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Bus Driver Wanted

The Groton Area School District has openings for a part time (morning) bus route and for a full-time bus route driver. Assistance in obtaining the proper licensure is available. Please contact Transportation Supervisor, Loren Bahr, at 397-8117 for more details.

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

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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Friday, Aug. 12

Middle Child's Day

Senior Menu: Spanish rice/hamburger, green beans, Mandarin oranges, chocolate pudding, whole wheat bread.

Anniv: Shawn & Michelle Kelly

Birthdays: Alexa Nilsson • Amber Wolken • Haida Boyd • Jadyne Geffre • James Westby • Fern McPartland

13

Left Handers' Day

Anniv: Jonathan & Mandilyn Flihs

Birthdays: Logan Nilsson • Sam Furman • Mike Weber • Ralph Merkel • Jennifer Neff • Dee Riley • Don Hepola

4:00pm: Girls Soccer hosts Garretson

4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass 14

National Creamsicle Day

V-J Day

Shoot Out at Olive Grove

Birthdays: Doug Bahr • Tammy Voss • Jean Peterson • Annette Helm

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

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship

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

9:00am: First Presbyterian Church Bible Study

10:00am: First Presbyterian Worship

10:00am: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Pier-

Apts for Rent

1 bedroom and HUGE 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments available NOW! All utilities included except A/C, 1 bedroom \$504 and HUGE 2 bedroom 2 bath \$674 Please call or text 239-849-7674



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By Richard P. Holm M.D.



Civil War Surgery

By Richard P. Holm, MD

About 150 years ago, one in four fighting in the Civil War died, amounting to some 620,000 deaths. Two-thirds were due to disease, not injury, and a full half of non-traumatic deaths were from diarrheal illness, unknowingly due to contaminated water. The rest were from respiratory illness, particularly lethal because 90%

of the soldiers were weakened by chronic diarrhea and malnutrition.

That said, 1/3 of the deaths that came from injury would have been worse, except for surgeons that became experienced during the Civil War. There had been radical improvements in weaponry at the time with new rapid-fire rifled muskets, which caused cone-shaped bullets to spiral, giving impressive accuracy at 300-500-yard range. In the face of such deadly weapons, smart soldiers hid behind trees, rocks, earth-works, but too often had exposed legs or arms. It's no surprise limb injuries accounted for 70% of all wounds. These bullets tore enormous easily infected wounds with shattered bones, pieces of clothing, and non-sterile skin pulled into the wound.

Most trauma surgery had to be performed during the first 24 hours after injury in open air field tents. The value of sterility was not yet realized, and there was no understanding of clean instruments, clean wounds, or even clean hands. The world would have to wait ten more years before Joseph Lister popularized sterile surgical technique, and the value of clean water was understood.

One description: "They would work for days without washing. As he waited for the next man to be placed on the table, the surgeon would stand back... holding his knife in his boot or even in his teeth." Another description: "The surgeons and their assistants, stripped to the waist and bespattered with blood... cut and sawed away with frightful rapidity, throwing the mangled limbs on a pile nearby as soon as removed." Without sterile technique to repair a wound, amputation actually gave a better chance of survival.

Although no sterility, anesthesia was available during the Civil War. Ether had been discovered in the 1840s, and by 1861 chloroform became popular by field surgeons because it was less flammable, less nauseating, and more portable. Records indicate that during the entire war, general anesthesia was given 80,000 times with only 43 recorded anesthesia deaths. Screams coming from surgical tents were not from anesthetized patients, but from wounded soldiers about to have surgery.

Then, after the war, some 15,000 experienced surgeons went home to even the most rural areas. Who would have thought that from the horrors of war, lifesaving knowledge of anesthesia and surgery would spread throughout this country?

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GROTON LIONS CLUB

Groton Lions Club had its August monthly meeting, Thursday evening.

New president, Dave Pigors, led the business session. Business included The annual breakfast served Saturday and Sunday mornings, Sept 10-11, at the Andover threshing show. Troy Lindberg is chairman of this project. That same Saturday, Sept 10, is the annual fall rummage sale, chaired by Michelle Mullenburg.

There was a discussion project on a possible legacy project, requested by Lions International.

Larry Wheeting presented information on the 4-H sales at Brown county fair. A monetary donation was made to this project.

Punt, Pass and Kick will be held again, after the parade, on Homecoming, Sept. 30. Michelle again chairs this project at thhe school.

Nancy Larsen, secretary; has sent in the necessary information to apply for the club excellence award. Lee Schinkel received this international award last year, as an individual club member.

Justin Olson and Topper Tastad will handle the homecoming float .

Peace poster contest materials have been ordered. Lee and Joseph Schwan chair this project.

Lee introduced Justin Bell, and proposed him for membership. Justin was voted on, and accepted as a new member.



Finnesand/Pottratz Engaged

Sarah Finnesand and Tanner Pottratz, Sioux Falls, are engaged and plan to marry October 29, 2016, at the Augustana Chapel in Sioux Falls. Sarah is a Registered Nurse in the NICU at Sanford Health in Sioux Falls. Tanner is employed at Construction Products and Consultants in Sioux Falls. Parents of the couple are Iver and Mary Finnesand, formerly Groton, and Todd and Jizele Pottratz, Sioux Falls.



Customer Appreciation and Check-R-Board Days

Aug. 22 through Aug. 25

Different happenings everyday

Monday is cookies and coffee

On Tuesday all attendees receive a Purina cap

Wednesday is bring your pet in for a treat

Thursday is roast beef sandwiches, beans and drink served from noon to 7 pm.

Be sure to wear your checker board clothing to be eligible to win \$500.

South Dakota FFA Foundation Receives a \$2,000 Grant for Ag Adventure Center

Grant provided by Farm Credit Services of America's Working Here Fund for Agriculture Education

HURON, SOUTH DAKOTA –South Dakota FFA Foundation received a \$2,000 Working Here Fund grant for the Ag Adventure Center at the South Dakota State Fairgrounds. The grant is provided through Farm Credit Services of America's (FCSAmerica) Working Here Fund.

Grant funds will be used to change the South Dakota FFA Ag Learning Center at the South Dakota State Fairgrounds to the South Dakota FFA Ag Adventure Center. The updates will include physical improvements and technology additions to make it more exciting and relevant to fair attendees.

"We are shifting the focus from a petting zoo experience to interactive exhibits and displays that address food safety and the environmental impact of agriculture," said Gerri Eide, South Dakota FFA Foundation. "The green space outside will also be developed for agricultural demonstrations and activities."

"We live and work in Huron and appreciate the value this project brings to our rural community," said Matt Lindgren, vice president of retail operations at FCSAmerica's Huron office.

South Dakota FFA Foundation is one of 108 organizations to receive a Working Here Fund grant in the second quarter of 2016. FCSAmerica awarded \$165,855 during the latest grant cycle ending June 30, 2016.

Please join us for an
Open House Bridal Shower for

Sydney Erickson

Bride-to-be of
Blake Wilkinson

Saturday, August 13
9:30-11:30am
United Methodist Church
Groton

The couple is registered at
Target and Herbergers.



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We count on the mail

By Chip Hutcheson

President/National Newspaper Association and Publisher/The Times Leader, Princeton, KY

I got the mail today.

A couple of bills. A greeting card. Some catalogs. A newspaper. One package that my wife grabbed right away. (Wonder what that was?)

Lately, it occurs to me how completely I take for granted that I will get the mail tomorrow. I've had my share of gripes about the mail. As president of the National Newspaper Association, I have fielded our community newspaper members' postal concerns all year. The mail is slower than it used to be. The U.S. Postal Service slowed it down by a day, at least, because of financial problems. Newspaper subscribers are unhappy because too often their papers are arriving late. Some local businesses have had problems with cash flow because of late mail.

Still, I get the mail every day but Sunday. Bet you do, too.

If you follow the news, you know the U.S. Postal Service is in trouble. Because so many people and businesses use the internet, there isn't as much mail to deliver. But we still expect the mail to come. At my newspaper, we look for it on Saturdays, too, because weekend mail is extremely important in small towns like many in South Dakota. (Congress considered ending Saturday mail, but thankfully it has dropped that idea for now.)

Beneath the surface, however, we see seismic, economy-rattling changes ahead unless Congress can pass legislation to lower the Postal Service's cost of doing business. It carries more than \$50 billion of debt on its balance sheet. Fortunately, there two bills that would do the job. The House bill, HR 5714, is by Reps. Jason Chaffetz, R-UT, and Elijah Cummings, D-MD, and co-sponsors Mark Meadows, R-NC; Gerald Connolly, D-VA and Stephen Lynch, D-MA.

Passing these bills is easier said than done, but South Dakota Congresswoman Kristi Noem is in a great position to understand the problem. And, because she serves on the House Ways and Means Committee as a recognized fiscal conservative, she is actually in a position to help.

This is what the bills have to fix.

A 2006 law imposed a requirement to put advance funding into a federal retirement health plan for postal workers. Other agencies don't do advance funding. They are on a pay-as-you-go system. That requirement began to cripple USPS within a year or two after its passage. What the 2006 law didn't do was relieve USPS of also contributing to Medicare for the same workers, which many do not use. So there are two plans for many workers, when only one is used. USPS has to double-pay, which is another way of saying you double-pay every time you buy stamps—for a total of about \$29 billion now paid into the Federal Treasury. The Chaffetz-Cummings bill would end the double-payment, which would be fair to postage-payers and workers alike.



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Retirees would go onto Medicare at retirement like the rest of us do, and the other federal plan would provide only supplemental coverage. The Postal Service would be relieved of the debt it is carrying from the 2006 law because the funds would be complete.

Sounds so reasonable, right? Why hasn't it passed? Because Uncle Sam likes keeping half of that double payment. Somehow, some think tanks inside the Beltway (and I say "think" with my tongue in cheek) believe by ending the double payment, USPS would be getting a bailout. But it isn't a bailout. This is eliminating duplicate payments to the federal treasury that postage buyers can well use in better ways.

Saving this money may not mean much to you at a few pennies a pop for a stamp, but to businesses, it is big money that could be used to create jobs instead of lining the federal treasury. Did you know that the mail is responsible for 7.5 million jobs and \$1.2 trillion in the U.S. economy?

Mail is important. But it has to be reliable and on time. Unless this legislation gets through, mail will get slower and eventually, we won't be able to take it for granted.

If you get a chance this summer, e-mail your members of Congress a note asking them to pass these bills. Or better yet, send a letter by mail. Bet Congress takes that mail for granted every day, too.

Gov. Daugaard's Statement On Federal Decision To Rename Harney Peak

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard issued the following statement today in response to the U.S. Board of Geographic Name's decision to change the name of Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak.

"I am surprised by this decision, as I have heard very little support in South Dakota for renaming Harney Peak. This federal decision will cause unnecessary expense and confusion. I suspect very few people know the history of either Harney or Black Elk."

Well Mr. Governor, you talk about the expense of renaming the peak, but yet, back in May, South Dakota's board recommended renaming the peak to Hinhan Kaga Peak.

Board on Geographic Names Solicits Public Input on Proposed Name Change for Harney Peak in Pennington County

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Board on Geographic Names (SDBGN) has made a preliminary recommendation to support a name change for Harney Peak. Based on the public comment received, the board voted to support renaming the peak to Hinhan Kaga (Making of Owls), which is the traditional Lakota name for the feature.

SDBGN is providing the public with an opportunity to submit written comments, for or against, on the boards' recommended name as well comments related to keeping the current name of Harney Peak.

Federal board renames Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak

From the Rapid City Journal

PIERRE | A federal board's Thursday decision to rename Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak surprised South Dakota's governor, but vindicated activists who unsuccessfully argued to state officials last year that the peak shouldn't bear the name of a man whose soldiers killed Native Americans.

The decision by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names will cause "unnecessary expense and confusion," Gov. Dennis Daugaard said Thursday in a statement. The governor said he's heard little support for re-naming the peak, which is South Dakota's tallest and stands in the Black Hills National Forest.

"I suspect very few people know the history of either Harney or Black Elk," Daugaard said in a statement.

The federal board determined from the input received that Harney Peak was concerning to Native Americans in the area, said Lou Yost, the board's executive secretary for domestic names. The vote was 12 in favor, none against and one abstaining, he said.

"In this case, the board felt that the name was derogatory or offensive being that it was on a holy site of the Native Americans," Yost said, adding that the change applies to federal usage on new maps or other products.

Army Gen. William S. Harney's men massacred Native American women and children during a battle in September 1855, according to historic records.

People last year argued to the state's Board of Geographic Names that Harney Peak was offensive and should be changed, but the board decided against backing a new name.

Republican U.S. Sen. John Thune said in a statement that the federal board's "unilateral" decision is upsetting and "defies logic" since it goes against state officials' recommendations.

Basil Brave Heart, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, proposed the change to Black Elk Peak as a tribute to a Lakota spiritual leader who died in the mid-20th century. Brave Heart didn't answer a telephone call for comment Thursday.

"I don't want to see a peak that's named after someone that violated women and children," Brave Heart said in 2015. "Our people had to live under that icon, that man who did that to our people."



Nicholas Black Elk

Facebook Scammers Only "Like" Your Money

August 11, 2016 – Better Business Bureau (BBB) serving Nebraska, South Dakota, The Kansas Plains and Southwest Iowa has learned that area residents are being targeted, sometimes successfully, by crooks on Facebook. Scammers have always gone where the action is, so it's only natural that social media sites are where they are currently lurking.

