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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

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. 12

Chocolate Milk Shake Day

National Video Games Day

School Breakfast: Breakfast bagel, fruit, juice or milk.

School Lunch: Super nachos, sweet tots, romaine salad, fruit.

Senior Menu: Meatloaf, baked potato with sour cream, creamed peas, fruited Jell-O, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: • Cliff Pray • Doug Krueger • Tomas Yarborough • Alexa Nilsson • Craig Harms • Jared Poppen

6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study

4:00pm: Cross Country at Webster Golf Course

4:30pm: JV FB hosts Redfield-Doland

5:30pm: JH VB host Ipswich - 2 courts

7:00pm: School Board Meeting

Tuesday, Sept. 13

Defy Superstition Day, Fortune Cookie Day, National Peanut Day, Positive Thinking Day, Uncle Sam Day

School Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, yogurt, fruit, juice or milk.

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

Senior Menu: Tater tot hot dish, green beans, grape juice, sour cream apple pie square, whole wheat bread.

Birthdays: • Richard Krueger • Tami Zimney • Toby Doeden • Patty Tastad

10:00am: Boys golf at Redfield

10:00am: UMW Bible Study

Noon: Bridge Party at Olive Grove

4:00pm: Boys Soccer hosts Mitchell Christian

5:00pm: VB: at Mobridge-Pollock (C/JV at 5:00 p.m., Varsity to follow)



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**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**



**Larry Zimmerman
Secretary**

It's All About Where to Shop for Veterans!

Someone once said, "If men liked shopping, they'd call it research!" I don't like shopping, never have and never will. It frustrates me when you walk in the stores in August and they are already pulling the "back to school supplies" and stocking shelves with Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas supplies and decorations.

In South Dakota we are fortunate to have a great store that veterans can shop at year around! It's called the South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs and we have some great partners that run the store front. They are the county and tribal veterans service officers.

Although each of their facades are different, their design and their workmanship are the same. A full list of these storefronts can be found at: <http://vetaffairs.sd.gov/veteransserviceofficers/locatevso.aspx>.

Walking into their storefronts, veterans will be able to do some window shopping for benefits they might qualify for. The aisles of benefits and services are endless, but some of the important ones are: healthcare benefits, veteran's preference, compensation, pension, veteran's bonus, GI Bill apprenticeship, on-the-job training, environmental hazards, and awards and medals.

It's a store veterans should continue to shop at and the best part is there is no charge!

No matter how complicated war might be, it always comes down to the ones who shoot, move, and communicate. And our country's military has left a legacy like no other fighting force ever assembled. The uniform they wear, and the flag they carry, are held in esteem wherever they have served. Every man and woman who wears America's uniform is part of a long, unbroken line of achievement and honor and they have earned the right to shop for the benefits and services that are provided.

They are America's veterans and they are still the pride of our nation. They have fought our wars, defended our shores and kept us free.

Larry Zimmerman, Secretary
South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs

2016 Groton Area Elementary

Preschool Developmental Screening for 3 year olds

September 19 and 22

Parents of children age 3 in the Groton Area School District are asked to contact Heidi Krueger at the Groton Area Elementary School during school hours at 397-2317 to either confirm their screening time or set up a time. Letters will be send out the week of September 6. If your child is already receiving services or enrolled at Groton Elementary School they will not need to be screened. If your child has already been screened but you have concerns please contact the elementary school.

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

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Groton wins Golf Invitational

The Groton Invitational Golf Meet was held Saturday at the Olive Grove Golf Course. Sean Schuring was the high placer for Groton Area with a fourth place finish after shooting an 84. Cade Guthmiller was next in fifth place with an 84. Trevor Pray was seventh with an 85 and Landon Marzahn was 10th with an 87. Other's playing golf for Groton Area were Hunter Schaller with an 88 and Hunter Kassube and Shane Simon each shot a 114.

Groton won the team title with 340 points followed by Milbank with 368, Mobridge/Pollock with 394 and Redfield/Doland with 413. Other teams participating were Sisseton, Roncalli and Aberdeen Central JV.

Annual Mosquito Control Conference October 12

PIERRE, S.D. – Local mosquito control programs are invited to attend this year's West Nile Virus and Mosquito Control Conference, Oct. 12 in Aberdeen at the Civic Arena, 203 S. Washington St. The conference is open to anyone involved in mosquito control at the city, tribe or county level.

The conference will cover topics ranging from the South Dakota Mosquito Information System to an update on the mosquito-borne viruses of West Nile, Zika and chikungunya. The agenda will also include field demonstrations of mosquito trapping techniques, larviciding calibrations and drones.

Keynote speaker for this year's conference is Joseph M. Conlon who was commissioned as a Navy medical entomologist in 1981. During his naval career he conducted vector control operations and consultations in 37 different countries worldwide. He retired from the U.S. Navy in 2000 and now serves as the technical advisor for the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA). As technical advisor, Mr. Conlon is responsible for drafting and submitting AMCA regulatory policy documents to local, state and national agencies, including EPA, USDA and USFWS and is a member of EPA's Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee. He is also a past president of the Virginia Mosquito Control Association and the Mid-American Mosquito Control Association. Conlon regularly appears on national news programs as a scientific expert on Zika-carrying mosquitoes in Florida.

Registration information for the conference can be found at doh.sd.gov/calendar/. There is no registration fee.

Preventing and controlling infectious disease is one objective of the Department of Health's 2015-2020 strategic plan, <http://doh.sd.gov/strategicplan>.



Please join us for an
Open House Celebration
in honor of
NANCY LARSEN
as she retires after 47
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Refreshments Served



Dacotah Prairie Museum's

Living History Fall Festival

Saturday, September 24, 2016

11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Granary Rural Cultural Center

40161 128th St., Groton, SD

See The Past Come Alive!

THE SIGHTS, SOUNDS & TASTES OF HISTORY...

Live Music • Dacotah Territory Muzzleloaders • Spelling Bee for Kids at 1 p.m.
Prairie Fiber Arts Guild • Native American Culture • Prairie Flora & Fauna • Apple Press
Fort Sisseton History • Pioneer Home Life • One Room School • Museum Gift Shop
Old Fashioned Entertainment • Pie Social 1 - 4 p.m. • Kid's Activities & Much More!

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Sponsored by Dacotah Prairie Museum

www.dacotahpraiiemuseum.com
Granary Website: granaryfinearts.org





Cost of Regulations Impacts South Dakota Landowners

As Chairman of the Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Management and Regulatory Oversight, my job is to over-

see federal agencies that promulgate some of the most egregious and harmful regulations. With more than 1 million regulations on the books today and a president who has issued more regulations than any previous administration, our subcommittee has highlighted the impact these regulations are having on everyday Americans.

Recently, I chaired a field hearing in Rapid City which focused on how regulations coming from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) are affecting private citizens' ability to utilize and develop their land. During the hearing, we found that these agencies are not necessarily communicating with the public when they decide to issue new regulations, nor are they taking public comments into account when drafting new rules.

At our field hearing, we heard from several witnesses about the difficulty and confusion landowners may face in complying with the Waters of the U.S. rule (WOTUS). In 2015, the EPA moved forward with finalizing WOTUS, which would greatly expand the definition of a 'navigable waterway' under the Clean Water Act, giving the EPA unprecedented authority over significant inland water bodies not currently subject to EPA jurisdiction. This rule creates significant hurdles to normal agricultural operations, yet the EPA appears to have ignored concerns of farmers, ranchers, agriculture groups, the Small Business Administration and numerous state governors and attorneys general who oppose it.

Although the Sixth Circuit Court issued a nationwide stay on the rule, we have heard evidence that the U.S. Army Corps may be moving forward with implementing WOTUS. However, the U.S. court system should not be the primary backstop against overly-burdensome rules. If the EPA works more closely with landowners, states and agriculture groups throughout the rulemaking process, the end result would be better regulations that minimize the impact and costs on private landowners and American businesses.

We also heard from FWS on the Endangered Species Act during our field hearing. There are currently 1,226 species listed as endangered and 367 listed as threatened in the United States under the Endangered Species Act, and approximately half of the listed species have 80 percent of their habitat on private land. While the FWS attempts to work with landowners to encourage voluntary species management and conservation, the Endangered Species Act continues to impede landowners' abilities to utilize and develop their land by imposing significant restrictions on what landowners can do on their own property.

Make no mistake, I understand that rules and regulations have a place in society. My concern lies with overbearing, burdensome rules and regulations that are promulgated by unelected bureaucrats who fail to fully consider local impacts before enacting rules. Each year, Americans pay nearly \$1.9 trillion to comply with regulations, far more than the \$1.4 trillion we pay in individual income taxes on April 15. As we heard during the field hearing in Rapid City, the high cost of complying with these regulations is hurting our economy and limiting the productivity of our farmers, ranchers and landowners who make a living on the land. I will continue working in my oversight capacity to identify and mitigate the negative effects of overly-burdensome regulations on our ag community.

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Today in Weather History

September 12, 1931: On this day in 1931, near record or record heat came to an end across central and northeast South Dakota as well as west central Minnesota. From September 9th through the 12th, many record highs were set at Aberdeen, Kennebec, Mobridge, Timber Lake, Watertown, and Wheaton. High temperatures during this four-day period ranged from 95 degrees to 109 degrees. Aberdeen rose to 107 degrees on the 10th, Kennebec rose to 109 on the 9th, Mobridge rose to 105 on the 9th, Timber Lake's high was 106 on the 9th, Watertown rose to 104 on the 10th, and Wheaton rose to 108 degrees on the 10th.

1950: A hailstorm struck southern parts of Oklahoma City on this day. The storm damaged about 4,000 homes, 300 businesses, and 750 cars, resulting in a loss estimated at \$987,000.

1961: Super Typhoon Nancy was an incredibly powerful tropical cyclone of the 1961 Pacific typhoon season. The system had possibly the strongest winds ever measured in a tropical cyclone and caused extensive damage and at least 173 deaths and thousands of injuries in Japan and elsewhere. A reconnaissance aircraft flying into the typhoon near its peak intensity on September 12 determined Nancy's one-minute sustained winds to be 215 mph. If these values are reliable, they would be the highest wind speeds ever measured in a tropical cyclone. However, it was later determined that measurements and estimations of wind speeds from the 1940s to 1960s were excessive. Thus, Nancy's winds may be lower than its official best-track value.

1988: An afternoon F1 tornado skipped across the northern sections of Indianapolis, Indiana, damaging roofs and automobiles.

1999: Hurricane Floyd, a Category 4 storm with top winds of 145 mph, was making residents along the U.S. East Coast very nervous as it steamed steadily westward. Floyd was once forecast to strike Florida but turned away. Instead, Floyd hit the Bahamas at peak strength, causing heavy damage. It then paralleled the East Coast of the United States, causing massive evacuations and costly preparations from Florida through the Mid-Atlantic States.

