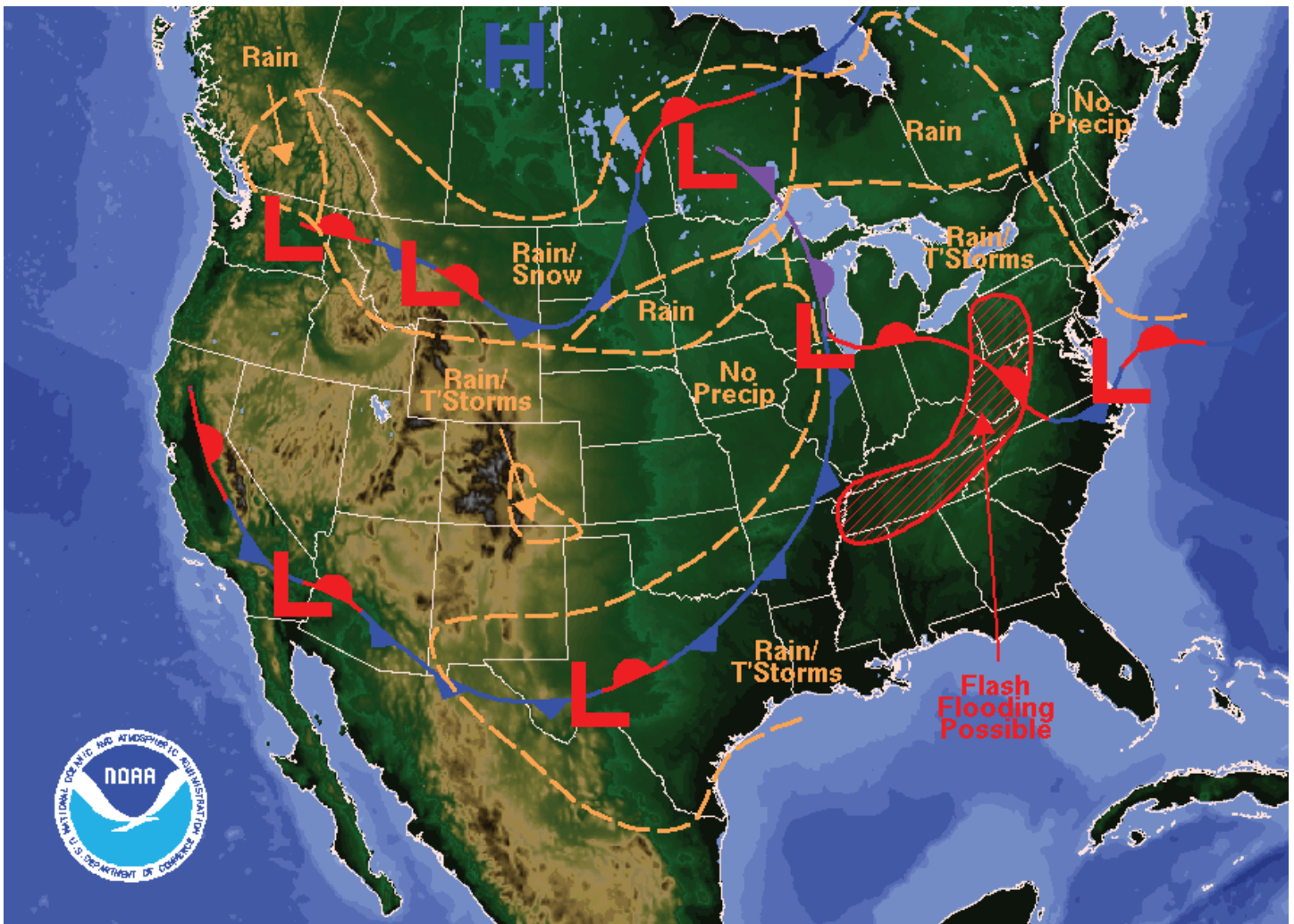
Precip to date in May: 0.11

Average Precip to date: 5.26

Precip Year to Date: 3.50

Sunset Tonight: 8:54 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:04 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Thu, May 12, 2016, issued 4:36 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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EDUCATION OR LEARNING?

A reporter was visiting a number of farmers who had been identified as "successful." He had been traveling from state to state and farm to farm. His last interviewee was the farmer who was known for being more successful than all of the others.

"Tell, me, Sir," began the reporter, "how much education have you had?"

Reflecting for a moment, the farmer answered, "Six years of schooling, but fifty years of learning."

From His birth to His baptism, we only have one glimpse into the life of Jesus. It was when His parents took Him to celebrate the Passover in Jerusalem. He was so overwhelmed and impressed by the events that took place that He lingered a little longer than they did and became separated from them. Luke says that they found Jesus listening to the religious teachers and asking questions and adds that they were "amazed at his understanding and answers." Imagine, if you can, the Son of God eagerly searching for knowledge to grow in "wisdom and stature and favor with God and all the people."

In every area of His life, Jesus set examples for us to follow. But none more important than learning the ways of His Father.

Prayer: Father, if we would serve You fully and faithfully, we can only do so if we come to know You through understanding Your Word. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Luke 2:47, 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

News from the Associated Press

US education secretary to visit Pine Ridge Reservation

PINE RIDGE, S.D. (AP) — U.S. Education Secretary John King has scheduled a visit to South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

King is to visit the Red Cloud Indian School in the town of Pine Ridge on Thursday morning. He'll take part in the opening ceremonies for a gathering of educators and federal officials to discuss improving academic and life prospects for youth.

The Oglala Sioux Tribe last year declared a state of emergency because of a series of youth suicides and attempted suicides.

King also is to tour Wolf Creek Elementary School.

Man sentenced for dealing 20 pounds of meth in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A man accused of distributing more than 20 pounds of methamphetamine in Sioux Falls has been sentenced to more than 17 years in federal prison.

Twenty-eight-year-old Milton Poole III was indicted by a grand jury on a drug conspiracy charge last August. He pleaded guilty in February.

U.S. Attorney Randolph Seiler says Poole recently was sentenced to 210 months in custody to be followed by five years of supervised release.

Sanders: Montana primary vote matters as race nears end

MATTHEW BROWN, Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders told supporters in Montana Wednesday that he faces a "steep climb" to close Hillary Clinton's lead in the Democratic presidential primary, but still has a chance to get more voter-backed delegates than his rival.

Fresh off a victory in West Virginia, Sanders gave no indication he's backing down as the race enters its final weeks. Clinton's lead is based largely on backing from unpledged "super-delegates" — Democratic party insiders not bound by the popular vote.

Sanders, a Vermont lawmaker who advocates for economic and social equality, said voters in Montana and seven other states that have yet to cast ballots can rebuff the party establishment ahead of the nominating convention if they vote for him.

"My hope is that this beautiful state will help lead the nation in the political revolution," Sanders said, drawing a deafening cheer from the crowd of 3,000 at Metra Park in Billings.

"It's not going to be easy. It is a steep climb and I admit it," he said. "But if we can do really well in the next eight contests including Montana, we can end up with more pledged delegates, real delegates, elected by the people" than Clinton.

Sanders appearance in Montana's largest city and a rally earlier in the day in Missoula marked the first stops by a major candidate in the state since the primary season got under way.

Under Montana's primary rules, delegates will be awarded proportional to the percentage of votes each candidate gets, said Montana Democratic Party spokeswoman Kristen Cates.

That means Clinton still could pick up delegates and build upon her lead whether or not she prevails in the state's June 7 primary.

Ann King, a 63-year-old teacher and Sanders supporter from Busby, Montana, on the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, said she believes Sanders would give Native Americans a "fair shake" — and she's not giving up on him no matter the delegate count.

"I believe he still has a chance," King said, holding a "Natives for Bernie" sign on the floor of the packed auditorium in Billings as Sanders prepared to speak. "He's got a strong base. That's not being acknowledged by the media, but look at what we have here."

The last time Montana's delegates were in play, during the 2008 primary, both Clinton and then-Sen. Barack Obama made campaign stops in the state.

Clinton lost the 2008 primary by 15 percentage points. But the state director for Clinton's Montana campaign, Jenny Eck, said 2016 bring "a very different landscape" than 2008.

"Nationally, we have seen Sanders perform well in states like Montana," Eck said. "Our plan is to run the strongest ground game that we can, and we'll see what happens."

Montana Democratic Party representatives said they have not yet heard anything from Clinton's campaign regarding a visit by the candidate this primary season. Husband and former President Bill Clinton will campaign for Clinton in Billings on May 20, her campaign announced Wednesday.

Regents give initial approval to rules for beer, wine sales

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The state Board of Regents has given preliminary approval to rules governing the sale of beer and wine at special events hosted at South Dakota's public university campuses, a board spokeswoman said Wednesday.

The policy allows sales but doesn't require them, specifies that beer and wine access must be controlled and restricts the beverage sales during student athletic events to those in premium seating. After giving initial approval to the plan Wednesday, a final decision is expected at the board's June meeting, spokeswoman Janelle Toman said.

The move to govern the sales comes after a measure allowing them during sporting events, artistic performances, fundraisers, conferences and other occasions passed during the 2016 legislative session.

Past state law didn't ban serving alcohol, but on-campus sales were prohibited. The new board rules under consideration would require the president of a university to approve events during which beer and wine could be sold by a vendor.

Events would require a security plan, and food would have to be served. And the rules would require reporting to the Board of Regents.

Sales would also have to be approved by local municipalities. Supporters have said the changes are narrow and will make the school facilities more attractive venues for outside groups to book for conferences or other events.

Allowing beer and wine sales will hopefully spur more visitors, increase tax revenues and add amenities to attract workers to Brookings, home of South Dakota State University, said Mayor Tim Reed. They would also help the community, since the city has put funding into campus facilities such as a performing arts center, he said.

"It made a lot of sense for the community as a whole just because of the activities that happen up on campus," Reed said.

Outgoing SDSU President David Chicoine has said the sale of alcohol could help campus venues as well as the school's fundraising abilities. The plan could also allow the university to better promote premium seating at the new \$65 million Dana J. Dykhouse Stadium.

Man once dubbed 'Porn's New King' is charged in tribal fraud

LARRY NEUMEISTER, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A man once dubbed "Porn's New King" was arrested in Los Angeles on Wednesday on charges he scammed a Native American tribe and others of more than \$60 million.

Charges against Jason Galanis and six others were announced by U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara in Manhattan. Defense lawyers did not immediately comment.

Prosecutors said Galanis and others lied to the Oglala Sioux tribe from March 2014 through April about how proceeds from its bonds would be invested. They said the dealings occurred with the Wakpamni Lake Community Corp., an economic development corporation arm of the Oglala Sioux tribe of the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota.

The government alleges that Galanis and the others spent most of the proceeds on homes, cars, travel and jewelry. It said they duped investors into buying the bonds as well. Galanis was charged with conspiracy

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to commit securities fraud, conspiracy to commit investment adviser fraud and investment adviser fraud.