The "Facebook Lottery Scam" has been around for several years, but lately, scammers have revamped the scheme. They are luring in victims by hacking into Facebook accounts and sending messages that appear to be from users' friends. Disguised as people you know, they may send you a message telling of their recent "winnings" in the fictitious lottery.

Fake Facebook pages have been set up by con artists who post fake photos of Facebook lottery "winners" holding giant checks. Potential victims are sent links to the pages in an attempt to add credibility to the scammers' claims.

Recently, a 72-year-old Heartland resident forwarded the message she received from the scammers to the BBB. The message claimed to be a notification of a "FACEBOOK WINNING CERTIFICATE" from the "FACEBOOK ONLINE INTERNATIONAL LOTTERY."

The lottery "winner" was told that she would be receiving a check for \$950,000 via "diplomatic courier delivery," but first she must pay the delivery fee. The "winner" was given a choice of several options, depending on how quickly she wanted her prize money. The delivery fees were between \$400 and \$560. She was instructed to call a telephone number for arranging the payment. The message contained the notification that it had been "APPROVED BY MR MARK ZUCKERBERG CEO FACEBOOK TEAM."

Although she did not fall for the scheme, she reported that a friend was taken in by it. "The tip offs to the rip-off here are that Facebook does not sponsor lotteries, and that you should never have to pay to receive a legitimate prize. Anyone who gets a notification such as this should report it on our scam tracker tool at bbb.org/scamtracker/us and then delete it," stated BBB President and CEO Jim Hegarty.

Below are some tips to keep in mind when using Facebook or any other social media sites:

- ♦ Double check extravagant claims from friends. Facebook accounts can be hijacked. Email or call any friend if you think they may have had their account hacked.
- ♦ Grammatical errors and over use of upper case in messages are almost certain signs of a scam. Read and check "notifications" carefully.
- ♦ Be careful about clicking on unfamiliar sites – they may look real but are fake.
- ♦ Do not give out any personal information to someone you do not know or did not seek out yourself.
- ♦ Be suspicious of "friend" requests from people you do not know.
- ♦ Anyone asking you to send a payment in order to receive a prize from them is trying to steal your money. Ignore them.
- ♦ Watch out for anyone with whom you develop an online relationship, and who then asks you for money.
- ♦ Some scammers have claimed to represent Facebook, asking victims to send them payment in order to "secure" their online information. Never believe these claims.
- ♦ Watch out for fake quizzes or tests. Scammers want you to click on these so they can hijack your computer with malware.

Hegarty stated, "The social media world is rife with scams. Some are getting more sophisticated in their disguises. Diligence is required by people using social media to make sure they do not become victims of these schemes. If you have questions or concerns about social media scamming, contact the BBB by calling 800-649-6814.

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Today in Weather History

August 12, 1986: Thunderstorms produced 2.53 inches of rain in twenty minutes in downtown Rapid City. The heavy rain caused street and basement flooding. Golf ball size hail fell in Zeona, in Perkins County, which covered the ground.

2004: Hurricane Charley was the third named storm and the second hurricane of the 2004 Atlantic hurricane season. Charley lasted from August 9 to August 15, and at its peak intensity it attained 150 mph winds, making it a strong Category 4 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale. It made landfall in southwestern Florida at maximum strength, making it the strongest hurricane to hit the United States since Hurricane Andrew struck Florida in 1992.

1778 - A Rhode Island hurricane prevented an impending British-French sea battle, and caused extensive damage over southeast New England. (David Ludlum)

1933 - The temperature at Greenland Ranch in Death Valley, CA, hit 127 degrees to establish a U.S. record for the month of August. (The Weather Channel)

1936 - The temperature at Seymour, TX, hit 120 degrees to establish a state record. (The Weather Channel)

1955 - During the second week of August hurricanes Connie and Diane produced as much as 19 inches of rain in the northeastern U.S. forcing rivers from Virginia to Massachusetts into a high flood. Westfield MA was deluged with 18.15 inches of rain in 24 hours, and at Woonsocket RI the Blackstone River swelled from seventy feet in width to a mile and a half. Connecticut and the Delaware Valley were hardest hit. Total damage in New England was 800 million dollars, and flooding claimed 187 lives. (David Ludlum)

1987 - Early afternoon thunderstorms in Arizona produced 3.90 inches of rain in ninety minutes at Walnut National Monument (located east of Flagstaff), along with three inches of pea size hail, which had to be plowed off the roads. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Fifteen cities in the northeastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date. Youngstown OH reported twenty-six days of 90 degree weather for the year, a total equal to that for the entire decade of the 1970s. (The National Weather Summary)

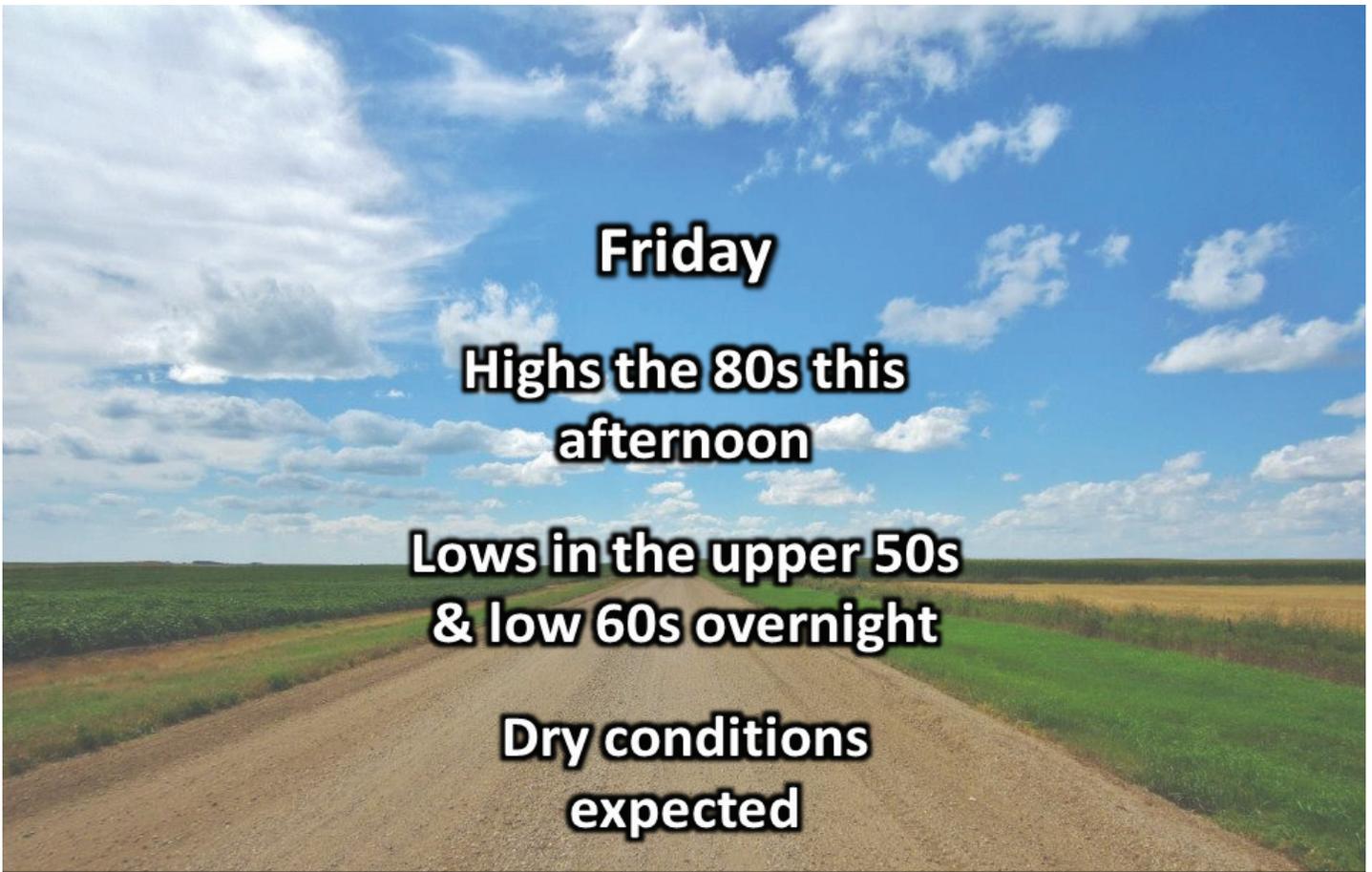
1989 - Thunderstorms were scattered across nearly every state in the Union by late in the day. Thunderstorms produced wind gusts to 75 mph at Fergus Falls MN, and golf ball size hail and wind gusts to 60 mph at Black Creek WI. In the Chicago area, seven persons at a forest preserve in North Riverside were injured by lightning. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2005: A tornado strikes Wright, Wyoming, a coal-mining community, killing two and destroying 91 homes and damaging about 30 more in around the town.

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Today	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
						
Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear then Slight Chance T-storms	Slight Chance T-storms
High: 80 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 79 °F	Low: 55 °F	High: 81 °F	Low: 61 °F	High: 85 °F



Friday

Highs the 80s this afternoon

Lows in the upper 50s & low 60s overnight

Dry conditions expected

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 8/12/2016 4:53 AM Central

Published on: 08/12/2016 at 5:07AM

Dry and seasonal conditions are expected through the weekend, although can't completely rule out a stray shower or thunderstorm Saturday afternoon. The next best chance for precipitation will be Sunday night into Monday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 81.8 F at 2:32 PM

Low Outside Temp: 65.7 F at 4:41 AM

High Gust: 18.0 Mph at 3:42 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 102° in 1933

Record Low: 40 in 1898

Average High: 83°F

Average Low: 57°F

Average Precip in Aug: 0.94

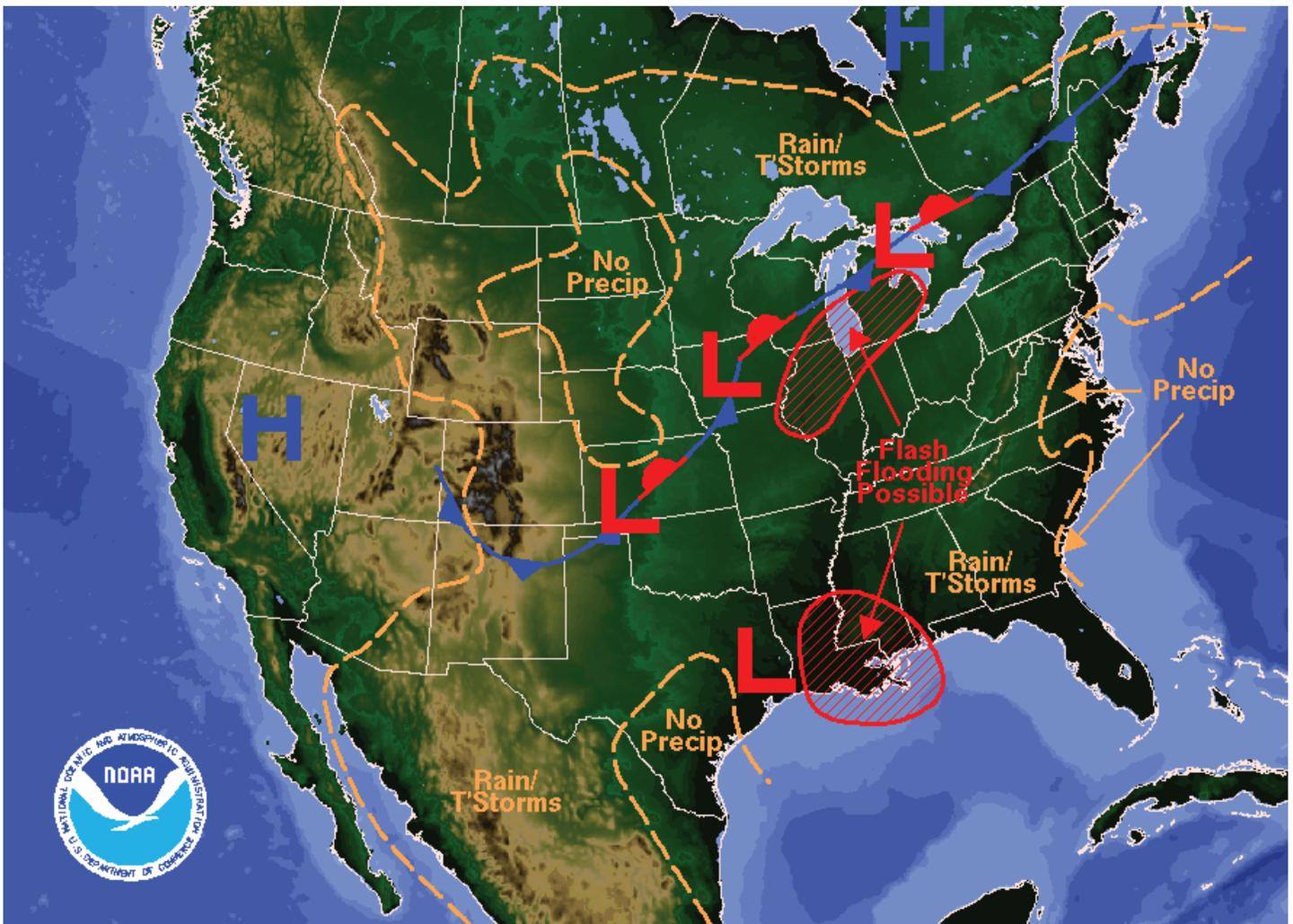
Precip to date in Aug: 1.40

Average Precip to date: 14.80

Precip Year to Date: 12.48

Sunset Tonight: 8:44 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:32 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Fri, Aug 12, 2016, issued 4:54 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



GRATITUDE OR GREED?

