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- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Dairy Queen Ad
- 1- Flea Market Ad
- 2- Battle of the Tigers
- 3- FB Game Livestream Sponsors
- 4- Wheeting getting her pig ready for showing
- 5- FFA display at state fair
- 6- Wattier picking rocks
- 6- St. John's Luncheon Ad
- 7- Dr. Holm's Column
- 8- Gov. Daugaard's Column
- 9- Rep. Noem's Column
- 10- Today in Weather History
- 11- Local Weather Forecast
- 12- Yesterday's Groton Weather
- 12- Today's Weather Climate
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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

Flea Market

Flea Market for 12 days, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Aug. 26-Sept. 7. Vintage, Crocks, Fishing, Jewelry, Cream Cans, Marbles, Buttons, Lanterns, Oil Lamps, Yard Ornaments, Bookcases, Antiques, and Much More. 201 Hwy 25, across from Community Oil Co., Roslyn. New items added daily. 5 (10'x20') Canopys full!

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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Monday, Sept. 5

LABOR DAY - No School

Cheese Pizza Day

Be Late for Something Day

2009: Dave and Becky Hunter

Birthdays: Mary Fordham • Lauri Harry • Dan

Krueger

Tuesday, Sept. 6

Fight Procrastination Day

Read a Book Day

School Breakfast: Mini pancake, fruit, juice

or milk.

School Lunch: BBQ, baked beans, carrots and

dip, fruit.

Senior Menu: Herbed roast pork, baked potato with sour cream, lemon buttered broccoli, cinnamon apple sauce, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: Samantha Bonn • Trey Gengerke • Justin Olson • Nick Olson • Perryn Dobbins

10:00am: Boys golf at Madison

10:00am: United Methodist Women's Bible Study

4:00pm: Cross Country at Britton Golf Course

4:30pm: VB: host Webster Area (7th/C at 4:30,

8th/JV at 6:00, varsity to follow) 7:00pm: City Council Meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 7

National Salami Day

Neither Rain nor Snow Day

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

School Lunch: Soft shell taco, tater tot, lettuce and tomato, fruit.

Senior Menu: Turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, carrot bar, whole



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Groton Area wins third annual "Battle of the Tigers"Senior Trevor Pray led the Groton Area Tiger offense Friday night with three touchdowns (39 yard run,

Senior Trevor Pray led the Groton Area Tiger offense Friday night with three touchdowns (39 yard run, 8 yard run and a 64 yard pass from Bennett Shabazz) and he had an interception and a fumble recovery on defense as Groton Area shut out Mobridge-Pollock, 33-0. It was the third annual "Battle of the Tigers" which has been won all three times by Groton Area.

Bennett Shabazz and Lucas Hinman each had an interception. Patrick Gengerke had a fumble recovery in the endzone and Groton's other touchdown came on a 17-yard pass from Bennett Shabazz to Seric Shabazz. On the PAT's, Peyton Johnson was one of three in kicking, one run failed and the other was good on a Bennett Shabazz run.

Bennett Shabazz led the Tiger offense on the ground with 19 carries for 79 yards, Trevor Pray had two carries for 47 yards, Seric Shabazz had 10 for 50 yards, Lucas Hinman had five for 18 yards and Darien Shabazz had one for six yards. Bennett Shabazz completed five of 13 passes for 101 yards. Lucas Hinman had two catches for 31 yards, and having one catch each were Trevor Pray for 64 yards, Seric Shabazz 17 yards and Jackson Oliver nine yards. In tackles, Brandon Keith had nine, Seric Shabazz had eight and McClaine Lone had seven.

The big buzz word for Groton Area, especially in the first half, was penalties. Groton had 14 penalties in the game for 100 yards with 12 of them in the first half. "Most of those penalties were on offense," said Coach Shaun Waner. "It was just the little things. Getting out of the huddle, getting set, running the play, guys walking to the line of scrimmage. Those things should not happen to an experienced group like this. Our goal is not to have more than five or six penalties per game." Mobridge-Pollock had seven penalties for 63 yards.

Mobridge-Pollock had 26 carries for 26 yards with Nathan Bain having seven for 31 yards. Mobridge-Pollock completed nine of 19 passes for 28 yards with Jeff Kemnitz having three catches for 15 yards.

Groton Area led, 21-0, after the first quarter, 27-0 at halftime, and 27-0 at the end of the third quarter. "We have a bunch of threats," Wanner said. "When you have that, you just can't focus on one guy. Seric can run the ball. Bennett can run the ball. Bennett can throw the ball. Seric can catch the ball. Trevor can run the ball. Trevor can catch the ball. Jackson, Lucas and Patrick are right there - we have a bunch of guys that are threats. It's hard to defend us. If we clean a few things up here and there and stay away from the injury bug, we're going to be tough to beat. We have a lot of playmakers."

Groton Area will travel to Doland on Friday to take on the Redfield/Doland Pheasants.



Left Photo: Quarterback Bennett Shabazz on the run.

Right Photo: Seric Shabazz avoiding the Mobridge-Pollock defense on this run. (Photos by Julianna Kosel)



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The Mobridge-Pollock/Groton Area football gave Livestream was sponsored by

ProAg Supply of Aberdeen Subway of Groton Simon Insurance & Auction Service Harry Implement of Ferney James Valley Telecommunications Groton Ford James Valley Seed - Doug Jorgenson **Allied Climate Professionals Leading Edge Industries Milbrandt Enterprises Doug Abeln Seed Company McKiver Collision Ken's Food Fair of Groton Bahr Spray Foam** S & S Lumber **Dakota Tree Company Harr Motors** Julie Schaller - Reflexology

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Showing animals at the county or state fair is no easy task. Carly Wheeting at the state fair. Top left photo: She is leading her pig to the competition arena. Top right photo: She is spraying a hair conditioner on her pig. Bottom left: Carly is pouring water into the tube. Bottom right: Carly is preparing her pig for showing by brushing

it. (Photos by Paul Kosel)



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The Groton Area FFA program had a display at the State Fair. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Julianna and Jeslyn Kosel had the opportunity to touch a baby pig that was born earlier on Friday. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Laura Kahler, 4-H Youth Program Advisor for the Tripp-Delmont chapter, was busy putting ribbons on the cages with the chickens. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

F!FTH PREMIUM

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE FAIR

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Sue (right) and her daughter, Chelsea Wattier were busy on Sunday taking out the rocks on part of their driveway. Once the rocks are removed, they will put down more fabric to keep the weeds from growing. Sue said it's an intense process and she said that they plan to do a section at a time, maybe one a year. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Soup, Sandwich and Pie Luncheon

\$2 Each
Thursday, Sept. 8
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran Church
Groton

Craft and Bake Sale

Supplemental funds have been applied for from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

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By Richard P. Holm M.D.

I can see the bones in your hand

It is easy to understand why the field of orthopedics and the orderly treatment of fractures greatly improved during the last few years of the 1800s when X-rays were discovered. But, in the beginning, it was hard to anticipate all the implications X-rays and radiation would have.

In 1895 while working with a cathode ray tube in his laboratory in Germany, Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen noted a fluorescent glow in crystals positioned a few feet away. He noted that while metal and bone seemed to block the passing of this glow-causing ray, black paper or soft

human tissue did not. Roentgen named his discovery X-radiation or X-ray and illustrated utility right off the bat with the famous picture of the bones of his wife Bertha's hand on a photographic plate.

After announcing his discovery, the scientific community virtually exploded with interest. X-rays were defined as electromagnetic waves of the same nature as light, invisible to the eye, yet with the astonishing ability to pass through solid matter. Within six months after Röntgen's announcement, battlefield surgeons were using the new X-ray in finding bullets in wounded soldiers. Not much later, after improvements with X-ray tubes, physicians were using so called roentgenograms to accurately set bones and dentists to improve their work on teeth.

At about the same time a French scientist noted that photographic plates all wrapped in black paper placed in a drawer became exposed as if to light when pieces of pitchblende, later called uraninite, (a type of uranium ore) was in the same drawer. Two years later, in 1898, the wife and husband scientific team Marie and Pierre Curie further refined from pitchblende the elements: uranium, named after the Greek god Uranus; polonium, named after Marie's homeland of Poland; and radium named after Latin word 'radius' for beam or ray, like the spokes of a wheel.

We've learned that the waves (or gamma rays) coming from these radioactive elements are about 10,000 times shorter than X-rays, which in turn are 6000 times shorter than that of visible light.

The dangerous effects of radiation from X-rays and gamma rays were not discovered until many of the scientists working in this realm started losing limbs, having non-healing ulcers, or developing life-threatening cancers. Marie Curie herself lost her life prematurely to a depleted bone marrow condition called aplastic anemia.

But the other side of the story brings to light all the uses for these short wave forms but especially how both X-rays and gamma radiation have proven so beneficial in diagnosing and treating the illnesses of the human condition.

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In January of 2012, I introduced in my State of the State Address a proposal to comprehensively reform our criminal justice system. The Public Safety Improvement Act legislation was pieced together with help from the Chief Justice, legislative leaders and stakeholders from across the state. The bill passed with overwhelming support.

Aimed at addressing prison overcrowding and improving public safety, the proposal restructured our sentencing framework for non-violent offenders. It included new and improved probation accountability programs like drug and alcohol courts, making it the largest investment in the history of our state for correctional behavioral health.

Four-and-a-half years later, we are seeing positive developments.

Among the successes is probation. Under the new law, felony probationers can reduce the duration of their probation by 30 days each time they complete 30 days of perfect behavior. Last fiscal year, offenders reduced their time on probation by 809,250 days. That's more than 2,000 years-worth of probation credit. Probationers who do well early in their probation term are very unlikely to violate later in their term, so this reform allows probation officers to focus on supervising those who need it. Even though probation numbers are higher than what they were in 2012, a very small number of individuals on presumptive probation – less than one percent – committed a violent crime and were sent to prison.

A similar arrangement for earned parole time was established under the law. Parolees last year earned hundreds of thousands of days in parole credit. Since passage of the Public Safety Improvement Act, more

parolees are being successfully monitored within their communities.

A total of 540 individuals have completed substance abuse treatment created by the Act. In fact, our treatment completion rate is 11 percent higher than the national average. Because of the reforms, more offenders are receiving the help they need through drug and DUI courts. More mothers and fathers are able to stay in their communities and provide for their children.

These are tremendous accomplishments, and I am proud of our work. Still, there are areas where we would like to see more improvement. The total prison population is lower than it would have been without the reforms, but it is higher than our projections had predicted. We need to understand why this is hap-

pening and determine if it can be addressed.

One particular area of concern is the regional increase in meth trafficking, which South Dakota and neighboring states have experienced over the past seven or eight years. Like our neighbors, South Dakota is seeing more meth-related arrests and convictions. While the Public Safety Improvement Act was not designed to address drug trafficking, we need to consider whether our practices need to adapt to address the growing number of drug-related incarcerations.

I have invited a group of stakeholders to work on these issues. They represent law enforcement, prosecutors and defense attorneys, corrections, and the court system. These stakeholders are in the process of reviewing the data and they will make recommendations to me on how to further improve our criminal justice system. With their help, I am confident we will find solutions to make South Dakota a safer place.

Just as we all tend to overlook our own shortcomings, some politicians tend to defend their programs at all costs. I have tried to do the opposite. I define success by studying the data and facts, not anecdotes and feelings, and I'm always willing to consider new information. The Public Safety Improvement Act has achieved much success, but it could be better. As always, we are working to do what we can to achieve a complete success.

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End of Summer Update

I've had the opportunity to travel across South Dakota for the last month. Whether in Waubay, Parker, Mitchell or Mobridge – Aberdeen, Eagle Butte, Lemmon or Rapid City – I sensed the frustration so many people are feeling toward our government today – and I get it. I'm frustrated too.

It's easy to get discouraged by the current situation, but despite the challenges, progress is being made on real solutions that help real people. Since the beginning of this Congress, the House has passed 601 bills – a 28 percent increase over the 25-year average. Of those, 219 were enacted into law.

Included in this list of 219 is the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act – a bipartisan anti-trafficking bill I helped champion. Among other things, this new policy offers additional support for those working to provide safe housing for trafficking victims and targets the websites that knowingly sell our kids.

The first fully funded, five-year transportation bill was passed too, as was the first major education overhaul since No Child Left Behind. Both aimed to offer more flexibility to states and localities, rather than centralizing authority within a federal bureaucracy.

Protections against pending tax hikes were also signed into law. More specifically, we permanently extended Section 179 business expensing limitations, improved 529 college savings plans, and protected tax deductions for state and local sales tax, certain expenses for teachers, and charitable donations.

Not every provision has become law yet, but it hasn't stopped the House from taking up proposals. Just weeks ago, we passed legislation to modernize the nation's mental healthcare system, which included provisions specifically targeted to rural and tribal communities after I brought the bill's author to see South Dakota's challenges.

Provisions forcing any major regulation to be approved by Congress before implementation and a disapproval of the controversial Waters of the U.S. rule were also passed by the House. Additionally, we approved legislation, including provisions I wrote, to make our welfare system more accountable to taxpayers and the people it's built to help. A proposal to prohibit the IRS from rehiring employees who were fired for misconduct, which I sponsored, as well as provisions to protect services at the Hot Springs VA Hospital received the House's support too.

This isn't where the work stops either. I am actively working on legislation to help expand the Black Hills National Cemetery, which has passed committee and is ready for the House's full consideration. Legislation I sponsored to exempt tribes and tribal employers from Obamacare's costly employer mandate has received committee approval as well.

I've joined with Reps. Kevin Cramer (R-ND) and Collin Peterson (D-MN) on legislation aimed at addressing the backlog of wetland determinations and teamed with Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ) on a proposal to extend the \$1-per-gallon tax credit for biodiesel and reform it so it can only be used for U.S.-produced fuel.