1882 - Hot and dry winds caused tree foliage in eastern Kansas to wither and crumble. (David Ludlum)

1977 - Thunderstorms deluged the Kansas City area with torrential rains in the early morning hours, and then again that evening. Some places were deluged with more than six inches of rain twice that day, with up to 18 inches of rain reported at Independence MO. Flooding claimed the lives of 25 persons. The Country Club Plaza area was hardest hit. 2000 vehicles had to be towed following the storm, 150 of which had to be pulled out of Brush Creek, which runs through the Plaza area. (The Kansas City Weather Almanac)








1979 - Hurricane Frederick smashed into the Mobile Bay area of Alabama packing 132 mph winds. Winds gusts to 145 mph were reported as the eye of the hurricane moved over Dauphin Island AL, just west of Mobile. Frederick produced a fifteen foot storm surge near the mouth of Mobile Bay. The hurricane was the costliest in U.S. history causing 2.3 billion dollars damage. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Showers and thunderstorms produced heavy rain which caused flooding in North Carolina, West Virginia, Virginia and Pennsylvania. Parts of Virginia received 3 to 4 inches of rain in just two hours early in the day. Later in the day, three to five inch rains deluged Cumberland County of south central Pennsylvania. Evening thunderstorms produced seven inches of rain at Marysville PA, most of which fell in three hours time. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

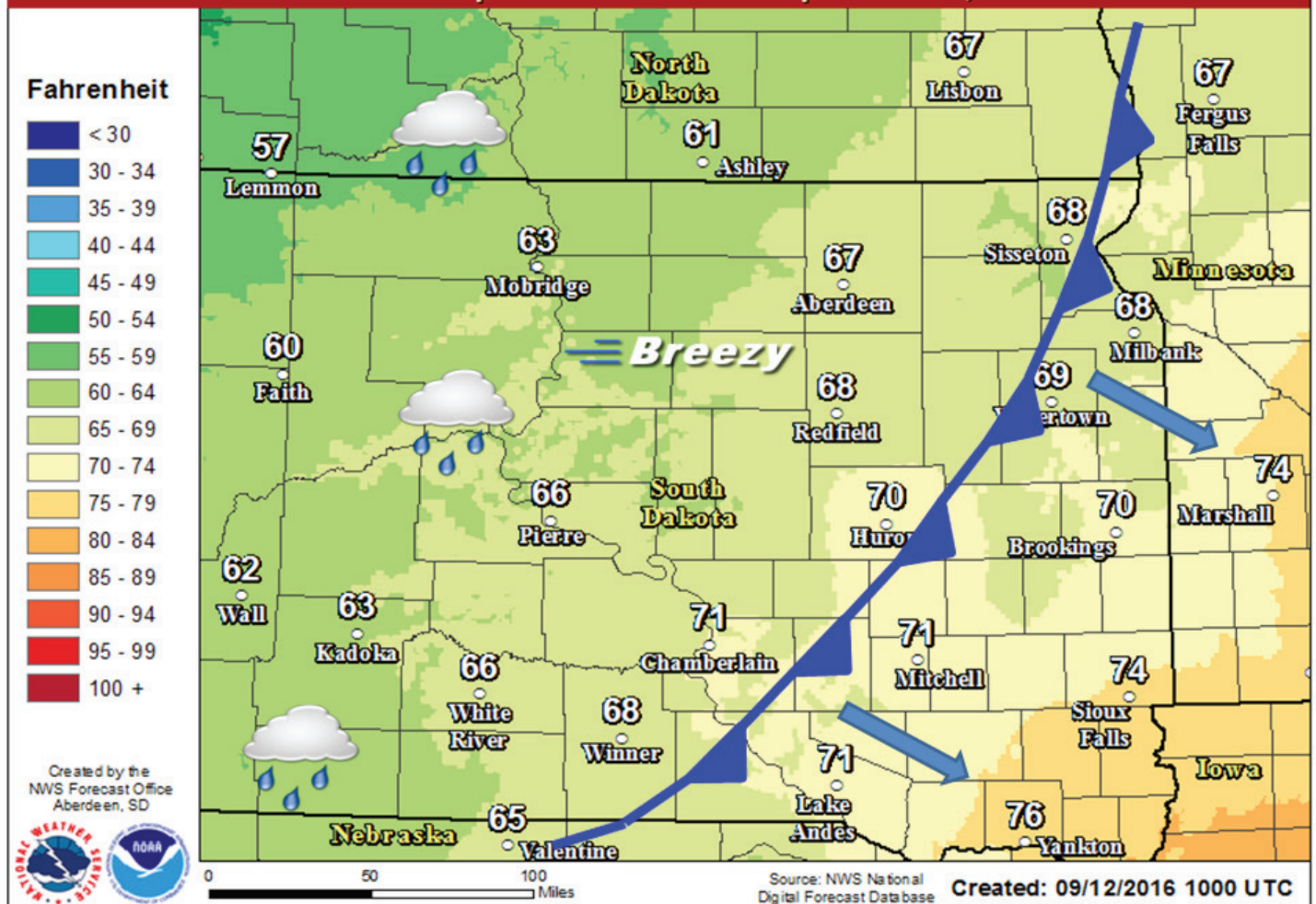
1988 - An afternoon tornado spawned a tornado which skipped across northern sections of Indianapolis IN damaging roofs and automobiles. It was the first tornado in central Indiana in September in nearly forty years of records. Hurricane Gilbert plowed across the island of Jamaica, and by the end of the day was headed for the Cayman Islands, packing winds of 125 mph. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday
						
Scattered Sprinkles and Breezy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Partly Cloudy then Slight Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms
High: 67 °F	Low: 46 °F	High: 60 °F	Low: 37 °F	High: 69 °F	Low: 53 °F	High: 71 °F

Maximum Temperature Forecast - September 12, 2016



Published on: 09/12/2016 at 6:29AM

A cold front will continue to move southeast over the region today, with cooler temperatures and gusty winds behind it. Isolated to scattered sprinkles/showers are also possible, especially over western South Dakota.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 83.4

Low Outside Temp: 54.1

High Gust: 19.0 Mph

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 97° in 1931

Record Low: 24° in 1902

Average High: 74°F

Average Low: 47°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 0.91

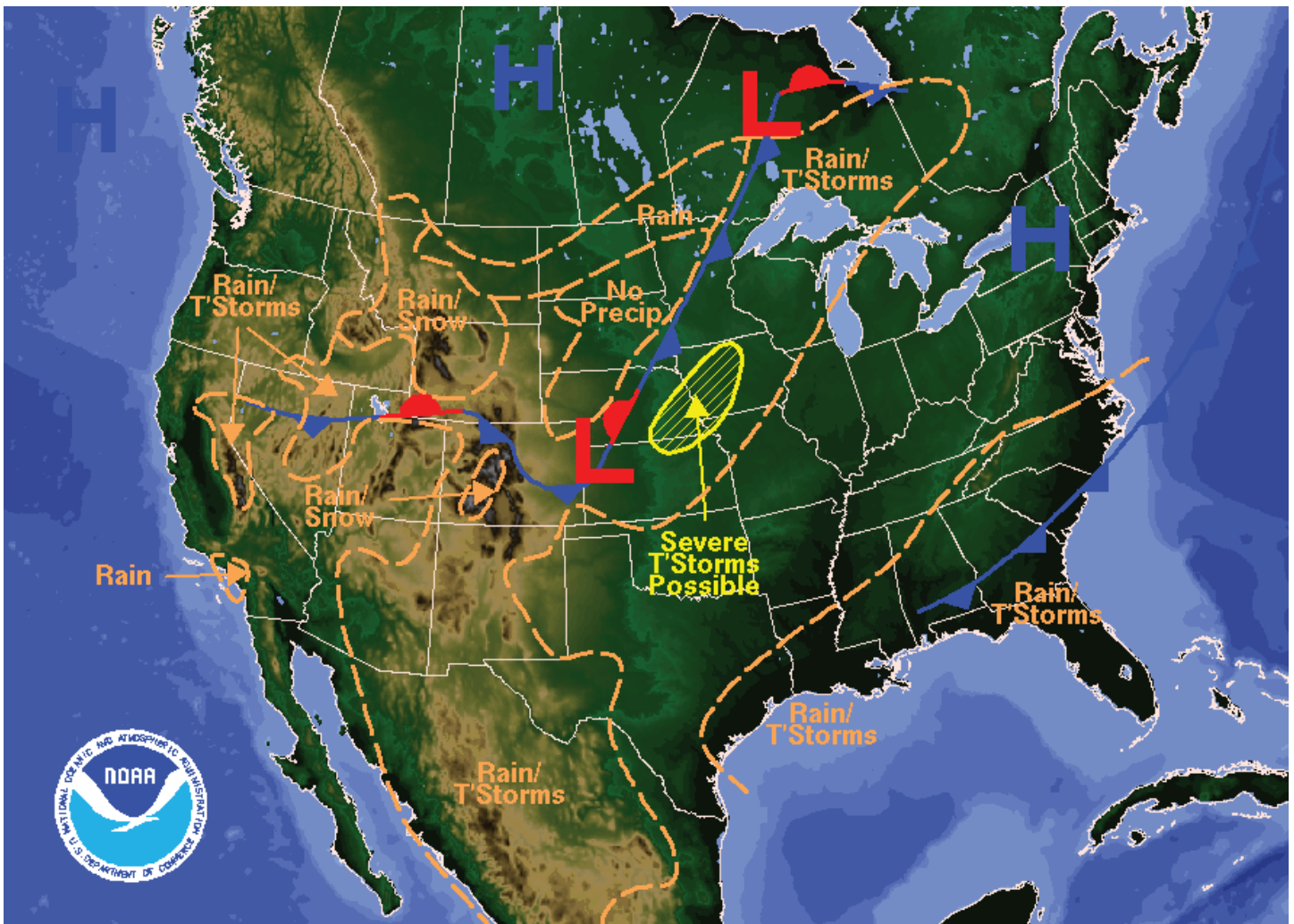
Precip to date in Sept.: 0.19

Average Precip to date: 17.20

Precip Year to Date: 12.85

Sunset Tonight: 7:49 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:10 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, Sep 12, 2016, issued 4:44 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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IT'S A CHARLIE BROWN BASEBALL TEAM

Lucy and Linus were talking to their coach, Charlie Brown, at home plate. Kicking the dirt in disgust, Charlie Brown said, "Our team is no good. We have lost every game. There is nothing good about our team!"

"But," protested Lucy, "Schroder almost hit a home run. And we almost won a couple of games. Once we almost made a double play. Don't forget that you almost made it to first base before the ball, once."

"If it's any consolation, Charlie Brown," interrupted Linus, "we did lead the league in almos^ts."