Aesop was a Greek slave who became famous for writing a number of famous fables. One of his stories involved a dog, a bone, a stream and a bridge.

As the dog was crossing the bridge carrying his bone, he looked down at the water beneath him. To his surprise, he thought that the bone in the other dog's mouth was larger.

In his greed he opened his mouth to try to snatch the bigger bone from the other dog. However, when he opened his mouth he dropped his bone into the water. Then he had nothing. The water in the stream carried the bone to the river and then into the sea.

Paul compares people who are greedy with those who are immoral and impure and assures his readers that they will not inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God. In fact, he says, "greedy people are actually idolaters" – and indeed they are. An idolater is one who worships and wants things more than they do God and puts the worship of things above and beyond the worship of God.

It is not wrong to want nice things. But if we want things more than we want God, it takes our minds away from Him and changes our priorities to the things of this world. As Christians we must be careful to focus our mind and place our treasures in Heaven with Jesus.

Prayer: Give us discerning minds and faithful hearts, Father, to desire those things that are best for us. May we be careful and cautious at all times to honor You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Ephesians 5:5 For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person – such a man is an idolater – has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

News from the Associated Press

Gambling compact between state, Yankton Sioux almost done

WAGNER, S.D. (AP) — A new gambling compact between the state of South Dakota and the Yankton Sioux would enable the tribe to double the number of slot machines at its Fort Randall Casino, add two new games and resume responsibility for employee background checks.

The Pickstown facility has 250 slots. There was no opposition to increasing the number to 500 during a public hearing Thursday in Wagner.

The increase is the major thing the tribe sought in the compact negotiations, Tribe Gaming Commission Chairman Arthur Standing Cloud said. In return, the tribe will agree to not use a sovereign immunity defense against any claims covered under the casino's liability insurance.

The new compact also would enable the tribe to add craps and roulette games to the casino's offerings, which include slots, blackjack and poker. It also would return to the tribe the power to handle employee background checks, which the state currently does.

"We felt that we've been in business 20 years, we can handle that ourselves," Standing Cloud said.

The proposed compact now heads to Gov. Dennis Daugaard for approval. It would be the first update in 15 years.

"We have been working on the new compact since late 2012," Standing Cloud said. "It was just a lot of going back and forth and trying to get the changes through our tribal council."

All nine American Indian tribes in South Dakota have gambling compacts with the state. The Yankton Sioux tribe's compact will be subject to review every four years.

Turbulence leaves more than 20 injured on JetBlue flight

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A JetBlue flight was diverted to western South Dakota after turbulence left more than 20 passengers and crew members injured.

JetBlue spokeswoman Katherine McMillan told The Boston Globe (<http://bit.ly/2aQR3o7>) that flight 429 was traveling from Boston to Sacramento, California, on Thursday when it was diverted to Rapid City, South Dakota, where it landed around 7:30 p.m.

South Dakota news outlets report that 22 passengers and two crew members were taken to a local hospital but were all treated for minor injuries and released.

McMillan says care team members were being sent to assist injured customers and a replacement aircraft was on its way.

No other details were immediately available.

12 people arrested at Dakota Access Pipeline demonstration

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Authorities in North Dakota have arrested a dozen people protesting the \$3.8 billion Dakota Access Pipeline.

Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier said the 12 arrests as of Thursday evening were for disorderly conduct or criminal trespass.

He says some protesters encroached on a zone established for workers' safety. Those arrested were brought to the Morton County Correctional Center.

The pipeline would start in North Dakota and pass through South Dakota and Iowa before ending in Illinois.

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Native Americans have been staging a nonviolent protest for months at a "spirit camp" established by the Standing Rock Sioux at the confluence of the Cannonball and Missouri rivers. The tribe has sued federal regulators for approving the pipeline.

Tribal member LaDonna Brave Bull Allard says roughly 200 people are protesting.

Lawmakers studying drug abuse prevention set to meet

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A group of lawmakers studying how to prevent drug abuse in South Dakota is set to meet at the Capitol in Pierre.

The Substance Abuse Prevention Interim Study Committee is scheduled to meet next week. Republican Sen. Jim White is leading the group.

The group will hear from former U.S. attorney from North Dakota Timothy Purdon. The study committee will also take testimony from the public about meth use on Native American reservations and opioid use.

The studies can develop into concrete legislation, such as the major road and bridge funding hike lawmakers passed in 2015 that came out of a summer study group on highway needs.

Feds rename South Dakota's highest peak to Black Elk Peak

JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A federal board's Thursday decision to rename Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak surprised South Dakota's governor, but vindicated activists who unsuccessfully argued to state officials last year that the peak shouldn't bear the name of a man whose soldiers killed Native Americans.

The decision by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names will cause "unnecessary expense and confusion," Gov. Dennis Daugaard said Thursday in a statement. The governor said he's heard little support for renaming the peak, which is South Dakota's tallest and stands in the Black Hills National Forest.

"I suspect very few people know the history of either Harney or Black Elk," Daugaard said in a statement.

Black Elk was a Lakota spiritual leader who died in the mid-20th century.

"He's definitely a very powerful visionary that is at least deserving of the peak's name," said Wayne Frederick, a representative on the tribal council of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in southern South Dakota. "It's extremely uplifting."

Frederick said he was in a council meeting all day, and when he learned of the change, he passed his phone around to several representatives near him. "They were in disbelief," he said.

The federal board determined from the input received that Harney Peak was concerning to Native Americans in the area, said Lou Yost, the board's executive secretary for domestic names. The vote was 12 in favor, none against and one abstaining, he said.

"In this case, the board felt that the name was derogatory or offensive being that it was on a holy site of the Native Americans," Yost said, adding that the change applies to federal usage on new maps or other products.

Army Gen. William S. Harney's men massacred Native American women and children during a battle in September 1855, according to historic records.

Some people last year argued to the state's Board on Geographic Names that Harney Peak was offensive and should be changed, but the board decided against backing a new name. Members of Daugaard's administration opposed efforts to have the name changed, and state lawmakers eventually approved a law in 2016 that limited the board's autonomy.

Republican U.S. Sen. John Thune said in a statement that the federal board's "unilateral" decision is upsetting and "defies logic" since it goes against state officials' recommendations.

Basil Brave Heart, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, proposed the change to Black Elk Peak. Brave Heart didn't answer a telephone call for comment Thursday.

"I don't want to see a peak that's named after someone that violated women and children," Brave Heart said in 2015. "Our people had to live under that icon, that man who did that to our people."

Highway Patrol identifies Iowa woman killed in crash

HILL CITY, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol has identified a 68-year-old woman who died after a trike-style motorcycle hit the back of a pickup near Hill City.

Authorities say Paulette Sheridan of Council Bluffs, Iowa, was thrown from the motorcycle Tuesday after it rear-ended the pickup. Authorities say she died later from her injuries.

The Highway Patrol says the driver of the motorcycle received minor injuries, while the pickup driver wasn't hurt.

North Dakota medical marijuana measure makes Nov. 8 ballot

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — North Dakota Secretary of State Al Jaeger says supporters of a ballot initiative campaign that would legalize marijuana for medical purposes have gathered enough signatures to put the issue to a statewide vote.

Supporters of the so-called North Dakota Compassionate Care Act needed about 13,500 qualified signatures to put it to a statewide vote in the Nov. 8 general election. Jaeger said Thursday the measure's backers turned in more than 17,200 qualified signatures.

With voters' approval, the initiative would make it legal for residents to possess up to 3 ounces of marijuana for medical purposes. It says those who qualify could obtain the drug from a state-licensed dispensary or grow a limited supply for personal use.

In South Dakota, a judge this week denied an appeal to get a medical marijuana measure on the ballot.

Man convicted of raping child given lengthy prison sentence

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Centerville man convicted of raping a child in November 2012 has been sentenced to serve 25 years in prison.

Thirty-five-year-old Benjamin Thomas was convicted earlier this summer of third-degree rape, aggravated incest, sexual contact with a child under 16 and sexual exploitation of a minor.

Attorney General Marty Jackley says Thomas was sentenced this week to a total of 57 years in the State Penitentiary, with 30 of those years suspended. His two-year sentence for sexual exploitation will run concurrently with his time on the other counts.

Pine Ridge woman pleads not guilty to killing 2-year-old son

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Pine Ridge Indian Reservation woman accused of killing her 2-year-old son has pleaded not guilty to murder and child abuse charges and has been ordered to remain behind bars.

Federal authorities allege the son of Katrina Shangreaux, 28, had bruises and bite marks on his body and other injuries. Investigators believe a potty-training issue triggered the alleged incident in late July at Shangreaux's mother's home in Porcupine.

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U.S. Magistrate Judge Daneta Wollman on Wednesday ordered Shangreaux to be detained until trial, which is scheduled to begin Oct. 11 in federal court in Rapid City. Shangreaux, who also goes by the name Katrina White Whirlwind, could face life in prison if convicted.

"I find by preponderance of the evidence that there is no condition or combination of conditions of release that will assure the presence of the defendant at further proceedings," Wollman wrote in her detention order.

The boy was the half-brother of a 1-year-old boy who authorities say was slain in April 2015 by the father of the two boys. James Shangreaux has pleaded not guilty to murder and child abuse counts and is to stand trial in January.

The Latest: Trump says Obama-IS remark was sarcasm

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — The Latest on the U.S. presidential race (all times local):

7:15 a.m.

Republican Donald Trump is now saying that his description of Barack Obama as a founder of the Islamic State group was sarcasm.

At a rally Wednesday, Trump said that Obama "is the founder of ISIS," using one acronym for the group. He repeated that in two interviews Thursday.

But in a tweet Friday criticizing CNN's coverage, he said the network reported his claim "so seriously." Trump tweeted: "THEY DON'T GET SARCASM?"

Trump's comments were seen as accusing Obama of creating conditions that allowed IS to thrive. But asked about that Thursday, Trump seemed to go further. He told conservative radio host Hugh Hewitt "No, I meant that he's the founder of ISIS, I do."

3:45 a.m.

In a rare show of humility by the boastful billionaire, Donald Trump is acknowledging that his presidential campaign faces challenges and could ultimately fall short.

The Republican presidential nominee is straying from his signature bravado as he campaigns in the battleground state of Florida. He told a gathering of evangelical ministers Thursday he's "having a tremendous problem in Utah."

The same day, Trump acknowledged that his lack of political correctness could cost him the election if Americans reject his blunt approach.

After trouncing 16 challengers in the Republican primary, Trump is encountering worrying signs as his campaign moves into the general election.

Democrat Hillary Clinton's lead over Trump in national polls has widened in recent days, while a growing number of fellow Republicans have declared they won't support him.

The Latest: 25 gold medals in 13 sports up for grabs in Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — The Latest on the Olympics being held in Rio de Janeiro (all times local):

8:10 a.m.

It's Day 7 at the Rio Games and athletes are vying for 25 gold medals in 13 different sports.

American superstar Michael Phelps is looking to claim his 23rd Olympic gold with a standout performance in the 100 meter butterfly, while teammate Katie Ledecky is aiming to dominate the women's 800 meter freestyle final.

Track and field is starting up and two women will each be seeking a third consecutive gold: Tirunesh Dibaba of Ethiopia in the 10,000 meters and New Zealander Valerie Adams in the shot put.

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On the tennis court, Rafael Nadal of Spain will team up with Marc Lopez to face Romania in a gold medal doubles match, while in boxing, American Nico Hernandez will be fighting for gold against Uzbekistan's Hasanboy Dusmatov.

Medals will also be awarded in archery, track cycling, equestrian, fencing, judo, rowing, shooting, trampoline gymnastics and weightlifting.

7:40 a.m.

A play-by-play announcer for Canada's CBC is apologizing for mixing up swimmers Michael Phelps and Ryan Lochte, announcing Lochte as the winner of the 200-meter individual medley final even though Phelps blew away his American teammate and the rest of the competition.

Elliott Friedman quickly realized his mistake on the air when an on-screen graphic appeared showing Phelps had won. His tone immediately changed from excited to gutted and he corrected himself, saying: "I apologize, I got my lanes mixed up."

Friedman apologized further on Twitter, saying: "I'm sorry everyone. I blew it. No excuses."

Phelps' win was his fourth gold in Rio and his 22nd overall in the Olympics. Lochte finished fifth, nearly 3 seconds behind Phelps.

7:15 a.m.

Two women will each be seeking a third consecutive gold at the Rio Olympics on Friday.

Tirunesh Dibaba of Ethiopia is competing in the 10,000 meters. She is already considered the greatest female distance runner with her five Olympic medals (three gold) and five world championship golds. The 31-year-old has just finished a yearlong break after the birth of her son.

New Zealand shot putter Valerie Adams, meanwhile, seeks a comeback from elbow and shoulder surgery. She was basically untouchable at major championships from 2007 to 2014, with four world and two Olympic gold medals. But to get gold in Rio, Adams will have to beat China's Gong Lijiao and Christina Schwanitz of Germany, who took over Adams' world title last year.

7:10 a.m.

Gymnast Yuri van Gelder has taken his battle for reinstatement to the Netherlands' Olympic team to a Dutch courtroom, demanding a business class ticket back to Rio just days after he was sent home for a "grave breach" of team rules.

The 2005 world champion on the rings was thrown off the team this week after a late-night trip to Rio during which, according to the country's gymnastics association, he drank alcohol before arriving back in the athletes' village early Sunday morning.