"Instead of investing the proceeds in a way that would provide capital for development and help cover the interest payments, the defendants allegedly pocketed most of it to pay for their own personal expenses," Bharara said in a statement. "The defendants' alleged fraud has left devastation in its wake: a tribe with tens of millions in bond obligations it cannot pay, and investors out tens of millions, left holding bonds they did not want."

Diego Rodriguez, head of New York's FBI office, said: "The alleged fraudsters named in this case didn't just see an opportunity to steal money when they thought no one was looking, they allegedly hatched a plan to scam a municipal entity from the start. The most egregious fallout from this scheme is that the bondholders now hold worthless securities, and the tribe can't make the interest payments due."

Galanis was labeled "Porn's New King" by Forbes magazine when it reported in 2004 that he had bought the nation's largest payment processor for Internet porn.

Bill Clinton planning trip to Fargo to campaign for Hillary

SIOUX FALLS, N.D. (AP) — Former President Bill Clinton is planning a trip to South Dakota and North Dakota to campaign for his wife, Hillary Clinton.

Campaign officials say the events are scheduled on May 20, first with a rally in Sioux Falls and followed by an appearance in Fargo.

Further details have not been announced.

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, who is competing with Hillary Clinton for the Democratic endorsement, has scheduled a campaign stops in South Dakota on Thursday and North Dakota on Friday.

Little Eagle man sentenced for stabbing on Standing Rock

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Little Eagle man has been sentenced to two years and four months in prison for a stabbing a victim several times with a steak knife on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation.

Authorities say 19-year-old Dace Bobtail Bear was sentenced on Monday. He pleaded guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon in February.

Authorities say the stabbing occurred in October 2015 at a home on the reservation, which straddles the North Dakota and South Dakota border.

Authorities say the victim suffered a collapsed lung and had to have a chest tube inserted.

Rosebud tribal officer shot and wounded; suspect sought

ROSEBUD, S.D. (AP) — Authorities are searching for a man who allegedly shot and wounded a tribal police officer on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in southern South Dakota.

FBI spokesman Kyle Loven says the incident happened about 1:30 a.m. Wednesday. The circumstances haven't been released.

The officer was being treated for his injuries and was listed in stable condition. His name wasn't immediately released.

Rosebud Sioux Tribe Law Enforcement identified the suspect as Linn Crossdog and said he was believed to be armed and dangerous.

Loven said public safety is always a concern in such situations but that he did not believe there was a direct threat to the public.

City of Pierre paves way for \$2 million solar panel project

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The Pierre City Commission has paved the way for what officials say will be the biggest solar energy project in South Dakota.

It also will be the first solar energy project for Missouri River Energy Services, which provides nearly half of the city's power.

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The city will lease 5 acres of land to a Minnesota-based company that will install solar panels which will produce power for Pierre's municipal electrical system.

The project will cost \$2 million. It's expected to be operating next year.

USDA forecast: SD winter wheat crop up 28 percent

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says South Dakota's 2016 winter wheat crop is forecast to be up 28 percent from last year

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The U.S. Department of Agriculture says South Dakota's 2016 winter wheat crop is forecast to be up 28 percent from last year.

The USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service estimates the crop at 54.6 million bushels based on May 1 conditions.

Acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 1.05 million acres, up 8 percent from last year. That's 98 percent of the planted acreage.

The average yield is forecast at 52 bushels per acre, up 8 bushels from last year.

May 1 hay stocks are estimated at 2.2 million tons, down 4 percent compared to one year ago.

Vandals with BB guns target vehicle windows in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police are investigating dozens of incidents in which vehicle windows were shot out with BB guns.

Police spokesman Sam Clemens says authorities received about 20 reports Monday and nearly 30 more on Tuesday, and he expects more to come in.

Each window is valued at about \$250, putting the total damage so far at more than \$12,000. No suspects have been identified.

Mayor: Delmont still viable a year after devastating tornado

DELMONT, S.D. (AP) — Delmont has been through plenty of struggles since a Mother's Day tornado devastated the community a year ago, but Mayor Mae Gunnare says the town is still viable and will survive.

The May 10, 2015, tornado damaged or destroyed dozens of structures including the town's new fire hall and the century-old Zion Lutheran Church. It also injured nine people and displaced dozens of residents, some of whom have chosen to leave permanently.

"We were 200 and something (population) and now we're maybe 100, but it's good here," resident Sue Crichton said Tuesday, as the town celebrated its achievements on the anniversary of the disaster. "It's a good life."

Gunnare said plans for some new homes are in the works and an apartment complex also is a possibility, so she expects many empty lots to fill up. The town also has paid off \$330,000 in tornado-related debt, thanks in part to state aid and donations including an anonymous gift of \$100,000, she said.

The town has replaced its fire hall, and the Zion Lutheran congregation — which is worshipping at Delmont's Community Center — is rebuilding its church.

One downside is that a convenience store that has been a staple in the town is closing.

"Business just really, really went down (and) we can't make it," Old Bank Mini Mart owner David Mathew said.

Gunnare said the tornado was "a life-changing event" but that the town will persevere.

"The community is still Delmont. We didn't miss any event since the tornado," she said, "We had a New Year's Eve parade and ... we had the Fourth of July fireworks, and we plan on having that again.

"Delmont will remain on the map," Gunnare said.

Montana State names new athletic director

BOZEMAN, Mont. (AP) — Montana State University has named South Dakota State senior associate athletic director Leon Costello as the university's new athletic director.

MSU President Waded Cruzado announced the hiring Tuesday, hours after she said Utah deputy athletic director Kyle Brennan had changed his mind about accepting the job.

Costello was one of five finalists to succeed Peter Fields, whose contract wasn't renewed after 14 years. Costello tells the Bozeman Daily Chronicle he was disappointed when he wasn't hired initially, but is glad the way things worked out.

Costello says he and his family saw themselves fitting in in Bozeman and called MSU a great place with huge potential.

Costello helped raise \$57 million for SDSU, in part to build an athletic complex. The school's new football stadium is nearly complete.

Bernie Sanders schedules Friday rally in North Dakota

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Another U.S. presidential hopeful has scheduled a campaign event in North Dakota. Democrat Bernie Sanders is to appear at a Friday rally at the Ramada Fargo Convention Center, a day after three scheduled stops in South Dakota. Doors in Fargo open at 11 a.m. Admission is free and on a first come, first served basis.

Sanders is competing with Hillary Clinton for the Democratic endorsement. Whoever gets it likely will run against presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump.

Trump is to address the Williston Basin Petroleum Conference at the Bismarck Event Center on May 26. There are 2,500 tickets available to the public, and The Bismarck Tribune reports they're a hot item. The 1,200 tickets available online sold almost immediately Monday, and people lined up at the box office Tuesday.

Call me Lord Prime Minister: Cambodia wants PM title used

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — For years, some Cambodian media have referred to the country's longtime leader simply as Prime Minister Hun Sen. Authorities are now warning that has to stop.

The Information Ministry said Thursday that starting in August, all media must use his full honorary title — "Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen" — in the opening lines of print articles, radio and TV stories about the leader.

Hun Sen's 6-word official title translates roughly to "Lord Prime Minister and Supreme Military Commander."

The rule also applies to several ruling party officials and first lady Bun Rany, who also have formal honorary titles.

The new rule appeared aimed specifically at media viewed by the government as pro-opposition and pro-Western. Pro-government media generally highlight Hun Sen's formal title.

Brazil's Senate impeaches president Rousseff; trial ahead

JENNY BARCHFIELD, Associated Press

MAURICIO SAVARESE, Associated Press

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) — Brazil's Senate voted Thursday to impeach President Dilma Rousseff after a months-long fight that laid raw the country's fury over corruption and economic decay, hurling Latin America's largest country into political turmoil just months before it hosts the Summer Olympics.

Rousseff's enraged backers called the move a coup d'état and threatened wide-scale protests and strikes. Her foes, meanwhile, insisted that she had broken the law, and that the country's deep political, social and economic woes could only be tackled without her.

The 55-22 vote means that Rousseff's ally-turned-enemy, Vice President Michel Temer, will take over as acting president later Thursday while she is suspended. The Senate has 180 days to conduct a trial and

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decide whether Rousseff should be permanently removed from office.

"Did anyone think that we would get to 2018 with a recovery under this government? Impossible," said Jose Serra, the opposition Social Democratic Party's failed presidential candidate in the 2010 race that brought Rousseff into power. "The impeachment is just the start of the reconstruction."

Rousseff, 68, was impeached for her alleged mishandling of the federal budget. Critics said she used accounting tricks to hide ballooning deficits and bolster an embattled government. Brazil's first female president, who was tortured under the country's dictatorship, has frequently blasted the impeachment push as modern-day coup, arguing she had not been charged with a crime and previous presidents did similar things.

She has also suggested that sexism in the male-dominated Congress played a role in the impeachment.

Rousseff's impeachment ends 13 years of rule by the Workers' Party, which is credited with lifting millions out of abject poverty but vilified for being at the wheel when billions were siphoned from the state oil company Petrobras.

Analysts also say Rousseff got herself into trouble with a prickly manner and a perceived reticence to work with legislators that may have alienated possible allies.

Temer, a 75-year-old career politician, has promised to cut spending and privatize many sectors controlled by the state. For weeks, he has been quietly putting together a new Cabinet in expectation of taking over, angering Rousseff supporters. The lower house voted 367-137 last month in favor of impeachment.

The marathon debate in the Senate began Wednesday morning and took 20 hours as dozens of lawmakers rose to give their opinions.

Humberto Costa, the Workers' Party leader in the Senate, brandished a photo of Rousseff from her days as a young Marxist guerrilla during the country's 1964-1985 dictatorship at the military proceedings against her.

Costa called Thursday's impeachment the second unjust trial Rousseff had endured, saying it was a bid by Brazil's traditional ruling classes to reassert their power and roll back Workers' Party policies in favor of the poor.

"The Brazilian elite, the ruling class, which keeps treating this country as if it was their hereditary dominion, does not appreciate democracy," Costa said.

When the impeachment measure was introduced last year in Congress, it was generally viewed as a long shot. As late as February, consultancies like Eurasia were predicting it wouldn't even make it out of committee in the lower Chamber of Deputies.

But the momentum built, as Brazilians seethed over numerous corruption scandals linked to Petrobras and daily announcements of job losses added to a growing desperation. The Brazilian economy is expected to contract nearly 4 percent after an equally dismal 2015 and inflation and unemployment are hovering around 10 percent, underscoring a sharp decline since the South American giant enjoyed stellar growth for more than a decade.

Polls have said a majority of Brazilians supported impeaching Rousseff, though they also suggest the public is wary about those in the line of succession to take her place.

"Dilma is a bad president and waiting until 2018 was a horrible option," said cab driver Alessandro Novais in Rio de Janeiro, minutes after the vote. "I don't think Temer will be much better, but at least we can try something different to overcome the crisis."

Temer has been implicated in the Petrobras corruption scheme as has Calheiros, the Senate head who is now No. 2 in the line of succession. Former House Speaker Eduardo Cunha, who had been second in line, was suspended from office this month over allegations of obstruction of justice and corruption.