"Almos^ts" are part of everyone's life. Some "almos^ts" work to our advantage. For example, there are times when we almost slipped and fell. Or, we almost had an accident while driving home after a difficult day at work. Then there might have been occasions when we almost got that promotion at work. "Almos^t" is "very nearly" but "not quite." So the almos^ts are the same as it never really happened at all.

On one occasion Paul was witnessing to King Agrippa. He appealed to the facts of Scripture in his conversation with the king and said, "I know these facts are not hidden from you and that you do believe them!"

But sadly the king replied, "Paul, you almost persuaded me to become a Christian."

Prayer: We pray today, Father, for those who might almost be convinced to become a Christian. We ask for Your grace to work in them through the Holy Spirit. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Acts 26 Then Agrippa said to Paul, "Do you think that in such a short time you can persuade me to be a Christian?"



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News from the Associated Press

Daugaard accepting nominations for Rapid City district

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard is accepting nominations from the public to fill a vacancy in the state House, following the death of a lawmaker.

Daugaard will appoint the person who will finish the term of Rep. Dan Dryden, who died Aug. 30. Daugaard's appointee would serve until January 2017.

Dryden represented District 34, which encompasses a portion of Rapid City that includes sites such as Camp Rapid, Canyon Lake and Sioux San Hospital.

Dryden was up for re-election this fall and his name will remain on the November ballot. If he is re-elected, it will create a vacancy for the term beginning in January 2017, which would also be filled by gubernatorial appointment.

Daugaard's office says the governor would plan to appoint the same person for both vacancies.

Authorities ID man killed in pickup rollover near Milbank

MILBANK, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have released the name of a 45-year-old man killed in a pickup crash in northeastern South Dakota.

The South Dakota Department of Public Safety identifies the victim as Charles Korstjens of Big Stone City.

Authorities say Korstjens was driving his Chevy Silverado near Milbank in Grant County early Saturday when he lost control and rolled several times.

Korstjens was not wearing a seat belt and was thrown from the vehicle. He died at a hospital in Milbank.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol is investigating.

Dakota flute-maker, player earns nation's highest folk honor

REGINA GARCIA CANO, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — There was a time when Bryan Akipa knew nothing of flutes. But that was long ago, before the budding artist stumbled across a wooden mallard-head flute in the studio of his mentor, sparking a fascination that led to a career in both making and playing the distinctive Dakota flutes.

Now Akipa, a member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Tribe, is a recipient of the nation's highest honor in the folk and traditional arts, the National Heritage Fellowship, which is awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts. Akipa, who will be recognized later this month during a ceremony in Washington, told The Associated Press that he had to read up about the award when he got the surprise call notifying him he had earned it.

"On Facebook, my daughter put it on her page, and I think she got the most likes. I put it on mine, but I got a few likes," Akipa said. "Everyone congratulating me is really special, especially since it's for the traditional flute."

Akipa, 59, carved his first flute in 1975 from red cedar using a pocketknife, without knowing that it would lead to a career in music. After taking a break to serve in the Army and to finish college, Akipa became a teacher and began playing the flute for his students, as well as in different venues during the summer as a way to supplement his income. He produced his first CD in 1993, and he has since earned

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a Grammy nomination and won several Native American Music Awards.

Akipa stressed that every flute he sells is made entirely by hand. He said he sometimes even travels from his northeastern South Dakota community of Sisseton to northern Minnesota in search of wood.

"I've never mass-produced them," said Akipa, who doesn't track the number of flutes he has carved. "There are flute-makers that could make 2,000 flutes a year. They have laser technology (and) computers; they don't even touch the wood."

Russell Eagle Bear, a historic preservation officer for the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, said the flutes were traditionally used in courting and social gatherings. He said the art of flute-making was kept alive by only a few people for several years, but that it has had a comeback over the past three decades.

Akipa has taught flute-making classes in an effort to keep the tradition alive. He said he plans to use the \$25,000 that comes with the fellowship to boost his career, which he had to pause to care for relatives. He wants to buy recording software and a new microphone to release a couple more albums.

South Dakota's U.S. Sen. John Thune, who broke the good news to Akipa, said the artist's talent and dedication to his work, as well as the historical and cultural significance it represents, "gives South Dakotans, especially members of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, a lot for which we can be proud."

"With this honor, which has only been given to 404 individuals or groups since it was created more than 30 years ago, he'll receive the national recognition he deserves and join the ranks of past recipients like B.B. King and Bill Monroe, just to name a few," Thune said.

Upcoming market to feature variety of Native American art

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — An art market coming to South Dakota this month will feature the work of several Native Americans artists from the Northern Plains.

The 29th edition of the annual Northern Plains Indian Art Market is scheduled to begin Saturday in Sioux Falls. The two-day event will feature traditional and contemporary arts.

Northern Arapaho artist Jackie Sevier says the art market is "rich in tradition and ceremony." She says it gives artists a chance to share their culture and inspirations with the community and art collectors who travel to Sioux Falls.

The art market is open to the public. It will be hosted at the Ramkota Hotel this year.

Fire at mosque attended by nightclub shooter investigated

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (AP) — Authorities in Florida are investigating a fire at a mosque that was attended by the gunman in the deadly Orlando nightclub shooting.

Maj. David Thompson of the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office told a news conference officials received a report around 12:30 a.m. Monday about a fire at the Islamic Center of Fort Pierce. Firefighters extinguished the fire.

The mosque was attended by Omar Mateen, who opened fire at the Pulse nightclub on June 12 in a rampage that left 49 victims dead and 53 wounded. It was the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

Thompson says it's too early to tell if the fire was an accident or was intentionally set. He also declined to speculate on whether the Sunday anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks played a role in the fire.

10 Things to Know for Today

The Associated Press

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

1. PNEUMONIA DIAGNOSIS FUELS QUESTIONS ABOUT CLINTON'S HEALTH

For weeks, the Democratic presidential candidate dismissed questions about her health as little more than a conspiracy theory. Those concerns are unavoidable now.

2. SYRIA CEASE-FIRE A POSSIBLE INFLECTION POINT AMID DOUBTS

Brokered by the U.S. and Russia, the truce has received mixed messages of commitment from various rebel factions on the ground but with verbal backing by Assad's government.

3. WHAT SEOUL SAYS PYONGYANG IS CAPABLE OF

North Korea has the capability to detonate another nuclear device anytime at one of its unused tunnels at the country's main atomic test site.

4. OBAMA TO HOST CAPITOL HILL LEADERSHIP

The U.S. president's meeting with congressional leaders comes as lawmakers face a month's-end deadline to fund the government or face a shutdown.

5. WHO IS CRUSADING AGAINST BIG FOOD

None other than Big Food and it's resonating as food has become a major political and social issue.

6. US FAMILIES SPEND MORE ON CHILD CARE FOR TWO KIDS THAN ON HOUSING

And if you're a woman, it's likely you earn less than your male colleagues even though 1 in 4 households with kids relies on mom as the sole or primary breadwinner.

7. SURGE IN ER VISITS FOR INJURIES, CONCUSSIONS FROM SOCCER

Injuries on the pitch have sent soaring numbers of U.S. kids to emergency rooms, a trend driven partly by young players with concussions, a study finds.

8. ECONOMISTS: GROWTH EXPECTED, BUT CONCERNS REMAIN

Experts point to lower expectations for business investment and worries about the outcome of November's U.S. presidential election.

9. NEW MISS AMERICA HAS ADVICE FOR TRUMP, CLINTON

Savvy Shields of Arkansas says: "I hope that at the end of my year (with the crown), we're starting to reward politicians for compromise."

10. NO BRADY, NO PROBLEM FOR PATRIOTS

In his first NFL start, Jimmy Garoppolo completes 24 of 33 passes for 264 yards and a touchdown and New England beats Arizona 23-21.

Driver killed, 18 hurt in Denver airport school bus crash

DENVER (AP) — A school bus carrying high school football players veered off a roadway and slammed into a concrete pillar at Denver International Airport, killing the driver and injuring 18 passengers, some seriously, officials said.

The bus had just picked up arriving members of the Legacy High School football squad Sunday afternoon and was circling back to the airport when it crashed. Airport spokeswoman Stacey Stegman told the Denver Post that the bus carried 28 students and four adults.

The female driver died at the scene, police spokesman John White said. Ten people were hospitalized and eight others treated and released, officials said. The Post reported that the injured were 15 students and three coaches from the suburban Denver school.

Officials at Denver Health told KUSA TV station that they had five patients: two in critical condition, two in serious condition and one fair. The Post reported that five patients in fair condition were treated

at Children's Hospital Colorado.

Police have not released any information on the cause of the crash, which occurred at 4:08 p.m., and White said they don't know why the driver was returning to the airport after picking up the team.

The driver's name and age have not been released.

Uninjured students gathered with parents inside the airport, the Post reported. Police interviewed the football players about the crash.

Legacy High School is in Broomfield, Colorado, and is part of Adams 12 Five Star Schools. The Post reports that the football team from Legacy played Chino High School on Friday night in California.

School officials told the newspaper that some of this week's homecoming events were being postponed, including a "Powderpuff" football game that was planned for Monday evening. A crisis team will be at the school Monday to help students.

The Adams 12 Five Star schools is a public district that serves suburbs north of Denver, including Broomfield, Federal Heights, Northglenn, Thornton and Westminster.

What we learned at US Open: Wawrinka can pursue career Slam **HOWARD FENDRICH, AP Tennis Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — Stan Wawrinka was about 2 1/2 hours removed from winning the U.S. Open for his third major championship when he was presented with a question he probably was figuring would be coming.

The gist: After adding this trophy to those from the Australian Open in 2014, and the French Open in 2015, is it time to focus on completing a career Grand Slam by winning Wimbledon in 2017?

Wawrinka ran his left hand through his hair, rubbed his eyes and smiled.

"So what? Are you saying next year I focus only on Wimbledon? There is no plan. The only plan is trying to push myself the maximum to be the best player I can," Wawrinka said Sunday night. "I'm not good enough to start and say, 'OK, I'm going to win a Grand Slam this year.' No."

Well, actually, Stan, you sure seem to be at this point. And that 6-7 (1), 6-4, 7-5, 6-3 victory over No. 1-ranked and defending champion Novak Djokovic in the U.S. Open final on Sunday night was only the latest evidence.

Wawrinka might have won a French Open junior title as a teenager, but it sure took him a while to show that sort of talent at the elite level. So long in the shadow of his Swiss countryman and close friend Roger Federer, Wawrinka did not reach a Grand Slam semifinal until age 28, in his 35th appearance at one of his sport's four most prestigious events.

Now, though, Wawrinka has won three majors over the past three seasons, pulling even with Andy Murray. Since the 2005 French Open, Federer, Djokovic and Rafael Nadal have won 39 of 47 Grand Slam trophies. Only Wawrinka and Murray also have multiple titles in that span.