Friday's high-stakes court appearance was the latest twist in 33-year-old Van Gelder's turbulent sports career which, alongside his world title, has also featured a ban for cocaine use.

In court documents, Van Gelder says he was denied legal advice or the possibility of appeal.

6:45 a.m.

Few people know the U.S. women's soccer team like former coach Pia Sundhage — but that's not always a good thing for the Americans.

The U.S. women face Sweden on Friday in the quarterfinals of the Rio Olympics soccer tournament — and that means a reunion with Sundhage, who now coaches the Swedish women. Sundhage had led the Americans to Olympic gold in both Beijing and London.

The Brazilian women, meanwhile, have an entire nation of 209 million people rooting for them when they meet Australia on Friday. Led by standout striker Marta, the Brazilians will surely be eager for re-

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venge, since Australia knocked them out of the Women's World Cup last year.

In other women's Olympic soccer matches, China takes on Germany and Canada goes up against France.

6:15 a.m.

Doesn't he have enough Olympic gold medals?

Other Olympic swimmers could be forgiven for thinking that of American superstar Michael Phelps, who already has 22 golds. But the answer is no, he wants another one.

The men's 100 meter butterfly finals are being held Friday, an event in which Phelps holds the world and Olympic records.

Speaking of golds, fellow American Katie Ledecky will be back in the pool for the women's 800 meter freestyle final after setting a new Olympic record in preliminaries Thursday. Ledecky is seeking to sweep the 200, 400 and 800 meter freestyles for the first time since the 1968 Mexico City Games.

Katinka Hosszu of Hungary will be aiming for gold in the women's 200 backstroke and the world's fastest men will compete in the 50 meter free final.

5:50 a.m.

The dominating U.S. basketball teams will be back on the court at the Rio Olympics, with the men hoping to make sure their last contest — a scrambling win against Australia — was just a wobble.

The U.S. men, who play Serbia on Friday, are still the team to beat. In other action, China's men face Australia.

The U.S. women, meanwhile, take on Canada. The three Olympic rookies on the American team have had an impressive start: Elena Delle Donne, Breanna Stewart and Brittney Griner have all taken over parts of games as the U.S. women won their first two Olympic contests in dominating fashion.

5:35 a.m.

Usain Bolt, no slouch himself on the track, says it's going to be hard to pick a favorite in the women's 100 meters at the Rio Olympics.

Olympic track and field events are starting Friday, including preliminary heats in the women's 100 meters.

Five sprinters at Rio have joined the small list of women to crack the 10.8-second mark: Elaine Thompson of Jamaica, Murielle Ahoure of the Ivory Coast and American teammates English Gardner, Tianna Bartoletta and Tori Bowie. Two-time defending Olympic champion Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce of the United States is also in the field.

On the men's side, preliminaries start in the 400 meter and 800 meter races. The man to beat in the 800 meters is David Rudisha of Kenya, who holds the world and Olympic records.

In the 400, Rio fans will get a first look at American LaShawn Merritt, South Africa's Wayde van Niekerk and Grenada's Kirani James.

5:10 a.m.

Winning a gold medal in soccer and not worrying about anything else is no longer good enough for Olympic host Brazil.

Brazilian officials say the country now wants to win as many events as it can and finish in the top 10 in the number of overall medals won — a goal some observers believe may be a tall order.

Adriana Bahar of the Brazilian Olympic Committee tells The Associated Press that "of course, soccer is

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a passion in Brazil ... but now we want to focus on the 41 other disciplines in the Olympics.”

Brazil has won three medals so far — one of each color. But the Rio de Janeiro Olympics have yet to catch on across the sprawling metropolitan area of 12 million. Stadiums for basketball and judo have been full but many other venues have been lightly attended. Golf appeared to have more rules officials than fans on its opening day.

4:55 a.m.

A Brazilian police officer has died after being shot in the head when he and two others working security at the Rio Olympics got lost near a slum and encountered gunfire.

Justice Minister Alexandre de Moraes announced Helio Vieira’s death early Friday on his official Facebook page.

The officers from Brazil’s national security force were using a GPS device to navigate unfamiliar streets Wednesday afternoon when they took a wrong turn off a highway leading to Rio’s international airport. Their truck was sprayed with bullets, shattering the windows.

Viera died late Thursday and the other officers suffered minor injuries.

More than 85,000 security forces have been deployed in Rio for the Olympics, which is double the number of London in 2012.

4:45 a.m.

Several swimmers have been listed with the wrong qualifying times coming into the Rio Olympics — raising even more questions about the way world swimming body FINA is governing the sport.

FINA did correct some mistakes, including that of a Kuwaiti swimmer competing under the IOC flag.

The Guardian newspaper in Britain reported that 17 swimmers from 16 countries still had qualifying times that didn’t match their actual results from last year’s world championships. All were admitted to the games under the “universality rule,” which aims to spread the sport to developing countries that would not otherwise have qualified.

In a statement Friday, FINA said the Olympic competition in Rio was not affected by the wrong times.

FINA did change the qualifying times for several dozen swimmers, as well as some relay times for major teams such as Italy and Hungary. The times determine heats and lane assignments during preliminary heats.

4:20 a.m.

Fiji has its first-ever Olympic medal — and it’s gold to boot. Now that’s a reason to party.

The Pacific Island nation erupted with joy Friday after its rugby sevens team crushed Britain 43-7 in final in Rio de Janeiro.

In the capital of Suva, fans packed the 15,000-seat National Stadium to watch the Olympic final on a big screen — held Thursday night in Rio but at 10 a.m. Friday back home. Tense at first as they saw their nation on the brink of an historic achievement, fans relaxed and then rejoiced as Fiji ran away with the victory.

Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama, in Rio for the games, told reporters “rugby has always lifted the spirit and always brought us together. Right now, whatever political party, there’s no difference. Everyone is coming together to celebrate.”

He declared a public holiday for Aug. 22, the day after the team returns home.

3:35 a.m.

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Chinese officials say a female Chinese swimmer has tested positive for a banned substance at the Rio Olympics — the first competitor in the sport to fail a test at the games.

The Chinese Swimming Association says 18-year-old Chen Xinyi has tested positive for the diuretic hydrochlorothiazide after she finished fourth in the women's 100-meter butterfly Sunday, missing a bronze medal by nine-hundredths of a second. Xinhua, China's official state news agency, reported the story Friday.

Chen was also scheduled to compete Friday in the 50 meter freestyle.

Chen has applied to the International Olympic Committee to have her B sample tested and to get a hearing on the matter, Xinhua said, citing the swimming association, which promised in a statement to "take this matter seriously."

Bombings in Thailand target tourist cities, killing 4 people

JERRY HARMER, Associated Press

TODD PITMAN, Associated Press

HUA HIN, Thailand (AP) — Attackers using firebombs and homemade explosives struck a series of popular resort cities and beach towns across Thailand in some of the worst violence to hit the country since a military coup two years ago. At least four people were killed and dozens wounded, including 11 foreigners.

It was not clear who was behind the attacks Thursday and Friday, which followed a successful referendum held last weekend on a new constitution that critics say will bolster the military's power for years to come.

The attacks occurred south of Bangkok and several of the blasts — including one on Patong beach in the tourist town of Phuket and three in the seaside resort city of Hua Hin — appeared designed to strike the tourism industry, which provides vital income to the government.

Police said firebombs also triggered blazes at markets and shops in six places, including Phuket, Trang, Surat Thani Phang Nga and a souvenir shop in the tourist town of Ao Nang, Krabi.

Thailand's economy has sagged since the military seized power in a 2014 coup. But tourism has remained one of the few bright spots, with visitors rising to 30 million in 2015 and more than 14 million having visited by May 2016, according to the latest official figures.

Foreign governments, including the United States, issued warnings urging travelers to use caution and avoid affected areas.

Police said four of the injured tourists were from Germany, two from Italy and one from Austria. The Netherlands said four of its citizens were also wounded.

Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha said the government was doing the best it "could to provide security to the country. ... We have to band together and stay strong."

"Why has it happened now when the country is improving ... Who (did it)? Who doesn't want to see Thailand getting better? Which group? Go find out for me."

Police said they were investigating all leads and had ruled out links to international terrorism.

Royal Thai Police Col. Krisana Patanacharoen said it was "too early to conclude" who was behind the attacks. But he said the bombings followed "a similar pattern used in the southern parts of the country" — a reference to a low-level insurgency in the country's Islamic south that has ground on for more than a decade and killed more than 5,000 people.

Southern militants fighting for greater autonomy have carried out sophisticated, coordinated attacks before, but most have targeted three provinces in the far south.

The most devastating explosions occurred overnight in Hua Hin on a busy street filled with bars and

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restaurants. One Thai woman was killed and about 20 people were wounded, half of them foreigners, according to police Lt. Chaiyot Tisawong.

Gen. Sithichai Srisopacharoenrath, the superintendent of police in Hua Hin, said the bombs were hidden inside potted plants and were set off by remote control, half an hour apart. He said a Samsung cellphone had been recovered that they believe was used to detonate at least one the bombs.

On Friday, debris and ball bearings could be seen strewn across the road as police investigated the scene. The blast damaged a pair of phone booths and shattered the window of a nearby Starbucks.

Many shops in the city center closed afterward and normally bustling streets were empty, for good reason: Hua Hin was hit again by another bomb that exploded Friday morning near a clock tower, killing one person and wounding four more.

Separate blasts were reported elsewhere in the south. One exploded on Phuket city's popular Patong beach, injuring one person. Two more detonated in front of two police stations half an hour apart in Surat Thani in southern Thailand, killing one and wounding three. And two bombs exploded outside a market in Phang Na, damaging two vehicles but causing no casualties.

Earlier Thursday, another bomb blew up in the southern province of Trang — full of beautiful beaches and tourist islands — killing one person and injuring six, according to police and Thai press reports.

In Hua Hin, 51-year-old Italian Andrea Tazzioli said he "saw light, white light" and immediately felt pain in his shoulder "like big fire."

Speaking later at a hospital, he said he fell down and saw people "screaming, the glass broken, table broken, confusion."

Tourist Shane Brett told the Australian Broadcasting Corp. from his hotel room that there was panic after the first explosion in Hua Hin on Thursday.

"I was at a bar in the main bar district in Hua Hin right outside the Hilton Hotel and at first I heard kind of a bang ... and everyone kind of panicked," Brett said.

He looked outside and saw people running. Half an hour later, heading back to his hotel, he saw "a good few people injured and the whole area just panicking ... the whole area was just shut down with police cars, ambulances."

Thailand has been plagued by political violence, including several bombings, since the populist billionaire Thaksin Shinawatra was ousted as prime minister in a 2006 military coup after demonstrations accused him of corruption, abuse of power and insulting King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

Thaksin's ouster set off sometimes-bloody battles for power between his supporters and opponents, who include the military. The government of his sister Yingluck Shinawatra, who became prime minister in 2011, was toppled in the country's last coup in 2014.

On Sunday, Thai voters approved a referendum on a new constitution that is supposed to lead to an election next year. Critics say it is undemocratic and is fashioned to keep the military in control for at least five more years even if a free election is held.

Friday's blast took place on the birthday of Thailand's Queen Sirikit. The junta has repeatedly said that defending the monarchy is a top priority, and the army and its allies are keen to ensure a smooth succession for Bhumibol, who is the world's longest reigning monarch.

Judge allows lawsuit over creepy letters to move forward

ELIZABETH, N.J. (AP) — A judge says a lawsuit can move forward from a New Jersey couple who claim they were scared away from their home after receiving anonymous creepy letters from someone named "The Watcher."

NJ.com reports (<http://bit.ly/2aGdCyu>) a judge rejected a motion to dismiss the lawsuit Thursday but threw out some of the claims made by Derek and Maria Broaddus.

The couple bought the house in Westfield for nearly \$1.4 million in 2014. They say the former owners should have warned them about a letter they received from the person who claimed ownership of the home.

But the judge's ruling also indicated that there may be little evidence that the previous owners knew about the letters.

The former owners have said they received a note, but deny it was disturbing.

10 Things to Know for Friday

The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about Friday:

1. WHERE BOMBS HAVE STRUCK AGAIN

A wave of coordinated explosions rattles cities across southern Thailand, killing at least four people and wounding dozens more in several beach towns.

2. WHO ADMITS HE COULD END UP A LOSER

In a rare show of humility, Donald Trump acknowledges his presidential campaign faces challenges and could ultimately fall short.

3. WHY FACEBOOK ISN'T SO FRIENDLY RIGHT NOW

Many Americans are appalled by the vitriol on the social network over the polarizing presidential campaign, leading to heated debates, "unfriending" and demands for cease-fires.

4. AMERICANS MAKE HISTORY IN THE OLYMPIC POOL

Simone Manuel becomes the first African-American woman to win a gold medal in swimming, while Michael Phelps became the first swimmer to win the same event at four straight Olympics.

5. AMERICAN GYMNASTS WIN GOLD AND SILVER

American Simone Biles soars to the all-around title, while teammate Aly Raisman wins silver.

6. WHICH COUNTRY IS CELEBRATING ITS FIRST OLYMPIC MEDAL

The Pacific Island nation of Fiji erupts in jubilation after its rugby team defeats Britain.

7. A NORTH CAROLINA MAN IS FREE AFTER 28 YEARS IN PRISON

Convicted of murder as a teenager, Johnny Small was luxuriating by sleeping on his cousin's living room sofa after a judge rules he never got a fair trial.