Additionally, I've authored a bill to fundamentally change how the Indian Health Service operates, addressing both medical and administrative challenges. This bill received a preliminary hearing just weeks after introduction and I'm hopeful it will receive a second hearing soon.

This is all on top of the work I'm doing through the Ways and Means Committee to author a comprehensive tax reform package that makes the tax code work better for your family and our economy.

Undoubtedly, there is much more to do, but whether we're talking about what's been accomplished or what's yet to be accomplished, I'm grateful for constituent feedback and insight. Each email, letter, and conversation helps shape our priorities, so please stay in touch.

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Today in Weather History

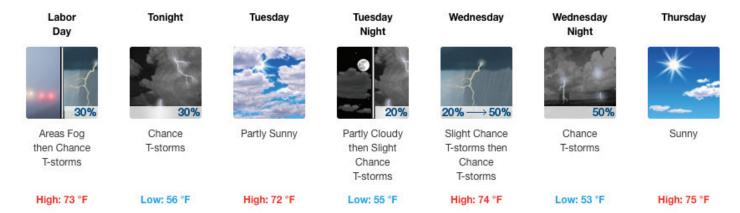
September 5, 1983: In the late afternoon and early evening, hail up to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter pounded crops, trees, buildings, and windows resulting in extensive damage in Spink, Beadle, Turner, and Clay Counties. Trees were stripped with numerous branches broken off.

1666: The Great Fire of London started on September 2nd and continued through September 5th. The fire spread rapidly due to strong westerly winds. This fire consumed 13,200 homes, 87 parish churches, and St. Paul's Cathedral.

1950: Hurricane Easy was an erratic and unpredictable hurricane that lingered over the Tampa Bay area for days, dropping torrential rains and causing damage especially in Cedar Key, Florida where the hurricane eventually made landfall. This hurricane dumped 38.7 inches of rain in 24 hours in Yankeetown, a record for the U.S. at the time, and caused \$3.3 million in damage.

- 1925 The temperature at Centerville, AL, soars to 112 degrees to establish a state record. Every reporting station in Alabama was 100 degrees or above that afternoon. (The Weather Channel)
- 1933 A hurricane hit Brownsville, TX, killing forty persons and causing 12 million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)
- 1950 Hurricane Easy produced the greatest 24 hour rainfall in U.S. weather records. The hurricane deluged Yankeetown, on the upper west coast of Florida, with 38.7 inches of rain. (David Ludlum)
- 1975 Strong winds reduced visibilities to near zero in blowing dust resulting in a 22-car chain reaction accident on Interstate 10 near Toltec AZ. Two persons were killed, and 14 others were injured. (The Weather Channel)
- 1987 Thunderstorms over the Southern and Middle Atlantic Coast States drenched Charleston, SC, with 5.50 inches of rain, and a total of 13.50 inches in two days, flooding homes, and leaving roads and bridges under water. (The National Weather Summary) A tropical storm which formed off the South Atlantic coast was responsible for torrential rains over coastal regions of South Carolina. Between the 30th of August and the 8th of September, Charleston SC received 18.44 inches of rain. The heavy rains caused extensive flooding around the city of Charleston, seriously damaged cotton crops in the eastern part of the state, and resulted in an unusually high number of mosquitos. (Storm Data)
- 1988 Five days of heavy rain commenced in west central Florida. Up to 20 inches of rain in four days resulted in extensive urban flooding, and evacuation of 1000 homes. Flooding claimed four lives, and caused more than five million dollars proprty damage. (The National Weather Summary)(Storm Data)
- 1989 Thunderstorms produced six to ten inches of rain in south central Kansas between 6 AM and Noon. Serious flooding was reported around Wichita, with water four feet deep along some roads. A cold front crossing the Northern High Plains Region produced wind gusts to 63 mph at Sheridan WY. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

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Severe Storms Possible in Eastern South Dakota And Western Minnesota Tonight



Published on: 09/05/2016 at 5:42AM

A frontal boundary over the region will be the focus for evening thunderstorms. Eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota will have the best potential of seeing strong to severe storms with locally heavy rainfall. Weak showers and thunderstorms can be expected elsewhere.

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Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 84.1 F at 3:08 PM

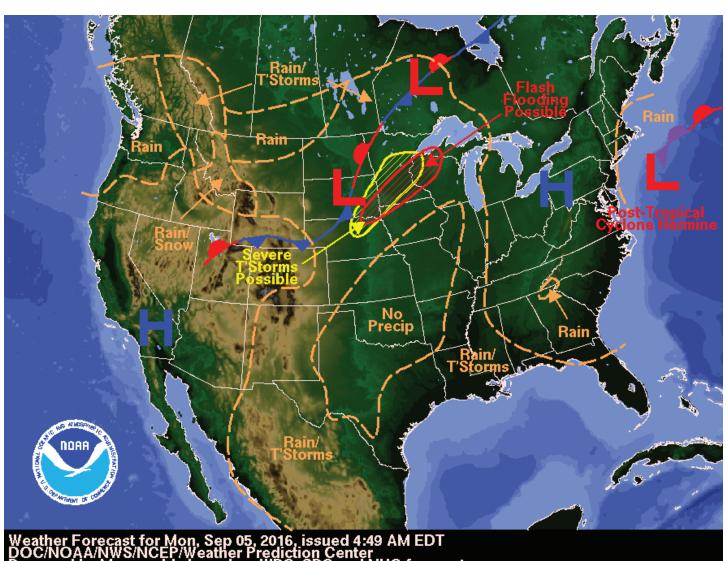
Low Outside Temp: 66.0 F at 6:44 AM High Gust: 26.0 Mph at 7:34 AM

Precip: 0.11

Today's Info Record High: 102° in 1945

Record Low: 32° in 1962 **Average High: 77°F** Average Low: 50°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 0.37 **Precip to date in Sept.:** 0.11 **Average Precip to date: 16.66 Precip Year to Date: 12.77** Sunset Tonight: 8:02 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:01 a.m.



ecast for Mon, Sep 05, 2016, issued 4:49 AM EDT NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center Mcreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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COMPLETELY COVERED

According to Greek legend, Achilles was the greatest warrior who ever lived. In Homer's Iliad, he was the hero of the Trojan Wars. When he was a baby his mother wanted him to be invulnerable to injury. So, early in his life she took him to the River Styx, believing that it had miraculous powers, held him by his heels and dipped him in the water. Only his heels were not covered by the water.

He became a great warrior! Unfortunately, he was killed in battle by an arrow that pierced his heel – the only spot that was not covered by the water from the River Styx. It is from this legend that we talk of "our Achilles heel."

Although it is only a legend it teaches us a significant fact: Our surrender to Christ must be complete. Paul advises us that we are not "to let any part of our body become a tool of wickedness to be used for sinning...instead...let your whole body be as a tool to do what is right for the glory of God."

Surrender is often difficult for some of us for fear that we will fail our Lord. Does this come from the idea that we think we are responsible for victory over sin? We are not! It is God working in us and for us and through us that gives us victory over sin through Christ. Whatever we do not surrender to God is claimed by Satan and causes us to sin.

Prayer: Help us, Father, to remember that the battle and the victory are in Your hands. We know that if we surrender to You we will not be defeated. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Romans 6:12-14 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness. For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.



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News from the App Associated Press

Youth wages law up to voters; OK'd minimum-wage hike in '14 JAMES NORD, Associated Press

ARLINGTON, S.D. (AP) — Many teenagers are settling into school after a summer of taking home at least the state minimum wage of \$8.55 an hour, but businesses hiring after Election Day could be able to pay minors less under a now-paused exemption.

Activists and the state Democratic Party are working to defeat the South Dakota law in November, when voters will be able to determine whether a youth minimum wage of \$7.50 an hour for those under 18 should stand. Opponents say it is discriminatory and an affront to voters who overwhelmingly passed a minimum wage hike 2014.

"It was not a challenging job to get enough signatures to get it on the ballot," Democratic Party Chairwoman Ann Tornberg said with a laugh. "People wanted to sign that petition."

Supporters of the youth minimum wage ballot issue argue it would help young people get their first job, and that the 2014 minimum wage campaign focused on adult workers who support a family, not on young workers. Republican Sen. David Novstrup, who sponsored the law, said it's a "small adjustment" impacting very few people.

Two years ago, voters raised the minimum hourly wage from \$7.25 to \$8.50, increased the \$2.13 hourly tip wage to half the minimum wage and tied future increases to the cost of living. Months later, the Republican-held Legislature carved out a \$7.50 hourly wage for people under 18 that isn't tied to future cost-of-living increases.

Because activists were successful in sending the law to the voters, it didn't go into effect as intended in 2015, and the statewide minimum wage has since bumped up to \$8.55.

The wage hike has made Jason Parker more reluctant to hire teenagers at the 1481 Grille in Arlington and at his businesses in Brookings; he just brought on his first under-16 employee since the increase.

Parker plans to vote for the youth minimum wage and take advantage of the option if it becomes available, because it means he could hire more high school students, who can be expensive and time-consuming to train and who may not last long.

"That dollar does mean a lot because then it would allow us to be able to hire more high school students so they get that opportunity to make money, to get an education, to gain experience in the workforce," he said.

The South Dakota Retailers Association, which worked to defeat the minimum wage ballot measure, isn't going to take an active role on the youth minimum wage.

That's not the case for 16-year-old Briggs Tople, a high school junior in Aberdeen whose switch from Republican to Democratic politics was prompted by the youth minimum wage law. Tople worked at a children's theater program over the summer for minimum wage and said he wants to do the same next year.

"I go out of my way to volunteer, so when I actually have the chance to get paid, it's very nice for me," Tople said. "We just work our butts off to be in the positions we are, and when we get a job, we take that job seriously."

Tople contacted lawmakers and spoke against the bill without luck. Now, he's campaigning for Democratic state Senate candidate Cory Heidelberger, who helped lead the push to send the youth minimum wage to the ballot.

Madison Dairy Queen owner DeLon Mork, who opposed the 2014 minimum wage increase, said he

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doesn't know how he'll vote. But Mork said he wouldn't take advantage of a lower youth wage if granted the option because he bases pay on his competitors' wages.

"Do I support the theory? Certainly I do because there are businesses that aren't able to pay," he said. "A lot of small businesses have a hard time paying the higher minimum wage."

Overnight storms damage southeastern South Dakota city

SPRINGFIELD, S.D. (AP) — Overnight storms have damaged buildings, downed trees and caused minor injuries in a southeastern South Dakota city.

The Daily Republic reports that the Bon Homme County Emergency Management Office says dozens of homes have been damaged.

KELO-TV reports that power is out on the south side of Springfield and the water treatment plant was damaged.

Local officials have set up a command center to evaluate damage and begin cleanup. People who want to help with cleanup can go to the city's community center.

20th annual Tribal Leaders Summit set in Bismarck this week

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Tribal officials in the Dakotas are gathering in Bismarck this week for the 20th annual Tribal Leaders Summit.

The event that includes a trade show is Tuesday through Thursday at the Bismarck Event Center. It's hosted by United Tribes Technical College and precedes the college's 47th annual International Powwow next weekend.

Summit topics this year include tribal governance and sovereignty, education, child welfare and law enforcement and justice.

Bismarck Mayor Mike Seminary says the summit and powwow bring about 20,000 people to the city each year, boosting the local economy by about \$1.8 million.

Tribal leader: Avoid North Dakota towns after pipeline clash

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A South Dakota tribal chairman is urging members to avoid Bismarck and Mandan in North Dakota after a clash between private security guards and people protesting the Dakota Access Pipeline, saying he fears for his people's safety.

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Chairman Harold Frazier said Sunday his members were among protesters pepper-sprayed by security officers and attacked by dogs at the pipeline construction site Saturday on private land north of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation. He urged tribal members to avoid traveling to or doing business in the area.

Hundreds of people have joined the Standing Rock Sioux to protest the pipeline. Tribal leaders say crews have destroyed American Indian burial and cultural sites.

The Bismarck Tribune reports (http://bit.ly/2bWbel4) North Dakota Gov. Jack Dalrymple's office Sunday urged protesters "to participate only in peaceful and lawful activities."

Nelly Korda wins first Symetra Tour title

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Nelly Korda won the Sioux Falls GreatLIFE Challenge on Sunday for her first Symetra Tour title.

The 18-year-old Korda, the sister of LPGA Tour winner Jessica Korda and daughter of former tennis champion Petr Korda, closed with a 5-under 66 for a three-stroke victory at Willow Run.

"I don't even have words," Korda said. "Having my first professional win out here is just amazing. The atmosphere today was just amazing. I could not have asked for a better day and a better week."

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She earned \$31,500 to jump from 27th to 11th on the money list with \$57,316. The top 10 after the final five events will earn LPGA Tour cards, setting up a possible sister act next year.

"I mean it's been my dream ever since I competed in the U.S. Open at 14," Korda said. "Just being with her and alongside her has always been a really big dream of mine and hopefully I can fulfill that dream by getting my LPGA Tour card. But I'm just going to take it a step at a time and not really think about that and just enjoy my time out here."

Third-round leader Wichanee Meechai was second after a 70. She moved from 11th to fourth on the money list.

Money leader Madelene Sagstrom and Ally McDonald, second on the money list, tied for third at 9 under. Sagstrom had a 71, and McDonald shot 64.

Korda finished at 14-under 270. She birdied three of the first five holes to jump into a share of the lead, highlighting the run with a 25-foot chip-in on the par-4 third.

"With the chip-in, it was kind of an awkward stance," Korda said. "It was downwind and downhill and it was a very delicate shot and I just told myself, 'You've had this putt a couple of times you know how it turns — just execute it. Pick your target, hit it and move on.' I was just going for a par and then it rolled in. It was definitely a big boost."