So it's clear that the third-ranked Wawrinka now must be seen among the cream of the crop in men's tennis and a threat at all big tournaments moving forward. He is, after all, 3-0 in major finals, and has won 11 consecutive finals overall.

"He hits a very heavy ball, especially from the backhand corner. Forehand is very flat. You know, he goes for his shots from the forehand side. Backhand, you know, great chip, great slice. He uses that when he's defending and then he comes up and can get you off the court with a backhand crosscourt. That's probably one of the best shots in the game," Djokovic said. "Physically, he's very strong, so he can endure a lot."

Wawrinka has never made it past the quarterfinals at Wimbledon, and lost in the second round there this year to the resurgent Juan Martin del Potro.

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So what about Wimbledon? What might he be able to do there? He added 1996 champion Richard Krajicek as a coaching consultant on grass this season to help with volleying, so he is definitely interested in improving at the All England Club.

"I'm trying. I'm trying every year to improve. I'm trying every year to find solutions," Wawrinka said. "I didn't play my best tennis yet there. Hopefully it will come."

Here is what else we learned during the 2016 U.S. Open:

KERBER IS NO. 1: It becomes official on Monday when the new WTA rankings are released, but Angelique Kerber clinched her debut at No. 1 after the U.S. Open semifinals, then showed it's definitely justified by winning her second Grand Slam title of the season. The 28-year-old German had never been so much as a finalist at a major until this season, but made three such runs, winning the Australian Open and finishing as the runner-up at Wimbledon, before dropping only one set at Flushing Meadows. Once known mainly as a counter-puncher, Kerber has become more aggressive during points, became more dedicated to raising her fitness, and worked with a mental coach to rise to the top. At 28, she is the oldest woman to reach No. 1, but her skills and stamina could keep her in the mix for a while.

SERENA WILLIAMS: There was a lot of speculation about whether there is a changing of the guard in women's tennis, now that Serena Williams' record-tying 186-week streak at No. 1 is over after a semifinal loss to Karolina Pliskova. Williams turns 35 this month, so some are ready to write her off. Not so fast. Don't forget that she has fared no worse than the semifinals at each of the past nine majors, including a Wimbledon title and two runner-up finishes this year.

FEDERER AND NADAL: After ruling tennis for so long, Federer and Nadal didn't win a major title in 2015 or 2016, and neither was a factor at Flushing Meadows (Nadal lost in the fourth round; Federer missed the tournament while he rehabs his surgically repaired left knee). Federer is 35; Nadal is 30 and injured more often than not lately.

Russia-US-brokered Syria cease-fire to start at sunset

PHILIP ISSA, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — A cease-fire brokered by the United States and Russia is set to begin at sunset on Monday in Syria amid mixed messages of commitment from various rebel factions but with verbal backing by President Bashar Assad's government.

In a stark message to opponents, Assad made a rare public appearance Monday by attending prayers for the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha at a mosque in the Damascus suburb of Daraya.

The suburb, previously held by the rebels, surrendered last month and reverted to Damascus' control after four years of government siege.

The cease-fire deal, hammered out between U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov in Geneva on Saturday, allows the Syrian government to continue to strike at the Islamic State group and al-Qaida-linked militants with the Jabhat Fatah al-Sham group, earlier known as the Nusra Front, until the U.S. and Russia take over the task in one week's time.

Rebel factions have expressed deep reservations about the deal.

Under the terms of the agreement, the rebels and the Syrian government are expected to stop attacking one another. Along with Assad's government, his key allies — Russia, Iran and the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah — have also endorsed the deal.

But that scenario is complicated by the fact that Jabhat Fatah al-Sham remains intertwined with several other groups fighting on the ground.

One of the more immediate goals of the Kerry-Lavrov agreement is to allow the U.N. to establish aid corridors into Aleppo, the contested northern Syrian city. Over 2,000 people have been killed in fighting

over the past 40 days in the city, including 700 civilians and 160 children, according to a Syrian human rights group.

On Saturday, presumed Russian or government airstrikes on rebel-held Idlib and Aleppo provinces killed over 90 civilians, including 13 children in an attack on a marketplace in Idlib, according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

In the aftermath, rebels and opposition activists were asking on Sunday whether the government's side could be trusted.

Several previous negotiated cease-fires have all eventually collapsed. A partial "cessation of hostilities" that brought sorely needed relief to civilians in March unraveled as the government continued to strike targets in opposition areas, including near a hospital and school near Damascus and a marketplace in Idlib province, killing dozens of civilians.

Previous cease-fires were also preceded by soaring violence as parties on all sides sought to improve their positions in the build-up.

In Turkey, meanwhile, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan reiterated his earlier calls for establishing a no-fly zone in northern Syria, saying it is essential to boosting security in the area.

Erdogan said he told the leaders of Germany, France, Russia and the U.S. that training and equipping troops on the ground to battle back Islamic State group forces is "not enough" and that a no-fly zone should be the next step.

Speaking after holiday prayers on Monday, Erdogan said Turkey remains resolute in eliminating the threat posed by the Islamic State group at its borders and has made that clear to world leaders.

Turkey launched an incursion into northern Syria in late August, driving IS away from the border and also seeking to counter the advance of U.S.-backed Kurdish forces, which Ankara views with suspicion.

Pneumonia diagnosis fuels questions about Clinton's health

LISA LERER, Associated Press

JULIE PACE, Associated Press

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — For weeks, Hillary Clinton dismissed questions about her health as little more than a conspiracy theory, part of a "wacky strategy" cooked up by rival Donald Trump as he embraced an "alternative reality."

Those concerns are now unavoidable, made real by Clinton's abrupt departure Sunday from a 9/11 anniversary ceremony and a video showing the Democratic nominee staggering and eventually slumping forward before being held up by three people as she was helped into a van.

The damage was compounded by the nearly eight hours of silence from Clinton and her team about the health scare, as well as the Sunday evening disclosure she had been diagnosed on Friday with pneumonia.

Clinton's doctor said the 68-year-old former secretary of state "became overheated and dehydrated" at the 9/11 ceremony at ground zero. After an exam at her home in suburban New York, said Dr. Lisa R. Bardack, Clinton "is now rehydrated and recovering nicely."

But less than two months from Election Day, it was a problematic visual for Clinton as she tries to project the strength and vigor needed for one of the world's most demanding jobs. Late Sunday night, she called off plans to travel to California for two days of fundraising, campaign events and an appearance on Ellen DeGeneres' talk show.

No longer can Trump's questions about her physical stamina be summarily dismissed. The episode was also sure to fuel a vocal group of online conspiracy theorists, deemed "healthers" by some Clinton supporters, who frequently point to videos and photos of Clinton as evidence of her poor health.

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Both candidates, who've released limited health records, are likely to now face calls to release more detailed information about their physical fitness.

The incident compounds an already difficult time for Clinton as the presidential race enters its final stretch. Despite Trump's numerous missteps, the race remains close and many Americans view Clinton as dishonest and untrustworthy.

On Friday, Clinton told donors that "half" of rival Donald Trump's supporters are in a "basket of deplorables" — a comment that drew sharp criticism from Republicans. Clinton later said she regretted applying that description to "half" of Trump's backers, but stuck by her assertion that the GOP nominee has given a platform to "hateful views and voices."

Clinton's public day began when she arrived at the 9/11 memorial in lower Manhattan. She intended to stay until about 10:30 a.m., but left an hour earlier than planned. She'd spent about 90 minutes standing with other dignitaries in the sun on a warm and humid day.

"Hillary and I chatted for quite a while about our remembrances of 9/11 and our families," said New York Sen. Chuck Schumer. "It was pretty hot out there, but she seemed fine to me, and left on her own accord."

But that departure was not witnessed by the reporters who travel with her campaign. Aides provided no information about why she left or her whereabouts for nearly two hours. Clinton's spokesman Nick Merrill eventually said Clinton had gone to her daughter's nearby apartment, but refused to say whether the former secretary of state had required medical attention.

Clinton exited the apartment on her own shortly before noon, wearing sunglasses and carrying a handbag. She waved to reporters and said, "I'm feeling great. It's a beautiful day in New York."

After leaving her daughter's home, Clinton was driven to her home in Chappaqua, New York, though it was unclear if she made a stop along the way. She made no additional public appearances.

Bardack said in the statement released Sunday evening that Clinton has had an allergy-related cough, and that during an exam on Friday, she was diagnosed with pneumonia, put on antibiotics, advised to rest and modify her schedule.

Unlikely previous presidential candidates, both Clinton and Trump have opted not to travel with what's known as the "protective pool" — a small group of journalists that follow the candidate everywhere.

The goal is to keep the public informed about their condition, whereabouts and official interactions at all times. For a president, who always travels with a protective pool, an hours-long gap without knowledge of their whereabouts could spark unrest in the financial markets and international concern.

"Protective pool isn't always easy for either candidate or press but there comes a point for each nominee when it must be part of daily life," former Obama administration White House press secretary Robert Gibbs wrote on Twitter.

Trump, who attended the same event marking the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, was noticeably restrained. Asked by a reporter about Clinton's health incident, the billionaire businessman said: "I don't know anything."

Trump and his supporters have hinted at Clinton's potential health issues for months, questioning her energy when she takes routine days off the campaign trail and reviving questions about a concussion she sustained in December 2012 after fainting. Her doctor attributed that episode to a stomach virus and dehydration.

The secrecy surrounding Clinton's recent health was made all the more notable by doctors who said Sunday that a presidential candidate was an apt candidate for a pneumonia infection, which is commonly treated quickly and effectively with antibiotics.

Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious disease expert at Vanderbilt University, said that based on the available information, "this should not in any way impede her function going forward."

Seoul says North Korea capable of another nuclear test

HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea is capable of detonating another nuclear device at its main atomic test site any time it chooses, Seoul officials said Monday, as the United States reportedly planned to send two nuclear-capable supersonic bombers to the South in a show of force against Pyongyang.

The speculation about any new nuclear test by the North comes three days after it conducted its fifth atomic bomb explosion. Friday's test was the North's most powerful test to date, and its claim to have used "standardized" warheads has sparked worries it was making headway in its push to develop small and sophisticated warheads to be topped on missiles.

After the test, the North's nuclear weapons institute said it will take unspecified measures to further boost its nuclear capability, which analysts said hinted at a possible sixth nuclear test.

South Korea's Defense Ministry spokesman Moon Sang Gyun said Monday that South Korea and U.S. intelligence authorities believe North Korea has the ability to detonate another atomic device anytime at its main Punggye-ri nuclear test site, where the five previous atomic explosions took place.

Moon refused to say what specific evidence pointed to another possible North Korea test. On Friday, South Korea's top military intelligence officer, Kim Hwang Rok, said that North Korea has two or three unused tunnels in the Punggye-ri site where it can conduct an additional test if it wants.