Rousseff has vehemently denied her administration's financial sleight of hand moves constituted a crime and argued that such maneuvers were used by prior presidents without repercussions. She has stressed that — unlike many of those who have pushed for impeachment — she does not face any allegations of personal corruption.

The impeachment process, Rousseff and her supporters say, amounts to a coup aimed at undoing social programs that have lifted an estimated 35 million Brazilians out of grinding poverty over the past years.

"I think Brazil went backward in institutional maturity," said Tiago Cordeiro, digital media consultant. "I am shocked to see how people find it OK to oust a president without reason."

Temer, of the centrist Democratic Movement Party, insists he would expand the popular social programs, though he has also signaled that fiscal rigor is needed to dig Brazil out of its current financial hole.

Adding to Brazilians' economic worries, the investigation into a multibillion-dollar kickback scheme at Petrobras has ensnared dozens of elite politicians and businessmen across the political spectrum. Although Rousseff herself hasn't been implicated, top officials in her party were and that tarnished her reputation.

The president "is having to pay for everything," Sen. Telmario Mota de Oliveira said.

Trial begins for officer charged in Freddie Gray case

JULIET LINDERMAN, Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — The second trial in the Freddie Gray case gets underway Thursday, and it will be different than the one that ended last year with a hung jury.

This trial is before a judge, and it has a better chance of ending with a verdict. It is also likely to signal what may happen with the officers who face similar charges.

Officer Edward Nero, one of six Baltimore officers charged in the arrest and death of Freddie Gray, faces assault, misconduct in office and reckless endangerment charges. Nero and two other officers arrested Gray after making eye contact with him and chasing him in West Baltimore last year. Prosecutors say the officers detained him illegally.

Gray was placed in handcuffs and put in the back of a police transport van, where he suffered a critical spinal injury. He died a week later on April 19, 2015.

Gray's death prompted protests, rioting and looting in Baltimore, and his name became a rallying cry in the growing national conversation about the treatment of black men in America by police officers. Shortly after Gray's death, State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby charged the six officers.

Officer Garrett Miller faces the same charges as Nero, while Officer William Porter, Sgt. Alicia White, Lt. Brian Rice and Officer Caesar Goodson face an additional manslaughter charge. Goodson also faces the most serious charge of all: second-degree murder.

Nero opted for a judge trial, rather than a jury trial. Baltimore Circuit Judge Barry Williams indicated that the trial will take about five days.

Porter was tried by jury in October, but his proceedings ended in a mistrial after the jurors failed to reach a unanimous decision on any of the four charges he faces.

Prosecutors say Nero broke the law when he, Miller and Rice detained Gray. Williams ruled Tuesday during a pretrial motions hearing that prosecutors could not bring up the legality of the knife the officers found in Gray's pocket. The state initially said the knife was a legal folding knife, while defense attorneys have maintained it was an illegal switchblade. Any information about Gray's criminal past would also be excluded.

While video footage taken from both city surveillance cameras as well as cellphone videos shot by bystanders will be admissible, Williams ruled that any audio in which Gray can be heard screaming is considered prejudicial and will be excluded.

Prosecutors don't argue that Nero is responsible for Gray's injury, or his death, but that chasing and detaining Gray amounts to an assault.

Solar plane's next leg of global trip _ Arizona to Oklahoma

GOODYEAR, Ariz. (AP) — A solar-powered airplane that landed in Arizona last week is headed to Oklahoma on the latest leg of its around-the-world journey.

The Swiss-made Solar Impulse 2 took off from Phoenix Goodyear Airport about 3 a.m. Thursday with a destination of Tulsa International Airport.

It departed from northern California in the early hours of May 2 and landed at the airport southwest of Phoenix 16 hours later. Last month, it flew from Hawaii to California.

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The globe-circling voyage began in March 2015 from Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, and made stops in Oman, Myanmar, China and Japan.

After Oklahoma, the plane is expected to make at least one more stop in the United States before crossing the Atlantic Ocean to Europe or northern Africa, according to the website documenting the journey.

The Solar Impulse 2's wings, which stretch wider than those of a Boeing 747, are equipped with 17,000 solar cells that power propellers and charge batteries. The plane runs on stored energy at night.

Ideal flight speed is about 28 mph, although that can double during the day when the sun's rays are strongest.

The plane had a five-day trip from Japan to Hawaii and three-day trip from Hawaii to California's Silicon Valley.

The crew was forced to stay in Oahu, Hawaii, for nine months after the plane's battery system sustained heat damage on its trip from Japan.

Project officials say the layovers give the two Swiss pilots — Bertrand Piccard and Andre Borschberg — a chance to swap places and engage with local communities along the way so they can explain the project, which is estimated to cost more than \$100 million.

The solar project began in 2002 to highlight the importance of renewable energy and the spirit of innovation.

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. BRAZIL'S SENATE IMPEACHES PRESIDENT ROUSSEFF

The South American giant's first female president is accused of using accounting tricks to hide large budget deficits.

2. WHAT TRUMP AND RYAN HAVE TO SAY TO ONE ANOTHER

The likely GOP presidential nominee and House speaker sit down face-to-face for the first time, a week after Ryan stunned his party by refusing to back the mercurial billionaire for the White House.

3. MALAYSIA: 2 MORE PIECES 'ALMOST CERTAINLY' FROM FLIGHT 370

The debris, discovered in South Africa and Rodrigues Island off Mauritius, brings the total number of parts believed to have come from the missing Malaysian jetliner to five.

4. SECOND TRIAL IN FREDDIE GRAY CASE GETS UNDER WAY

The trial for Officer Edward Nero, who faces assault, misconduct in office and reckless endangerment charges, goes before a judge, giving it a better chance of ending with a verdict.

5. TEXAS PLANT EXPLOSION CALLED 'CRIMINAL ACT'

Federal officials' announcement that arson caused a massive explosion at a fertilizer plant in 2013 has residents of West wondering who might have done it and why.

6. HOW NEW HAMPSHIRE IS DEALING WITH POLICE PURSUIT CASE

The governor is calling for an investigation into the use of force by police after video surfaced of officers appearing to pummel a suspect who had led them on a high-speed chase from Massachusetts to New Hampshire.

7. WHY RUSSIA IS INFURIATED BY LATEST MOVE FROM THE WEST

A U.S. missile defense site in Romania aimed at protecting Europe from ballistic missile threats is set to become operational, angering Moscow which opposes having the advanced military system in its former area of influence.

8. WHO IS AUCTIONING GUN USED TO KILL TRAYVON MARTIN

George Zimmerman, the former neighborhood watch volunteer, tells a Florida TV station that his motivation for selling it was that it was "time to move past the firearm."

9. WHERE GEORGE CARLIN COLLECTION IS HEADED

Items belonging to the late comedian are getting a new home in upstate New York.

10. WHAT WASHINGTON'S \$210 MILLION MAN ACCOMPLISHED

Max Scherzer struck out 20 batters to match the major league record for a nine-inning game in the Nationals' 3-2 victory over the Detroit Tigers.

Malaysia: 2 more pieces 'almost certainly' from Flight 370

EILEEN NG, Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Malaysia's government said Thursday that two more pieces of debris, discovered in South Africa and Rodrigues Island off Mauritius, are "almost certainly" from Flight 370, bringing the total number of pieces believed to have come from the missing Malaysian jet to five.

The aircraft mysteriously disappeared more than two years ago with 239 people on board, and so far an extensive underwater search of a vast area of the Indian Ocean off Australia's west coast has turned up empty.

Though the discovery of the debris has bolstered authorities' assertion that the plane went down somewhere in the Indian Ocean, none of the parts thus far has yielded any clues into exactly where and why the aircraft crashed. Those elusive answers lie with the flight data recorders, or black boxes, which may never be found, said Geoff Dell, a specialist in accident investigation at Central Queensland University in Australia.

"It shows they're looking in the right ocean — that's about it," Dell said.

The two newly identified pieces of debris were found in March. Malaysian Transport Minister Liow Tiong Lai said one is an engine cowling piece with a partial Rolls-Royce logo, and the other is an interior panel piece from an aircraft cabin — the first interior part found from the missing plane.

An international team of experts in Australia who examined the debris concluded that both pieces were consistent with panels found on a Malaysia Airlines Boeing 777 aircraft, Liow said.

"As such, the team has confirmed that both pieces of debris from South Africa and Rodrigues Island are almost certainly from MH370," he said in a statement.

All five pieces have been found in various spots around the Indian Ocean. Last year, a wing part from the plane washed ashore on France's Reunion Island. In March, investigators confirmed two pieces of debris found along Mozambique's coast were almost certainly from the aircraft.

The jet, which vanished on March 8, 2014, while flying from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing, is believed to have crashed somewhere in a remote stretch of the southern Indian Ocean about 1,800 kilometers (1,100 miles) off Australia's west coast. Authorities had predicted that any debris from the plane that isn't on the ocean floor would eventually be carried by currents to the east coast of Africa.

Most of the passengers on the plane were Chinese, and many of their families have refused to give up hope that they could somehow still be alive despite the discoveries of debris.

"I just don't believe what they said and no matter how many pieces of debris they've found, I just don't think it is true," Zhang Qian, whose husband Wang Houbin was on the flight, said in Beijing. "Unless we have a clear and full explanation of what has really happened from the beginning to the end, solving all the puzzles, we just feel they are still trying to trick us."

Investigators are examining marine life attached to the debris to see if it could somehow help them narrow down where the plane entered the ocean, but haven't discovered anything useful yet.

The interior part, identified by its decorative laminate, is a panel from the main cabin and is believed to be part of a door closet, the Australian Transport Safety Bureau said in a technical report.

But even this interior piece is also unlikely to prove very helpful to investigators, said Dell, the accident investigation expert. It won't, for example, answer the question that some have raised about whether anyone was still at the controls of the plane at the end of its flight, or whether the plane spiraled uncontrollably into the water after running out of fuel.

"I wouldn't hang your hat too much on what it says, other than it's got to come out of the airplane somehow and that suggests there was a structural failure in the fuselage that allowed it to get out," he said. "But how, exactly — who knows?"

That part was found by tourists on Rodrigues Island, while the piece with part of a Rolls-Royce logo was found by an archaeologist while walking along South Africa's southern coast.

Ron Bishop, head of aviation at Central Queensland University, said the debris may help the investigation in a less direct way: by leading to more debris discoveries.

"The best part about it is, it makes it where now anytime anyone finds something on a beach that's weird-looking ... they'll turn it in," Bishop said. "I'm sure there's tons of this lying on beaches — we're just not noticing it that much.

"Not all this stuff is going to look like a wing; it's just going to look like garbage."

As for the underwater search, crews have combed more than 105,000 square kilometers (40,000 square miles) of the Indian Ocean to no avail. They expect to complete their sweep of what they have determined to be the plane's most likely location by the end of June.

In rare move, feds indict former officer in fatal shooting

BRUCE SMITH, Associated Press

MEG KINNARD, Associated Press

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — Two things stand out about this week's indictment of a white former South Carolina police officer on federal civil rights charges in the death of unarmed black motorist Walter Scott: Such charges from the feds against an officer are relatively rare, and they send a message.