Korda added birdied on the par-5 14th and the par-4 15th.

"I putted really well," Korda said. "Every aspect of my game was really good. If I hit a couple of loose shots I knew I could get up-and-down. I was really comfortable with my short game and my putting. Everything really clicked this week and I'm really happy about that."

Man gets more than 2 years in prison for distributing meth

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man has been sentenced to more than two years in prison for distributing methamphetamine in South Dakota.

U.S. District Judge Roberto Lange also ordered the 23-year-old Ty Wesley Clifford, of Mellette County, to three years of supervised release following his prison term. Clifford pleaded guilty in June to conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance.

Federal authorities say Clifford distributed more than 50 grams of meth in South Dakota between May 2014 and September 2015.

Lange ordered Clifford to forfeit two handguns that law enforcement had seized.

South Dakota to host North American Manure Expo in 2018

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — It may not be the most glamorous topic, but for the ag industry, a trade show coming to South Dakota in 2018 brings important information.

South Dakota State University and SDSU Extension have announced that the state will be hosting the 2018 North American Manure Expo.

The trade show will include livestock producers in the dairy, beef, pork, and poultry industries; manure handlers, applicators and brokers; and crop consultants.

The SDSU Extension says it is currently considering a number of potential locations where the show could take place in southeast South Dakota along the Interstate 29 corridor.

David Kringen is the water resources field specialist SDSU Extension. He says the expo will also provide an opportunity to showcase South Dakota's "feeding industry and its ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship."

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Saturday's Scores The Associated Press

PREP FOOTBALL

Sioux Falls Roosevelt 35, Sioux Falls O'Gorman 10 Sioux Falls Washington 34, Sioux Falls Lincoln 16 St. Thomas More 28, Aberdeen Roncalli 6

Hill, No. 13 TCU pull away from South Dakota St late, 59-41 SCHUYLER DIXON, AP Sports Writer

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Kenny Hill kept smiling Saturday night, even after interceptions on consecutive throws in his TCU debut.

The junior transfer — almost two years removed from losing the starting job at Texas A&M — was just trying to keep the team's spirits up despite an early deficit.

Coach Gary Patterson had a slightly different view before the 13th-ranked Horned Frogs rallied and pulled away late in a 59-41 victory over South Dakota State on Saturday night.

"I told him it wasn't that funny," Patterson said. "Then after they scored a couple of touchdowns, then it wasn't that funny. It's not about how many yards, how many touchdowns. It's about winning."

Hill eventually came around, accounting for five touchdowns after KaVontae Turpin sparked the Frogs with an 81-yard punt return in their 15th straight home-opening win since losing to Northwestern State — another lower-division team — in Patterson's first year as head coach.

"I was just trying to let everybody know, like, 'Hey man, I got you, I'm not going to make any more mistakes," said Hill, the son of former major league pitcher Ken Hill and a former high school standout not far from the TCU campus. "I made a mistake, but we're about to bounce back right here."

Playing for the first time since a 59-0 loss to Alabama in his last game with the Aggies, Hill was 33 of 49 for 439 yards with two touchdown passes, ran for three scores and converted a critical third down with a 13-yard scramble while the Frogs were up four points in the fourth quarter.

That drive ended on a 46-yard scoring pass to Taj Williams for a 52-41 lead. Williams, who had 11 catches for 158 yards, made the grab after the ball deflected several yards forward off the hands of TCU receiver Desmon White and South Dakota State linebacker Dallas Brown.

Hill's consecutive interceptions led to a 10-point lead for the Jackrabbits of the Football Championship Subdivision.

Turpin started the recovery from the surprising second-quarter deficit with his return, sparking the Frogs to their 14th straight home win, third among Power Five schools behind Florida State and Clemson. The 5-foot-9 speedster added a 33-yard run and finished with 177 all-purpose yards.

Taryn Christion threw for 333 yards and three touchdowns — two to Jake Wieneke, who had eight catches for 196 yards.

Isaac Wallace had an 87-yard touchdown run after Makiah Slade intercepted Hill at the South Dakota State 1. Wallace finished with 112 yards rushing. Christion's 12-yard run put the Jackrabbits ahead 17-7 after Hill's second interception.

"I told you on Tuesday they were good players. Now they're still good players," Patterson said of the Jackrabbits. "We didn't do a very good job."

Kyle Hicks ran for two touchdowns, including a 3-yarder that put TCU ahead for good in the third quarter.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

TCU: The Frogs might fall even with two teams in the top five losing (No. 3 Oklahoma and No. 5 LSU).

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In fact, the Frogs likely won't be the highest-ranked team in Texas for the coming week. No. 15 Houston's 33-23 win over the Sooners is likely to vault the Cougars into the top 10.

THE TAKEAWAY

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE: The Jackrabbits have to feel pretty good about a fifth straight trip the FCS playoffs. A year after its first win over an FBS opponent (41-38 at Kansas), South Dakota State kept making big plays after TCU went ahead by two scores for the first time at 45-31 in the third quarter.

TCU: The fiery Patterson built his reputation on defense, and that took a hit with South Dakota State rolling up 461 yards. The Frogs sacked Christion four times, but he still had time to drop perfect passes into coverage several times. Practice won't be fun for the Frogs this week. Still, the offense looked good without Trevone Boykin, finishing with 662 yards.

UP NEXT

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE: The Jackrabbits open their newly renovated stadium against Drake in the first of three straight home games. The rest of the South Dakota State schedule is FCS teams.

TCU: Perhaps Arkansas was guilty of the same thing as the Frogs — peeking ahead at Week 2 as a heavy favorite in the home opener. The Razorbacks visit Fort Worth coming off a 21-20 win over Louisiana Tech. It's the first meeting of the former Southwest Conference rivals since 1991, when Arkansas was an independent for a season after leaving the SWC to eventually join the SEC.

Friday's Scores The Associated Press

PREP FOOTBALL

Aberdeen Central 18, Rapid City Central 12

Avon 52, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 0

Belle Fourche 34, Todd County 6

Beresford 12, Wagner 0

Brandon Valley 40, Watertown 0

Castlewood/Estelline 18, DeSmet 0

Chester 28, Alcester-Hudson 26

Clark/Willow Lake 50, Tri-State 0

Colman-Egan 30, Arlington/Lake Preston 7

Colome 36, Gayville-Volin 0

Dell Rapids 27, Vermillion 0

Deubrook 35, Elkton-Lake Benton 30

Deuel 22, Florence/Henry 0

Eureka/Bowdle 42, Ipswich/Edmunds Central 6

Flandreau 20, Sisseton 12

Gregory 40, Platte-Geddes 6

Groton Area 33, Mobridge-Pollock 0

Hamlin 36, Waverly-South Shore 0

Harrisburg 21, Huron 0

Langford 42, Faulkton 14

Lead-Deadwood 12, Jones County/White River 8

Leola/Frederick 44, Northwestern 0

Madison 35, Dakota Valley 13

Milbank Area 19, McCook Central/Montrose 0

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Mitchell 35, Yankton 6

Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 28, Kimball/White Lake 14

Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 48, Dell Rapids St. Mary 8

Parker 56, Howard 30

Pierre 28, Brookings 20

Potter County 38, Highmore-Harrold 14

Redfield/Doland 57, Crow Creek 0

Scotland 36, Burke/South Central 0

Sioux Falls Christian 14, Bridgewater-Emery/Ethan 0

Spearfish 53, Pine Ridge 0

Sully Buttes 39, Stanley County 6

Sunshine Bible Academy 7, Hitchcock-Tulare 0

Tea Area 48, Lennox 7

Tri-Valley 20, Parkston 10

West Central 14, Canton 9

Winner 52, Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 0

Wolsey-Wessington 56, Herreid/Selby Area 6

Woonsocket/Wessington Springs/Sanborn Central 42, Hanson 6

Oil pipeline protest turns violent in southern North Dakota JAMES MacPHERSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A protest of a four-state, \$3.8 billion oil pipeline turned violent Saturday after tribal officials say construction crews destroyed American Indian burial and cultural sites on private land in southern North Dakota.

Morton County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Donnell Preskey said four private security guards and two guard dogs were injured after several hundred protesters confronted construction crews Saturday afternoon at the site just outside the Standing Rock Sioux reservation. One of the security officers was taken to a Bismarck hospital for undisclosed injuries. The two guard dogs were taken to a Bismarck veterinary clinic, Preskey said.

Tribe spokesman Steve Sitting Bear said protesters reported that six people had been bitten by security dogs, including a young child. At least 30 people were pepper-sprayed, he said. Preskey said law enforcement authorities had no reports of protesters being injured.

There were no law enforcement personnel at the site when the incident occurred, Preskey said. The crowd disbursed when officers arrived and no one was arrested, she said.

The incident occurred within half a mile of an encampment where hundreds of people have gathered to join the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's protest of the oil pipeline that is slated to cross the Missouri River nearby.

The tribe is challenging the Army Corps of Engineers' decision to grant permits for Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners' Dakota Access pipeline, which crosses the Dakotas and Iowa to Illinois, including near the reservation in southern North Dakota. A federal judge will rule before Sept. 9 whether construction can be halted on the Dakota Access pipeline.

Energy Transfer Partners did not return phone calls and emails from The Associated Press on Saturday seeking comment.

The tribe fears it's a project they fear will disturb sacred sites and impact drinking water for thousands of tribal members on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation and millions further downstream.

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The protest Saturday came one day after the tribe filed court papers saying it found several sites of "significant cultural and historic value" along the path of the proposed pipeline.

Tribal preservation officer Tim Mentz said in court documents that the tribe was only recently allowed to survey private land north of the Standing Rock Sioux reservation. Mentz said researchers found burials rock piles called cairns and other sites of historic significance to Native Americans.

Standing Rock Sioux chairman David Archambault II said in a statement that construction crews removed topsoil across an area about 150 feet wide stretching for 2 miles.

"This demolition is devastating," Archambault said. "These grounds are the resting places of our ancestors. The ancient cairns and stone prayer rings there cannot be replaced. In one day, our sacred land has been turned into hollow ground."

Preskey said the company filmed the confrontation by helicopter and turned the video over to authorities. Protesters also have posted some of the confrontation on social media.

Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier said in a statement that "individuals crossed onto private property and accosted private security officers with wooden posts and flag poles."

"Any suggestion that today's event was a peaceful protest, is false," his statement said.

Saturday's Scores The Associated Press

Volleyball

Aberdeen Central def. Sturgis Brown, 25-7, 25-6, 25-14

Rapid City Christian def. Bennett County, 18-25, 25-17, 25-14, 26-24

Watertown def. Pierre, 25-20, 25-27, 25-21, 25-23

Camel Tournament, Gillette, Wyo.

Gold Tournament

Rapid City Stevens def. Casper Kelly Walsh, Wyo., 25-22, 16-25, 31-29

Rapid City Stevens def. Campbell County, Wyo., 26-24, 22-25, 25-15

Championship

Rapid City Stevens def. Cheyenne East, Wyo., 25-23, 21-25, 25-19

Silver Tournament

Rapid City Central def. Big Horn, Wyo., 25-11, 25-20

Rapid City Central def. Douglas, Wyo., 25-19, 22-25, 25-22

Championship

Rapid City Central def. Sheridan, Wyo., 25-16, 19-25, 25-17

Gregory Tournament

Pool Play

Pool 1

Colome def. Jones County, 25-19, 25-19

Gregory def. Colome, 25-17, 12-25, 25-22

Gregory def. Jones County, 25-16, 25-12

Lyman def. Jones County, 25-7, 25-13

Lyman def. Gregory, 25-20, 25-18

Lyman def. Colome, 25-17, 25-14

Pool 2

Bon Homme def. St. Francis Indian, 25-10, 25-8

Bon Homme def. Burke/South Central, 25-22, 25-23

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Gregory Tournament

Pool Play

Pool 2

Bon Homme def. Cody-Kilgore, Neb., 25-13, 25-12

Gregory Tournament

Pool Play

Pool 2

Burke/South Central def. Cody-Kilgore, Neb., 25-17, 25-13

Burke/South Central def. St. Francis Indian, 25-4, 25-10

Cody-Kilgore, Neb. def. St. Francis Indian, 25-8, 25-8

Third Place

Burke/South Central def. Gregory, 25-17, 23-25, 25-19

Championship

Bon Homme def. Lyman, 25-17, 25-20

Sioux Falls Christian Tournament

Pool Play

Pool A

Chester def. Aberdeen Roncalli, 25-12, 25-19

Sioux Falls Christian def. Chester, 25-14, 25-16

Sioux Falls Christian def. Aberdeen Roncalli, 25-22, 25-11

Pool B

Unity Christian, Orange City, Iowa def. Milbank Area, 25-19, 25-12

Unity Christian, Orange City, Iowa def. Warner, 20-25, 25-22, 25-20

Warner def. Milbank Area, 25-6, 25-12

Semifinal

Unity Christian, Orange City, Iowa def. Chester, 25-20, 25-22

Warner def. Sioux Falls Christian, 25-23, 27-25

Fifth Place

Aberdeen Roncalli def. Milbank Area, 25-20, 23-25, 25-22

Third Place

Sioux Falls Christian def. Chester, 25-17, 25-19

Championship

Unity Christian, Orange City, Iowa def. Warner, 25-19, 20-25, 27-25

Timber Lake Triangular

Stanley County def. Timber Lake, 25-17, 25-16, 27-25

Stanley County def. White River, 25-18, 25-13, 25-21

Patrol: 1 killed, 4 injured in head-on crash near Brookings

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Highway Patrol says one person was killed and four others were injured in a head-on crash near Brookings.