Yonhap news agency, citing unidentified Seoul government sources, reported Monday there were signs the North had finished test preparations in an unused tunnel. Yonhap did not elaborate.

Seoul, Washington and their allies subsequently have vowed to apply more pressure and sanctions on Pyongyang in the wake of its latest nuclear test, the second this year.

But bad weather Monday also delayed a U.S. plan for at least 24 hours to send warplanes from Guam to South Korea, as it has done in the past after major provocations by North Korea.

Yonhap said the U.S. military will try again Tuesday to fly two B-1 bombers, capable of carrying 24 atomic weapons, over its main air base near Seoul. The U.S. military said some aircraft will be deployed Tuesday but declined to disclose what type or how many planes.

South Korea's military also started talking publicly about its military capabilities, revealing it has retaliation plans involving precision-strike missiles and special operations forces for direct attacks on the North's leadership in the case of a North Korean nuclear attack.

South Korea has previously avoided harsh rhetoric against North Korea and its leader Kim Jong Un but after Friday's nuclear test, South Korean President Park Geun-hye said Kim's "mental state is spiraling out of control" and that his government has "fanatic recklessness."

Yonhap, citing an unidentified military source, said Sunday that the plan would turn areas in Pyongyang, where the North's war commanders were likely to hide, into ashes and "eliminate those places from the map permanently." South Korea's Defense Ministry said it would not comment on the report.

North Korea's pursuit of missiles and nuclear weapons is one of the most intractable foreign policy problems for the U.S. and South Korea. Diplomacy has so far failed. Six-nation negotiations on dismantling North Korea's nuclear program in exchange for aid were last held in late 2008 and fell apart in early 2009.

The Korean Peninsula remains technically at war, as the 1950-53 Korean War ended in an armistice, not a peace treaty. The United States has about 28,500 troops in South Korea.

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Top 25 Heat Check: Oklahoma State out, Saban sends message

RALPH D. RUSSO, AP College Football Writer

Associated Press poll voters can seem a little cruel at times.

After being given a raw deal by game officials on Saturday in a loss to Central Michigan, Oklahoma State fell out of the AP Top 25 on Sunday. The Cowboys controversy was one of the few big developments from a college football weekend that was entertaining if not particularly impactful.

Consider it the calm between the storms. Week 3 is even more loaded than Week 1. For the first time since 1999 the top three teams in the AP rankings will all face ranked opponents in the same week in September. The last time the top 3 teams all played ranked opponents away from home at any point in the season was Oct. 11, 2003.

Before turning the page completely on Week 2, a heat check on the AP Top 25, which is guaranteed to change significantly next week.

No. 1 Alabama (2-0)

Nick Saban called his team's performance in a 28-point victory against Western Kentucky embarrassing and said he could not remember feeling more disappointed after a win. Seems a bit harsh, but then check the schedule and see why it was a good time for Saban to send a message.

Next: at No. 19 Mississippi. Got it.

Heat check: Just right.

No. 2 Florida State (2-0)

The Heat Checker endorsed the Seminoles at No. 2 last week. So here we are.

Next: at No. 10 Louisville.

Heat check: Just right.

No. 3 Ohio State (2-0)

The Buckeyes have yet to allow an offensive touchdown. That will probably change Saturday, but still an impressive start for a rebuilt group.

Next: at No. 14 Oklahoma.

Heat check: Too hot.

No. 4 Michigan (2-0)

Watch other teams put forth listless efforts against inferior teams and appreciate how Jim Harbaugh gets the Wolverines to play hard when they could be mailing it in.

Next: Colorado.

Heat check: Too hot.

No. 5 Clemson (2-0)

Something is off with the Tigers and they've got about a week and a half to get it right.

Next: South Carolina State (then a Thursday night game at Georgia Tech).

Heat check: Too hot.

No. 6 Houston (2-0)

QB Greg Ward Jr. got a day off to rest up for the short turnaround game.

Next: at Cincinnati, Thursday night.

Heat check: Too cold.

No. 7 Stanford (1-0)

The Cardinal were off last week and now have 11 straight weeks (maybe 12 if they reach the Pac-12 title) of games. To make it tougher, the next 10 games are against Pac-12 teams or Notre Dame.

Next: Southern California.

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Heat check: Just right.

No. 8 Washington (2-0)

The Huskies could float into the top five without playing anyone because of attrition in front of them.

Next: Portland State.

Heat check: Too hot.

No. 9 Wisconsin (2-0)

The Badgers have won 37 straight nonconference games at home. And 38 should not be a problem.

Next: Georgia State.

Heat check: Just right.

No. 10 Louisville (2-0)

QB Lamar Jackson has accounted for 13 touchdowns. Only eight teams have more scored more.

Next: No. 2 Florida State.

Heat check: Too cold.

No. 11 Texas (2-0)

If Texas is back — or at least better — it should beat a Cal team that can't stop the run at all.

Next: at California

Heat check: Too cold.

No. 12 Michigan State (1-0)

Spartans with a chance to make an early statement.

Next: at No. 18 Notre Dame.

Heat check: Too hot.

No. 13 Iowa (2-0)

The Hawkeyes face one of the few FCS teams that could count as a quality victory for a ranked team.

Next: North Dakota State.

Heat check: Too hot.

No. 14 Oklahoma (1-1)

The Sooners can't afford another loss and their next two games are very losable.

Next: No. 3 Ohio State.

Heat check: Too hot.

No. 15 Tennessee (2-0)

The Vols won't be a serious playoff contender without a better down-field passing game, but they might be able to power run their way to an SEC East title.

Next: Ohio.

Heat check: Just right.

No. 16 Georgia (2-0)

Hard to figure if a bad performance against Nicholls, after a good one against North Carolina, is just an aberration or a cause for concern. Little of both, probably.

Next: at Missouri.

Heat check: Just right, maybe?

No. 17 Texas A&M (2-0)

The Aggies' secondary sports one of the best safety duos in the country in Justin Evans and Armani Watts.

Next: at Auburn.

Heat check: Too cold.

No. 18 Notre Dame (1-1)

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The Fighting Irish lost CB Shaun Crawford for the season to a torn Achilles, depleting a secondary that has already taken a few hits.

Next: No. 12 Michigan State.

Heat check: Just right.

No. 19 Mississippi (1-1)

The Rebels had never won consecutive meetings against Alabama before the last two years. Now they need to make it three in a row to save their playoff hopes.

Next: No. 1 Alabama.

Heat check: Just right.

No. 20 LSU (1-1)

It is hard to believe that the answer to the Tigers' offensive ills will be a graduate transfer quarterback who averaged 5.8 yards per attempt in 13 games for Purdue. But Danny Etling might get a chance to try.

Next: Mississippi State.

Heat check: Too hot.

No. 21 Baylor (2-0)

Still don't think the Bears should be ranked. And next week won't change anything either.

Next: Rice.

Heat check: Too hot.

No. 22 Oregon (2-0)

Take away the quarterback rushing stats, including sacks, and the Ducks allowed Virginia ball carriers to average 7.1 yards per carry. New defensive coordinator Brady Hoke still has some fixing to do. Offense looks fine, though.

Next: at Nebraska.

Heat check: Too hot.

No. 23 Florida (2-0)

Odd: The Gators have faced only 31 pass attempts in two games, without facing an option team.

Next: vs. North Texas

Heat check: Too hot.

No. 24 Arkansas (2-0)

Not many teams have a quality road win in the first two weeks of the season. Razorbacks got short-changed a bit by the voters.

Next: Texas State.

Heat check: Too cold.

No. 25 Miami (2-0)

The Hurricanes haven't really earned this ranking yet, but they will if they survive one of the trickier nonconference road trips of the season.

Next: at Appalachian State.

Heat check: Too hot.

WHY IT MATTERS: Child Care and Pay Equity

ANNE FLAHERTY, Associated Press

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: In much of the U.S., families spend more on child care for two kids than on housing. And if you're a woman, it's likely you earn less than your male colleagues even though 1 in 4 households with kids relies on mom as the sole or primary breadwinner. That's according to the latest research that suggests while the U.S. economy has improved, women and their families are still struggling to make the numbers work.

It's already illegal to pay women less for the same job or deny them a raise because of their sex, and the pay gap has narrowed dramatically in recent decades. Republicans say tougher regulation would only hurt U.S. businesses — costing Americans jobs — while new taxpayer programs would drive up the deficit.

Democrats say it's still too easy for employers to hide or deny wage disparities because workers rarely perform identical jobs. And with paid leave scarce and expensive, women and their families are losing out on wages that could be reinvested back into the economy and keep struggling families off government aid.

WHERE THEY STAND

Hillary Clinton calls for 12 weeks of government-paid family leave to care for a new child or seriously ill family member, which she says would be paid with higher taxes on the rich. She also backs legislation that would force private businesses to disclose gender pay data to the government for analysis; the bill would allow women to seek punitive damages for discrimination.

Donald Trump has said he thinks the pay gap isn't an issue. He's called for allowing parents to deduct the "average" cost of child care from their taxable income if the parents earn under a certain, unspecified amount. But what about the 40 percent of Americans who don't earn enough to pay federal income taxes? Trump's campaign says lower-income workers would be able to exclude childcare expenses from half of their payroll taxes.

WHY IT MATTERS

This issue isn't going away. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, women are about 57 percent of the labor force and many are mothers of young children. More than half of mothers with an infant under age 1 have paid jobs, for example. And that number climbs to 74 percent among moms with children under age 17.

Yet the bureau says women in 2014 working full time earned 83 cents on average for every dollar a man makes. Why? The Pew Research Center says women are much more likely than men to take time off work or reduce hours to care for family members.

But remove those factors and the pay gap persists. The American Association of University Women found that female engineering majors earned 88 percent of what male graduates did one year after school. Another study, by the University of California, San Francisco, found that male nurses out-earned female nurses by as much as \$5,000 a year, even when taking into account years of experience, location and specialty.

Aggravating wage disparities is the steep cost of child care. Families in 2011 paid on average \$143

per week for child care — up from \$84 a week in 1985 (in constant 2011 dollars). According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, child care costs for two kids are higher than the median rent payment in every state. And only 12 percent of private industry workers last year had access to paid family leave, despite strong public support for it and concerns in some states that struggling parents are turning to low-quality, unlicensed daycares because they are cheaper.

For Clinton's anti-discrimination proposals to work, she'll need Congress and state legislatures to jump on board — no easy task politically. U.S. businesses have already staved off legislation by warning that a new law would expose them to frivolous lawsuits.

Meanwhile, Trump's child care proposal does nothing to address the pay gap.

Obama, Hill leaders meet ahead of federal funding deadline

ERICA WERNER, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama is meeting with the top four leaders of Congress ahead of a month's-end deadline to fund the government or face a shutdown, and with money all but gone to address the worsening Zika crisis.