Michael Slager, 34, already faces state murder charges in Scott's death.

Some, including attorneys for Scott's family, see the new indictment as a message from federal prosecutors that they've got their eye on law officers and are fed up with flagrant violence.

"I think the Justice Department is tired of sitting on the sidelines and they think this is one they can definitely win and send a message to police departments around the country," attorney Chris Stewart told The Associated Press.

A former federal prosecutor offered a similar take.

"Typically, these cases get tried in state court," said Pete Strom, a former U.S. attorney for South Carolina now in private practice. "The Department of Justice is interested in making this an impact case and sending a message to law enforcement that you can't shoot somebody in the back."

Slager's lawyer, Andy Savage, meanwhile, questioned the timing of the federal charges, called the penalties extreme and suggested the federal case is seeking to make amends for history.

"It really feels as if Officer Slager is carrying the burden of many past cases that were handled differently," Savage said in a release.

Slager was arraigned Wednesday on federal charges that include depriving Scott of his civil rights. The federal indictment also charges Slager with obstruction of justice and unlawful use of a weapon during the commission of a crime in Scott's death.

A bystander's cellphone video captured images of Slager, then a North Charleston police officer, firing eight times as Scott, 50, ran from an April 2015 traffic stop. The case inflamed a national debate about how blacks are treated by white police officers.

The federal indictment says Slager, while acting as a law officer, deprived Scott of his civil rights. A second count says he used a weapon, a Glock Model 21 .45 caliber pistol, while doing so.

The third count, charging obstruction of justice, alleges that Slager intentionally misled state investigators about the encounter, "falsely stating that he fired his weapon at Scott while Scott was coming forward at him with a Taser," the indictment reads. "In truth and in fact, as defendant Michael Slager then well knew, he repeatedly fired his weapon at Scott when Scott was running away from him."

It's uncommon for the Justice Department to bring federal civil rights charges against police officers in deadly shootings. Such cases require them to prove an officer willfully violated the victim's civil rights by knowingly using more force than the law allows.

The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review reported this year that federal prosecutors have declined to pursue civil rights allegations against law enforcement officers 96 percent of the time since 1995, with most experts

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blaming the low prosecution rate on the difficulty of winning such cases.

The 12,703 potential civil rights violations turned down nationwide from 1995-2015 include high-profile incidents in Chicago, New York and Ferguson, Missouri, but also thousands of lesser-known incidents.

In this instance, Strom said the federal prosecution may be sending a powerful message about how police violence is to be handled across the nation, given the public fervor such cases has created.

"If you try him in state court in South Carolina, that's not a national story that will ring loudly in every police department in the country," said Strom, whose father was a longtime chief of South Carolina's state police force. "If he is indicted by the Justice Department and convicted, that's going to send a much louder message nationwide."

There's also a unique complication to Slager's state case. The chief prosecutor in the Charleston area is also heading up the death penalty case against Dylann Roof, the white man charged with gunning down nine people during Bible study at a historic black church last summer. The state's Supreme Court has said Scarlett Wilson can prioritize that case over any other, and it's been delayed until January.

Slager's state case is set to go to trial this fall, although Wilson has asked that it be moved up or delayed until after Roof's is over.

Maximum penalties for Slager in both state and federal cases are the same: life in prison.

Scott's mother Judy Scott said she thanks God for justice.

"I'm happy for that, but I'm sad because my son is gone. I'll never see him again. But I pray that other mothers don't have to go through what I've been going through," she said.

Pistol used in Trayvon Martin shooting to be auctioned

SANFORD, Fla. (AP) — The pistol former neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman used in the fatal shooting of Trayvon Martin is going up for auction online.

In an interview with Orlando, Florida, TV station WOFL, Zimmerman said he had just gotten the pistol back from the U.S. Justice Department, which took it after he was acquitted in Martin's 2012 shooting death.

"And I thought it's time to move past the firearm," Zimmerman told the station. "And if I sell it and it sells, I move past it. Otherwise, it's going in a safe for my grandkids and never to be used or seen again."

The auction listing on GunBroker.com lists the gun as a 9 mm Kel-Tec PF-9 pistol. The auction begins Thursday at 11 a.m. EDT and the bidding starts at \$5,000.

The auction listing also says a portion of the proceeds will go toward fighting against violence by the Black Lives Matter movement against law enforcement, combatting anti-gun rhetoric of Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton and ending the career of Angela Corey, who led the prosecution against him.

When asked what he thought of people who would be opposed to auctioning the gun, Zimmerman said: "They're not going to be bidding on it, so I couldn't care less about them."

Zimmerman has said he was defending himself when he shot and killed Martin, an unarmed black 17-year-old. The shooting sparked protests and a national debate about race relations.

"The Trayvon Martin Foundation is committed to its mission of ending senseless gun violence in the United States," read a statement an attorney for Martin's family gave the Florida station. "This election season, we are laser focused on furthering that mission. As such, the foundation has no comment on the actions of that person."

Zimmerman said he has received death threats but has decided not to cower.

"I'm a free American," he said. "I can do what I want with my possessions."

Trump, Ryan prepare to meet as Republicans call for unity

ERICA WERNER, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump and House Speaker Paul Ryan are sitting down face-to-face for the first time, a week after Ryan stunned Republicans by refusing to back the mercurial billionaire for president.

The much-anticipated meeting Thursday morning will play out as polls suggest Republican voters are

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getting behind Trump, who effectively clinched the nomination last week. GOP lawmakers are increasingly calling for the party to end its embarrassing bout of infighting and unite to beat likely Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton in November, and many want to see Ryan get on board.

Ahead of the meeting, Ryan insisted party unity was his goal, too.

"We come from different wings of the party. The goal here is to unify the various wings of the party around common principles, so that we can go forward to unify it," Ryan told reporters at the Capitol Wednesday.

"I don't really know him," Ryan said of Trump, noting they've met in person only once, briefly, at a fundraiser in 2012 when Ryan was his party's vice presidential nominee. "We just need to get to know each other."

For his part Trump insisted defiantly that he doesn't need the blessing of Ryan or other Republican leaders wary of the candidate.

"If we make a deal, that will be great," Trump told Fox News Channel. "And if we don't, we will trudge forward like I've been doing and winning all the time."

Indeed, a broader swath of Republican voters appears to be moving behind Trump, despite big-name holdouts such as Ryan, both former president Bushes and the party's 2012 nominee, Mitt Romney. Romney launched a new attack on Trump Wednesday over his refusal thus far to release his taxes, calling it "disqualifying" and asserting that the only explanation must be "a bombshell of unusual size."

Still, almost two in three Republican-leaning voters now view Trump favorably, compared with 31 percent who view him unfavorably, according to a national Gallup Poll taken last week. The numbers represent a near total reversal from Gallup's survey in early March.

And on Capitol Hill, where Ryan has managed to remain popular since taking over as speaker last fall, a number of Republicans made clear that they would like to see him come around to supporting Trump sooner rather than later.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., who is meeting separately with Trump Thursday along with other GOP leaders, was quick to embrace the mogul after he clinched the nomination and said this week that Trump is looking like he'll be "very competitive" in November.

"If Paul had come out and said he was going to support our nominee after the convention, whoever that is, there'd be no story," said Rep. Mick Mulvaney of South Carolina, a leader in the conservative Freedom Caucus. "And now we have to deal with the story."

Many Republican lawmakers made clear that Clinton herself is Trump's No. 1 ally when it comes to producing GOP unity. For these lawmakers, backing Trump is a no-brainer if the other choice is Clinton.

"This great nation cannot endure eight more years of Democrat control of the White House," the GOP chairs of seven House committees wrote in a joint statement released Wednesday night by the Trump campaign. "It is paramount that we coalesce around the Republican nominee, Mr. Donald J. Trump."

Rep. Tom Cole of Oklahoma, a leading lawmaker and GOP leadership ally, predicted that "Hillary Clinton will unify Republicans like nobody's business."

"He knows the most important part of his job is leading us and helping us retain the majority. I don't see how being at odds with your nominee helps you achieve that objective," Cole said of Ryan. "So I think in the end they will find common ground."

In a closed-door GOP meeting Wednesday a number of Republicans stood up and argued in support of Trump, with one saying that anyone who cares about "unborn babies" should get behind him because of the likelihood the next president will make Supreme Court appointments, and Trump's would be better than Clinton's, according to lawmakers present.

Others expressed reservations, and asked Ryan to raise concerns with Trump about where he really stands on social issues and budgetary policies, including changes to Social Security and Medicare.

Trump has said in the past that he doesn't want to touch Social Security or Medicare, whereas Medicare cuts have been a centerpiece of GOP budgets Ryan has shepherded over the years.

After news that arson caused blast, West faces new questions

REESE DUNKLIN, Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — One question has lingered in the Central Texas farming town of West since a fertilizer plant caught fire in 2013 and exploded, killing 15 people and damaging at least \$100 million in property: What caused the blaze?

On Wednesday, federal officials came to West with an answer — and in the process cast a much different light on a catastrophe many locals thought was behind them.

"This fire was a criminal act," Robert Elder, the special agent in charge of the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives' Houston office, announced during a news briefing in West.

With authorities ruling the fire at the West Fertilizer Co. building had been "intentionally set," new questions quickly emerged: Who? And why? Would someone want to bring heartache to the town of about 3,000, known statewide for its old-world Czech traditions and kolache fruit pastries?

"A few of those thoughts went through my mind," said Mary Sanders, whose son Kevin was among the 12 first responders killed. Sanders choked up as she spoke by phone, saying the ATF's news came as she and her family were "just finally coping" with his death.

Law enforcement experts said a suspect's intent could be important as prosecutors decide whether to pursue arson, murder or domestic terrorism charges. Intent also could play a role in sentencing, should the government proceed with a case and win.

Elder declined Wednesday to discuss specifics about suspects, possible charges or motive for the April 17, 2013, incident, one of Texas' deadliest industrial disasters. But agents were "headed in the right direction," he said, and hoped a new \$50,000 reward would "get us across that finish line."

Elder said the investigation had in recent months eliminated two other potential causes that remained — faulty electronic wiring at the building and a short-circuiting golf cart. The probe cost \$2 million and included more than 400 interviews, a fire-scene examination and "extensive scientific testing" at an ATF fire research laboratory.

"Why the fire was set, I don't know," Elder said. "Hopefully when we arrest the person or persons responsible, they'll tell us."

Matt Orwig, the former U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Texas, said whatever the motive and charges, anyone convicted probably faces at least life imprisonment.

"What this person has done is commit mass murder by turning that building and its contents into a weapon of mass destruction," Orwig said.

Federal reports estimated that the West Fertilizer Co. had a supply of 40 to 60 tons of ammonium nitrate, a popular agricultural fertilizer that can be explosive under certain conditions.

Across the world, ammonium nitrate fertilizer has been faulted in other deadly accidents. It has also been mixed with fuel oil and used in attacks, including the deadly 1995 bombing of Oklahoma City's federal building. Some countries have banned the fertilizer or restricted its use.