The patrol says the crash occurred Friday on U.S. Highway 14, west of Brookings.

Troopers a female driver of one vehicle was pronounced dead at the scene. Three juvenile passengers in that vehicle were injured, including a 4-year-old boy who suffered life-threatening injuries.

Troopers say that vehicle crossed the centerline and struck another car head-on. The patrol says the female driver of the other vehicle sustained life-threatening injuries.

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All of the injured individuals were transported to a Sioux Falls hospital.

Their names have not been released pending notification of family members.

Clinton and Trump courting Ohio voters on Labor Day KEN THOMAS, Associated Press STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton are making competing Labor Day pitches in Ohio, setting the stage for a critical month in their testy presidential campaign.

The Republican real estate mogul is joining running mate Mike Pence at a morning round-table discussion with union members in Cleveland. The Democratic nominee plans to arrive in the city for a Labor Day festival with union leaders and workers.

Trump is also expected to campaign at a fair in Youngstown, Ohio, in a nod to the state's role as a make-or-break proving ground for Republican presidential candidates. No Republican has won the White House without winning Ohio and Trump is trying to overcome some splintering in the state party, which was supportive of Ohio Gov. John Kasich during the presidential primary.

While Labor Day has traditionally been the kickoff to the fall campaign, both Clinton and Trump have been locked in an intense back-and-forth throughout the summer.

Clinton has questioned Trump's temperament and preparation to serve as commander in chief while seeking to connect the reality television star to the extreme "alt-right" movement within the Republican Party.

Trump visited a predominantly black church in Detroit on Saturday in a rare appearance with minority voters, aiming to counter Clinton's argument to moderate and suburban voters that he has allowed a racist fringe to influence his candidacy.

The start of full-fledged campaigning opens a pivotal month, culminating in the first presidential debate on Sept. 26 at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York. Polls show Trump trailing Clinton in a series of must-win battleground states, meaning the debates could be his best chance at reorienting the race.

Clinton will have millions of dollars at her disposal this fall to air television advertising and power a sophisticated get-out-the vote operation in key states.

The former secretary of state raised a combined \$143 million in August for her campaign, the Democratic National Committee and state parties — her best month yet. She began September with more than \$68 million in her campaign's bank account to use against Trump, who has not yet released initial fundraising totals for August.

Clinton was expected to attend the Labor Day festival in Cleveland alongside running mate Tim Kaine and AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka. Later in the day, she was joining with labor leaders in the Quad Cities community of Hampton, Illinois, across the Mississippi River from Iowa, where she is locked in a tight contest with Trump.

Democrats were fanning out across battleground states, dispatching Kaine and Vice President Joe Biden to Pittsburgh, former President Bill Clinton to Detroit and Cincinnati and one-time Clinton primary rival Bernie Sanders to New Hampshire.

Addressing a crowd of union workers in Pittsburgh, Biden, standing alongside his possible successor, told the crowd that Trump has no understanding of the struggles Americans face every day, such as how to afford college or a family vacation. He warned that a Trump presidency would bring about economic stagnation for middle class workers.

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The destinations in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan and New Hampshire point to Clinton's battleground map of approximately a dozen states that hold the key to the 270 electoral votes needed to claim the presidency.

Clinton was arriving in Ohio and Illinois aboard a new blue-and-white Boeing 737 campaign plane emblazoned with her slogan, "Stronger Together." She has mostly traveled by private jet during the primaries and the summer but was being accompanied on the plane by journalists for the first time.

Greeting reporters traveling aboard her campaign plane before takeoff, Clinton said, "Welcome to our big plane! It's so exciting."

She said she had a good Labor Day weekend, calling it "the last moment before the mad dash."

Asked her Labor Day message, she said, "If you want more happy Labor Days you know who to vote for."

Clinton has been pressured by media critics and Republicans alike to hold a news conference for the first time in 2016. She has not held a formal question-and-answer session with reporters since one in Iowa in early December.

Flattered by MVP talk, Cubs' Bryant focused on his game JAY COHEN, AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Kris Bryant is learning. Adjusting. Patching holes more quickly than major league teams can find his weaknesses.

And that's the scary part right now for opponents of the Chicago Cubs. While the MVP talk for the sweet-swinging slugger grows in intensity, Bryant appears to be — gasp — getting better every day.

"I think that's the big separator, is the ability to use the mental game to your advantage," he said, "and determine the necessary adjustments you need to be a better player. And that's just who I am. I don't want to be average or mediocre. I want to continue to strive to be the best I can be and nothing is ever going to be good enough for me."

Yup, that's right. Bryant is batting .305 with 36 homers and a major league-best 112 runs scored, and he wants more. He has made at least five starts at four different positions, committing just 12 errors along the way, and he thinks he is only getting started.

Bryant's stirring second half — he bashed 10 homers on his way to NL player of the month for August — has thrust the third baseman into the discussion for NL MVP, along with teammate Anthony Rizzo, Los Angeles shortstop Corey Seager and Washington second baseman Daniel Murphy. He could become just the sixth player to win rookie of the year and MVP in one or consecutive seasons, but the Las Vegas native isn't too interested in the horse race for MVP.

"To even be mentioned in that category is unbelievable," he said. "It's very humbling and honestly, it just keeps me more determined to just go out there and do better and contribute in any way I can."

The Cubs got Bryant with the second pick in the 2013 draft, with Mark Appel going No. 1 overall to Houston. While Appel was traded to Philadelphia in December and is still in search of his major league debut, Bryant rocketed through the minors and hit .275 with 26 homers and 99 RBIs while helping Chicago to the NL championship series last year.

It was a smashing debut by almost every measure, but what came next was even more impressive. Bryant led the NL with 199 strikeouts last year, so he worked on his swing even more. He has moved all over the field this year on defense and looked comfortable in every spot, providing valuable versatility for the major league-leading Cubs.

Asked about Bryant's improvement from his rookie season, manager Joe Maddon pointed to several

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areas.

"Consistently shorter swing. More contact," Maddon said. "He's had smaller windows of chasing pitches out of the strike zone compared to last year where he did it more often. More recently, he's been using the outfield gap, which is really impressive. So offensively, that's what I'm seeing. Defensively, just better feet on the infield. He's got really good feet now on the infield."

The big test for the 24-year-old Bryant is still to come. He closed last season with a 3-for-23 slide, and then struggled in the playoffs. He batted .214 with five strikeouts as the Cubs were swept by the New York Mets in the NLCS.

In some ways, Bryant's experience in the postseason was a launching point for his stellar sophomore year.

"Certainly, the playoff experience last year helped in terms of you know that's probably as high as my nerves will be," said Bryant, who homered in the All-Star Game against White Sox ace Chris Sale. "This year I just feel a lot more calmer at the plate."

The last player to go directly from rookie of the year to MVP was Boston second baseman Dustin Pedroia, who accomplished the feat when he was voted AL MVP in 2008. Cubs president of baseball operations Theo Epstein was the general manager in Boston when the Red Sox selected Pedroia in the second round of the 2004 draft, and he is enjoying his front-row seat for Bryant's accelerated career path.

"He's helping us win in so many different ways," Epstein said. "Obviously coming up big of late, which is great to see. So he deserves all the accolades that are coming his way and that may eventually come his way. But I think he'd probably be the first one to tell you that he wants the team awards, he wants the team recognition."

House election map and a possible factor: ticket splitting ALAN FRAM, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A look at this year's House races, and a looming question about voters: THE MAP

Roughly 40 races seem competitive, out of 435 House seats. Though they're spread around the country, some states stand out.

California has arguably six seats in play, divided evenly between the two parties. Democratic Rep. Ami Bera, whose father was sentenced to a year in prison because of election fraud, faces perhaps the toughest fight in his evenly divided Sacramento-area district.

New York has five seats in contention, from the eastern tip of Long Island to the central part of the state. Four are held by Republicans, including two lawmakers who are retiring.

Thanks to redistricting, most of Florida's 27 congressional districts were redrawn and there are competitive races in at least four.

Overwhelmingly Republican Texas, Utah and Nebraska each have a freshman facing a tight re-election fight: Republican Reps. Will Hurd in west Texas and Mia Love from Salt Lake City's suburbs, and Omaha-area Democrat Brad Ashford.

TICKET SPLITTING

Many GOP or independent voters unhappy with Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump could decide to skip voting entirely in November. But would House Republicans draw votes from such people if they vote for Democrat Hillary Clinton?

With the intensifying partisan climate of recent years, voters have shown less willingness to split their

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vote between presidential and congressional candidates of different parties.

Polling from American National Election Studies, run by the University of Michigan and Stanford University, finds just 10 percent of voters said they split their vote in 2012. That was down from 25 percent in 1988.

Presidential and House candidates of opposing parties prevailed in just 6 percent of congressional districts in 2012, down from 34 percent in 1988, according to data from the Brookings Institution and the American Enterprise Institute.

Trump could break that trend. But both sets of figures suggest people backing Clinton would be unlikely to support a House GOP candidate.

Scarce targets curb Dem hopes for House gains, despite Trump ALAN FRAM, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a taste of ads to come, House Democrats have run national TV spots in which actors recount Donald Trump's derogatory remarks about immigrants, women and veterans and one asks, "How can Republican members of Congress support that?"

The commercials, by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, underscore the party's hopes for an Election Day bumper crop of new House seats, fueled by the GOP presidential candidate's disparaging verbal assaults and poor showing in most polls.

Outnumbered by Republicans 247-188 — and with two vacancies in districts they're certain to win — Democrats seem likely to bolster their ranks in November. Yet gaining the 30 seats needed to capture a House majority appears elusive.

DAUNTING FIGURES

Of the House's 435 seats, only around 40 from California to Maine seem clearly up for grabs, though that could change.

Redistricting, along with Democrats' tendency to be concentrated in urban and coastal areas, has given both parties' incumbents such sturdy protection that on Election Day 2014, just 13 of 388 law-makers seeking re-election lost. Of the 435 House members elected, 377 won by a decisive 10 percentage points or more or were unopposed.

Democrats would have to sweep 35 of the 40 competitive contests and lose only five for a 30-seat pickup, a significant challenge. In the 17 presidential election years since World War II, a party has gained 30 House seats just three times, most recently in 1980.

Democrats' predictions have been tempered. Rep. Ben Ray Lujan, D-N.M., who heads House Democrats' campaign committee, says, "Democrats are on offense and we'll pick up seats."

OTHER HURDLES

Democrats failed to recruit strong candidates in districts where they might have competed.

The Democratic challenger against well-financed freshman Rep. Tom MacArthur in central New Jersey, Frederick LaVergne, has reported \$600 cash on hand. The party has had problems fielding candidates in the Philadelphia suburbs, eastern Ohio, central Illinois and west of Detroit.

"They haven't put seats in play they needed to put in play," said Rep. Steve Stivers, R-Ohio, a top member of the National Republican Congressional Committee.

Democrats want to pry Republicans out of suburban districts where TV advertising is often expensive, especially with a competitive presidential or Senate race in the state. A week of commercials can cost

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hundreds of thousands of dollars in Denver; Orlando, Florida; and Las Vegas, and can be prohibitively expensive for House candidates in New York, Los Angeles and Chicago.

In addition, Democrats seem certain to lose a newly redrawn district in north Florida and face challenges keeping seats around Omaha, Nebraska; Sacramento and California's central coast; and Florida's Palm Beach.

GOP DANGER SIGNS

Republicans hold about three in four battleground House seats, leaving them more at risk. Nevada, Maine and Minnesota are places where the GOP faces tough defensive fights.

Thanks to strong off-year elections in 2010 and 2014, the GOP's 247 seats are its high-water mark since Herbert Hoover's presidency 86 years ago. The party holds districts in New York, New Hampshire and Iowa that it will struggle to retain this presidential election year, when Democratic turnout should increase.

While 26 House Republicans were elected in 2014 in districts that backed President Barack Obama in 2012, just five Democrats serve in districts carried by 2012 GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney. That means more Republicans are at a disadvantage. Among them, Rep. Robert Dold is clinging to a

Chicago-area district that gave Obama 58 percent of its vote, more than in any other Republican-held seat.

TRUMP FACTOR

Trump is unpopular among women, minorities and college-educated voters. This spells trouble for Republicans representing suburbs and districts with many Hispanic voters, and many candidates have criticized his remarks, though few have abandoned him outright.

Freshman GOP Rep. Carlos Curbelo is fighting to survive in a South Florida district that is two-thirds Hispanic. He's said he won't support Trump and has run a Spanish-language radio ad in which former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush says, "I know Carlos and I know he will continue representing us with integrity in Washington."

Republican Rep. Mike Coffman, whose suburban Denver district is one-fifth Hispanic, says of Trump in one spot, "Honestly, I don't care for him much."

Trump's problems with crucial voters and Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton's modest but distinct advantage in most polls have emboldened Democrats to hunt for additional GOP seats.

They've already spent against conservative Rep. Scott Garrett in New Jersey suburbs of New York City and have hopes of grabbing seats around Minneapolis, Orlando and central New York. They envision benefiting from diminished voter turnout by Republican moderates appalled at Trump and conservatives who distrust him.

"Our biggest concern is turnout," but it's also a problem for Democrats, said Mike Shields, top aide for the Congressional Leadership Fund and the American Action Network, which back House GOP candidates.

COUNTER-CURRENTS

Republicans argue that Clinton poses problems, too. Polls find much dislike for her, too, and Republicans are hoping for lower turnout by young liberals who preferred Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, Clinton's Democratic presidential rival, and by blacks no longer drawn to vote by Obama.

Should Trump's defeat appear inevitable, House Republicans could cast themselves as a brake on a Clinton administration. So far they've used that sparingly.