The White House meeting Monday afternoon is likely to focus on an emerging legislative compromise to address both issues. Long-sought provisions to provide money to deal with Zika look likely to be added to a must-pass spending bill to fund the government through Dec. 9.

Conservative opposition remains but negotiators worked through the weekend on the details. The Zika money has stalled since Obama first requested \$1.9 billion in February, but congressional Republican leaders seem likely to jettison provisions opposed by Democrats restricting any of the money from going to affiliates of Planned Parenthood in Puerto Rico.

It comes as government scientists step up their warnings about the spread of the virus, which can cause devastating birth defects. More than 670 pregnant women in the states and Washington, D.C., have the virus, leading to the birth of at least 17 babies with microcephaly so far.

On Friday, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Thomas Frieden said that "we are now essentially out of money" and warned that the country is "about to see a bunch of kids born with microcephaly" in the coming months.

Obama, just back from a trip to Asia, invited the GOP leaders, House Speaker Paul Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, and their counterparts, House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid.

The lawmakers have been back from a seven-week summer recess for only a week but already are eager to depart again so that vulnerable lawmakers of both parties can campaign for re-election. The government funding bill is the only must-pass piece of legislation ahead of the election and thus has become the vehicle for the Zika provisions.

Obama's priorities for a lame-duck post-election session of Congress may also be on the table at the White House Monday afternoon. Chief among these is Obama's one major remaining foreign policy priority, the 12-nation Asia free-trade deal Trans-Pacific Partnership. During his recent trip to Asia, Obama repeatedly called on Congress to pass what the White House considers a legacy-burnishing deal.

Despite longstanding support for free trade among Capitol Hill Republicans, including Ryan and McConnell, there is now bipartisan opposition to the deal in Congress and on the presidential campaign trail, where Donald Trump has railed against it and Democrat Hillary Clinton reversed herself under pressure from the Democratic base and now opposes it.

Ryan has offered assurances to rank-and-file GOP lawmakers that the TPP deal will not move in the lame-duck session, and McConnell has also indicated chances are slim in the Senate.

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ICYMI on NFL's opening Sunday: Jimmy G gets a 'W' for Pats

EDDIE PELLIS, AP National Writer

The New England Patriots without Tom Brady looked very much like the New England Patriots with him.

Jimmy Garoppolo made his first NFL start in place of Brady, who sat out Game 1 of his four-game De-flegate ban Sunday night — and the third-year QB led the Patriots to a 23-21 victory over the Arizona Cardinals.

The Patriots, also without injured tight end Rob Gronkowski, ran the ball nearly half the time — they threw 65 percent of the time last season — but in many ways, this offense didn't look much different with Garoppolo at the helm.

His final stats: 24 for 33 for 264 yards and a touchdown (on his first drive) along with 12 yards rushing and — get this — one pass catch. He caught a ball that was deflected back to him by a Cardinals lineman and took it for a three-yard gain. Most telling: On third down, Garoppolo went 8 for 10 for 107 yards and seven first downs.

Arizona's Larry Fitzgerald (two TDs) caught three of his eight passes on the closing drive to help the Cardinals reach field-goal range with 41 seconds left. But a low snap from Kameron Canaday led to a wide-left miss from 47 yards by Chandler Catanzaro.

After a day in which every other team in the AFC East lost, the Patriots headed back home in a familiar spot — first place. They'll play their next three games, all without Brady, at home.

In case you missed it, here are the other top topics after the NFL season's opening Sunday:

MAKING A POINT (OR TWO): If the opening Sunday of the NFL season is a day for making statements, then consider the Oakland Raiders and their coach, Jack Del Rio, to have spoken the loudest. When the Raiders got the ball, trailing New Orleans by seven, Del Rio let his team know they'd be going for a win, not a tie and overtime, after they scored a touchdown. After Derek Carr moved Oakland downfield for that touchdown with 47 seconds left, Del Rio stuck to his word — going for 2, even when "the book" says to take the tie. Carr threw to Michael Crabtree, who reached over Ken Crawley and made the grab. Oakland won 35-34. "I didn't really ask for any feedback there," Del Rio said of his game-winning decision.

ANTHEMS: The most visible signs of protest during national anthems played across the league on the 15th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks came from Kansas City cornerback Marcus Peters, who raised a black-gloved fist in a gesture reminiscent of what sprinters Tommie Smith and John Carlos did at the Olympics in 1968. Later, four Miami Dolphins knelt on the sideline with hands on their hearts while "The Star Spangled Banner" played in Seattle. On the opposite sideline, a different scene: The Seahawks listened to the anthem with their arms interlocked. San Francisco backup quarterback Colin Kaepernick inspired the debate by taking a knee before preseason games to call attention to what he termed the oppression of blacks and other minorities. "I still have some family in the struggle," Peters said. "All I'm saying is we want to educate those, the youth that's coming up."

CLOCK WATCH: With no timeouts and the clock ticking under 10 seconds, Cowboys receiver Terrance Williams should've veered toward the sideline but didn't. It cost Dallas a chance at a long game-winning field goal attempt. This benefited the Giants, who held on 20-19, and didn't have to relive another clock-induced nightmare in Big D. In last year's season-opener, Eli Manning mismanaged the clock near the Dallas goal line and settled for a field goal that gave the Cowboys the ball with enough time to drive for the winning score. The Giants went on to lose four more games after clock problems last season. "The guy was trying to make a play," Cowboys rookie quarterback Dak Prescott said of Williams. "You never want to knock a guy trying to make a play." If only social media were as kind.

COMEBACK KIDS: In 2015, the Chiefs started 1-5 and won 10 straight to make the playoffs. To kick off 2016, they started down 24-3 and scored 30 of the next 33 to get a win. Kansas City topped San Diego 33-27 in overtime. It was the biggest comeback in the 56-year history of the Chiefs. "You're going to have games like this that show your character, show your grit," coach Andy Reid said. "I'm proud of the way they handled it."

GAMES PEOPLE PLAY: Those who had Chargers receiver Keenan Allen on their fantasy roster might want to look at the waiver wire. Allen hurt his right knee against the Chiefs and had to be carted off the field. The Chargers had already lost receiver Stevie Johnson to a knee injury; Johnson caught 45 passes last season. Meanwhile, more than 30 percent of those who play in survivor pools breathed a huge sigh of relief when Russell Wilson led the Seahawks on a late touchdown drive for a come-from-behind 12-10 victory over Miami. The Seahawks were the biggest favorite of the week, at 10.5 points.

Snow leopards' return brings hope to remote Afghan region

LYNNE O'DONNELL, Associated Press

WAKHAN, Afghanistan (AP) — In a picturesque corner of Afghanistan, a unique conservation effort has helped bring the elusive snow leopard back from the brink and given hope to one of the poorest and most isolated communities on earth.

The leopards range across the snowy mountains of a dozen countries in Central and South Asia, but their numbers had declined in recent decades as hunters sought their spotted pelts and farmers killed them to protect livestock. Now they appear to be thriving, thanks to a seven-year program and a newly declared national park.

Scientists who have been tracking the shy leopards estimate there are up to 140 cats in the Wakhan National Park, established two years ago across 1 million square hectares (4,200 square miles). Stephanie Ostrowski, a specialist with the New York-based Wildlife Conservation Society, says that's a healthy and sustainable number, and indicates that other species like the Siberian ibex and golden marmot — the leopards' main prey — are also doing well.

The WCS believes global leopard numbers could be much higher than a previous upper estimate of 7,500, after data gathered by Ostrowski and others showed there could be more than 8,000 in just 44 percent of the animal's known range. The World Wildlife Fund lists the species as "endangered."

His findings are the result of research carried out in one of the most hard-to-reach places on earth. The Wakhan corridor is nestled high in the Hindu Kush mountain range and cut off by snow for most of the year. The 15-year-old war with the Taliban rages 30 kilometers (18 miles) to the south, and the nearby borders with Tajikistan, Pakistan and China are usually closed.

The United Nations Development Program funds and oversees all the WCS activities in the Wakhan, and will provide \$3 million for the snow leopard project over the next two years.

Ostrowski and the other foreign and Afghan scientists camp in yellow tents in the Sarkand Valley for months on end, monitoring and maintaining a far-flung network of cameras and traps. In just one year, they collected around 5,000 images of 38 individual cats. They managed to capture four leopards — one of them twice — and were able to fit them with collars and track them with GPS. They hope to catch another two by the end of the year.

They've learned that snow leopards range widely. Like house cats, they mark their territory by spraying and scratching the ground, but unlike their distant relatives, they don't mind getting wet.

"These cats can cross big rivers and swim in extremely cold water," Ostrowski said. One female crossed the Amu Darya river into Tajikistan, stayed a couple of weeks and then returned.

The snow leopards have benefited from conservation programs going back to 2009, when the WCS

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began building enclosed corrals with mesh roofs to protect the sheep, goats and cows that are the backbone of the local economy.

It was the first step toward bringing modern conservation techniques to Wakhan, where the population of around 17,000 lives off of subsistence farming. In one of the poorest regions of one of the world's poorest countries, the leopards had long been seen as a menace.

Hassan Beg says he lost 22 sheep and goats in one night a few years ago when a snow leopard got into his uncovered corral, and his cousin Saeed said he was attacked by one late at night. Hassan has since built his own roof over the enclosure using tree branches. "We can't kill them," he said, "so I just make sure it won't happen again."

A presidential decree banning all hunting countrywide was issued in 2005, but the scientists recently found a carcass with a bullet in its head. Some 400 kilometers (250 miles) to the southwest, at a crowded market in the capital, Kabul, a shopkeeper discreetly produced a snow leopard pelt with a long cylindrical tail and a face distorted by crude taxidermy. He wanted \$1,800 for it.

"We receive reports from all of the provinces where hunting is going on illegally, whether it is because of poverty, whether it is for hobby, whether it is for selling it at a higher price in the market," said Mostapha Zaher, director general of the National Environment Protection Agency.

But back in Wakhan, the conservation efforts appear to be catching on.

At Qala-i-Panja High School, where students say they've never heard of the internet, they've embraced modern notions of wildlife preservation. A snow leopard cub stares down from a poster affixed to the otherwise bare walls.

"Since the ban on hunting was introduced, the numbers of wild animals are increasing here and that is attracting foreign tourists," said Simah, a 17-year-old who like many Afghans has no surname. "That can be good for the economy of Afghanistan."

The snow leopard is the national park's star attraction, even if most visitors are unlikely to see one. But the region also boasts wolves, brown bears, red foxes, and the long-horned Marco Polo sheep — named for the 13th century Italian explorer who spotted one on his journey to the Far East.

Only around 100 visitors reach Wakhan every year, most entering from Tajikistan during the summer months. Wakhan's poverty and isolation has insulated it from decades of war, but has also deterred all but the most adventurous travelers.