8. HOW MARIJUANA WILL REMAIN REGULATED BY US GOVERNMENT

Pot remains on a list of drugs that have no medical purpose, but the Obama administration is lifting some restrictions on researching its possible medical benefits.

9. AN INDIAN FILM STAR IS DETAINED AGAIN AT A US AIRPORT

Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan tweets that he gets held at U.S. airports "every damn time" after he is stopped at the Los Angeles International Airport, as the U.S. ambassador to India apologizes.

10. FIDEL CASTRO IS TURNING 90 IN A CHANGED CUBA

The man who nationalized the island's economy and controlled virtually every aspect of life on the island will celebrate his birthday in a far different country than the one he once ruled.

Stolen rubber duck returns after odd globe-trotting mystery

HAMPTON, N.H. (AP) — An oversized rubber duck that was stolen from a New Hampshire family's home five years ago has returned, shrouded in a cloud of mystery and global intrigue.

The Portsmouth Herald reports (<http://bit.ly/2aGAVbF>) the Troiano family began receiving cryptic postcards and pictures of the duck in locations all over the world soon after its disappearance from their Hampton home.

A Facebook page documenting the globe-trotting of "Gale Ducky" gained a large following that included the Troianos themselves, who were amused by their bath toy's new adventures and weren't put off by his abduction.

But on Wednesday morning, Gale Ducky returned with a suitcase full of mementoes from his journey to 20 different countries and numerous cities across the United States.

Jennifer Troiano says she hopes the abductor's identity remains a mystery.

Thailand bombs unnerve tourists, and sap industry confidence

PENNY WANG, Associated Press

MARTHA MENDOZA, Associated Press

HUA HIN, Thailand (AP) — An hour before midnight, Andrea Tazzioli was fetching his own birthday cake, looking forward to celebrating with friends in this balmy beach resort town, a world away from his stressful military work in Afghanistan.

Then the bomb went off.

"I saw light, white light, big explosion and immediately it hurts here in my shoulder, like big fire. And I go down on the floor in blood. Everyone was screaming, the glass broken, table broken, confusion," the Italian said Friday from a Hua Hin hospital bed, a place he never expected to turn 51.

While Tazzioli recovered from blast wounds, other tourists huddled in their hotel rooms, locked down after bombs exploded in at least five areas of Thailand, including popular beach cities, killing at least four people and wounding dozens more.

British vacationer Darren Hilling was lounging by his hotel pool in Hua Hin when a pair of blasts shook the Friday morning calm, "quite loud, sounded very close to here."

Those attacks killed one person and wounded three. The Thursday night blast in which Tazzioli was hurt also killed a street vendor and wounded 20 other people in this beach city about 200 kilometers (120 miles) southwest of Bangkok. The 24 injured included Thais, three Germans and other visitors from Italy, Austria and the Netherlands.

Overnight and into Friday, bombs also went off on Phuket's Loma Beach in southern Thailand and the southern provinces of Trang, Surat Thani and Phang Nga. One person was killed in the Trang blast, which occurred Thursday, and another was killed in the Surat Thani attack on Friday morning.

Police said it was too soon to say who was behind the attacks, but added that they have ruled out international terrorism or a long-running insurgency in the country's Islamic south.

Phuket in particular is frequented by millions of European, Chinese and Thai tourists each year who come to swim in the warm, azure sea, party at the open air night clubs and explore tropical rainforests. The other towns hit are less prominent international destinations but still popular among Thais and many foreigners.

Even as police searched for suspects and fears of more bombs continued, locals said the explosions will be a blow to tourism, a critical source of income. Governments including the U.S., Germany, Australia and Britain advised their citizens traveling in Thailand to take precautions.

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Henrik Buuz, 62, of Denmark sipped beer in a Hua Hin hotel lobby Friday. He said that while he might not have taken security seriously in the past, he no longer felt safe. Streets were eerily quiet for the beginning of a three-day holiday.

"No, no, no, no. Now we don't think it's funny anymore," said Buuz, as bomb-sniffing dogs patrolled nearby beaches.

Tourism already suffered a setback nearly a year ago after a bomb blast ripped through a Bangkok, killing 20 people, mostly visitors from other Asian countries.

Friday's attacks were a new blow.

"This ruins business. Hotels, restaurants, tours, we were already suffering, but this, it's going to ruin our lives," said Hua Hin Adventure Tours guide Natsupa Dechapanya.

Natsupa raced Friday from hotel to hotel, visiting clients and warning them not to go outside, especially where people gather. She was also fielding cancellation calls, although she was staying away from her office, opposite a clock tower where Friday's bombs went off.

"I'm scared. It's bad," she said. "We think of this as a safe town, but now everyone is fearful. We feel like we're not safe."

Thailand's economy has struggled since a 2014 military coup; investors grew wary and have stayed away, but tourists came back, even after last year's shrine bombing. More than 14 million people visited between January and May 2016 — up from 12.5 million the year before, according to the Tourism Authority of Thailand.

Earlier attacks have been tied to political turmoil. The latest explosions came less than a week after voters approved a new, junta-backed constitution. Friday was a national holiday in Thailand marking the Queen's birthday, also Mother's Day.

Sirasit Teimtontanin, a manager at City Beach Resort in Hua Hin, said one of Friday's explosions went off about 300 meters from the front door. Stores, shopping malls and movie theaters were closed. More than 15 rooms had been canceled within hours.

"We've never had anything like this in our city," he said.

With rare humility, Trump concedes he could come up short

JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — In a rare show of humility by the boastful billionaire, Donald Trump is acknowledging that his presidential campaign faces challenges and could ultimately fall short.

The Republican presidential nominee is straying from his signature bravado as he campaigns in the battleground state of Florida, even telling a gathering of evangelical ministers Thursday he's "having a tremendous problem in Utah." The same day, the reality show star acknowledged that his lack of political correctness could cost him the election if Americans reject his blunt approach.

"We're having a problem," Trump told the ministers, adding that the next president could get to nominate up to five high-court justices. "It could cost us the Supreme Court."

Trump's campaign planned to sit down with RNC officials in Orlando on Friday. But both Republican Party officials and Trump's campaign said the meeting was focused on Florida campaign operations and not tensions between the campaign and the GOP. The officials weren't authorized to comment publicly and requested anonymity.

After trouncing 16 challengers in the Republican primary, Trump is encountering worrying signs as his campaign moves into the general election. Democrat Hillary Clinton's lead over Trump in national polls has widened in recent days, while a growing number of fellow Republicans have declared they won't

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support their own party's nominee.

Trump's exercise in self-awareness is a marked departure from his usual tenor on the campaign trail, where for months at rallies he would tick through poll numbers showing him winning as if they were sports scores of his favorite team.

"We're going to win so big," Trump told a roaring crowd one month ago at the Republican National Convention.

Yet on Thursday, Trump was reduced to citing a poll that actually showed him a few points behind Clinton and arguing the race between them was close. Asked how he planned to reverse Clinton's advantage, Trump said he simply planned to do "the same thing I'm doing right now."

"At the end, it's either going to work, or I'm going to, you know, I'm going to have a very, very nice, long vacation," Trump told CNBC.

Even while working to restore confidence in his campaign, Trump appeared to court controversy anew when he said late Thursday that he was open to trying Americans suspected of terrorism at the Guantanamo Bay detention center in Cuba. Asked specifically about U.S. citizens, Trump said he didn't like that President Barack Obama and others wanted to try them in traditional courts rather than military commissions at Guantanamo Bay.

"I would say they could be tried there," Trump said. "That'll be fine."

In Utah, typically a reliably Republican state, Trump's challenges have been particularly striking. The state's large Mormon population has voiced serious skepticism about Trump, though the state's GOP governor has endorsed him.

"We've really been given a false narrative," Trump said of his struggles in Utah.

Yet in other traditionally GOP-leaning states, like Arizona and Georgia, Republicans are concerned Trump's unpopularity could give Democrats an improbable victory. Those concerns are compelling enough that dozens of worried Republicans gathered signatures Thursday for a letter urging the GOP chairman to stop helping Trump and focus on protecting vulnerable House and Senate candidates.

Trump said he wasn't worried Republicans would cut him off — and threatened to stop fundraising for the party if they do.

The billionaire real estate mogul's unusually candid reflections about the uncertainty of his electoral prospects come as he's struggling to keep the focus on his opponent — Clinton — and avoid distractions.

Earlier this week he caused a major stir with comments about the Second Amendment that were perceived as advocating violence against Clinton, then faced questions yet again after declaring Wednesday that President Barack Obama was the "founder" of the Islamic State group — a patently false claim.

It's comments like those that Clinton has seized to try to contrast her "serious, steady leadership" with the more volatile approach she says Trump would take to running the country.

"I just do not think insults and bullying is how we are to get things done," Clinton said as she laid out her economic plan Thursday in Warren, Michigan.

As Trump struggles, Clinton goes on offense to win over GOP

LISA LERER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hillary Clinton is seizing opportunities presented by a volatile presidential race to expand her base of support heading into the fall, seeking to position the Democratic Party for a sweeping victory in November.

As Donald Trump struggles through a second week of self-inflicted stumbles, the Democratic nominee's campaign has started to push into Republican territory by courting some of the party's core sup-

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porters and expanding her campaign's operations into traditionally red states.

"The map favors us and, in a way, the dynamics right now favor us," said Joel Benenson, Clinton's senior strategist. "The more places you can make them play defense, the better off we are."

Throughout his presidential bid, the Republican nominee has used controversy to draw attention back to his campaign. It's a strategy that initially worried some Clinton aides, who feared he would drown out their candidate's general-election message.

But with three months to Election Day, Clinton aides say they see more advantages than liabilities as Trump continues to say the politically unimaginable. Critics slammed Trump this week for appearing to suggest that gun-rights supporters could shoot Clinton to prevent her from appointing federal judges as president, and he drew criticism for standing by a false claim that President Barack Obama founded the Islamic State.

On Thursday, Trump said he would respond to his admitted problems in his campaign by doing "the same thing I'm doing right now." In an interview with CNBC, he said, "At the end, it's either going to work, or I'm going to, you know, I'm going to have a very, very nice, long vacation."

Democratic strategists have long argued the party could win the White House with Obama's political coalition, the group of minority, young and female voters who twice boosted him to victory. They see the additional support Clinton is finding among independent and Republican voters as frosting on their electoral cake, potentially allowing Democrats to win back control of the Senate and enter the White House with the political momentum that comes from a sweeping victory.

"You care very deeply about the 270th electoral vote, but there are also important reasons to care about winning big," said Geoff Garin, a pollster for Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign who now advises the pro-Clinton super PAC Priorities USA Action. "This is not just about rolling up the score."

Clinton aides say she's taking nothing for granted, noting the U.S. remains a deeply politically divided country. They say they remain singularly focused on the most efficient path to capturing the 270 electoral votes necessary to win the White House.

Yet Clinton is undoubtedly beginning to cast her gaze beyond the Democratic base.

"I am humbled and moved by the Republicans who are willing to stand up and say that Donald Trump doesn't represent their values," she said at a rally in Iowa this week. "We may not agree on everything, but this is not a normal election and I will work hard over the next three months to earn the support of anyone willing to put our country first."

On Wednesday, following two weeks of high-profile Republican defections, her campaign launched an official effort to target GOP voters. They also took baby steps into some traditionally deep red states, telling party officials in Arizona and Georgia they plan to make a six-figure investment in field operations in the two states.

The next day, Clinton published a column in Salt Lake City's Deseret News titled "What I have in common with Utah leaders — religious freedom and the Constitution." While the state has not backed a Democrat for president since Lyndon Johnson in 1964, Trump himself acknowledged Thursday he is "having a tremendous problem in Utah."

Jeremy Bird, who ran field operations for Obama's 2012 campaign and is now consulting for Clinton's operation, said Trump has no one to blame but himself. The unorthodox candidate hasn't aired a single television ad since the end of the primaries and is building a bare-bones effort to get out the vote.

"His inability to put anything real on the ground in battleground states is campaign malpractice," Bird said. "There are just so many paths to 270 and so many ways to put their presidential campaign and the Republican Party in a defensive posture, even in states that are not considered battlegrounds."

Some recent polls suggest Clinton could also benefit from Republican-leaning voters deciding to stay

home rather than come out to support Trump. Surveys in Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Ohio found that 90 percent of Democrats said they intended to support Clinton, while closer to 80 percent of Republicans intended to support Trump.

Republicans caution the race remains far from settled, especially since voters don't particularly like either candidate. A small group of middle-class mothers interviewed by pollsters Tuesday in Columbus, Ohio, and Phoenix used words such as "painful," "nauseated" and "screwed" to describe their choice.

"They don't trust Hillary Clinton," said Republican pollster Neil Newhouse, part of the bipartisan team that conducted the focus groups. "At the same time, they can't turn to Donald Trump because he scares them."

Of the 20 women in the group, five said they were leaning Trump, seven to Clinton and eight undecided or backing a third party.

Only one believed Trump would actually win.

AP NewsBreak: New questions over California water project

ELLEN KNICKMEYER, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Critics and a state lawmaker say they want more explanations on who's paying for a proposed \$16 billion water project backed by Gov. Jerry Brown, after a leading California water district said Brown's administration was offering government funding to finish the planning for the two giant water tunnels.

Critics said the government funding described by the Los Angeles-based Metropolitan Water District on Thursday could run counter to longstanding state assurances that various local water districts, not California itself, would pay for Brown's vision of digging twin 35-mile-long tunnels to carry water from the Sacramento River south, mainly for Central and Southern California. The \$248 million in preliminary spending for the tunnels, which have yet to win regulatory approval, already is the topic of an ongoing federal audit. On Wednesday, state lawmakers ordered a state audit of the tunnels-spending as well.