One GOP fundraising email signed by House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., says, "I worry about what will

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happen if Hillary Clinton is elected president."

Hong Kong pro-democracy candidates retain veto in key vote KELVIN CHAN, Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — A group of young Hong Kong pro-democracy activists pulled off a stunning election victory, gaining a foothold in the southern Chinese city's legislature and setting the stage for a new round of political confrontations with Beijing, official results showed Monday.

The candidates, who helped lead massive 2014 pro-democracy street protests, will now seek a vote on changing the way the city is governed by China's Communist leaders, but they'll face resistance from Beijing, which rejects separatism.

Final results showed that overall, pro-democracy candidates won 30 of 70 seats in the Legislative Council, three more than previously, which means they retain the power to block government attempts to enact unpopular or controversial legislation, such as a Beijing-backed revamp of how the city's top leader is chosen that sparked the 2014 protests.

Record turnout in Sunday's vote helped sweep the newcomers into office, most notably Nathan Law, a 23-year-old former student protest leader, who garnered the second-highest number of votes in his six-seat Hong Kong Island constituency.

Law's party, Demosisto, founded earlier this year with teen protest leader Joshua Wong, advocates a referendum on "self-determination" on the future status of Hong Kong, which is in the middle of a 50-year transition period to Chinese rule.

"It shows how Hong Kong people want to change," Law told reporters when asked about his victory. "People are voting for a new way and new future of our democratic movement."

In another surprising result, Yau Wai-Ching, 25, and Sixtus "Baggio" Leung, 30, of Youngspiration also secured seats. Their group was formed during the 2014 protests and proposes a similar plan as Demosisto.

The results are a sign "that Hong Kong people want to resist," said Leung. "This is what Beijing should know. When we can't trust 'one country, two systems' and the Basic Law to maintain the distinction between Hong Kong's system and Beijing, then the next step, the answer is to cut things off."

Under the principle of "one country, two systems" and the Basic Law constitution, Beijing is supposed to let Hong Kong keep its capitalist economic and political system separate from mainland China's until 2047.

The newcomers pulled off their startling victories by riding a rising tide of anti-China sentiment as they challenged formidably resourced pro-Beijing rivals.

They were part of a broader wave of radical activists who campaigned for Hong Kong's complete autonomy or even independence from China, highlighting fears that Beijing is violating its promise to let the city mostly run itself, as well as frustration over the failure of the 2014 protests to win genuine elections for Hong Kong's top leader.

That represents a break with the established mainstream "pan-democrat" parties, who have demanded voters be able to elect more lawmakers as well as the city's top leader, or chief executive — currently chosen by a panel of pro-Beijing elites — but never challenged the idea that Hong Kong is part of China.

Leaders in Beijing and Hong Kong will have to reconsider their hard-line approach toward rising prodemocracy opposition after it backfired, "because now with the entry of a new generation of young democrats into the legislature, the politics inside the legislature will be very fierce," said Sonny Lo, a political analyst at The Education University of Hong Kong.

About 2.2 million people, or 58 percent of registered voters, cast ballots for the Legislative Council,

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the highest turnout since the city's 1997 handover from Britain.

Another rookie, 38-year-old land reform campaigner Eddie Chu, was the election's biggest surprise, winning 84,121 votes, the highest number of votes received by any of the more than 200 candidates competing for 35 seats in geographic constituencies.

"I hope to renew the democratic movement of Hong Kong," Chu said. He too wants to focus on promoting a self-determination movement. "That is my political goal in Hong Kong."

Five "super seats" are chosen by voters citywide, and 30 are taken by members representing business and trade groups such as accounting, finance, medicine and fisheries, most of which support Beijing because their members have close ties to China's Communist elite on the mainland.

Obama, Putin, agree to continue seeking deal on Syria KATHLEEN HENNESSEY, Associated Press

HANGZHOU, China (AP) — President Barack Obama said Monday the U.S. and Russia have not given up on negotiations that could stem the bloodshed in Syria, but acknowledged leaders are challenged by "gaps of trust" between the rival powers.

Significant sticking points remain in the negotiations over a creation of an unlikely U.S.-Russian military partnership focusing firepower on "common enemies" in Syria, Obama said. He acknowledged that a flurry of diplomacy at an economic summit and a 90-minute meeting with his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, earlier Monday did not yield a breakthrough.

"Given the gaps of trust that exist, that's a tough negotiation," Obama told a press conference closing the Group of 20 summit. "We haven't yet closed the gaps."

Obama didn't detail the trouble spots, although he suggested the U.S. has concerns about Russia holding up its end of the bargain and enforcing the terms. Any deal would depend on Moscow using its influence with Syrian President Bashar Assad to persuade the Syrian leader to ground planes and stop the assault on opposition forces. Obama said the aim was to reach "meaningful, serious, verifiable cessations of hostilities in Syria."

Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov have for weeks been trying to broker a deal that would curb the violence between the Russian-ally Assad's government forces and moderate rebels backed by the U.S.

The deal depends on the two sides agreeing to closer militarily coordination against extremist groups operating in Syria, something the Russians have long sought and the U.S. resisted.

Obama has expressed skepticism that Russia would hold to its agreement. The State Department has said it wants nationwide cease-fire between Assad's military and the rebels, rather than another time-limited agreement like ones that failed before.

Obama's meeting with Putin came as the Russia leader is playing a prominent role in the presidential campaign at home. U.S. officials blame Russian intelligence for a hack on the Democratic National Committee that resulted in a leak of emails damaging to its presidential nominee, Hillary Clinton. Putin has denied his government was involved, but cheered the release of the information.

The president said expressed concerns about cybersecurity issues with Putin, but would not detail the discussions.

Obama and Putin also discussed the conflict in Ukraine, where Russian-backed separatists have been fighting the government, and the implementation of the agreement to stop the violence. Obama met earlier with French President Francois Hollande and German Chancellor Angela Merkel on the same issue.

The difficult diplomacy on Syria set the tone for an uneven few days for Obama on his last tour

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through Asia as president.

Obama's visit started on a high note, with the U.S and China consummating their unlikely partnership on climate change by announcing they were both entering the global emissions-cutting deal reached last year in Paris.

But the focus on climate quickly gave way to the failed Syria talks.

A sit-down between Obama and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan also laid bare the two NATO allies' diverging interests in Syria, with Erdogan pointedly challenging Obama on U.S. support for Kurds fighting the Islamic State group in Syria. The Kurds are the most effective U.S.-backed anti-IS force, but the Turks consider them to be terrorists.

Obama's meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping also veered into delicate territory, with a lengthy White House description detailing how Obama had pressed Xi to abide by an international tribunal's ruling against China over the South China Sea.

To the frustration of the White House, these weighty matters seemed to be overshadowed by a madefor-social-media moment from Obama's arrival at the airport.

As the president was greeted by his Chinese hosts, Obama's aides and journalists accompanying the president clashed with a Chinese official as they tried to watch the ceremony.

The tensions continued throughout the trip as Chinese officials severely restricted the media's ability to attend Obama's G20 events.

Obama's next stop is Laos, where he'll promote his effort to deepen ties to Southeast Asia.

Obama makes trade deal top priority in remaining months KEVIN FREKING, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite formidable opposition across the political spectrum, President Barack Obama is using his final months in office to fight for congressional approval of a 12-nation free trade pact called the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Obama plugged the trade agreement Monday in China, saying it is "indisputable that it would create a better deal for us than the status quo." He said he doesn't have to sell the deal to Asian leaders who were part of the negotiations because "they see this as the right thing to do for their own countries."

At home, presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump bash the agreement and public opinion polls show voters closely divided on its merits.

A survey by the Pew Research Center estimated that 39 percent of registered voters view TPP as a bad thing for the United States and 37 percent consider it a good thing, hardly the kind of numbers that would inspire Congress to heed the president's call.

Where things stand on the agreement and Obama's effort:

WILL CONGRESS VOTE ON TPP?

It's hard to argue with House Speaker Paul Ryan's assessment that TPP doesn't have the votes to pass. Throw in Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's statement that the Senate would not take up the agreement this year and TPP's prospects look dismal.

Last year, the House barely passed legislation establishing a streamlined process for approving TPP, called "fast-track," but the details of the actual agreement were not made public until November. Since then, about a dozen Republicans who voted for the fast-track process have switched and said they oppose the deal, seemingly eliminating a narrow cushion of support.

That leaves the administration and other TPP supporters with a tough task. The ripest recruiting grounds: 50 GOP lawmakers who voted against fast-track. Many consider themselves free-traders but voted no for separate reasons.

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The fight in the Senate could be easier since supporters only need a simple majority for passage rather than the 60 votes usually needed for advancing legislation.

Business groups that want the agreement approved used the August recess to lobby lawmakers and their staffs.

Foes of TPP have been heartened by the dire talk from congressional leaders. But many suspect a vote is looming. Witness the fundraising pitch from the politically active nonprofit launched by Sen. Bernie Sanders, a Vermont independent who tells potential donors that "we will have a very, very narrow window" to defeat TPP in the lame-duck session after the elections.

WHAT'S THE PATHWAY FOR PASSAGE?

The top concern of lawmakers is that the protection of clinical testing data for certain drugs made from living organisms, called biologics, falls short of the 12 years required by U.S. law.

TPP requires countries to provide eight years of data protection, and possibly only five if they take other steps.

Led by Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah, the Republican chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, lawmakers want the U.S. standards to prevail. The Obama administration will try to work out some language during September and October that satisfy Hatch's concerns, though any insistence that countries accept a baseline closer to the U.S. standard could prompt other nations to walk.

Hatch also insists that participating countries provide the U.S. with roadmaps for how they intend to implement the agreement. The Obama administration has sent negotiators to begin that work.

Eventually, the administration will send draft legislation to Congress with the changes in U.S. law needed to enact the trade deal. Given the political winds, it probably won't happen until after the election.

HOW DOES OBAMA SEAL THE DEAL?

The president's case for TPP emphasizes two points: First, he says it's good for the economy because it eliminates thousands of tariffs that will lower the price for American-made goods and services.

Second, it's good for U.S. national security because it demonstrates America's commitment to being a Pacific power. While the administration has been making both cases from the get-go, the closing argument for TPP increasingly has taken a national security emphasis.

Deputy national security adviser Ben Rhodes said TPP is a "litmus test for whether or not the U.S. has staying power in this region."

WILL TPP SURVIVE UNDER NEXT PRESIDENT?

It's not obvious how it could survive, given both candidates say they oppose TPP, but history has shown that opposition during the heat of a campaign can turn to support if the right changes are made. Obama said ratifying trade deals in the U.S. is never smooth, but eventually they get done.

In his first presidential campaign, Obama said he opposed a free-trade agreement with South Korea. He said it didn't do enough to require Korea to open its markets to American-made cars, rice and beef. But nearly three years later, Congress passed a trade agreement with South Korea that Obama called "a win for both our countries."

Trump has made his opposition to TPP a hallmark of his campaign. Clinton supported TPP efforts as secretary of state but announced her opposition last October, saying the final agreement failed to meet her test of providing good jobs, raising wages and protecting national security.

Influential advocacy groups such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the American Farm Bureau and others will try to find a way to pick up the pieces if TPP doesn't make it this year. They've seen the long, winding road that most trade agreements take.

"The interests will persist regardless of who is in the office," said Scott Miller, a former director for

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global trade policy at Procter & Gamble, now at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Multiple bomb blasts in Syrian cities kill at least 43 ALBERT AJI, Associated Press

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — A string of bombings, including a suicide attack claimed by the Islamic State group, struck in and around several Syrian cities on Monday, killing at least 43 people, mainly in government-controlled areas.

The SANA news agency reported blasts around the coastal city of Tartus, the central city of Homs, the suburbs of the capital Damascus, and the northeastern city of Hasakeh. The attacks were timed closely together, but authorities have not determined whether they were linked. The IS group claimed responsibility for the blast in Hasakeh.

Areas controlled by President Bashar Assad's forces have seen several bombings and other attacks during the country's five-year civil war, with many claimed by Al-Qaida-linked militant groups.

One of Monday's attacks took place in the heavily guarded suburb of Sabbourah, marking a major security breach. SANA said the attack killed one person, while the opposition-run Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said three people were killed.

"It's an area that houses officers and their families. Even before the revolution it was carefully guarded," said opposition media activist Yousef al-Boustani, referring to the 2011 uprising against Assad, which began with peaceful protests demanding reform.

The Britain-based Observatory, which maintains a network of contacts inside Syria, put the overall death toll at 47. Conflicting casualty figures are common in the Syria war.

Attackers detonated two bombs along the international coastal highway to the government stronghold of Tartus, SANA said, killing 35. A car bomb at the Arzoneh bridge was followed by a suicide bomber, who targeted a crowd that was gathering. The city, a stronghold of support for President Bashar Assad, is home to a major Russian naval base.

The Observatory said the twin blasts killed 35 people, including an army colonel, and wounded dozens more.

A survivor at the al-Bassel Hospital told state TV the blasts occurred near a checkpoint on the highway. "My car caught fire and army soldiers pulled us out of the car," he said.

The governor of Homs province said a car bomb struck a military checkpoint in the provincial capital, killing three soldiers and a civilian, and wounding 10 others. The city of Homs, Syria's third largest, is largely under government control, with only one neighborhood still held by rebels. Monday's bomb exploded in the government-held Bab Tadmor district, SANA said. The Observatory said four soldiers were killed.

Syrian TV aired footage showing massive damage to the area, with a number of smashed cars and the bloodied body of a guard at the checkpoint.

An Islamic State attacker on a motorcycle blew himself up in the northeastern city of Hasakeh, killing eight, SANA said. Government forces withdrew in August after street battles with Kurdish forces, which took control of the city, though the state's police force remained in place.