The ammonium nitrate in West detonated after the fire had raged for about 20 minutes, investigators previously found. The blast left a crater 90 feet wide and at least 10 feet deep, and sent debris as far as 2 miles away. A federal report noted that the plant was about 550 feet from the closest school, which sustained catastrophic damage but was not in session at the time.

A volunteer West paramedic was later accused of collecting materials for an explosive device. Bryce Reed pleaded guilty to federal charges and served time in prison. Authorities have never blamed Reed for the plant explosion, and Elder on Wednesday said he's not a suspect in the ongoing investigation.

Investigating a complex explosion scene like West requires time and extensive scientific lab work, said Mike Bouchard, a retired assistant director for ATF field operations who supervised the Sept. 11 attack on the Pentagon. But that alone wouldn't explain why it took the ATF, assisted by other federal and state agencies, three years to determine the fire was intentionally set, Bouchard said.

"It's highly likely some new information came to light that would cause them to now come out and say it was a criminal act," he said. "They wouldn't make that statement unless they had some evidence to prove that. You can't just say, 'It has to be this,' because you've ruled out everything else."

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Bouchard added that the reward is an indication "they're looking for some additional information to help them prove a case." Money might be the incentive for someone "to tell what they know," he said.

Orwig, the former U.S. attorney, said the decision to go public signals the highest levels of the Justice Department believe there is "strong evidence to support what they're saying occurred."

"That's not saying they have enough currently for a conviction or even to take it to a grand jury," Orwig said. "But what it does mean is, they believe they have enough to responsibly make that statement."

For Sanders and others who lost a loved one in the disaster, the announcement brought back raw emotions. She's unsure what to think about a criminal investigation that will drag on.

"I don't know that I would really want to pursue something a little bit more," she said. "We just have to accept this has happened and really move forward. If further investigation down the line brings more to light, we'll have to deal with it further."

Splash Brothers Curry, Thompson send Warriors to West finals

JANIE McCAULEY, AP Sports Writer

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Stephen Curry raised his left arm in triumph and cradled the game ball in his right as yellow confetti fell.

The Splash Brothers are taking defending champion Golden State back to the Western Conference finals for a second straight year.

Klay Thompson's sweet shooting touch carried the Warriors while Curry was down, and together again in the starting lineup they guided Golden State another step closer to a repeat title with a 125-121 win over the Portland Trail Blazers in Game 5 on Wednesday night.

Thompson scored 33 points with six 3-pointers, while Curry added 29 and sealed it with a 3 with 24.9 seconds left. He finished with five 3s a day after becoming the first unanimous MVP in NBA history, also adding 11 assists after returning to the starting lineup for the first time all series because of a knee injury.

"West finals two years in a row, it's been a special, special season," Thompson said.

Draymond Green, who had his left ankle re-taped in the fourth quarter, had 13 points, 11 rebounds and six assists after guaranteeing Golden State would advance from this game.

Damian Lillard scored 28 points and CJ McCollum had 27 for the young Trail Blazers, who overcame an 0-2 deficit to the Clippers in the first round to get this far.

The Warriors got past Portland even with Curry missing the first three games as he recovered from a sprained right knee.

"We know what it takes to win in the playoffs," Thompson said. "That might be the closest five-game series of all-time."

Now, Golden State will wait for the conclusion of the Oklahoma City-San Antonio series, led 3-2 by the Thunder. And the banged-up Warriors could use the time to get healthy.

They lost 7-foot center Andrew Bogut for the second half because of a right leg injury.

Thompson shot 13 for 17 and became the first player to have at least five 3s in seven straight games, also recording his fourth 30-point game this postseason.

"Klay's shooting was incredible tonight," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "Then the way Steph finished the game, that step-back shot to put it to a five-point lead was probably a shot only he can make. So I thought a gutty effort from a lot of guys. It wasn't our best stuff, but we got it done."

Curry's 3-pointer to beat the third-quarter buzzer gave Golden State a 93-91 lead heading into the final 12 minutes, then the Warriors made sure their raucous crowd at Oracle Arena got to celebrate another series-clincher after they eliminated Houston at home — also winning that best-of-seven series 4-1.

"We really needed that energy from the home crowd to just find a way to have some huge offensive possessions and get some stops down the stretch," Curry said.

The Trail Blazers were 16 of 36 on 3-pointers.

Allen Crabbe, who played at the University of California in nearby Berkeley, scored 20 points.

Green, who blocked a career-high seven shots in Game 4 on Monday, made good on his declaration to

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eliminate Portland.

After Game 4, he said: "Do I think they're done? Of course I think they're done," which he later acknowledged wasn't meant as disrespect but rather to fuel his own team.

Curry started for the first time since Game 4 of the first round at Houston, the day he slipped on a wet spot and sprained his knee. He came off the bench in a 132-125 overtime win in Game 4 and scored an NBA-record 17 points in the extra period on the way to 40.

The Warriors lost the day after Curry was named MVP last year, falling 97-90 at home to Memphis as Curry went 7 for 19, including 3 of 11 on 3s, for 19 points.

"I was better handling it emotionally having been through it before and understanding the Adrenalin rush," Curry said.

Lillard, an Oakland native, was 7-for-24 shooting in his final game of the season back home in the East Bay.

"We should be proud of the way we pushed them," Lillard said. "It could easily have been a seven-game series."

The 135 combined 3-pointers — 71 by Portland, 64 for Golden State — were most ever in a five-game series.

MVP CEREMONY

Curry, donning one of those yellow "Strength in Numbers" T-shirts over his No. 30 jersey, received his MVP award from Commissioner Adam Silver before the game as fans chanted "M-V-P!" and video highlights played of Curry's year.

"He reinvents the game every time he takes the floor," Silver said.

Curry spoke briefly before re-joining his teammates for the anthem.

"I just want to say thank you to the fans, all of Dub Nation for your support all year long," Curry said. "It's something I'll never forget. Let's keep it going."

TIP-INS

Trail Blazers: Lillard has scored at least 14 points in each of his first 17 postseason games. ... The Blazers missed 10 free throws (29 of 39).

Warriors: Golden State will appear in back-to-back Western Conference finals for the second time in franchise history, also done in 1975-76. ... Curry made a 3-pointer in his 44th straight playoff games, tying Reggie Miller's record set from 1995-2000. ... Green has four technicals this postseason.

Fight over plan to bottle water in Oregon town is on ballot

ANDREW SELSKY, Associated Press

CASCADE LOCKS, Oregon (AP) — This little town, set below steep, forested mountainsides at the bottom of the Columbia River Gorge, stubbornly persists, eight decades after a dam was built downstream, drowning the navigational locks that gave the place its name and main income.

Today, unemployment in Cascade Locks is 19 percent, four times the rate of the rest of Oregon. Many businesses have gone the way of the Scenic Winds Motel, whose cabins are crumbling, the roofs greening with moss, a no trespassing sign posted underneath towering firs.

So when Nestle, the Swiss transnational company, approached with a plan to build a water bottling plant from a local spring — plus a promise of 50 jobs and annual revenues of hundreds of thousands of dollars — town leaders jumped at it. So did many of the 1,200 residents.

But the opposition — including residents, Native American tribes and orchard owners — has grown so fierce that the project landed on Oregon's May 17 primary ballot. It's now one of the primary's most heated battles.

Measure 14-55 asks the voters of surrounding Hood River County to ban the commercial production and transport of bottled water.

The campaign has pitted neighbor against neighbor and demonstrates Cascade Locks' bigger dilemma of generating income without spoiling the jaw-dropping scenery that makes the place special.

Blue signs opposing the project and red ones in favor are staked in lawns and affixed to fences all over

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town.

"Right now, we have two groups of people fighting tooth and nail over it. I've lost friends over it, just because I put up a sign saying no to the measure," said Heather Greene, a bronze sculptor whose larger-than-life statue of Sacagawea adorns a city park. She wants Nestle there.

Farm and orchard owners have noted Hood River County experienced drought in 2015. Water bottlers would compete with their orchards and farms for the growing population of the town of Hood River and its shrinking water supply, they said.

But rainfall isn't consistent across the county.

Cascade Locks has water to spare, said city manager Gordon Zimmerman. The town gets an average of 77 inches of rain a year. That's about 2.5 times more than Hood River, the county seat, located about 20 miles east on Interstate 84.

Nestle's plan to use 118 million gallons of water per year — which probably wouldn't happen before 2020 if its allowed — would require some juggling.

The company would pay Cascade Locks an undetermined amount for the water. But the town must first swap well water for spring water with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The state, which uses the spring-fed Little Herman Creek for its Oxbow Hatchery, has already agreed to trade.

Hatchery manager Erin AnDyke noted that the crystal-clear spring water is pathogen free and is gravity-fed into the hatchery, while the city water will be from a well and must be pumped uphill. Pumps can break down, he noted.

"We're dealing with a live product down there," AnDyke said. "You go to bed thinking, 'Are they going to be all right?'"

The city would then sell its new share of spring water to Nestle for its Arrowhead bottled water, branded as sourced from mountain springs.

In drought conditions, Nestle, which would be entitled to 0.5 cubic feet per second of spring water, could be using half of the flow, though it could be only one-tenth after wetter months, AnDyke said.

Studies by the fish and wildlife department and one commissioned by Nestle say the hatchery won't be adversely affected, and that conditions will be virtually unchanged for wild salmon swimming in the Columbia that use Herman Creek Cove to cool off during hot weather.

Many folks aren't buying it.

They also object to trucks making 200 trips a day to and from the plant, which would be in a business park and not next to the springs. Oregon was the first state to enact a bottle bill, in 1971, to encourage recycling. Many here reject contributing to plastic waste.

In April, Orvie Danzuka, a leader of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, appeared before the Cascade Locks City Council and cited global warming, salmon die-offs and water conservation as reasons to reject the bottling plant.

"I was told by my elders that if you start selling your resources, then they'll go away," he said amid the pounding of drums and chants and ululations from tribal members.

Nestle — also facing a battle in drought-hit southern California over its long-standing use of spring water in San Bernardino National Forest — says it's being unfairly singled out by Measure 14-55. The proposal would "limit our ability to pursue good jobs in a clean industry for Cascade Locks," the company says.

Dave Palais of Nestle pointed out only 1.38 gallons of water are required to produce one gallon of Nestle bottled water, compared to an average of five gallons of water for one gallon of beer.

Thunder Island Brewery sits right along the Columbia, near where the Bridge of the Gods — part of the Pacific Crest Trail — links Oregon to Washington. Head brewer Brian Perkey said the brewery uses municipal water and pays for it.

But for Perkey, the main issue is not water.

"I see no place on this green earth for water in a plastic bottle," he said. "Why would I want to support people putting water into a plastic bottle for profit?"

Greene, the sculptor who supports the Nestle plan, attributes a lot of the opposition to stigma and people being suspicious of large corporations.

But she believes the town needs help.

"Cascade Locks is dying," she said.

Rocky Mountain states prepare for return of grizzly hunts

MATT VOLZ, Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — Hunters soon could be chasing grizzly bears across the ridges of the Rocky Mountains, leaving three states to come up with plans to ensure the iconic species won't be snuffed out so soon after recovering from threats to their survival.