On Thursday, state spokeswoman Nancy Vogel said that despite the account of the Los Angeles-based Metropolitan Water District, no money from the state's general fund would be used finishing the current planning phase of the twin tunnels. However, opponents of the tunnels and a taxpayer group were critical Thursday, and Assemblywoman Susan Eggman, one of the state lawmakers behind this week's audit order, asked the state Thursday for clarification.

"It's a shell game," said David Wolfe, the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association's legislative director. "I think it comes back to the audit (request) yesterday: There are way more questions here than there are answers."

The tunnels project is endorsed by Brown and by some politically influential water districts and water customers in Central and Southern California. Supporters say the tunnels would benefit the environment and offer Californians a more secure water supply. Opponents say they fear the state will use the tunnels to divert too much water from the Sacramento River and San Francisco Bay, harming Northern California and further endangering native species there.

Metropolitan and other water districts slated to get water from the tunnels have yet to commit to paying for them, out of uncertainty whether the massive spending would really bring them enough water to make the cost worthwhile. The same water districts also announced this year they would not pay to complete the current preliminary work on the tunnels unless the project first won regulatory approval.

On Thursday, a monthly report published by the LA-based water district on the tunnels project said, "the state has indicated that any additional funding needs to complete the planning phase will be provided by state or federal sources."

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After all that local water districts had spent on the project, including \$63 million from his water district, "This is to be expected" that the state would use government money to close out planning, said Bob Muir, spokesman for the LA-based water district. He referred further questions to Vogel, the state spokeswoman.

Vogel said the state intended to pull money to finish the tunnels planning from user fees for an existing, half-century-old water network, the State Water Project.

Tunnel opponents, however, point to a measure state lawmakers passed in 2009 that they say bars the state from spending money on the tunnels until the water agencies that would benefit commit to paying for them.

"Project contractors pledged to pay for this project and they've used financial gimmicks to get around this obligation," said Patricia Schifferle, an environmental consultant and longtime opponent of the proposed tunnels. "It raises questions as to where this money was suddenly found."

Australian official rejects criticisms of China investor ban

ROD McGUIRK, Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Australia's treasurer on Friday rejected accusations that the true reason his government plans to ban Chinese bidders from leasing a Sydney electricity grid is to appease influential lawmakers with xenophobic views.

Treasurer Scott Morrison announced Thursday that he intends to block Chinese state-owned State Grid Corp. and Hong Kong-registered Cheung Kong Infrastructure Group from bidding for a 99-year lease over a 50.4 percent stake in Ausgrid because of classified national security reasons.

Critics including Bob Carr, director of the Sydney-based Australia-China Relations Institute and a former foreign minister, said the decision reflected the wishes of anti-establishment lawmakers who gained balance-of-power roles in the Parliament in elections in early July.

"The treasurer's decision ... is a huge concession — the first major policy sacrifice — to the Witches' Sabbath of xenophobia and economic nationalism stirred up in the recent federal election," Carr said in a statement. "The treasurer is conceding to economic populism in the Senate."

Morrison dismissed the views of Carr, who was a minister until 2013 in a Labor Party government which is now in opposition, as "complete nonsense."

"I don't trade on national security," Morrison told Australian Broadcasting Corp.

The decision has been welcomed by Pauline Hanson, leader of the One Nation party that has four senators opposed to Asian and Muslim immigration as well as trade liberalization. They and other lawmakers not aligned with either the conservative government or Labor oppose Australia's free-trade deal with its biggest trading partner, China, and want tighter foreign investment rules.

The deal for the New South Wales state-owned electricity network would have earned more than 10 billion Australian dollars (\$7.6 billion).

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull later declined to explain why a banned bidder, State Grid, was allowed last year to bid for another New South Wales-owned power network, TransGrid.

But State Grid was out-bid in November by an Australian-led consortium.

"The advice we received was absolutely unequivocal. This was not a political decision," Turnbull told reporters.

China's state-run Xinhua News Agency criticized the Australian decision and a recent move by Britain to delay a decision on a new nuclear power plant backed by Chinese investment. It said that although China's "dramatic development, huge population and unique culture" may cause concern for some countries, it could also result in "China-phobia."

Chinese foreign investment, particularly from state-owned companies, has become increasingly contentious in Australia as China takes a more aggressive stance in territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

New South Wales Premier Michael Baird said he was frustrated that the security veto had not come earlier in the year-long negotiations over the bid.

Manuel becomes 1st African American woman to win swim gold

BETH HARRIS, AP Sports Writer

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Simone Manuel leaned her head into her hands and cried when she recognized her historic achievement.

With her victory in the 100-meter freestyle, she became the first African-American woman to win an Olympic gold medal in swimming.

The 20-year-old Manuel upset world-record holder Cate Campbell of Australia and tied with Penny Oleksiak of Canada at the Rio Games on Thursday night.

"I hope that I can be an inspiration to others, so this medal is for the people who come behind me and get into the sport and hopefully find love and drive to get to this point," Manuel said.

Campbell was on pace to take her world record even lower when she made the turn out front, with little sister Bronte right behind her. But the Aussie siblings, who teamed up to lead their country to gold in the 4x100 freestyle relay, couldn't hang on.

Bronte faded to fourth, and Cate dropped all the way to sixth at the finish.

Instead, it was Manuel who touched at the same time as 16-year-old Oleksiak, the youngest swimmer in the field. The Canadian became the first swimmer born in the 21st century to win a gold medal in any Olympic sport.

Manuel and Oleksiak shared the top spot on the medal podium, with the U.S. anthem played first followed by the Canadian anthem. Tears rolled down each of Manuel's cheeks as she sang along.

"It's been a long journey and I'm super excited with where it has brought me," she said.

It was the first victory by the U.S. in the women's 100 free since 1984, when Nancy Hogshead and Carrie Steinseifer also shared gold. The last Olympic tie for gold was in the men's 50 free at the 2000 Sydney Games, when Americans Gary Hall Jr. and Anthony Ervin tied for the top spot on the podium.

At the time, Ervin was the first person of African-American heritage to win a gold medal. He is on the team again in Rio.

Manuel's victory took on added significance in a sport that still has few people of color, especially in light of the racial divide in the United States. She even mentioned "some of the issues with police brutality."

"I think that this win helps bring hope and change to some of the issues that are going on in the world, but I mean, I went out there and swam as fast as I could and my color just comes with the territory," Manuel said.

Until now, Cullen Jones had been the face of swimming for minorities in America, having won two golds and two silvers at the last two Olympics. But Jones failed to make the U.S. team this year in what could have been his final attempt.

Manuel's teammate, Lia Neal, earned silver on the 4x100 free relay in Rio and bronze on the same relay four years ago in London. Maritza Correia won silver on the same relay at the 2004 Athens Games.

Manuel singled out Jones, Neal and Correia for blazing a path.

"This medal is not just for me," she said. "It's for some of the African-Americans that have come before me and have been inspirations and mentors to me. I hope that I can be an inspiration for others."

Neal pumped Manuel up before the nighttime finals by singing and dancing together.

"That helped keep the nerves off me," Manuel said. "After the race, I gave her a big hug and I cried and I told her, 'Thank you for everything you've done for me.' She's a huge part of my successes."

Manuel, who attends Stanford and has a brother who played basketball at SMU, looks forward to a time when there is greater diversity in the pool.

"I would like there to be a day where there are more of us and it's not 'Simone, the black swimmer,'" she said, "because the title 'black swimmer' makes it seem like I'm not supposed to be able to win a gold medal or I'm not supposed to be able to break records and that's not true because I work just as hard as anybody else. I want to win just like everybody else."

And Manuel hopes she can just be a swimmer and a champion without her race being a factor.

"That's something I definitely struggled with a lot," she said. "Just coming into this race I kind of tried to take the weight of the black community off my shoulders, which is something I carry with me just being in this position. I do hope that kind of goes away."

China: Swimmer Chen Xinyi tests positive at Rio Olympics

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — A female Chinese swimmer has tested positive for a banned substance at the Rio Olympics, China's swimming association said Friday — the first competitor in the sport to fail a test at the games.

The Chinese Swimming Association said Chen Xinyi tested positive for the diuretic hydrochlorothiazide after she finished fourth in the women's 100-meter butterfly Sunday, missing a bronze medal by nine-hundredths of a second. Xinhua, China's official state news agency, reported the story Friday.

The 18-year-old was also scheduled to compete in the 50 meter freestyle beginning Friday.

Chen has applied to the International Olympic Committee to have her B sample tested and to get a hearing on the matter, Xinhua said, citing the swimming association.

"The CSA has taken this matter seriously and demanded full cooperation from Chen in the investigation," the association said in the statement quoted by Xinhua.

Chen's result comes as doping has been a major concern in the Rio Games.

Seven Russian swimmers have been allowed to compete in Rio after initially being banned following allegations of a huge, state-sponsored doping operation in their homeland. That decision has sparked vocal complaints from several swimmers, most notably American Lilly King.

No statement about Chen's reported test was posted to the website of the Chinese Swimming Association, and calls to its offices rang unanswered on Friday. FINA, the international governing body of swimming, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Chen's teammate Wang Shun declined to comment after he won bronze in Thursday's 200-meter individual medley.

"This situation, I don't know the details," Wang said.

Li Keke, a spokeswoman for China's national anti-doping agency, said she had no additional information on the Chen case.

"We have noticed media reports about the case. So far the anti-doping agency has yet to receive any official confirmation," Li told The Associated Press.

"This reported test should be generated by the organizer. The Olympic committee and FINA should know about it. At present, we will continue to monitor," Li said.

The Latest: Trump 'fine' with trying Americans at Gitmo

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Latest on the U.S. presidential race (All times EDT):

12:35 a.m.

Donald Trump says it would be "fine" to try Americans suspected of terrorism at the Guantanamo Bay detention center if possible.

The Miami Herald asks Trump whether he'd approve new detentions at the prison if he's elected president. The Republican says he wants to ensure the U.S. has a "safe place" to keep a "radical Islamic terrorist."

Trump says President Barack Obama is releasing "terrible people" from the prison who shouldn't be let go. After extensive security reviews, Obama has transferred dozens of detainees to other countries as he works to close the prison at the U.S. base in Cuba.

Trump also criticizes Obama and others who want to try terrorism suspects in traditional courts. Asked specifically about U.S. citizens, Trump says if they could face trial in military commissions at Guantanamo Bay, "that'll be fine."

12:20 a.m.

Donald Trump says he wants Congress to approve more funds to address the Zika virus in Florida.

Trump is giving his first extended description of his views about Zika in a Miami Herald interview. He says he would "absolutely" ask Congress to let "some of the funds that they're asking for come in."

Trump isn't specifying whose request for funds he's referring to. Both Republicans and Democrats have supported more funding for Zika, but none has been approved because Republicans want to approve less than the \$1.9 billion that President Barack Obama has requested.

Trump says that he hopes funds will be approved soon. Until now, Trump had only said that he thinks Florida Gov. Rick Scott is doing a good job.

12:10 a.m.

Donald Trump says he plans to meet with Cuban-Americans to help determine whether he'll support continuing the "wet foot, dry foot" immigration policy.

The Republican presidential nominee says the meeting will take place in about a week and that he'll probably have a decision "pretty quickly" about the federal policy, which generally allows Cubans who reach U.S. soil to remain in the country.

Under that policy, those intercepted at sea usually go back.

Trump tells the Miami Herald that he wants to hear from Cubans who have come to the U.S. about how they view the policy. He has said previously that he's "fine" with the U.S. moving toward normalized relations with Cuba but that President Barack Obama should have negotiated a better deal.

7:38 p.m.

Donald Trump is threatening to stop fundraising for the Republican National Committee if it were to shift its money away from his campaign to House and Senate candidates.

Trump is responding to a Time magazine story that said RNC Chairman Reince Priebus had told Trump he'd shift resources unless Trump's poll numbers improved. Both Trump and a spokesman for Priebus say it's not true.

But Trump is adding in a Fox News interview that if it is true, it's alright, because he's the one raising money for the RNC. He says fellow Republicans are "getting used to" the money he's raising.

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Trump is also dismissing a letter that frustrated Republicans have drafted urging Priebus to stop helping Trump. Trump says he doesn't want those Republicans' support.

5:19 p.m.

The Democratic National Committee is creating an advisory board on cybersecurity in the aftermath of an embarrassing email hack prior to the party's national convention last month.

Interim DNC Chair Donna Brazile says in a memo obtained by The Associated Press that the board will work to prevent future attacks and ensure that the party's cybersecurity capabilities are the best possible.

Brazile says in the memo that DNC lawyers have thoroughly reviewed the emails that were released and will be notifying affected individuals next week.

The hacked emails showed an apparent lack of neutrality in the primary race between Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders, with some party officials disparaging Sanders.

4:22 p.m.

Mike Pence is dismissing the reaction to Donald Trump's assertion that President Barack Obama is the "founder of ISIS" as a media-driven "controversy over semantics."

Obama did not establish the Islamic State group.

Pence, Trump's running mate, is nonetheless defending Trump's comments by saying Obama and Hillary Clinton's policies led to the rise of IS.

He says the pair undid hard fought gains in Iraq by withdrawing troops and creating a "vacuum" for the group to flourish.

The Indiana governor spoke Thursday during a town hall in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

3:45 p.m.