The Observatory said the blast killed three members of the Kurdish police force, the Asayesh, and two civilians.

Except for the Hasakeh attack, there has been no immediate claim of responsibility for the blasts. The Islamic State group claimed twin suicide bombings in the neighboring coastal towns of Tartus and Jableh in May that killed over 160 people.

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China promises cooperation on steel at global summit JOE McDONALD, Associated Press

HANGZHOU, China (AP) — China agreed to cooperate more closely with its trading partners on its politically volatile steel exports as leaders of major economies ended a summit Monday with a forceful endorsement of free trade and a crowded agenda that included the Koreas, Syria and refugees.

In a joint statement, Chinese President Xi Jinping, U.S. President Barack Obama and the leaders of Britain, Japan, Russia and other Group of 20 nations pledged to boost sluggish global growth by promoting innovation.

"The global recovery lacks momentum," Xi told reporters after the meeting. "We need to do more to unlock the potential for medium and long-term growth."

There was no mention of a global stimulus or other joint action, which officials said earlier was unworkable because economic conditions vary widely from country to country.

In an effort to shore up public support for trade, the leaders promised "inclusive growth" to spread the benefits to people who have been left behind by wrenching change. That reflects a recognition that economic strains are fueling political tensions and a growing clamor to raise barriers against foreign competition.

The statement expressed "opposition to protectionism on trade and investment in all its forms."

The governments pledged to avoid devaluing their currencies to boost exports. They called for cooperation to reduce tax avoidance. They appealed for stepped up aid for surging global numbers of refugees and their host countries.

Chinese leaders hope the two-day meeting will increase their influence in managing the global economy.

They want the G-20, created to respond to the 2008 financial crisis, to take on a longer-term role promoting trade and economic growth. The joint statement reflected that ambition by calling it the "premier forum" for economic cooperation.

Beijing made trade a theme of the gathering in this lakeside city southwest of Shanghai but faces complaints that a flood of low-cost Chinese steel into global markets threatens U.S. and European jobs, propelling the rise of political movements that promise to curb trade.

The joint statement calls for formation of a steel forum under the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development to study excess production capacity.

In a concession to Beijing, the statement doesn't mention China by name and says excess steel capacity is a global issue. However, U.S. and European officials say the vast Chinese state-owned industry, which accounts for half of worldwide output, is the root of the problem. Washington has hiked import duties by up to 500 percent on Chinese steel to offset what it says are improper subsidies.

Beijing promised in January to reduce steel production capacity by 100 to 150 million tons by 2020. But that is half of China's estimated excess capacity of 300 million tons, so deeper cuts would be required to bring it in line with demand.

"The market is distorted by subsidies and other support measures, and that is the fundamental problem," said Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, according to broadcaster NHK.

The president of the European Union's governing body, Jean-Claude Juncker, called Sunday for the G-20 to take action on steel. He said the trade bloc will look at Beijing's response when deciding whether to grant China market economy status, which would make it harder to bring anti-dumping cases.

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The steel forum could help to ease strains with Beijing's trading partners, said economist Rajiv Biswas of IHS.

"It may help to reassure countries about tangible steps China is taking," he said.

Obama, Xi and other leaders called during the meeting for governments to defend free trade.

"The benefits of trade and open markets must be communicated to the wider public more effectively," the joint statement said.

The World Trade Organization is forecasting global trade growth this year at just 2.8 percent — its fifth year below 3 percent. The International Monetary Fund has cut its outlook for global economic growth to 3.1 percent.

The G-20 as a group is unlikely to be able to do much to boost trade or economic growth, Biswas said. He noted that talks on Obama's TPP initiative for Asia-Pacific governments and a U.S.-European pact have slowed or stalled. Britain is wrestling with the effects of its June vote to leave the EU. Russia, Nigeria and other economies are in recession.

"I would say it is hard for the G-20 to come up with a coordinated action plan because many of the countries are caught up in domestic issues," Biswas said.

The summit was frequently overshadowed by other concerns.

It got off to a rocky start Saturday when there was no staircase at the airport for Obama's plane. Quarrels with Chinese officials broke out on the tarmac and at other venues over access by U.S. officials and reporters.

Heavy security for the event brought Hangzhou, a city of 2.5 million people, to a standstill and left downtown streets deserted.

On Monday, North Korea added to the drama by firing three ballistic missiles off its east coast.

At about the same time, Xi was in Hangzhou telling his South Korean counterpart, Park Gyun-hye, that China opposes plans to deploy a U.S. anti-missile system outside South Korea's capital, Seoul.

China has warned Seoul against installing the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system. But Monday marked the first time Xi raised the issue directly with Park.

Beijing complains THAAD will allow the U.S. military to peer deep into northeastern China.

Another key issue at the meeting was Britain's vote to leave the 28-nation EU trade bloc, seen by some analysts as the first in a wave of moves by governments to withdraw from free trade.

British Prime Minister Theresa May, who took office after the referendum, tried to reassure other governments Britain was not isolating itself.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Turkish counterpart, Recep Tayypip Erdogan, met to discuss the conflict in Syria and to try to mend frayed relations.

Soccer star Rapinoe kneels during national anthem

CHICAGO (AP) — U.S. soccer star Megan Rapinoe knelt during the national anthem Sunday night before the Seattle Reign's game against the Chicago Red Stars "in a little nod" to NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick.

Kaepernick's refusal to stand for the national anthem to protest racial injustice and minority oppression came to public notice when he remained seated on the bench before a preseason game against Green Bay. On Thursday night in San Diego, he and safety Eric Reid knelt during the anthem before a game against the Chargers.

"It was very intentional," Rapinoe told American Soccer Now after Seattle's 2-2 tie in the National Women's Soccer League game. "It was a little nod to Kaepernick and everything that he's standing for

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right now. I think it's actually pretty disgusting the way he was treated and the way that a lot of the media has covered it and made it about something that it absolutely isn't. We need to have a more thoughtful, two-sided conversation about racial issues in this country.

"Being a gay American, I know what it means to look at the flag and not have it protect all of your liberties. It was something small that I could do and something that I plan to keep doing in the future and hopefully spark some meaningful conversation around it. It's important to have white people stand in support of people of color on this. We don't need to be the leading voice, of course, but standing in support of them is something that's really powerful."

Seattle Seahawks cornerback Jeremy Lane showed his support for Kaepernick by sitting on the bench during the national anthem at a preseason game in Oakland.

The 31-year-old Rapinoe has played for Seattle since 2013, after a stint with the French team Olympique Lyon. A standout at the University of Portland, she made her name with the senior U.S. Women's national team in 2006. Known for her creativity on the field, she has played in two Women's World Cups and two Olympics.

She injured her knee last December during training and required surgery, but was able to come back and play in the Rio Games. The United States, which had won three straight gold medals in the sport, was eliminated in the quarterfinals by Sweden.

Since coming out in 2012, Rapinoe has been devoted advocate for LGBT rights and has worked with the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN) and other organizations.

Rapinoe also has been vocal about pay equity, and was among five national team players who lent their names to a complaint filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission alleging wage discrimination. The players claim that members of the team make in some cases up to four times less than their male national team counterparts.

She has frequently spoken out on Twitter, delving into politics and even calling out NWSL when a match was played on an extremely narrow field earlier this summer.

Seoul says North Korea fires 3 medium-range missiles HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea on Monday fired three medium-range missiles that traveled about 1,000 kilometers (620 miles) and landed near Japan in an apparent show of force timed to coincide with the Group of 20 economic summit in China, South Korean officials said.

North Korea has staged a series of recent missile tests with increasing range, part of a program that aims to eventually build long-range nuclear missiles capable of striking the U.S. mainland.

Such tests are fairly common when international attention is turned to Northeast Asia, and this one came as world leaders gathered in eastern China for the G-20 summit of advanced and emerging economies. China is North Korea's only major ally, but ties between the neighbors have frayed amid a string of North Korean nuclear and missile tests and what many outsiders see as other provocations in recent years.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said that the three ballistic missiles, all believed to be Rodongs, were launched from the western North Korean town of Hwangju and flew across the country before splashing into the sea.

A Joint Chiefs of Staff statement described the launches as an "armed protest" meant to demonstrate North Korea's military capability on the occasion of the G-20 summit and days before the North Korean government's 68th anniversary.

In early August, another Rodong missile fired by North Korea also traveled about 1,000 kilometers, the longest-ever flight by that missile.

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All three missiles Monday fell in Japan's exclusive economic zone, the 200-nautical-mile offshore area where a nation has sovereign rights for exploring and exploiting resources, according to Tokyo's Defense Ministry.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga called the launches a "serious threat" to Japanese security and said that Tokyo protested to North Korea via the Japanese Embassy in Beijing.

The United States also condemned the launches, saying it was discussing with allies the proper response and plans to raise concerns at the U.N. The U.S. also plans to bring up the issue during the East Asia summit in Laos this week. President Barack Obama was to head to Laos on Monday evening.

Before Monday's launch, South Korean President Park Geun-hye met her Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the G-20 summit and criticized the North for what she called repeated missile provocations that are threatening to hurt Seoul-Beijing ties.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe approached Park during a coffee break at the G-20 and agreed to cooperate closely, according to Japan's Foreign Ministry.

The latest firing won't help the push by Xi to get Park to scrap the planned deployment of a powerful U.S. anti-missile system in the South.

During their meeting, Xi warned Park that "mishandling the issue is not conducive to strategic stability in the region, and could intensify disputes."

China says the U.S. Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, system is meant to spy on China, while Seoul and Washington say the system is intended solely to defend against North Korea's missile threat.

Last month, worries about the North's weapons programs deepened after a missile from a North Korean submarine flew about 500 kilometers (310 miles), the longest distance achieved by the North for such a weapon. Submarine-based missiles are harder to detect before launch than land-based ones like Rodongs. In June, after a string of failures, North Korea sent an intermediate Musudan missile more than 1,400 kilometers (870 miles) high in a test launch that outside analysts said showed progress in efforts to acquire the ability to strike U.S. forces in the region.

The U.N. Security Council in late August strongly condemned four North Korean ballistic missile launches in July and August. It called them "grave violations" of a ban on all ballistic missile activity.

British tea is booming in China, the drink's birthplace LEONORA BECK, Associated Press

HARROGATE, England (AP) — Ji Mengyu sinks into a soft chair with her cup of tea to the sound of tinkling teaspoons and light chatter. The opulently decorated Victorian tea salon is quintessentially British, something straight out of Downton Abbey. Except it's in Beijing.

The 25-year-old HR professional is one of a growing number of Chinese who are looking past their country's ancient tea traditions in favor of imported British blends. For Ji, the tea has an aura of luxury and quality, and gives her a sense of partaking in the posh British culture popularized globally by TV shows and fashion brands.

"I think British people's traditional customs and culture have a kind of classical style," says Ji, who says she's inspired by TV shows like Downton Abbey, but also Sherlock Holmes and Game of Thrones.

For three centuries, countries in Asia and Africa have been quenching Britons' thirst for tea, supplying dried leaves worth millions of pounds every year. Now, that trend is showing some signs of reversing. China and Hong Kong in particular are seeing a surge in appetite for British tea blends — some of which are made with leaves from China itself, an example of the twists in trade that the globalization of tastes can create.

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Upscale tea blends from storied British companies like Twinings, Taylors of Harrogate and Hudson & Middleton occupy increasingly more space on shelves in Chinese supermarkets, restaurant menus and online shops.

Tea houses serving British afternoon tea have sprouted up in the bigger cities in China. Five years ago, Annvita English Tea Company managed ten tea houses around China, serving imported blends and pastries in British-style tea rooms. The number has since grown ten-fold, with more planned.

"It fits the taste of people who want to pursue a higher quality of life," says Li Qunlou, general manager at AnnVita English Tea House in Sanlitun in Beijing.

As a result, British tea companies selling premium blends have seen their exports to China and Hong Kong skyrocket.

In the first five months of 2016, British tea exports to Hong Kong nearly tripled in value compared with two years earlier. They doubled to the rest of mainland China, data from the U.K. HM Revenue & Customs show.

Shipments to China and Hong Kong only make up 7 percent of total British tea exports, but the share is growing quickly.

Some of these deliveries come from Harrogate, a small town in northern England that is the home to Taylors of Harrogate. The fourth generation family-owned company has been selling tea to China for more than 10 years. In the past three years, sales have more than doubled every year, albeit from a low starting point.

"China produces nearly one half of the world's tea, so on the surface you would think that there is a limited opportunity for Taylors of Harrogate," says Matthew Davies, Head of International Sales at Taylors of Harrogate.

Tea originates from China and has been a central part of the culture for thousands of years. In Britain, tea was not introduced until the 17th century, though it has since become a staple and adapted to local tastes.

Every day thousands of tea samples arrive in Harrogate for the tasters to evaluate. The business essentially relies on their taste buds to find the right mix of leaves to maintain the signature flavors that the company bases its reputation on. Chinese customers mainly buy Taylor of Harrogate's Earl Grey and English Breakfast tea.

"Our approach was to invest time and resources to understand consumer behavior and we found that there are a number of Chinese consumers with a high level of discretionary income and demand for Taylors of Harrogate brands," says Davies.

The demand is growing mainly among China's wealthy middle class and is fueled by portrayals of British high society featured in TV shows, news stories of the British royal family and classical novels like Jane Austen's, analysts say.

"Previously, Chinese consumers were more exposed to American culture, McDonalds and Hollywoodstyle things. These few years, because of the popular British TV dramas, Chinese consumers are more exposed to British brands and the lifestyle," says Hope Lee, senior drinks analyst at Euromonitor International.

Another reason for the thriving popularity of British imported tea is the seemingly endless string of food scandals that plagues China and Hong Kong.