Frenchman Jocelyn Guitton, an EU diplomat, arrived in August with plans to trek to the corridor's northeast and visit Kyrgyz nomads. He allows that it's "off the beaten track," but says he hopes tourism can bring "visibility and good practices" to the region.

Since declaring the national park two years ago, the government has been holding public meetings known as shuras throughout Wakhan to cultivate local support for the idea and to reassure residents who initially feared they might lose their land.

"It's a new concept for these people and it's a new concept for Afghanistan, so it takes time," said Ashley Vosper, a landscape expert at WCS who has taken part in the meetings.

Vosper says the park actually provides "brilliant protection" to residents by ensuring that no one else can use their land while bringing economic development to the region. "It can be a nice two-way balance," he said.

Zaher hopes that Wakhan can one day rival Afghanistan's only other national park, in the central Bamiyan province, which attracts thousands of tourists each year to the crystal blue lakes of Band-i-Amir.

"When peace returns to Afghanistan — and it will, as no war lasts forever — Wakhan has great potential for ecotourism, for people who are interested in archaeology, anthropology, researchers interested in Afghanistan, people interested in glacial melt, mountaineering, the environment."

Transgender actress Alexis Arquette has died at 47

LINDSEY BAHR, AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Alexis Arquette, the transgender character actress and sibling of actors David, Rosanna, Richmond and Patricia Arquette, died early Sunday morning in Los Angeles. She was 47 and surrounded by family who serenaded her with David Bowie's "Starman," her siblings said in a statement Sunday. No cause of death was given.

"Alexis was a brilliant artist and painter, a singer, an entertainer and an actor," her brothers and sisters said. "We learned what real bravery is through watching her journey of living as a trans woman. We came to discover the one truth — that love is everything."

Alexis was born Robert Arquette in Los Angeles in 1969, and she was a performer from a young age, appearing in a music video for The Tubes' "She's a Beauty" at age 12 and the occasional other project.

A versatile performer, Arquette got her big break in the 1989 adaptation of "Last Exit to Brooklyn" where she played the trans sex worker Georgette. She was just visiting New York with her sister Patricia Arquette who was up for a role in the film, but pregnant at the time.

"They asked me if I wanted to read for a role because they knew that I'd done a drag thing at one of my friend's clubs," Arquette said in a 1999 Index Magazine interview. "I ended up getting the job, basically through my sister. If it wasn't for her, I wouldn't have been in New York. But nobody gives you a job, you've got to earn it on your own. I would never want anyone to think that there's some kind of cachet to my name."

She also had bit roles in films like "Pulp Fiction," "Bride of Chucky" and as a Boy George impersonator first in the Adam Sandler comedy "The Wedding Singer" and again in "Blended."

Boy George even tweeted his condolences to "his sister Alexis ... another bright light gone out far too soon."

Her long list of credits are comprised of mostly low-budget and independent fare. Arquette also performed in nightclubs and cabarets sometimes under the name Eva Destruction.

"I enjoy being a character actor, I enjoy being different in everything. I want a private life, I want to be able to go to 7-11 and not get into a fight with a guy because he saw me in a movie, or not have people hitting on me simply because they saw me in a movie," Arquette said in the 1999 interview. "You want to be wanted for who you are, not what you've done or who you've become."

Arquette also appeared on season 6 of the VH1 reality series "The Surreal Life," and she was credited for bringing increased awareness and visibility to the transgender community.

She chronicled her transition and the process of her sex reassignment surgery in the 2007 documentary "Alexis Arquette: She's My Brother."

In their statement, the Arquettes said that their sister's career "was cut short, not by her passing, but by her decision to live her truth and her life as a transgender woman."

"Despite the fact that there are few parts for trans actors, she refused to play roles that were demeaning or stereotypical," they said. "She was a vanguard in the fight for understanding and acceptance for all trans people."

The Arquette family has requested privacy at this time, and that donations be made to organizations that support the LGBTQ community in honor of Alexis Arquette in lieu of flowers or gifts.

"We are comforted by the fact that Alexis came into our family and was our brother and then our sister, and that she gave us so much love. We will love you always, Alexis," said the Arquette siblings. "We know we were the lucky ones."

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New Miss America has advice for Trump, Clinton: 'Compromise'

WAYNE PARRY, Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — Savvy Shields had only been Miss America for less than an hour, but she already had a clear vision of what she hopes America will look like at the end of her term next year.

"I hope that at the end of my year, we're starting to reward politicians for compromise," she said.

Shields, who represented Arkansas in the pageant, won the crown Sunday night in Atlantic City. She was asked during her onstage interview what she thought of Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton; she answered that while both Clinton and Republican Donald Trump have done a good job thus far, "they also need to watch what they're doing."

Meeting reporters after the pageant, Shields elaborated.

"What I want both candidates to focus on is compromise," she said. "Our country was founded on compromise. We're in a state now where both parties just seem to be yelling at one another."

Monday morning, Shields will take the traditional romp in the surf on the beach in Atlantic City across from Boardwalk Hall, where she won the crown. It is a ritual in which the newly crowned Miss America skips along the beach as shallow waves roll in, jumps in the air, and poses for the first of the countless thousands of photos in which she will star over the next year.

She topped a field of 52 contestants to win the crown and the title of Miss America 2017, succeeding the outgoing Miss America Betty Cantrell.

She was asked one of several political questions by the panel of celebrity judges.

"If you're trying to be leader of the free world, everything you say and do matters and all of your actions are held to a higher standard," Shields said. "Both of the contestants have done a good job, but they also need to watch what they're doing."

Shields performed a jazz dance to a song from the TV show "Smash," for which she won a preliminary competition earlier in the week. She said she still has the soundtrack from the canceled TV show in her car, where she plays it often.

Shields is an art major at the University of Arkansas who wants to help people make better food choices. Her secret dream is to be a backup dancer for Beyoncé.

The runners-up were as follows: Fourth runner-up, Miss Mississippi Laura Lee Lewis; third runner-up, Miss Washington Alicia Cooper; second runner-up Miss New York Camille Sims; first runner-up Miss South Carolina Rachel Wyatt.

The first openly gay contestant in the Miss America pageant, Miss Missouri Erin O'Flaherty, was eliminated Sunday night when the top 15 finalists were chosen.

She was the first openly gay contestant to win a state title. Djuan Trent competed in the Miss America pageant as Miss Kentucky in 2011, when she finished in the top 10. She came out as a lesbian in 2014.

The top 15 finalists were: Kentucky; Washington; Massachusetts; Arkansas; South Carolina; Idaho; Iowa; Texas; California; Oklahoma; Maryland; New York; Tennessee; Louisiana, and Mississippi.

Sunday's finale was held on the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks. Many of the contestants noted the solemn anniversary, professed strong support for America's armed forces and struck patriotic themes. Miss Maryland Hannah Brewer sang "God Bless America" for her talent program.

The pageant from Atlantic City's Boardwalk Hall included contestants from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The pageant began in Atlantic City in 1921 as a way to extend the summer tourist season beyond Labor Day weekend.

Surge in ER visits for injuries, concussions from soccer

LINDSEY TANNER, AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Soccer injuries are sending soaring numbers of U.S. kids to emergency rooms, a trend driven in part by young players with concussions seeking urgent medical care, a study has found.

The findings, based on 25 years of data, partly reflect soccer's growing popularity. But the researchers and sports medicine experts believe the trend also is a result of greater awareness about concussions and their potential risks. Coaches and parents are likely seeking emergency treatment for symptoms that in previous years might have been downplayed or overlooked.

Nearly 3 million players aged 7 through 17 received ER treatment for soccer-related injuries in the 2000-2014 study. The overall rate of injuries, which takes into account soccer's rising popularity, more than doubled to 220 per 10,000 players in 2013, from 106 per 10,000 players in 1990. Researchers did not have enough data to calculate 2014 rates.

More than 200,000 concussions or head injuries were treated in emergency rooms, or 7 percent of injuries. The rate jumped to almost 30 per 10,000 people in 2013 from just under 2 per 10,000 players in 1990.

That trend underscores a need for better safety education and injury prevention in youth soccer, said Dr. Huiyun Xiang, the lead author and a researcher at the Center for Injury Research and Policy at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio.

"Concussions can have significant consequences in terms of cognitive function and brain development," Xiang said.

His study is an analysis of data from a national injury surveillance system and was published Monday in *Pediatrics*.

According to U.S. Youth Soccer, there were more than 3 million registered soccer players younger than 19 in 2014, almost twice as many as in 1990.

The rate of injuries from playing soccer has ranked second behind football in other studies on youth sports, including an analysis of 2015-2016 data from Reporting Information Online, an internet-based injury surveillance system for high school sports.

For boys, football-related concussions result in more ER visits than other sports, according to previous research. For girls, it's soccer, according to an analysis of 2001-2012 data by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The current study lacks information on gender-specific soccer injury rates.

Sprains and fractures were the most common injuries; most players were not hospitalized. Falling and getting hit by another player or the ball were among leading causes of injury but there's no data in the study on whether many injuries were from heading the ball.

Concern about kids' injuries from heading led to the U.S. Soccer Federation's recent restrictions including a ban for kids aged 10 and younger and limits on heading for those aged 11-13.

Many concussions in soccer occur when heads collide as two players jump up to head the ball, said Dr. Cynthia LaBella, a sport medicine specialist at Chicago's Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital. She said learning proper technique including tensing neck muscles can help kids avoid injury while heading the ball.

LaBella noted that soccer has become so popular that it attracts kids with a wide range of athletic ability, and that many injuries she treats are in kids who lack adequate strength and conditioning for their soccer level.

"Everyone's so eager to join the soccer team. They're signing up because they want to be with their buddies," she said. "The range of athleticism, especially at the youth and preteen level is pretty broad."

Economists: Growth expected for at least 2 more years

The Associated Press

Business economists still think the economy will continue to grow for the next two years, but they again have scaled back their expectations for just how much.

The median estimate from economists surveyed by the National Association for Business Economics calls for gross domestic product growth of 1.5 percent this year, down from the 1.8 percent they forecast in June. The outlook for next year calls for 2.3 percent growth.

In addition, 81 percent of those surveyed said they don't expect the U.S. economy to peak until at least 2018.

The association notes that the September report, released Monday, represents the fourth-consecutive quarterly survey in which the participating economists have lowered their expectations for 2016 for GDP growth.

The group points to lower expectations for business investment as the main reason, but it also notes that worries about the outcome of November's presidential election are also weighing on expectations. Just over half of the economists surveyed said election uncertainty had a "modest negative" impact on their GDP expectation for this year.

The association added that 56 percent of those surveyed said they saw the possibility of a Hillary Clinton win as having a neutral effect on their economic growth expectations, while 60 percent said they thought the election of Donald Trump would have a negative effect.