U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell says Republicans' chances of keeping control of the Senate after the November elections are "very dicey."

Sounding an alarm amid increasing concerns within the GOP about nominee Donald Trump, the Kentucky Republican said Thursday that the party is in a "dogfight" to hold off Democrats looking to reclaim Senate control just two years after Republicans won the chamber.

McConnell noted that Republicans are defending 24 Senate seats compared to 10 by Democrats. He says that put Republicans on the defensive, regardless of how the presidential election turns out.

McConnell listed several campaigns for GOP-held seats that are "very competitive," mentioning New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois, Florida and Indiana.

3:23 p.m.

Donald Trump is acknowledging his campaign is having "a tremendous problem" in Utah.

Trump is addressing evangelical pastors at an event in Orlando, Florida. He's telling them they have to "get your people out to vote."

Trump rarely concedes problems with his campaign or that he's behind. But Utah has been a particular challenge for Trump. The state's large Mormon population has been wary of his candidacy. Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, who overwhelmingly won Utah in 2012, has been sharply criticizing Trump for months.

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3:05 p.m.

Frustrated Republicans have drafted a letter to Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus urging him to stop helping Donald Trump win the White House. They want the party to focus its resources instead on protecting vulnerable Senate and House candidates.

A draft of the letter, obtained by The Associated Press, warns that Trump's "divisiveness, recklessness, incompetence and record-breaking unpopularity risk turning this election into a Democratic landslide."

GOP operative Andrew Weinstein says 70 Republicans have signed the letter so far, including five former members of Congress and 16 former RNC staffers.

They want Priebus to immediately shift "all available RNC resources to vulnerable congressional candidates to "prevent the GOP from drowning with a Trump-emblazoned anchor around its neck."

The RNC did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

3 p.m.

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee is reassuring evangelicals that Donald Trump shares their beliefs.

Huckabee is speaking before Trump at the American Renewal Project's Pastors and Pews event. It's a gathering of evangelical pastors and church leaders in Orlando, Florida.

Huckabee, an ordained Southern Baptist minister, says he gets asked whether Trump is "one of us." He says Trump may not sit in the front of a church every Sunday or be loud about his faith. But Huckabee says just because "some people will eat their soup a little louder than others" doesn't make the soup taste better.

Huckabee says he wouldn't be supporting Trump if Trump didn't oppose abortion.

2:55 p.m.

Devout conservative Iowa Rep. Steve King, who once accused Hillary Clinton of lying, now says the Democratic presidential nominee "is someone I can work with."

Appearing Thursday at the Iowa State Fair, King says, "We don't agree on very much," but "I've sat across the table from Hillary Clinton, eye to eye, working" without staff present and outside the view of the news media.

Two years ago, King said Clinton and other Obama administration officials lied in their account of the deadly attack on the U.S. embassy in Benghazi, Libya. Clinton was secretary of state at the time.

King has endorsed Republican Donald Trump, but made the charitable comments about Clinton during an appearance on the first day of the fair, according to video recorded by The Des Moines Register

2:45 p.m.

When Donald Trump vowed this week to make child care more accessible and affordable, it was just the second time during his White House campaign that he's talked about the issue.

The first came months ago in Iowa, when the eventual Republican nominee touted his own record as a business owner during a candidate Q&A.

Trump says that he provides on-site child care service for his employees and encouraged other companies to do the same.

He says it's not expensive; all you need are some blocks and some toys.

But the programs Trump cites are intended for guests of his hotels and members of his golf courses, not for Trump workers.

The Trump Organization says its policies differ from property-to-property.

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2:40 p.m.

Hillary Clinton is depicting Donald Trump as a political outlier, promoting what she calls "outlandish Trumpian ideas" that have been rejected by both parties.

She says Trump is proposing a "more extreme version of the failed theory of trickle-down economics." Clinton was giving an economic address in Michigan on Thursday afternoon.

2:35 p.m.

Hillary Clinton is calling Donald Trump's plans for greater childcare deductions for families a handout for the wealthy.

Clinton says Trump's proposal was "transparently is designed for rich people." She argues that the plan would help wealthy families with nannies, and do little for others. She made her remarks in Warren, Michigan, on Thursday.

In a speech Monday in Detroit, Trump said he would "allow parents to fully deduct the average cost of child care spending from their taxes." He has promised to provide more details in coming weeks.

Clinton says she will expand the Child Tax Credit. She said "the more we do to help working families, the more our entire economy will benefit."

2:30 p.m.

A senior House Democrat back from a trip with congressional colleagues to Italy and Afghanistan says he felt like they should have brought "brooms and mops" to clean up the mess Donald Trump is creating overseas.

At a news conference Thursday, Rep. Steve Israel of New York says the delegation reassured civilian and military leaders in both countries that the United States won't abandon them. The U.S. leads a coalition of allies in Afghanistan against insurgents. Italy is one of NATO's founding members.

Trump has stoked concerns in foreign capitals by questioning the value of NATO and America's other key alliances. He's said that if allies in Europe and Asia won't pay the full cost of U.S. contributions to their defense, then the U.S. should let them defend themselves

2:25 p.m.

Hillary Clinton is hitting Donald Trump for what she's calling a "Trump loophole" in his economic plan.

During a speech in suburban Detroit, Clinton says Trump's plans to cut taxes on certain business income would benefit many of his companies. Clinton said "he'd pay a lower rate than millions of middle-class families." She added that it was hard to know exactly how much Trump would benefit because he has not released his tax returns.

Clinton also says Trump would "give trillions in tax cuts to big corporations, millionaires, and Wall Street money managers." And she questioned his plan to eliminate the estate tax, calling it a perk for Trump and the very wealthy.

Said Clinton: "Donald Trump wants to give trillions in tax breaks to people like himself."

2:20 p.m.

Hillary Clinton is stressing her opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal, saying: "I oppose it now, I'll oppose it after the election and I'll oppose it as president.

Speaking at a manufacturing company in suburban Detroit, Clinton says she understands why people are concerned about trade deals, noting that Republican nominee Donald Trump talks about it frequently. She says "trade deals have been sold to the American people with rosy scenarios that did not

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pan out.”

But Clinton says the “answer is to finally make trade work for us, not against us.”

Clinton stressed that she would “stop any trade deal that kills jobs or holds down wages.”

Clinton supported the TPP when she was secretary of state but announced her opposition last year, saying it did not meet her standard for creating jobs, raising wages and protecting national security.

2:15 p.m.

Hillary Clinton is using the Olympics to take a shot at rival Donald Trump.

She says: “If Team USA was as fearful as Trump, Michael Phelps and Simone Biles would be cowering in the locker room afraid to come out to compete.”

Clinton says Trump’s approach toward trade is based on fear of competing with the rest of the world, even if the rules are made more fair.

“America isn’t afraid to compete,” she says.

Clinton is delivering an economic address in Michigan on Thursday afternoon. The speech was billed by aides as a response to Trump’s economic remarks in Detroit three days ago.

2 p.m.

Hillary Clinton is promoting her plan to invest in infrastructure as a way to create more jobs.

In an economic address in suburban Detroit, the Democratic nominee says she’ll put people to work updating roads and bridges. She’s promising to improve schools and water systems, expand broadband access and invest in clean energy.

Clinton says that part of her plan “will be unleashing the power of the private sector to create more jobs at higher pay.” She says she would create an infrastructure bank to collect public and private money.

1:55 p.m.

Donald Trump is adding new names to his economic advisory team — including women.

The campaign announced nine additional members on Thursday. Eight of them are women. The original 13-member group announced last week featured no women — but did have six men named Steve.

Among those joining his team are former New York Lt. Gov. Betsy McCaughey; Brooke Rollins, the president and CEO of the Texas Public Policy Foundation think tank, who served as an aide to former Texas Gov. Rick Perry; Diane Hendricks, the chairwoman of ABC Supply Co., which distributes building products; and Darlene Jordan, who served as a national finance co-chair for Mitt Romney’s presidential campaigns.

Also on the list is Anthony Scaramucci, the founder of SkyBridge Capital, who has helped raise money for Trump’s campaign.

1:50 p.m.

Hillary Clinton says Donald Trump spoke only of “failure, poverty and crime” in his economic address on Monday.

The Democratic presidential candidate says Trump is missing the economic revitalization that’s happening in communities like Detroit. She also says he hasn’t offered any “credible solutions” to America’s economic challenges.

She’s delivering an economic address in Michigan designed to counter Trump’s address earlier this week with a more positive message.

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Clinton says the country's best days are still ahead though she acknowledges the frustration felt by some middle class Americans.

She says: "There is nothing America can't do if we do it together."

1:25 p.m.

Donald Trump will campaign in an unlikely venue: deep-blue Connecticut.

The Trump campaign announced that the Republican nominee will hold a rally Saturday in Fairfield.

The last time Connecticut went for a Republican presidential candidate was in 1988, when George H.W. Bush, a former state resident, captured it.

President Barack Obama won the state by nearly 18 points in 2012 and by 22 points in 2008.

Trump, who has vowed to compete in traditionally Democratic states, will make the appearance at a time when he has slipped in polls in several traditional battleground states as well as some Republican strongholds.

Southwest Connecticut, home to affluent suburbs of New York City, is prime fundraising territory. Trump often hosts fundraisers near rallies, though his campaign did not say if any were planned.

12:40 p.m.

Donald Trump's campaign is painting Hillary Clinton as a proponent of the status quo as she prepares to deliver an economic speech in Michigan.

Trump's Deputy National Policy Director Dan Kowalski says in a statement that: "right now, the American economy is only working for the rigged system in Washington and on Wall Street, yet Hillary Clinton is running to keep things as they are."

He says Clinton's plans will damage the economy by raising taxes, increasing spending and killing jobs.

Trump discussed his own economic plans in a speech this week that focused on cutting corporate taxes and eliminating federal regulations.

Clinton has proposed a surtax on the highest-earning Americans, while Trump has proposed a tax reduction that he acknowledges would add substantially to the debt.

12:35 p.m.

Democratic vice presidential candidate Tim Kaine says voting is a "sacred act."

Kaine is in New Orleans addressing the Progressive National Baptist Convention, a group of African-American Baptist churches born out of the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

He's talking about his religious upbringing, including the year he spent in Honduras. He says when he came back from Honduras — at that time a dictatorship — he had a new attitude about the importance of voting.

Kaine says he meets people every day who say their vote doesn't matter. But he stressed how important it is.

His comments come as many in the African-American community are worried about the effects of a Supreme Court decision that invalidated a key provision of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

12:15 a.m.

Donald Trump is showing something he rarely reveals on the campaign trail: his sentimental side.

Trump, speaking to home builders Thursday in Florida, reminisced about watching his father, Fred, a New York City developer, conduct business.

The Republican nominee recalled moments in his youth when he'd play with blocks near his father's desk while the elder Trump brokered deals. And he remembered Fred Trump's forays into homebuilding.

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Trump recalled that his “father would go and he’d pick up the saw dust and he’d pick up the nails.” Trump also said that his father, a major influence on his life whom he rarely mentions on the campaign trail, “would be very proud to see that we’re running for the presidency.”

He was addressing the National Association of Homebuilders in Miami Beach, Florida.

9:50 a.m.

Hillary Clinton will soon release her 2015 tax returns.

A source close to the Democratic presidential nominee says she will release them in “the coming days.” Her running mate, Sen. Tim Kaine and his wife, Anne Houlton, will also release the last 10 years of their returns. The source spoke on condition of anonymity Thursday to discuss the plans in advance.

Clinton has hit Republican nominee Donald Trump for not releasing his returns. Trump has said he won’t release them until after an IRS audit is complete.

The Clinton campaign has put out eight years of Clinton’s returns, from 2007 to 2014. Combined with releases during her previous campaigns and her husband’s time in office, the Clintons have made their tax returns public since 1977.

—By Catherine Lucey in Detroit

9:05 a.m.

Republican Donald Trump says the U.S. government should take on more debt to strengthen the military and rebuild infrastructure.

Trump’s comments Thursday in a CNBC interview go against the traditional Republican aversion to government borrowing.

Trump said, “I like to reduce debt too, as much as anybody.” But he added that the military has been depleted and America’s infrastructure is in horrible condition.

He said interest rates are low now and will eventually go up, making it too expensive to borrow.

Trump said: “You’d be paying so little interest right now. This is the time to borrow.”

8:50 a.m.

Donald Trump is defending his decision to label President Barack Obama the “founder” of the Islamic State group.

Asked in an interview with CNBC Thursday whether it was appropriate for him to call the sitting president of the United States the founder of a terrorist organization that wants to kill Americans, Trump doubled down on his accusation.

“He was the founder of ISIS, absolutely,” says Trump, blaming the president for his decision to withdraw troops, which some argue created a power vacuum in which extremist groups like IS thrive.

Trump says the U.S. “should have never gotten in” the war, but also shouldn’t “have got out the way he got out.”

Trump now claims that he was opposed to the Iraq War from the beginning, despite evidence to the contrary.

7 a.m.

Hillary Clinton is set to go after Donald Trump’s economic agenda — aiming to portray her rival’s approach as offering handouts for the rich.

That’s her goal in a speech scheduled for Thursday afternoon at a manufacturing company in Warren, Michigan.

Her campaign says she'll try to make the case that the Republican presidential nominee's plans would benefit him and his wealthy friends — and amount to an update of "trickle-down economics."

Also look for Clinton to argue that Trump's drive to cut taxes on certain business income would in fact benefit many of his companies.

The Democratic nominee isn't expected to use her speech to come out with any major new policies.