Greenpeace and government investigations found high levels of pesticides or poisonous earths in tea, also in some of the best known brands. Imported premium British tea brands are perceived as being safer and of higher quality.

Paradoxically, some of the British tea sold in China and Hong Kong is originally grown in China. How-

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ever, it represents only a small amount of British exports there — about 3 percent, according to Frost & Sullivan, a market research company.

British tea makers mainly import leaves from Africa and India, regions where the taste for British tea blends has not grown in the same way, for economic and cultural reasons.

Despite the recent slowdown in the Chinese economy, Taylors of Harrogate and many other companies and industry experts are optimistic about the country's consumers.

"We are continuing to strengthen our lengths in China," says Davies.

What if? There's still time for drama before Election Day NANCY BENAC, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — What could go possibly go wrong? (Or right?)

It's the Labor Day question that keeps presidential candidates up at night.

Nine weeks from Election Day, the electoral math favors Democrat Hillary Clinton. But both Clinton and Republican rival Donald Trump know there are countless ways the trajectory of this uncommonly volatile presidential campaign still could shift in unexpected ways.

A health scare. An inopportune remark. A blockbuster debate. A WikiLeaks bombshell. An extremist attack.

Even without a wildcard like Trump in the mix, history shows there's no anticipating all the ways late developments can affect a race.

Just ask Mitt Romney: In September 2012, a secretly recorded video emerged that caught the Republican nominee saying 47 percent of Americans pay no taxes and consider themselves victims, feeding into impressions that Romney wasn't looking out for ordinary people. In October, Hurricane Sandy roared up the East Coast, giving President Barack Obama a chance to showcase his commander-inchief credentials and leaving Romney struggling to strike the right tone.

A classic October surprise: In 1972, as President Richard Nixon was fending off a challenge from Democratic Sen. George McGovern, Nixon authorized national security adviser Henry Kissinger to say "peace is at hand" in Vietnam. The late October pronouncement was welcome news to a war-fatigued nation, and bolstered Nixon's re-election mandate. (It turned out Kissinger's prediction was way off the mark: The heaviest bombing of the war started just before Christmas 1972.)

The 2000 campaign featured a November curveball: Word surfaced five days before the election that GOP nominee George W. Bush had been arrested on a misdemeanor drunken driving charge in 1976. Republicans said the release of 24-year-old information at such a time was a Democratic dirty trick, and a Democratic activist acknowledged he had tipped off reporters.

Bush won anyway, but many of his advisers still think the news depressed turnout among social conservatives to make the race much closer than it would have been otherwise, says Dan Schnur, director of the University of Southern California's political institute and a veteran of John McCain's 2000 presidential campaign.

In 2004, then-Sen. John Kerry headed into the final weekend of the campaign feeling good about his chances of ousting Bush. That's when Osama bin Laden weighed in. Kerry believes the al-Qaida leader cost him the presidency by issuing a videotape that criticized Bush and warned U.S. voters that "your security is in your own hands" in the election.

"It changed the entire dynamic of the last five days," Kerry said later. "We saw the polls freeze and then we saw them drop a point, because all the security moms, it agitated people over 9/11."

More than a year after Trump and Clinton joined the race, a small but important chunk of voters is still up for grabs: An August Quinnipiac University poll found 4 percent of likely voters said they were

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undecided. And among those choosing a candidate, 9 percent said they still could change their minds. For all of that, historians say it's rare to see a race-altering late shift.

"Events happen, scandals take place, but usually the basic dynamics of the campaign are in place by then," says Princeton historian Julian Zelizer. "If one person has a very big lead, then it's hard to come back."

Schnur's advice on how Clinton and Trump can prepare just in case: "The best way to protect against an October surprise is to do smart planning in July, August and September."

With the internet's help, Scalia's burial spot is public JESSICA GRESKO, Associated Press

FAIRFAX, Va. (AP) — Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia's funeral was attended by thousands and carried on live television, but when the hearse pulled away from the church and headed to his burial site, his family asked for privacy and Supreme Court officials declined to say where Scalia was being laid to rest.

But few things stay private in the internet age, and Scalia's grave has become public with the help of a website. Within months of his death in February, the location of Scalia's grave — at Fairfax Memorial Park in Virginia — was recorded on the cemetery website Findagrave.com with precision: Garden of the Crucifixion, Lot 870, Site A. A contributor to the site added photos, too. The spot became even more public recently when Wikipedia, relying on the information from Find A Grave, added the location and a photo to Scalia's page.

Citing privacy, cemetery President Michael H. Doherty declined to discuss the former justice, who died unexpectedly at the age of 79, or say how frequently visitors ask for help finding Scalia's gravesite in the cemetery that is dotted with brightly colored artificial flowers and in-ground memorial markers rather than headstones. But the cemetery will direct anyone who asks, its standard practice for any gravesite, though with the information posted online, visitors don't necessarily need help. When an Associated Press reporter visited recently, a bronze vase that's part of the justice's gravesite was empty, though Find A Grave's pictures from May show fresh flowers.

Scalia is the first Supreme Court justice to be buried at the cemetery, though other former justices are buried in the Washington area including Rock Creek Cemetery and Oak Hill Cemetery in Washington and Cedar Hill Cemetery in Suitland, Maryland.

By far the most justices — a dozen — are buried at Arlington National Cemetery, just over the Potomac River from Washington and just over 3 miles from the Supreme Court building. Former Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist was the last justice to be buried at Arlington, in 2005. The late spouses of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and former Justice John Paul Stevens are also buried there, a clear indication of their plans. Stevens' headstone already lists the 96-year-old's name without a day of death. While the cemetery is a military cemetery, not all the justices buried there served.

The fact that Scalia's family chose Fairfax Memorial Park is not particularly surprising. The family-run cemetery has Catholic roots, and Scalia was a devout Catholic. His son-in-law, Craig Britton Courtney, who died in 2011, is buried there in a plot near Scalia's. And at the time of Scalia's death, it was public that his body was taken to Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home, which is on the grounds of the cemetery, after it was flown from Texas, where he died.

Though Scalia may be the most famous of the some 30,000 people buried in the 128-acre cemetery, he is not the only conservative legal heavyweight. Former D.C. Circuit Judge Robert Bork, whose nomination to the Supreme Court was rejected by the Senate because he was seen as too conservative, was buried at the cemetery in 2012.

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WHY IT MATTERS: Student Debt

JOSH BOAK, AP Economics Writer

EDITOR'S NOTE _ One in an AP series examining issues at stake in the presidential election and how they affect people

WASHINGTON (AP) — THE ISSUE: More Americans are getting buried by student debt — causing delays in home ownership, limiting how much people can save and leaving taxpayers at risk as many loans go unpaid. The statistics look daunting.

Student debt now totals around \$1.26 trillion. This amounts to a stunning 350 percent increase since 2005, according to the New York Federal Reserve. Not everyone sees that surge as troubling. President Barack Obama's Council of Economic Advisers issued a report this year saying that the debt is beneficial because college graduates earn more money than people with only high school degrees.

But college drop-outs who borrow are increasingly less likely to repay their loans, as are former students at for-profit colleges that in some cases never provided the stable careers promised in their brochures. Nor are college graduates necessarily repaying their loans, a reflection of the stagnating incomes for many.

More than 60 percent of the class of 2014 graduated with debt that averaged nearly \$27,000, according to the College Board. Not all that taxpayer-backed debt is getting repaid. Out of the 43 million Americans with student debt, roughly 16 percent are in long-term default —a potential hit in excess of \$100 billion that taxpayers would absorb.

Studies have shown that student debt payments have led to a delay in home ownership, as well as a decline in college savings for the borrowers' children — creating a multigenerational debt cycle.

WHERE THEY STAND

Democrat Hillary Clinton hopes to curtail debt dramatically for undergraduates. She has modified her initial plan after talks with the presidential campaign of Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, who ran on the promise of taxpayer-funded college.

Clinton now proposes no tuition for students from families making less than \$85,000 when they go to an in-state, public college. That threshold would rise to \$125,000 by 2021. All community colleges would be tuition-free, in addition to making it easier for existing borrowers to refinance at lower rates, limit repayments to 10 percent of income and forgive any remaining college debt after 20 years. The plan would cost the federal government an estimated \$500 billion over 10 years, which the Clinton campaign says would be paid for by ending tax preferences for wealthier Americans.

Republican Donald Trump has promised a "great" student debt plan, details to come. Trump appears to view student debt as inflating college costs to levels that are only worsening the problem.

"The colleges are viewing the students as just a conduit" for government aid, he has said. "We are going to help the students. Maybe that doesn't fit beautifully within the Republican framework."

WHY IT MATTERS

Education debt has become a drag on the kinds of spending and saving that historically helped U.S. economic growth.

The average college-educated head of household under 40 owes \$404 a month in student debt payments, according to an AP analysis of Federal Reserve data. That's slightly more than what the government says the average college-educated family spends at the supermarket.

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An analysis of renters this year by the company Apartment List found that education loans make it more difficult to buy a home, a critical rite of passage. College-educated millennials with student debt must typically save for a full 10 years to afford a 20 percent down payment, compared with five years for those without debt.

The high debt loads and need for many workers to return to school also mean that older Americans make up a growing share of education loans.

Americans over 40 account for 35 percent of education debt, up from 25 percent in 2004, according to the New York Federal Reserve. Contributing to this surge: longer repayment schedules, more midcareer job changes and additional borrowing for children's education.

Generation X adults — those from 35 to 50 years old — owe about as much as people fresh out of college do.

Dreams of wealth, fears of problems as Guyana finds oil BERT WILKINSON, Associated Press

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) — Sleepy Guyana has long been one of the hemisphere's poorest places, a sparsely populated nation on South America's northern shoulder that relies heavily on exports of sugar, rice and gold.

But these days, there's a surge of excitement about an anticipated windfall from major oil-and-gas deposits found in the deep seabed 120 miles (193 kilometers) off the coast — as well as worries about the disruptions and conflicts it might bring.

Hopes are high that fuel siphoned in a few years' time from more three miles (more than 5 kilometers) below the sea's surface might be an antidote to entrenched poverty and underdevelopment in the country of 750,000 people.

"We will have billions in foreign reserves and our population is going to swell big time," miner Cosmos Santo said from a park bench in the seaside capital of narrow streets and mostly low-rise, wooden buildings.

The U.S. Geological Survey had long estimated that offshore Guyana was rich in gas and oil. Now U.S.-based ExxonMobil has announced a "world-class oil discovery" off Guyana after drilling a well that struck oil-bearing sandstone with an estimated 800 million to 1.4 billion oil equivalent barrels.

Exxon and partner Hess Corp. haven't yet announced development or investment plans, which could be complicated by low current oil prices and a dispute with neighboring Venezuela.

But Guyanese authorities are racing to set up rules and plans to administer the hoped-for new industry while avoiding what is known as the "resource curse." In places like Congo and Nigeria, oil or mineral wealth has fueled conflict instead of development.

Guyana only has to look at Venezuela next door to see what can go haywire with an oil-dependent state. South America's biggest energy producer has been in economic freefall since the 2014 crash in prices for the oil that funds nearly all the spending of its socialist government.

Guyana's presidential spokesman, Mark Archer, said the administration is determined to avoid the mistakes of Venezuela and other energy-rich nations that have run into hard times.

"The plan is not to spend wildly like a drunken sailor but to put in a wealth fund for future generations and ensure we do not neglect agriculture," Archer said.

Norway and the U.S. Energy Department are advising Guyana on setting up such a fund as well as a regulatory framework for the industry, Natural Resources Minister Raphael Trotman says.

Some of the hoped-for riches would go toward building a 350-mile (565-kilometer) jungle road from

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the capital to northeastern Brazil, opening up Guyana's rugged, mineral-rich interior. Households would get free cooking gas and cheap gasoline.

Guyana's small military would get new aircraft to protect the offshore fields and borders, to provide some "comfort to Exxon and other investors," Archer said.

"We must be able to protect our investment," he said.

Protection may be necessary because the offshore discoveries have reignited a decades-old territorial dispute between Guyana and far-larger Venezuela.

Venezuela has for decades claimed two-thirds of Guyana's territory as its own, arguing that the gold-rich region west of the Essequibo River — and the resulting maritime zone where Exxon's find lies — was stolen from it by an 1899 agreement with Britain and its then-colony.

Venezuela's navy briefly detained a ship carrying five American oil workers in 2013. They were conducting a seismic survey under a Guyana concession at the time.

Guyana says it wants the International Court of Justice to settle the border dispute with Venezuela, though the case has not yet reached the court.

Diego Moya-Ocampos, analyst with the London-based consulting firm IHS Global Insight, said he believes Venezuela's claim of sovereignty will pose a "major complication" to recovering oil and minerals. Venezuela's government could opt to ban companies operating in Guyana from working in Venezuela's vast oil fields, he said.

"We expect strong rhetoric in the coming months. Nevertheless, (Venezuela) is highly unlikely to initiate an armed conflict out of concern over losing support from the English-speaking Caribbean countries," Moya-Ocampos said in an email.

Meanwhile, Guyana Geology and Mines Commissioner Newell Dennison said his agency is on "a frenzied mission" to train local petroleum engineers, geologists and lawyers.

Exxon officials have told lawmakers that they plan to have supertankers pull up alongside rigs and cart away fuel pumped from the seabed because the wells are too far from the coast to run pipelines. People in Guyana appear to be excited about the prospects, though some are wary.

"If mismanaged, we will remain as we are and like the others which have oil and mismanaged it," said Brenda Oudkerk as she took a break from dishing out plates of rice and spicy chicken at her open-air cafe in the capital.