The Obama administration in March proposed lifting protections for the more than 700 grizzlies around Yellowstone National Park. The bears have been considered a threatened species since 1975, but wildlife officials say their population has sufficiently recovered to turn over management to Wyoming, Montana and Idaho.

Other grizzly populations in Montana, Idaho and Washington state will remain protected. The grizzlies' Alaska cousin, the brown bear, is not considered a threatened or endangered species and is hunted regularly.

Before the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service makes a final decision on Yellowstone grizzlies by March 2017, it is requiring those states to outline what their grizzly bear hunting seasons would look like. The scrutiny is intense, with wildlife advocates insisting the bear population is still too fragile for hunting and that federal officials reverse course before it's too late.

One advocacy group, Defenders of Wildlife, is worried the federal government is moving too quickly and should delay making a final decision until the states' plans to manage the species have been completed and fully vetted.

"All the work of bringing back the grizzly bear from the brink of extinction should not go up in smoke because the game plan is substandard," said Jamie Rappaport Clark, the organization's president and CEO, and a former director of the fish and wildlife service.

Amid all the attention, the three states are coordinating their efforts, the first time they have planned to manage a species together, officials said.

"This is a historic undertaking because we don't manage any other species like this," said Idaho Department of Fish and Game spokesman Gregg Losinski.

They've apportioned the bears that could be killed through hunting according to their share of the Yellowstone area within their boundaries — Wyoming with 58 percent, Montana at 34 percent and Idaho at 8 percent. The actual quota of grizzlies available for each state's hunt would vary from year to year, depending on the previous year's bear deaths, but Montana officials estimated their number would be less than 10 bears in most years.

If the total Yellowstone grizzly population drops below 600, hunting would stop except in cases of threats to human life, according to the states' agreement.

Montana plans to release its outline for hunting regulations on Thursday for public comment. It includes measures such as limiting hunting seasons to times when most females and their young will still be in their dens, and forbidding killing any bear that is with other bears. The number of licenses issued would total the state's bear quota for the year.

Fish, Wildlife and Parks Director Jeff Hagener emphasized Wednesday that the only reason the plan is being created now is because federal wildlife officials are requiring one.

"This doesn't mean that automatically we're going to start hunting grizzly bears as soon as they're delisted," he said.

Wyoming previously released a draft management plan, and Idaho officials plan to discuss the matter next week.

Illinois lawsuit against Senate candidate Duckworth in court

ALAN SCHER ZAGIER, Associated Press

The spotlight in a closely watched U.S. Senate race will briefly shift to a small-town Illinois courtroom as government lawyers for Democratic U.S. Rep. Tammy Duckworth seek to have a 7-year-old lawsuit accusing her of ethics violations while she led the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs dismissed.

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A hearing in the civil complaint by two employees of a southern Illinois veterans' home alleging workplace retaliation by Duckworth is scheduled for Thursday morning.

Illinois Republicans have highlighted the case, seeking to thwart Duckworth's bid against Sen. Mark Kirk, a first-term moderate in a Democratic-leaning state. Kirk is considered one of the most vulnerable Republican senators.

Duckworth's supporters call it a twice-dismissed nuisance suit resuscitated to embarrass her politically amid a campaign with national implications, as Democrats seek a net gain of at least four seats in 2016 to take back the Senate majority Republicans won in 2014.

The case was initially scheduled to go to trial in April and remained largely idle as Duckworth's accusers took more than three years to provide certain documents requested by the state.

Duckworth, a former Black Hawk helicopter pilot who lost both of her legs and partial use of her right arm during the Iraq War, is being represented by the Illinois Attorney General's Office. Her co-defendant was the home's acting administrator in 2006 and 2007.

After a federal judge dismissed the suit as a "garden variety workplace case," it was refiled in state court — and dismissed again before it was narrowed and brought back a third time.

The state's motion for summary judgment argues that Duckworth's efforts to fire 22-year state employee Christine Butler from her administrative job was based solely on "insubordination." Duckworth reversed that decision after being told that she first had to follow written disciplinary procedures and instead issued a reprimand with a paid suspension against Butler.

Human resources secretary Denise Goins alleges that her complaints about her boss were ignored and led to an unfavorable performance review that prevented her from receiving a raise. Goins says Duckworth urged her to "do your job and keep your mouth shut."

Goins and Butler, who both continue to work at the veterans home, also say they were punished for speaking out after Patricia Simms, the acting administrator, allowed unauthorized people to care for a resident. The two state workers are seeking compensation of at least \$50,000, as well as other financial penalties.

"It has absolutely nothing to do with a political fight," Butler said. "Our names are still being slung through the mud for speaking up."

Duckworth denies treating the employees unfairly, while Kirk's campaign and the National Republican Senatorial Committee portray the lawsuit as a whistleblower case. Duckworth previously disputed the allegations in defeating an incumbent Republican for a Chicago-area seat in Congress in 2012.

A new trial date has not been set, and it's not clear if the Union County judge presiding at the hearing Thursday in Jonesboro, Illinois, will immediately rule on the state's dismissal motion.

Duckworth, who is scheduled to host a Washington fundraiser Thursday morning with Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid, is not expected to attend the hearing.

2 Brits, Mexican are 1st foreigners on Everest in 2 years

BINAJ GURUBACHARYA, Associated Press

KATHMANDU, Nepal (AP) — Two British and a Mexican climber on Thursday became the first foreigners to scale Mount Everest in two years together with three Nepalese guides, officials said.

The six climbers reached the 8,850-meter (29,035-foot) peak early Thursday and were heading to lower camps, said Ang Tshering of the Nepal Mountaineering Association.

The Brits are Kenton Cool and Robert Richard Lucas, and the Mexican is David Liano Gonzalez.

For Cool, 42, it was his 12th successful climb of Everest. Gonzalez, 36, is the record holder with six successful ascents of Everest from both northern side in China and southern side in Nepal in the same season.

The Nepalese government has issued permits to 289 climbers to attempt to scale Everest. They have to do it in the next few weeks before the monsoon rains bring in bad weather.

A group of nine Nepalese guides fixing ropes for their foreign clients reached the summit on Wednesday.

The successful climbs this week come after two years of back-to-back disasters.

An avalanche triggered by a powerful earthquake killed 19 climbers and injured 61 others at base camp

last year. In 2014, 16 Sherpa guides were killed by an avalanche above the base camp.

Last year's climbing season was scrubbed, and nearly all of the climbers in 2014 abandoned their attempts after the avalanche. The only team who reached the summit that year from the Nepal side was a Chinese woman and her five Sherpa guides.

Earlier this week, two Nepalese Sherpa guides died of complications due to high altitude sickness at a lower camp on Mount Makalu, the world's fifth highest.

Scherzer has 20 Ks, ties MLB record as Nats top Tigers 3-2

IAN QUILLEN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Max Scherzer has thrown two no-hitters, come within one strike of a perfect game and met just about every expectation that accompanied the \$210 million contract he signed with Washington.

Still, after his latest masterpiece Wednesday night, he said: "There's something about 20."

Scherzer struck out 20 batters to match the major league record for a nine-inning game in the Nationals' 3-2 victory over the Detroit Tigers on Wednesday night.

"Tonight was an emotional game, facing a former team and all those guys I have so much respect for," Scherzer said after pitching against the Tigers for the first time since leaving Detroit. "And so to have a game like this against that caliber of hitter on their side, it really puts a feather in my cap."

Scherzer (4-2) had a chance to break the mark when James McCann stepped to the plate with two outs in the ninth inning. McCann, who whiffed his previous three times up, grounded to third base for the final out.

"It crossed my mind," said Scherzer, who did not issue a walk. "I was thinking of all the different scenarios in an 0-2 count that I could do to be able to get that last strikeout."

The ace right-hander, who pitched two no-hitters for Washington last season and struck out 17 in the second one, joined Roger Clemens (twice), Kerry Wood and Randy Johnson as the only big league pitchers to compile 20 strikeouts in nine innings.

"That's some serious company," Scherzer said. "It won't sink in right now, but it's an amazing accomplishment."

Johnson achieved his feat for Arizona during a 2001 game that went 11 innings. Tom Cheney holds the major league record with 21 strikeouts when he pitched all 16 innings for the Washington Senators against Baltimore in 1962.

After striking out the side in the eighth, all on called strikes, Scherzer was up to 18 on 106 pitches, with the Nationals holding a two-run lead.

"I knew there was a lot," manager Dusty Baker said. "But when they put it on the board, I was like, 'Oh, no.' At that point in time, you know, how often do you have a chance to make history like that? We just have to watch him his next start."

Said Scherzer: "There really wasn't a conversation, to be honest with you. Everybody knew I wanted the ball, everybody was going to give me the ball."

The 2013 AL Cy Young Award winner gave up a leadoff homer to J.D. Martinez in the ninth, then blew a 97 mph fastball by slugger Miguel Cabrera for strikeout No. 19.

Victor Martinez singled for his third hit before Scherzer got another All-Star bopper, Justin Upton, swinging at a low slider to tie the record.

That came one pitch after Upton's foul pop landed just beyond the reach of first baseman Ryan Zimmerman and in a camera well.

Scherzer pounded his fist in excitement and went back to work. McCann, however, grounded an 0-1 pitch to third baseman Anthony Rendon, who threw to second for the forceout.

A giddy Scherzer smiled and yelped as he high-fived and hugged other Nationals players on the field. He was doused by his teammates during a postgame television interview.

"Had to go through some tough, tough hitters there with Miggy and J.D. and Victor and all those guys over there," Scherzer said. "Those guys are unbelievable and they gave me a heck of a time tonight."

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Scherzer threw an astounding 96 of 119 pitches for strikes in a six-hitter for his sixth career complete game. He outpitched pal Jordan Zimmermann (5-2), a former Nationals teammate who left Washington as a free agent for a \$110 million deal with Detroit before this season.

"That was one of the more dominant performances I've ever come across," said Tigers manager Brad Ausmus, also an opponent during Wood's 20-strikeout game and one of the two compiled by Clemens. "It wasn't quite as dominant as Kerry Wood and it was more dominant than Clemens."

With the win, Scherzer joined Chicago Cubs right-hander John Lackey as the only active starters to own victories against all 30 major league clubs.

"The fastball really just seemed to work for me tonight," Scherzer said.

Daniel Murphy had three hits, including a double and a pair of RBI singles off Zimmermann. Danny Espinosa homered off Zimmermann in the seventh as Washington took two of three in the interleague series.

Jose Iglesias homered early for Detroit.

After allowing seven runs on four homers in an 8-6 loss to the Cubs on Friday, Scherzer responded with one of the finest outings of his career.

He seemed to pick up steam late.

After Victor Martinez singled and Upton doubled with one out in the seventh, Scherzer got McCann looking and Anthony Gose swinging to escape.

Scherzer followed that by striking out the side in the eighth, with Ian Kinsler staring at a 96 mph fastball at the knees to end the inning.