Star Belgian sailor takes sick after racing on polluted bay

BERNIE WILSON, AP Sports Writer

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — A Belgian woman who won a 2012 bronze medal has become sick, the first Olympic competitor to fall ill after sailing the polluted waters of Guanabara Bay.

Evi Van Acker reported feeling sick after Wednesday's races, the governing body World Sailing said. Her poor performances have put her at risk of missing out on a medal in the Laser Radial class.

Her coach told the Belgian VRT network he believes Van Acker contracted a severe intestinal infection while training in Rio de Janeiro last month.

"Evi caught a bacteria in early July that causes dysentery," coach Wil Van Bladel said. "Doctors say this can seriously disrupt energy levels for three months. It became clear yesterday that she lacked energy during tough conditions. She could not use full force for a top condition. ... The likelihood that she caught it here during contact with the water is very big."

The poor quality of Guanabara Bay was at the forefront of the buildup to the Olympics. An independent study by The Associated Press has shown high levels of viruses in the water as well as bacteria from human sewage.

Van Acker was evaluated by the chief medical officer and the Belgian medical team, World Sailing spokesman Darryl Seibel said. He added that this appears to be an isolated case and Van Acker is the only sailor who has reported feeling ill in the opening days of the regatta.

Van Acker had a "serious gastrointestinal infection a few weeks ago," the Belgian Olympic Committee said in a statement. "She has not fully recovered. It makes it difficult for her to go through long periods of sustained effort." The committee said a physiologist is working with Van Acker leading to the next races Friday "so she can get the most out of her energy reserves."

Thursday was a day off for the Laser Radial fleet.

Olympic officials have insisted that sailing on the sprawling bay is safe, and sailing officials have said competitors have taken precautions. Even Brazilian sailors have said there's no danger — at least for those who compete there regularly.

German sailor Erik Heil, however, was treated for several infections he said were caused by polluted water during a Rio test regatta a year ago. He sails in the 49er class in which the two-man crew is splashed the whole race. That class is also prone to capsizes. The 49er competition begins Friday.

Van Acker, a favorite to return to the podium in Rio, has had consistently weak performances. She was second and 12th on Monday, second and 29th Tuesday and then 16th and 15th in tough conditions on Wednesday. She's 10th overall with four races left before the medals race. Although that would get her into the medals race, she has 47 points, currently 26 points out of medals position.

As the games approached, most sailors tried to deflect talk from the foul water to the competition.

"That's a shame," Denmark's Allan Norregaard said about Van Acker's illness. "I don't have much comment on that."

Norregaard had been outspoken about the pollution in Guanabara Bay, particularly the amount of trash in the water.

"It's a lot better now than it was," said Norregaard, who changed subjects and said the weather condi-

tions on some courses are “just not suitable for the games. ... It’s scandalous.”

At a test event a year ago, sailors complained about the stench of sewage flowing into the harbor at the venue, the Marina da Gloria, just yards from where the boats are launched. That problem was fixed earlier this year when a new sewage system was installed to stop brown, untreated sludge from being poured into the small harbor.

Seibel said that every morning World Sailing’s medical and technical officials evaluate the latest water quality testing data provided by the government to make certain conditions acceptable.

“The standard our team uses in assessing water quality is the World Health Organization standard for primary contact (even though sailing is classified as a secondary contact sport),” Seibel said in an email. “For every day of competition thus far, and in the lead-up to the games, the water quality has met this standard.”

Britain’s Giles Scott continued to lead the Finn class with finishes of 11th and first. American Caleb Paine of San Diego went 14-2 to jump into fourth, just two points out of the bronze medal, but was disqualified from the day’s second race after a protest and dropped to 15th. In men’s windsurfing, defending gold medalist Dorian van Rijsselberghe of the Netherlands had finishes of fourth, first and first to power into the lead over Britain’s Nick Dempsey.

Clinton knocks ‘outlandish Trumpian ideas’ in policy speech

CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

LISA LERER, Associated Press

WARREN, Mich. (AP) — Her political fortunes flourishing, Hillary Clinton attempted to undercut Donald Trump’s claim to working-class voters Thursday, portraying her Republican rival as untrustworthy on economic issues and pushing policies that would only benefit the super-wealthy — himself included.

The Democratic presidential nominee sought to seize momentum as Republicans — including Trump — struck an almost defeatist note about their Election Day chances. As Republican leaders sounded alarms about Trump’s unconventional approach, Clinton attacked what she dubbed “outlandish Trumpian ideas” that have been rejected by both parties.

“Based on what we know from the Trump campaign, he wants America to work for him and his friends, at the expense of everyone else,” she said after touring a Michigan manufacturing facility.

Appearing in a county known for so-called Reagan Democrats — working-class Democrats who voted Republican in the 1980s — Clinton tried to win back some of the blue-collar voters who have formed the base of her rival’s support, making the case that she offers a steadier roadmap for economic growth and prosperity.

“I can provide serious, steady leadership that can find common ground and build on it based on hard but respectful bargaining,” she said. “I just don’t think insults and bullying is how we’re going to get things done.”

Clinton, who frequently boasts about her numerous policy plans, didn’t offer any new, major ideas to improve the country’s economy in her afternoon address. She reiterated her strong opposition to the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal, leaving herself little room for backtracking should she win the White House.

“I oppose it now, I’ll oppose it after the election, and I’ll oppose it as President,” she said, while also noting that the U.S. should not cut itself off from the rest of the world.

Clinton once called the TPP the “gold standard” of trade deals when she served as Obama’s secretary

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of state, but she announced her opposition to the deal last year, saying it did not meet her standard for creating jobs, raising wages and protecting national security.

Hoping to keep the pressure on Trump, Clinton is also planning to release her 2015 tax returns in the coming days. Trump has said he won't release his until an IRS audit is complete, breaking tradition with every presidential candidate in recent history.

A source close to Clinton said she would soon release her return, supplementing the decades of filings she and her husband have already made public. Her running mate, Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine, and his wife will also release the last 10 years of their taxes. The source spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the plans in advance.

Clinton's appearance followed Trump's own speech on the economy, which he delivered in Michigan on Monday. But his scripted remarks were quickly eclipsed by the latest in a series of blunders and controversial statements that appear to have handed Clinton's campaign a boost in the polls, particularly with Republican women and college-educated voters who make up a key piece of the GOP base.

Just hours before her address, Trump unleashed another round of attacks on Democrats, calling Obama the "founder" of the Islamic State militant group — and Clinton its co-founder.

The Republican presidential nominee brushed off conservative radio commentator Hugh Hewitt's attempt to reframe Trump's observation as one that said Obama's foreign policy created the conditions in Iraq and Syria that allowed IS to thrive.

"No, I meant he's the founder of ISIS. I do," Trump said, using another acronym for the extremist group that has wreaked havoc from the Middle East to European cities.

The latest bit of controversy shook Republicans, already rattled by polling showing Trump losing support among women and other segments of their party's base.

Dozens of frustrated Republicans gathered signatures Thursday for a letter to Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus that urges the party chief to stop helping Trump and instead focus GOP resources on protecting vulnerable Senate and House candidates. Speaking to reporters in Kentucky on Thursday, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell described Republicans' chances of keeping control of the Senate after the November elections as "very dicey."

A draft of the letter, which operatives say has at least 70 signatories, warns that Trump's "divisiveness, recklessness, incompetence, and record-breaking unpopularity risk turning this election into a Democratic landslide."

Trump said he had no intention of changing his inflammatory approach to presidential politics, pledging in a CNBC interview to "just keep doing the same thing I'm doing right now."

But he seemed to acknowledge the risk his campaign — and party — was taking. "At the end, it's either going to work or I'm going to, you know, I'm going to have a very, very nice long vacation," he said.

Asian shares climb, tracking gains in US stocks, oil prices

ELAINE KURTENBACH, AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares rose Friday, tracking the rally in U.S. stocks that was driven by strong gains by energy companies and retailers. Rising oil prices also lifted sentiment. The retailers' earnings fueled optimism for the U.S. government's latest monthly tally of retail sales Friday.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 stock index rose 0.7 percent to 16,856.27 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng gained 0.8 percent to 22,757.22. The Shanghai Composite index added 0.4 percent to 3,015.62 and Australia's S&P/ASX 200 rose 0.3 percent to 5,522.10. Shares in Southeast Asia were mostly higher.

WALL STREET: The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 0.6 percent to 18,613.52, up 0.1 percent

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from its last record high set July 20. The S&P 500 index added 0.5 percent to 2,185.79, up 0.13 percent the high it set on Friday. The Nasdaq composite index gained 0.5 percent to 5,228.40, up 0.1 percent from its previous high. Energy stocks led the rally, getting a boost from a surge in oil prices. Investors also welcomed some better-than-expected quarterly results from Macy's and Kohl's, which spurred gains for several other big retail chains.

ANALYST VIEWPOINT: "Asia Pacific markets are set to finish the week on a high following strong leads from European and US investors. Industrial commodities rose, led by oil, and overnight trading displayed "risk on" characteristics despite the lack of an obvious trigger," Michael McCarthy, chief market strategist for CMC Markets said in a daily commentary.

OIL RALLIES: An industry report released Thursday projected a more even balance in the supply and demand for oil this year. "It's been such an oversupplied market for a long period of time, to get that supply-demand closer to being in balance, or to be in balance, is a huge driver," said David Chalupnik, head of equities for Nuveen Asset Management. "That should at least support the commodity price."

OIL PRICES: Benchmark U.S. crude rose 19 cents to \$43.68 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It gained \$1.78, or 4.3 percent, to close at \$43.49 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, advanced 14 cents to \$46.18. It gained \$1.99, or 4.3 percent, to close at \$46.04 in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar strengthened to 101.97 yen from 101.86 on Thursday. The euro rose to \$1.1144 from \$1.1137.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Friday, Aug. 12, the 225th day of 2016. There are 141 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 12, 1939, the MGM movie musical "The Wizard of Oz," starring Judy Garland, had its world premiere at the Strand Theater in Oconomowoc (oh-KAH'-noh-moh-wahk), Wisconsin, three days before opening in Hollywood.

On this date:

In 1867, President Andrew Johnson sparked a move to impeach him as he defied Congress by suspending Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton.

In 1898, fighting in the Spanish-American War came to an end.

In 1915, the novel "Of Human Bondage," by William Somerset Maugham, was first published in the United States, a day before it was released in England.

In 1941, Marshal Henri Philippe Petain (ahn-REE' fee-LEEP' pay-TAN'), head of the government of Vichy France, called on his countrymen to give full support to Nazi Germany.

In 1944, during World War II, Joseph P. Kennedy Jr., eldest son of Joseph and Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, was killed with his co-pilot when their explosives-laden Navy plane blew up over England.

In 1953, the Soviet Union conducted a secret test of its first hydrogen bomb.

In 1960, the first balloon communications satellite — the Echo 1 — was launched by the United States from Cape Canaveral.

In 1962, one day after launching Andrian Nikolayev into orbit, the Soviet Union also sent up cosmonaut Pavel Popovich; both men landed safely Aug. 15.

In 1978, Pope Paul VI, who had died Aug. 6 at age 80, was buried in St. Peter's Basilica.

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In 1981, IBM introduced its first personal computer, the model 5150, at a press conference in New York.

In 1985, the world's worst single-aircraft disaster occurred as a crippled Japan Airlines Boeing 747 on a domestic flight crashed into a mountain, killing 520 people. (Four people survived.)

In 1994, Woodstock '94 opened in Saugerties, New York.

Ten years ago: Thousands of people gathered across from the White House, even though President George W. Bush was out of town, to condemn U.S. and Israeli policies in the Middle East.

Five years ago: A divided three-judge panel of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta struck down the centerpiece of President Barack Obama's sweeping health care overhaul, the so-called individual mandate. (The mandate was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in June 2012.) Tiger Woods missed the cut at the PGA Championship at Atlanta Athletic Club with a 3-over 73, finishing out of the top 100 for the first time ever in a major.

One year ago: Islamic State sympathizers circulated an image that appeared to show the body of a Croatian hostage abducted in Egypt, the first such killing of a foreign captive since the extremist group established a branch in the Arab country. Deadly warehouse blasts in the Chinese port city of Tianjin claimed 165 lives. Former President Jimmy Carter announced he had been diagnosed with cancer following recent liver surgery.

Today's Birthdays: Actor George Hamilton is 77. Actress Dana Ivey is 75. Actress Jennifer Warren is 75. Rock singer-musician Mark Knopfler (Dire Straits) is 67. Actor Jim Beaver is 66. Singer Kid Creole is 66. Jazz musician Pat Metheny is 62. Actor Sam J. Jones is 62. Actor Bruce Greenwood is 60. Country singer Danny Shirley is 60. Pop musician Roy Hay (Culture Club) is 55. Rapper Sir Mix-A-Lot is 53. Actor Peter Krause (KROW'-zuh) is 51. Actor Brent Sexton is 49. International Tennis Hall of Famer Pete Sampras is 45. Actor-comedian Michael Ian Black is 45. Actress Yvette Nicole Brown is 45. Actress Rebecca Gayheart is 45. Actor Casey Affleck is 41. Rock musician Bill Uechi is 41. Actress Maggie Lawson is 36. Actress Dominique Swain is 36. Actress Leah Pipes is 28. Actress Imani Hakim is 23.

Thought for Today: "A person without a sense of humor is like a wagon without springs. It's jolted by every pebble on the road." — Henry Ward Beecher, American clergyman (1813-1887).