Hermine spins away from East Coast, batters shore with waves BEN FINLEY, Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — Hermine spun away from the East Coast on Sunday, removing the threat of heavy rain but maintaining enough power to whip up dangerous waves and rip currents and keep beaches off-limits to disappointed swimmers and surfers during the Labor Day weekend.

As it churned hundreds of miles off shore in the Atlantic Ocean, the system picked up strength, and forecasters said it could regain hurricane force later as it travels up the coast. It was expected to stall over the water before weakening again to a tropical storm by Tuesday.

"It's just going to meander for a few days," said Dennis Feltgen of the National Hurricane Center, explaining that Hermine was unlikely to make landfall again but was positioned to batter the coast with wind and waves.

Governors all along the Eastern Seaboard announced emergency preparations. Tropical storm watches and warnings were in effect from Virginia to Massachusetts, with special concern focused on New Jersey and Delaware, where Rehoboth Beach could experience gusts up to 50 mph and life-threatening storm surges during high tide late Sunday and into Monday.

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On the Virginia Beach boardwalk, the Atlantic Ocean roared with uncharacteristically large waves, drawing only a couple of surfers into the choppy white water. But hundreds, if not thousands of people, had descended onto the beach for the traditional last weekend of summer. Umbrellas and canopies dotted the sand under partly sunny skies.

Hermine failed to stop Barb and Don Willis of Buffalo, New York, from enjoying the trip they booked months ago. They even braved the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel on Saturday as the wind whipped their car and the bay rose close to the bridge's bottom.

"That was so scary," Barb Willis said. "Oh, my God. My hands were white knuckles, and the water was so high. It was horrible," she said.

The couple, both in their 60s, said they knew the storm would blow over, even as friends texted their concerns.

Tropical storm-force winds were possible Monday in New Jersey. Gov. Chris Christie warned that minor to moderate flooding was still likely in coastal areas and said the storm will cause major problems, even as it tracks away from land.

"Don't be lulled by the nice weather," Christie said, referring to the bright sunny skies along the Jersey Shore on Sunday. "Don't think that nothing is going to happen, because something is going to happen."

New York City planned to close its beaches Monday because of rip currents, and the ban could extend into Tuesday, depending on weather conditions, officials said.

Long Island authorities urged people to evacuate the summer getaway known as Fire Island to avoid any storm surge and coastal flooding. Emergency officials warned that anyone who stays will not be able to leave after ferries shut down Sunday evening.

Hermine (her-MEEN) rose up over the Gulf of Mexico and hit Florida on Friday as a Category 1 hurricane before weakening to a tropical storm across Georgia.

It has caused two deaths, inflicted widespread property damage and knocked out power to hundreds of thousands of people from Florida to Virginia.

The Anclote River northwest of Tampa was forecast to go well into major flood stage on Sunday afternoon. Emergency managers issued mandatory evacuations for some low-lying mobile home parks and apartment buildings.

At 11 p.m. Sunday, Hermine's top sustained winds were steady at 70 mph (110 kph) as it moved north-northeast at 3 mph (6 kph). The storm was centered about 325 miles (525 km) southeast of the eastern tip of Long Island, New York.

Since sea levels have risen up to a foot due to global warming, the storm surges pushed by Hermine could be even more damaging, climate scientists say.

Michael Mann at Pennsylvania State University noted that the 1-foot sea-level rise in New York City over the past 100 years meant 25 more square miles flooded during Superstorm Sandy, causing billions in additional damage.

"We are already experiencing more and more flooding due to climate change in every storm," said Michael Oppenheimer, a geosciences professor at Princeton University. "And it's only the beginning."

On Saturday, high winds tipped over an 18-wheeler, killing its driver and shutting down the U.S. 64 bridge in North Carolina's Outer Banks.

Earlier in Florida, a homeless man died from a falling tree.

Todd Solomon, who lives in an area of Virginia Beach that often floods, said water crept up to the foundations of some homes. But he said he did not know of any buildings that were actually flooded.

"If you weren't in the flood-prone area, it was like a normal day," he said. "And if your power was out, you kind of bounced around to find a restaurant or grocery store that still had power."

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On Sunday afternoon, he said, a few homes still lacked power. But most people were cleaning up trees and branches felled by the storm.

OBAMA LEGACY: Quiet but big changes in energy, pollution SETH BORENSTEIN, Associated Press JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

HANGZHOU, China (AP) — Mostly unnoticed amid the political brawl over climate change, the United States has undergone a quiet transformation in how and where it gets its energy during Barack Obama's presidency, slicing the nation's output of polluting gases that are warming Earth.

As politicians tangled in the U.S. and on the world stage, the U.S. slowly but surely moved away from emissions-spewing coal and toward cleaner fuels like natural gas, nuclear, wind and solar. The shift has put the U.S. closer to achieving the goal Obama set to cut emissions by more than a quarter over the next 15 years, but experts say it is nowhere near enough to prevent the worst effects of global warming.

The overlooked changes took center stage Saturday in China. Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping entered the world's two worst polluters into a historic agreement to ratchet down heat-trapping pollution. Obama hailed "the investments that we made to allow for incredible innovation in clean energy."

I. S. Department of Energy statistics show jults in where America gets its voltage.

- U.S. Department of Energy statistics show jolts in where America gets its volts:
- —In 2008, 48 percent of America's electricity came from coal, the dirtiest power source; now it's about 30 percent. That's less than the combined U.S. output of carbon-free nuclear and renewable energy.
- —There are now more than three solar power jobs in the U.S. for every job mining coal.
- —In just the first five months of 2016, more solar power was generated than 2006 through 2012.
- —In 2008, the U.S. imported about two-thirds of its oil, and politicians spoke longingly of energy independence. Now, America imports less than half its oil.
- —U.S. emissions of carbon dioxide the main greenhouse gas are down more than 10 percent, and this year is on pace to be the lowest in about a quarter-century.

"There were gigantic changes happening in the energy world, gigantic tectonic changes," said Peter Fox-Penner of the Boston University Institute for Sustainable Energy. "It's a sea change. There is no question."

Facing steep obstacles in Congress, Obama never aggressively pursued new emissions-curbing legislation, aside from a half-hearted attempt at cap-and-trade in his first term that was politically disastrous for Democrats. Instead, he relied on executive authority and regulations at home while largely going above lawmakers' heads by focusing on brokering global deals to curb carbon and other greenhouse gases.

So how much credit does Obama deserve? And how much was completely outside his control? That debate is playing out in Obama's final months in office, as the president tries to go out with a bang on climate and the environment.

Jack Gerard, president of the American Petroleum Institute, the oil and gas lobby, pointed out that Obama pitched his sweeping pollution limits on coal-fired power plants as the main driver of lower future emissions — but the courts have put those rules indefinitely on hold. Meanwhile, emissions have fallen due to a dramatic increase in cleaner-burning natural gas, which Obama was slow to try to regulate.

"We are leading the world in carbon reductions today, and it's driven primarily by cleaner-burning, affordable natural gas that was brought to you by innovation and technological advances in the oil and

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natural gas industry," Gerard said.

But Brian Deese, Obama's senior adviser, said the seeds of the fracking technology that enabled the natural gas revolution were found in federal Energy Department research conducted in the 1970s. He noted that the people who warned Obama's policies — like his "Clean Power Plan" emissions limits — would be disastrous are the same people now celebrating the natural gas revolution.

"You can't on the one hand argue that the Clean Power Plan is an overarching regulation that's going to impose all these costs, enforce all these changes in the industry, and on the other hand argue that change is happening independent of what government is doing and therefore these regulations are meaningless," Deese said in an interview.

The advent of fracking, or hydraulic fracturing, produced much more natural gas, which became much cheaper and elbowed out coal as America's fuel of choice. That has surprised all sorts of experts.

In 2000, Dana Fisher, director of the University of Maryland's Program for Society and the Environment, predicted the U.S. was unlikely to wean itself off coal because it was cheap and plentiful. And John Reilly of MIT's Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change, predicted heat-trapping gas emissions would grow.

Both admit they were wrong, with an embarrassed Reilly calling the subsequent decline "a dramatic turnaround from what everyone has expected."

Obama had little to do with the fracking boom, except to not get in the way with regulations, energy experts said. But Obama pushed through 2009's stimulus package that goosed spending and research in renewables, like solar, wind and hydro. His administration also increased fuel mileage requirements for cars and trucks and ratcheted up appliance and building energy efficiency standards.

"His war is against fossil fuels, and natural gas is a fossil fuel," said Sen. Jim Inhofe, R-Okla., the Senate's most prominent climate change doubter. "You can't separate that out and say it's somehow different than other fossil fuels. It's not."

Natural gas is a "bridge fuel" from coal, which spews about twice as much heat-trapping carbon dioxide, but America still needs to wean itself from that fossil fuel too, said Granger Morgan, Carnegie Mellon University engineering and public policy professor.

And there are some downsides to these significant changes — like higher power bills in a few places — said Jeff Holmstead, a Bush-era environmental official who lobbies for utilities that depend on coal. "It's a shame that we've shut down a lot of plants that were continuing to provide low-cost power," Holmstead said.

The change in America's energy supply is still too slow and pollution cuts are not enough to prevent dangerous global warming, Morgan said, adding "but it's certainly better than the alternative, which is continuing to sail on as if we weren't heading into the big storm."

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, Sept. 5, the 249th day of 2016. There are 117 days left in the year. This is Labor Day. Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 5, 1882, the nation's first Labor Day was celebrated with a parade in New York. (Although Labor Day now takes place on the first Monday of September, this initial celebration occurred on a Tuesday.)

On this date:

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In 1774, the first Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia.

In 1836, Sam Houston was elected president of the Republic of Texas.

In 1914, the First Battle of the Marne, resulting in a French-British victory over Germany, began during World War I.

In 1939, four days after war had broken out in Europe, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued a proclamation declaring U.S. neutrality in the conflict.

In 1945, Japanese-American Iva Toguri D'Aquino, suspected of being wartime broadcaster "Tokyo Rose," was arrested in Yokohama. (D'Aquino was later convicted of treason and served six years in prison; she was pardoned in 1977 by President Gerald R. Ford.)

In 1957, the novel "On the Road," by Jack Kerouac, was first published by Viking Press.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed legislation making aircraft hijackings a federal crime.

In 1972, the Palestinian group Black September attacked the Israeli Olympic delegation at the Munich Games; 11 Israelis, five guerrillas and a police officer were killed in the resulting siege.

In 1975, President Gerald R. Ford escaped an attempt on his life by Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme, a disciple of Charles Manson, in Sacramento, California.

In 1986, four hijackers who had seized a Pan Am jumbo jet on the ground in Karachi, Pakistan, opened fire when the lights inside the plane failed; a total of 20 people were killed before Pakistani commandos stormed the jetliner.

In 1991, the 35th annual Naval Aviation Symposium held by the Tailhook Association opened in Las Vegas; during the four-day gathering, there were reports that dozens of people, most of them women, were sexually assaulted or otherwise harassed. (The episode triggered the resignation of Navy Secretary H. Lawrence Garrett and the early retirement of Adm. Frank B. Kelso, then the chief of naval operations.)

In 1996, Hurricane Fran reached Cape Fear, North Carolina, hours before barreling ashore. (The National Weather Service says 26 deaths were caused by Fran, 14 of them in North Carolina.)

Ten years ago: A cook was charged with shooting and dismembering the owner of a Maine bedand-breakfast and three other people in a Labor Day weekend rampage (Christian Nielsen was later sentenced to life in prison). Felipe Calderon was declared Mexico's president-elect after two months of uncertainty over a disputed election. Boeing executive Alan Mulally was named president and CEO of Ford Motor Co., succeeding Bill Ford, the great-grandson of founder Henry Ford. Katie Couric began a five-year run as principal anchor of "The CBS Evening News."

Five years ago: President Barack Obama used a boisterous Labor Day rally in Detroit to put congressional Republicans on the spot, challenging them to place the country's interests above all else and vote to create jobs and put the economy back on a path toward growth. The prosecution's first witness in the trial of ousted Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Gen. Hussein Moussa, startled the court by testifying that police had not been ordered to fire on protesters in Cairo's Tahrir Square, contradicting prosecutors' central claim.

One year ago: Germans waving welcome signs in German, English and Arabic gathered at a train station to welcome the first group of a wave of migrants fleeing conflict in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Africa. Actress Setsuko Hara, 95, star of director Yasujiro Ozu's "Tokyo Story" and many other Japanese classics, died in Kamakura.

Today's Birthdays: Former Federal Reserve Board chairman Paul A. Volcker is 89. Comedian-actor Bob Newhart is 87. Actress-singer Carol Lawrence is 84. Actor William Devane is 77. Actor George Lazenby is 77. Actress Raquel Welch is 76. Movie director Werner Herzog is 74. Singer Al Stewart is 71. Actor-director Dennis Dugan is 70. College Football Hall of Famer Jerry LeVias is 70. Singer Loudon Wainwright

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III is 70. "Cathy" cartoonist Cathy Guisewite (GYZ'-wyt) is 66. Actor Michael Keaton is 65. Country musician Jamie Oldaker (The Tractors) is 65. Actress Debbie Turner-Larson (Marta in "The Sound of Music") is 60. Actress Kristian Alfonso is 53. Rhythm-and-blues singer Terry Ellis is 53. Rock musician Brad Wilk is 48. TV personality Dweezil Zappa is 47. Actress Rose McGowan is 43. Actress Carice Van Houten is 40. Actor Andrew Ducote is 30. Actress Kat Graham is 30. Olympic gold medal figure skater Kim Yu-na is 26. Actor Skandar Keynes is 25.

Thought for Today: "İdeas are one thing, and what happens is another." — John Cage, American avant-garde composer (born this date in 1912, died in 1992).