Zimmermann allowed three runs over seven innings in his return to Nationals Park. The right-hander received a standing ovation from the crowd of 35,695 when he stepped into the batter's box after Iglesias' homer.

Zimmermann briefly backed out and tipped his helmet in appreciation, then became Scherzer's sixth strikeout victim, going down swinging on a curveball.

TRAINER'S ROOM

Tigers: Cabrera was back in the lineup after his pinch-hit single drove in a run in Detroit's 5-4 victory Tuesday. Ausmus decided to give the slugger a planned off day on Tuesday instead of Wednesday after Cabrera jammed his right knee sliding into second on Monday.

Nationals: Baker said he doesn't know if RHP Matt Belisle (calf strain) is ready to resume a throwing program. The reliever went on the disabled list April 27.

UP NEXT

Tigers: RHP Mike Pelfrey (0-4, 6.23 ERA) is slated to start the opener of a four-game set against the Orioles at Camden Yards, where he's 2-0 with a 4.41 ERA in his career.

Nationals: Washington gets an off day before beginning a four-game, three-day set against Miami.

Asian shares mostly lower following Wall Street decline

The Associated Press

Asian shares were mostly lower on Thursday after a weak session on Wall Street, though Southeast Asian markets gained following recent rallies in oil prices. Tokyo shares fell as the yen remained at a relatively high level versus the dollar, hurting prospects for exporters' profits.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 stock index fell 0.4 percent to 16,521.81, while the Hang Seng index of Hong Kong dropped 0.5 percent to 19,949.02. South Korea's Kospi lost 0.1 percent to 1978.51 and Australia's S&P/ASX 200 fell 0.5 percent to 5,348.00. Taiwan fell but most benchmarks in Southeast Asia rose.

WALL STREET: A rout in retail stocks pulled U.S. indexes down on Wednesday. The Dow Jones industrial average sank 217.23 points, or 1.2 percent, to 17,711.12. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 19.93 points, or 1 percent, to 2,064.46. The Nasdaq composite index lost 49.19 points, or 1 percent, to 4,760.69.

TOYOTA PROFIT: Shares in Toyota Motor Corp. fell 2.9 percent after a 6.1 percent drop overnight in New York. On Wednesday, the company projected a 35 percent plunge in profit for the fiscal year through March 2017, as the perks of a favorable exchange rate fade, and it reported a 4 percent drop in profit for

January-March on-year at 426.6 billion yen (\$3.9 billion). Other exporters can expect similar woes thanks to the yen's recent gains against the U.S. dollar.

ANALYST VIEWPOINT: "Regional indications point to a calm day, with modest gains in Hong Kong offset by minor losses in Tokyo. Forex markets remain becalmed, with little macro data to spur moves," Michael McCarthy of CMC Markets said in a commentary.

OIL PRICES: Already trading at its highest price in six months, benchmark U.S. crude rose again after the government reported a surprise decline of 3.4 million barrels in supplies for last week and a 6 percent reduction in U.S. oil output. U.S. oil fell 22 cents to \$46.01 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It jumped \$1.57, or 3.5 percent, to \$46.23 a barrel on Wednesday. Brent crude, the international benchmark, fell 21 cents to \$47.39 a barrel. It had jumped \$2.08, or 4.6 percent, to \$47.60 a barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 108.60 yen from 108.40 in the previous session. The euro was flat at \$1.1424. The yen-dollar rate has "slipped back down to 108 levels, as a short-squeeze in the early week abated with no more official talk of intervention yesterday, while markets are also doubting if Japan would intervene in advance of the G7 summit," Mizuho Bank Ltd. (Singapore branch) said in a commentary.

Video: Police pummel driver after 2-state high-speed pursuit

NASHUA, N.H. (AP) — Helicopter video of a high-speed police pursuit from Massachusetts to New Hampshire shows a driver stepping slowly out of his truck, kneeling and putting his hands on the ground before several officers rush him and start pummeling him.

The driver was taken into custody by local police on Wednesday, but Massachusetts state police, who were involved in the pursuit, said they'll review whether the force used was appropriate.

The chase started Wednesday afternoon when Richard Simone, of Worcester, Massachusetts, refused to stop for local police in Holden, said Massachusetts state police. Simone was wanted on multiple warrants for assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, larceny and failure to stop for police, they said.

Holden police chased him, and a Massachusetts state police cruiser followed, they said. The chase went through several towns at speeds exceeding 100 mph, with the pickup truck "making abrupt lane changes as the (suspect) continued to try to evade capture" and crashing at least once, police said in a statement.

The chase ended in a residential area in Nashua, New Hampshire, about 50 miles northeast of where it started.

News helicopter video shows the pickup truck stop next to a utility pole on a dead-end street before police officers surround it with their weapons drawn. The driver steps from the truck, gets onto the ground and is on all fours and lowering himself when the officers set upon him, throwing punches.

Simone was taken into custody by Nashua police, who haven't returned phone calls seeking comment on the chase and Simone's treatment.

Simone couldn't be reached for comment while in custody Wednesday night. A phone number listed for him has been disconnected.

The vehicle pursuit will be reviewed by the Massachusetts state police's pursuit committee, which is routine procedure after pursuits. Additionally, the state police said they will review Simone's apprehension "to determine whether the level of force deployed during the arrest was appropriate."

Simone will face additional charges related to the pursuit, the Massachusetts state police said. It's unclear where and when he'll be arraigned, but it likely will be in New Hampshire first, they said.

4 miles of violence: Disturbed man is killed to end rampage

JENNIFER MCDERMOTT, Associated Press

DENISE LAVOIE, Associated Press

TAUNTON, Mass. (AP) — Two bystanders and an off-duty deputy sheriff were hailed as heroes Wednesday for intervening when a mentally disturbed man went on a stabbing rampage at a home and a mall hours after leaving a hospital, killing two people and injuring at least five others.

Arthur DaRosa's 4-mile trail of destruction, authorities say, included entering a random home where he stabbed two people eating dinner, several attempted carjackings, driving a car into a Macy's, beating several people inside the department store and then stabbing two people in a restaurant. He was shot and killed by a deputy sheriff when he refused to drop a knife inside the Bertucci's restaurant, the Bristol County prosecutor said.

District Attorney Thomas Quinn III gave this account:

DaRosa's rampage began Tuesday evening, when he suddenly left his daughter's soccer practice in Taunton, 40 miles south of Boston, in a Honda Accord owned by her mother and struck a pickup truck.

DaRosa then tried unsuccessfully to get into several houses before entering a home where Patricia Slavin, 80, and her daughter, Kathleen Slavin, 58, were eating dinner. DaRosa stabbed the women, whom he didn't know, and then ran from the house.

Patricia Slavin died of multiple stab wounds. Her daughter was hospitalized in the intensive-care unit.

DaRosa tried to carjack multiple people driving or stopped nearby but finally got back into the Honda, drove to the Silver City Galleria Mall a few miles away and crashed into the front entrance of Macy's. Inside the store, he assaulted at least three women. One remained hospitalized Wednesday.

A Macy's employee intervened and tried to stop DaRosa, but he left and walked to the Bertucci's, where he grabbed a knife and stabbed a waitress, Sheenah Savoy, multiple times.

George Heath, a visual design teacher at the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School, was at the bar at Bertucci's with his wife, Rosemary Heath. She said they had just ordered a drink when they heard a scream and saw DaRosa stabbing a young woman.

"He had the back of her shirt and kept stabbing her, and by the time she got to me, she was screaming, 'Help me! Help me! Help Me!'" she told WCVB-TV.

Rosemary Heath said she pushed the woman out of the way and grabbed the back of DaRosa's shirt.

"My husband was struggling with him to get the knife away," she said. "I think he went down low on him to get him around the elbows so he couldn't raise his arm up, and then he pulled his arm back and then stabbed my husband in the head."

George Heath, 56, later died. Savoy, 26, remained hospitalized in serious condition Wednesday.

Mayor Thomas Hoyer Jr. called Heath "certainly a hero."

"He stepped up," Hoyer said. "He prevented a tragic situation from getting worse."

Rosemary Heath said Plymouth County Deputy Sheriff James Creed, who was off-duty and at Bertucci's eating dinner, repeatedly ordered DaRosa to drop the knife.

Quinn said that when DaRosa refused Creed fired one shot at his abdomen, killing him and preventing "further carnage."

Quinn said DaRosa, who was 28 and had two young daughters, had checked himself in to Morton Hospital on Monday after his sister observed him behaving erratically, was released Tuesday and went on the rampage hours later.

"This appears to be an irrational series of actions," Quinn said. "It's beyond comprehension what the man did."

DaRosa's family said he didn't have a diagnosis and wasn't on medication but had been battling mental illness in recent months and suffered a breakdown.

"He just snapped," aunt Liz DaRosa said.

She said the killings could have been prevented had the hospital kept him longer rather than discharging him. She apologized to the families of the victims, saying, "We can't understand it, never mind what

they're going through."

Morton Hospital declined to comment on what type of treatment Arthur DaRosa received, citing patient privacy laws.

What's in Trump's returns? A look at how he plays tax game

NANCY BENAC, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump told The Associated Press this week "there's nothing to learn" from all those income tax returns he won't release until an ongoing audit wraps up.

Really?

Tax experts say the feet-high stack of returns that he's posed with for photos could provide significant insights about the presumptive GOP nominee — new details on his income and wealth, how much he gives to charity, the health of his businesses and, overall, how Trump plays the tax game.

Some information that may be embedded in Trump's tax returns:

HOW RICH?

Trump's tax returns wouldn't give a full picture of his wealth, since people don't have to report assets. But they would provide fresh clues about the financial life of the richest-ever presidential candidate, who's admitted he's prone to "truthful hyperbole." Tax returns could help determine whether Trump has been overstating — or understating — his income. On a press release with his financial disclosure form released last year, for example, Trump put his 2014 income at \$362 million, excluding certain items like interest and dividends. But that figure appeared to include revenue that wouldn't count as taxable income. For example, Trump's disclosure form included \$4.3 million in "golf-related revenue" over 18 months from his course in Scotland. But the course lost more than \$2 million in 2014 after its costs were taken into account. Depending on how it's reported, a significantly smaller income figure on Trump's Form 1040 than on his financial disclosure could be a fresh sign that his personal fortune, too, is less than the "more than \$10 billion by any stretch of the imagination" that he's claimed.

LOW-TAX, NO-TAX?

Trump, with trademark modesty, told the AP that "nobody knows more about taxes than I do — maybe in the history of the world." And he's been clear that he tries to pay "as little as possible." Tax experts say he might even have owed no income taxes in one or more recent years by using real estate depreciation provisions and carrying forward business operating losses from previous years. Such losses can be carried forward up to 20 years on personal taxes. Author David Cay Johnston, in his book "Temples of Chance," found that Trump reported negative income early on in his business career. According to documents unearthed by Johnston, Trump in 1977 made \$118,530 and paid \$42,386 in taxes; in 1978 reported negative income of \$406,379 and paid nothing, and in 1979 reported negative income of \$3.4 million and again paid no taxes. In response to a question about whether Trump had paid no taxes in recent years and how long the negative tax liability of the late '70s continued, Trump campaign spokeswoman Hope Hicks emailed: "You must be kidding, that is more than 35 years ago when we had an entirely different tax system."