On the bright side, the economists don't expect the reduced GDP expectations to carry over to consumer spending. The report's median forecast for growth in real personal consumption expenditures is 2.7 percent in 2016 and 2.6 percent in 2017.

Both predictions represent an increase of 0.1 percentage points from June numbers.

And the panel is now predicting flat corporate profits in 2016 — better than the median 2 percent decline projected in June. For 2017, they expect a gain of 4.2 percent.

The survey of 46 forecasters was taken between Aug. 8 and Aug. 25.

Big Food's biggest trend? Crusading against Big Food

CANDICE CHOI, AP Food Industry Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Gathered for a free music festival, a crowd waits to see one of the headline attractions — an exhibit about fast-food ingredients.

On display: Beakers of powders and liquids that purportedly go into what is clearly meant to look like a McDonald's burger. Just below are leaves and spices that Chipotle says make up its burrito. As pop bands perform nearby, other festivalgoers play an online game fighting a "galactic battle against artificial ingredients."

Chipotle's "Cultivate" festivals encapsulate the food industry's hottest marketing trend: crusading against Big Food.

While the burrito maker still struggles to recover from an E. coli outbreak last year, its previous success in presenting itself as a reformer has led companies big and small to follow suit as they seek part of the \$256 billion that Americans spend on fast-food each year. But some are positioning themselves as advocates for change before accomplishing some health goals, and skeptics say even well-intentioned marketing can be a disingenuous way to help people rationalize overeating.

The message is aimed at those who feel the established food system is to blame for poor eating habits, and tries to engage them to feel like allies rather than customers.

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"Identifying who the enemy is" can be a key part of effective marketing, says branding consultant Laura Ries.

Salad chain Sweetgreen's campaign to fix what it calls the "broken" food system asks people to join its "movement" and borrows self-help language in saying the first step is "admitting there's a problem." Panera has challenged other chains to make kids' meals without artificial ingredients, although it hadn't done so itself at the time.

This kind of marketing has even changed the way the industry's giants talk about themselves. McDonald's unveiled a food "philosophy" this summer and announced it was eliminating some unpalatable-sounding ingredients. Wendy's casts itself as part of the "farm-to-fork, fast-food trend," and Taco Bell, which has been testing a taco shell made out of fried chicken, refers to "the farms that make our food."

Among the about 18,000 attendees at Chipotle's festival this summer in Kansas City, 21-year-old Mario Curiale said he was taking in the company-sponsored exhibits with some skepticism. But he liked that Chipotle was encouraging interest in food.

"I don't think high school did a really good job on educating us on these sort of issues. If you're interested, you have to go out and learn it yourself," he said.

While more attention on food issues may be progress, some see it as a way to distract people with feel-good messages.

"It can be well-intentioned marketing, but it's still marketing," said Yoni Freedhoff, an obesity expert at the University of Ottawa.

Obesity is being fueled in part by people eating out more often, Freedhoff said, with restaurants typically serving up decadent portions. Touting wholesome ingredients doesn't address that, he noted, and may even make it worse by blinding people to how much they're consuming.

In issuing its challenge to improve kids' meals, Panera also decried marketing gimmicks, then launched digital ads featuring children's voices trying to explain items like "sodium benzoate."

Much smaller competitors are joining in. Local, which touts its "revolutionary fast food" in two low-income California locations, says "giant corporations that feed most of America have degraded our communities by maximizing profit."

"Let's plant the seeds and wake people up!!!" its website urges, alongside menus listing "Chicken Nugs" for \$3. The company did not respond to requests for details about its sourcing.

In Colorado, entrepreneur Kimbal Musk plans a fast-food restaurant as part of his push to create a "real food culture." Musk, the brother of tech mogul Elon Musk, already has several sit-down restaurants and blames processed foods low in nutrients for leaving people "fat and starving."

The blurring of marketing and advocacy has popped up among packaged food makers, too. Kind, which makes snack and meal bars out of fruits and nuts, recently launched a group for dietitians who want to discuss nutrition topics. The company also sees it as an opportunity to boost sales by offering the dietitians tips for incorporating its bars into people's diets.

Chipotle remains an adept practitioner of the strategy, even as it employs some loopholes. It announced last year that it rid its menu of genetically modified ingredients, but serves Coca-Cola sodas made with high-fructose corn syrup. It describes its meat as "responsibly raised," an unregulated term that lets animals eat GMO feed.

The company says most customers simply like its food. But while its touting of quality ingredients and ethical sourcing practices may have helped sales, that positioning may also partly explain its lagging sales since an E. coli outbreak last year: Staking its reputation to the superior quality of its ingredients can make any missteps more devastating.

Chipotle, which was spun off by McDonald's in 2006 and has more than 2,000 outlets, raked in more than \$4.5 billion in sales last year but still defines itself as an outsider. A billboard at the Cultivate fes-

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tival headlined "FACTS" stated: "Nope, Chipotle is not owned by McDonald's."

Though free music was the draw for many attendees, the chance to earn a burrito sent them to see the exhibits.

The interior of a trailer recreated crowded conditions for pigs on factory farms along with a screen reading, "Together we can change the system." A grassy area outside depicted the idyllic farms where Chipotle suggests it gets its pork. A farmer showed photos of his piglets.

Jon Gilmor, a 22-year-old who interned at GMO seed maker Monsanto, praised Chipotle for encouraging interest in food sourcing. But he was dubious about an exhibit on the chain ridding its menu of genetically modified ingredients.

Gilmor, in a "Monsanto Together" T-shirt, said he thought what he wore would be ironic but also wanted to proclaim his belief that GMOs are safe and that Chipotle plays on unfounded concerns.

"It's an issue that can get a lot of people to come to their stores," he said.

Today in History The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, Sept. 12, the 256th day of 2016. There are 110 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 12, 1960, Democratic presidential candidate John F. Kennedy addressed questions about his Roman Catholic faith, telling the Greater Houston Ministerial Association, "I do not speak for my church on public matters, and the church does not speak for me."

On this date:

In 1814, the Battle of North Point took place in Maryland during the War of 1812 as American forces slowed British troops advancing on Baltimore.

In 1846, Elizabeth Barrett secretly married Robert Browning at St. Marylebone Church in London.

In 1914, during World War I, the First Battle of the Marne ended in an Allied victory against Germany.

In 1938, Adolf Hitler demanded the right of self-determination for the Sudeten (soo-DAYT'-un) Germans in Czechoslovakia.

In 1944, the Second Quebec Conference opened with President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in attendance.

In 1953, Massachusetts Sen. John F. Kennedy married Jacqueline Lee Bouvier (boo-vee-AY') in Newport, Rhode Island.

In 1966, "The Monkees" debuted on NBC-TV; "Family Affair" premiered on CBS.

In 1974, Emperor Haile Selassie (HY'-lee sehl-AH'-see) was deposed by Ethiopia's military after ruling for 58 years.

In 1977, South African black student leader Steve Biko (BEE'-koh) died while in police custody, triggering an international outcry.

In 1986, Joseph Ciccipio (sih-SIHP'-ee-oh), the acting comptroller at the American University in Beirut, was kidnapped (he was released in December 1991).

In 1995, the Belarusian military shot down a hydrogen balloon during an international race, killing its two American pilots, John Stuart-Jervis and Alan Fraenckel.

In 2000, Hillary Rodham Clinton became the first first lady to win an election as she claimed victory in the New York Democratic Senate primary, defeating little-known opponent Dr. Mark McMahon.

Ten years ago: In a speech in his native Germany, Pope Benedict XVI said Islamic holy war was against God's nature and quoted a 14th-century Byzantine emperor, Manuel II Paleologos, as charac-

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terizing some teachings of Islam's founder as "evil and inhuman"; the pope's comments unleashed a torrent of rage across the Islamic world, prompting him to say he sincerely regretted that Muslims were offended. Syrian guards foiled an attempt by suspected al-Qaida-linked militants to blow up the U.S. Embassy in Damascus.

Five years ago: Texas Gov. Rick Perry, the perceived front-runner in the Republican presidential contest, endured an onslaught from seven rivals during a fractious two-hour debate in Tampa, Florida. Texana Hollis, a 101-year-old woman, was evicted from the southwest Detroit home where she had lived for nearly six decades after her son failed to pay the mortgage. (Hollis was allowed to move back into the house in April 2012 through the efforts of Detroit Free Press columnist Mitch Albom and his charity; Hollis died on Dec. 31, 2013 at the age of 103.) A leaking gasoline pipeline in Kenya's capital exploded, killing 119 people, according to the Kenya Red Cross. Novak Djokovic (NOH'-vak JOH'-kuh-vich) beat defending champion Rafael Nadal (rah-fay-ehl nah-DAHL') 6-2, 6-4, 6-7 (3), 6-1 to win his first U.S. Open championship. Leila Lopes of Angola was crowned Miss Universe at the pageant in Sao Paulo. Kurt Ziebart, 91, inventor of the Ziebart automobile rust-proofing process, died in Williamsburg, Michigan.

One year ago: Jeremy Corbyn, a veteran anti-war campaigner known for his unapologetically socialist views, won a landslide victory to lead Britain's opposition Labor Party in one of the country's biggest political shake-ups in decades. Playwright Frank D. Gilroy ("The Subject Was Roses") died in Monroe, New York, at age 89. Flavia Pennetta defeated fellow Italian Roberta Vinci in straight sets, 7-6 (4), 6-2, to become the oldest first-time women's major champion in the Open era; the 33-year-old Pennetta then announced her retirement.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Freddie Jones is 89. Actor Ian Holm is 85. Former U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., is 77. Actress Linda Gray is 76. Singer Maria Muldaur is 74. Actor Joe Pantoliano is 65. Singer-musician Gerry Beckley (America) is 64. Original MTV VJ Nina Blackwood is 64. Rock musician Neil Peart (Rush) is 64. Actor Peter Scolari is 61. Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback is 60. Actress Rachel Ward is 59. Actress Amy Yasbeck is 54. Rock musician Norwood Fisher (Fishbone) is 51. Actor Darren E. Burrows is 50. Rock singer-musician Ben Folds (Ben Folds Five) is 50. Actor-comedian Louis (loo-ee) C.K. is 49. Rock musician Larry LaLonde (Primus) is 48. Golfer Angel Cabrera is 47. Actor-singer Will Chase is 46. Actor Josh Hopkins is 46. Country singer Jennifer Nettles is 42. Actress Lauren Stamile (stuh'-MEE'-lay) is 40. Rapper 2 Chainz is 39. Actor Ben McKenzie is 38. Singer Ruben Studdard is 38. Basketball player Yao Ming is 36. Singer-actress Jennifer Hudson is 35. Actor Alfie Allen is 30. Actress Emmy Rossum is 30. Country singer Kelsea Ballerini is 23. Actor Colin Ford is 20.

Thought for Today: "Conscience without judgment is superstition." - Benjamin Whichcote, English theologian and philosopher (1609-1683).