PLAYING THE GAME

People can play it safe with their taxes or take aggressive steps to limit their liability. Trump has said only a "really stupid person is paying a lot of taxes." His overall approach to his tax returns will show "how he plays the game with taxes," says Joseph Thorndike, director of the Tax History Project at the nonprofit Tax Analysts. "It's a big piece of someone's financial life. It's completely opaque to us at this point."

BRAND TRUMP

A big chunk of Trump's personal wealth is tied up in the value of the Trump brand name, which he licenses far and wide. The billionaire estimated his personal brand and marketing deals at \$3.3 billion when he announced his candidacy last year, but Forbes magazine knocked that down to a much more modest

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estimate of \$125 million. Trump's tax returns could offer information about how much licensing income he receives, providing new clues about the true value of his brand, according to Thorndike. "It sheds light on the issue but it's not going to be a slam-dunk answer," he says.

TRUMP'S GIVING

Charitable donations — whom people support and how much they give — can tell a lot about their values. Trump told the AP he does most of his philanthropic giving in his own name rather than through his foundation, but he didn't detail to whom or how much he donates. Itemized charitable donations on his tax returns would sketch that out in detail. Onetime GOP rival Ted Cruz, without providing any evidence, has speculated that Trump could be hiding donations to "liberal groups like Planned Parenthood." Trump's Foundation, which is financed by contributions from other people, has donated to diverse organizations ranging from the Gay Men's Health Crisis to the Billy Graham Evangelical Association. Trump has said he's donated \$102 million over the past five years, but a partial list of donations that his campaign provided appeared to correspond to gifts from the foundation — not necessarily from Trump's own pocket. The Trump Organization's website used to refer to Trump as an "ardent philanthropist." Trump's tax returns could help show whether the description fits.

GOLF GAMES

Tax returns could reveal whether Trump has gotten a whopper of a tax break by promising not to build luxury houses that he never seemed interested in building to begin with. The land in question is a driving range at the Trump National Golf Course in Los Angeles. Tax attorneys say that by making a formal pledge to a land conservancy that he will never to develop homes there, Trump could be entitled to a sizable tax deduction for the golf easement.

TRUMP, THE LIFESTYLE

Trump's taxes could tell a lot about how much of his high-flying lifestyle is being written off as business expenses. The bills for his giant yacht, for example, were written off as a casino expense, according to former casino manager John O'Donnell. Trump's returns probably wouldn't itemize every fuel receipt for his jet or the like, but they would likely include total deductions for different types of expenses such meals, travel and more.

TRUMP'S NETWORK

Trump reported in his financial disclosures last year that he has nearly 500 businesses, more than 90 percent of them owned entirely by him. Tax experts say many of those companies may well be "pass-through" entities that would be part of his personal tax return. So Trump's tax return could tell how much income they made, offering fresh information about the financial health of his organization, according to Robert Kovacev, a lawyer at Steptoe & Johnson and former Justice Department Tax Division official who represents taxpayers in high-profile tax disputes with the IRS.

WILD CARDS

Experience with other candidates indicates there's no telling what else could show up in those returns. President Richard Nixon ended up paying an extra \$465,000 after he released his tax returns and they turned out to contain errors and mischaracterizations, says Thorndike. The Clintons' tax returns offered details about Hillary Clinton's lucrative trading in cattle futures when she was first lady of Arkansas. Bernie Sanders attracted some attention for deducting nearly \$9,000 in business meals last year. GOP 2012 nominee Mitt Romney, in a Facebook post Wednesday urging the release of Trump's returns, suggested all sorts of possibilities: "While not a likely circumstance, the potential for hidden inappropriate associations with foreign entities, criminal organizations, or other unsavory groups is simply too great a risk to ignore for someone who is seeking to become commander in chief," he wrote.

Hyperloop One shows off super-speed propulsion technology

MICHELLE RINDELS, Associated Press

NORTH LAS VEGAS, Nev. (AP) — A low-profile block of aluminum zipped across a short stretch of what looked like railroad tracks Wednesday before crashing into a tuft of sand and sending a small cloud into the clear skies of the desert north of Las Vegas.

The seconds-long demonstration by startup Hyperloop One marked the first public glimpse of a propulsion system that its creators hope will rocket people and cargo through tubes at the speed of sound in five years.

It took place as hundreds of journalists and investors watched from grandstands about 50 yards away after being bused to the site from a swanky casino.

"It's going to eliminate the barriers we face every day of time and distance. It's going to change our lives," CEO Rob Lloyd said a day earlier. "It's real. It's happening now."

Executives with the Los Angeles-based company said the system could whisk people the 350 miles from Los Angeles to San Francisco in 30 minutes.

They described a future where there's no such thing as a long-distance relationship, and it doesn't matter where you live because the commute to work would be so quick.

They say the tubes could run underground — a safe alternative to highway crossings and inclement weather.

The propulsion technology involves levitating pods that use electricity and magnets to move through a low-friction environment at more than 700 mph.

The idea was first articulated in a paper by Tesla co-founder Elon Musk in 2013. Musk was busy building his electric car and rooftop solar companies at the time, and offered the idea to whoever wanted to try it out.

The idea has skeptics, including professor James Moore II, director of the University of Southern California's Transportation Engineering Program.

He credited Musk for the new idea on how to move objects through tubes but said backers would face myriad public policy issues before it's installed on a large scale, including questions about safety, financing and land ownership.

Such roadblocks are keeping self-driving vehicles off the road decades after the idea was born, he said.

"I would certainly not say nothing will come of hyperloop technology," Moore said. "But I doubt this specific piece of technology will have a dramatic effect on how we move people and goods in the near term."

Hyperloop One hopes to start moving cargo by 2019 and people by 2021. It announced Tuesday that it had completed another \$80 million round of financing and was partnering with firms including GE and SNCF, the French national railway company.

Hyperloop One secured land in December in North Las Vegas to test the technology in a desert industrial park and will receive \$9 million in state tax breaks for its investments in the state.

Company officials hope to combine the separate components later this year for a test it's calling its "Kitty Hawk moment" — a reference to the Wright Brothers' inaugural airplane flight.

Today in History

The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, May 12, the 133rd day of 2016. There are 233 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On May 12, 1949, the Soviet Union lifted the Berlin Blockade, which the Western powers had succeeded in circumventing with their Berlin Airlift.

On this date:

In 1780, during the Revolutionary War, the besieged city of Charleston, South Carolina, surrendered to British forces.

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In 1870, an act creating the Canadian province of Manitoba was given royal assent, to take effect in July.
In 1922, a 20-ton meteor crashed near Blackstone, Virginia.

In 1932, the body of Charles Lindbergh Jr., the kidnapped son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh, was found in a wooded area near Hopewell, New Jersey.

In 1937, Britain's King George VI was crowned at Westminster Abbey; his wife, Elizabeth, was crowned as queen consort.

In 1955, Manhattan's last elevated rail line, the Third Avenue El, ceased operation.

In 1965, West Germany and Israel exchanged letters establishing diplomatic relations. The Rolling Stones recorded the final version of "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" at RCA Studios in Hollywood.

In 1975, the White House announced the new Cambodian government had seized an American merchant ship, the Mayaguez, in international waters. (U.S. Marines gained control of the ship three days after its seizure, not knowing the 39 civilian members of the crew had already been released by Cambodia.)

In 1982, in Fatima, Portugal, security guards overpowered a Spanish priest armed with a bayonet who attacked Pope John Paul II. (In 2008, the pope's longtime private secretary revealed that the pontiff was slightly wounded in the assault.)

In 1986, the military action-drama film "Top Gun," starring Tom Cruise and Kelly McGillis and released by Paramount Pictures, had its world premiere in New York.

In 1994, British Labour Party leader John Smith died at age 55.

In 2001, singer Perry Como died in Jupiter Inlet Colony, Florida, at age 88.

Ten years ago: Tony Snow made his debut as White House press secretary. A ruptured gas pipeline in southwestern Nigeria exploded as villagers were collecting fuel, killing up to 200 people. South Korean prosecutors indicted disgraced scientist Hwang Woo-suk on charges of fraud, embezzlement and bioethics violations linked to faked stem cell research. (Hwang was convicted in 2009 of embezzling research funds and illegally buying human eggs; he received a suspended prison term.)

Five years ago: CEOs of the five largest oil companies went before the Senate Finance Committee, where Democrats challenged the executives to justify tax breaks at a time when people were paying \$4 a gallon for gas. A German court convicted retired U.S. autoworker John Demjanjuk (dem-YAHN'-yuk) of being an accessory to the murder of tens of thousands of Jews as a Nazi death camp guard. (Demjanjuk, who maintained his innocence, died in March 2012 at age 91.)

One year ago: U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry arrived in Russia to meet President Vladimir Putin with an eye on easing badly strained relations over conflicts in Ukraine and Syria. A new earthquake killed dozens of people in Nepal, which was still struggling to recover from a devastating quake nearly three weeks earlier that had killed more than 8,000. An Amtrak train traveling from Washington, D.C. to New York derailed and crashed in Philadelphia, killing eight people. Educator, author and journalist William Zinsser, 92, died in New York.

Today's Birthdays: Critic John Simon is 91. Composer Burt Bacharach is 88. Actress Millie Perkins is 78. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jayotis Washington is 75. Country singer Billy Swan is 74. Actress Linda Dano is 73. Actress Lindsay Crouse is 68. Singer-musician Steve Winwood is 68. Actor Gabriel Byrne is 66. Actor Bruce Boxleitner is 66. Singer Billy Squier is 66. Blues singer-musician Guy Davis is 64. Country singer Kix Brooks is 61. Actress Kim Greist is 58. Rock musician Eric Singer (KISS) is 58. Actor Ving Rhames is 57. Rock musician Billy Duffy is 55. Actor Emilio Estevez is 54. Actress April Grace is 54. Actress Vanessa A. Williams is 53. TV personality/chef Carla Hall is 52. Country musician Eddie Kilgallon is 51. Actor Stephen Baldwin is 50. Actor Scott Schwartz is 48. Actress Kim Fields is 47. Actress Samantha Mathis is 46. Actress Jamie Luner is 45. Actor Christian Campbell is 44. Actress Rhea Seehorn is 44. Actor Mackenzie Astin is 43. Country musician Matt Mangano (The Zac Brown Band) is 40. Actress Rebecca Herbst is 39. Actress Malin (MAH'-lin) Akerman is 38. Actor Jason Biggs is 38. Actor Rami Malek (RAH'-mee MA'-lihk) is 35. Actress-singer Clare Bowen is 32. Actress Emily VanCamp is 30. Actor Malcolm David Kelley is 24. Actor Sullivan Sweeten is 21.

Thought for Today: "Mistrust the man who finds everything good; the man who finds everything evil; and still more the man who is indifferent to everything." — Johann Kaspar Lavater, Swiss theologian (1741-1801).