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Today

Checkers Day

Dog in Politics Day

Native American Day

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

School Lunch: Chicken sandwich, baked chips, romaine salad, fruit.

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

Birthdays: • Carolyn Snyder • Duane Johnson

7:00pm: FB vs. Roncalli at Aberdeen Central

To be Livestreamed at GDILIVE.COM

24

International Rabbit Day

National Cherries Jubilee Day

Birthdays: • Jesse Overacker • Charles Dirks • Ben Woodward • Turner Webb • Jerry Locke • Wade Marzahn

9:30 am: Groton Black 3rd-4th FB host Milbank Silver

9:30 am: Groton Gold 3rd-4th FB host Milbank Gold

9:30 am: Groton 5th-6th FB hosts Milbank Silver

1:00pm: Soccer at Tea Area (Girls at 1 p.m., Boys at 3 pm)

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



GDILIVE.COM
livestream
Many Groton
Area activities are
Livestreamed by the
Groton Daily
INDEPENDENT
Your Main Source for Community News, Sports and Important Announcements

605/397-NEWS
(6397)

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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Sperry Stump Removal Tyler: 605/216-8431
Over 30 Years of Combined Experience!
TJ: 605/380-7915 **TreeLine Tree Service**



These pumpkins are proud as a peacock to have their picture taken with Groton's Mr. and Mrs. Pumpkin (April Abeln and David McGannon). There is a lot of excitement about Groton's first Pumpkin Fest planned for October 8 at the Groton City Park. (Courtesy Photo)

Netters beat Sisseton in three games

Groton Area's volleyball team went to Sisseton Thursday night and came home with a 3-0 win over the Sisseton Redmen. Game scores were 25-18, 25-18 and 25-21. Groton also won the junior varsity match, 25-23 and 25-9, and the C match, 20-25, 25-10 and 15-9.

In serving, Groton Area was 62 of 71 with nine ace serves. Katie Koehler was 14 of 15 with two ace serves and Gia Gengerke was 12 of 13 with one ace serve.

In sets, Groton Area was 98 of 100 with 29 assists. Katie Koehler was 91 of 93 with 26 assists and Paityn Bonn was six of six with two assists.

Groton Area was 84 of 107 in stacks with 33 kills. Audrey Wanner was 21 of 28 with 10 kills and Josie Doeden was 15 of 20 with seven kills.

Audrey Wanner had 11 of the team's 33 digs and Gia Gengerke had four of the team's five blocks.

Groton Area, now 7-2, will host Aberdeen Roncalli on Thursday, Sept. 29. That match will be live on GDILIVE.COM. Sisseton is now 4-10.



United Blood Services Announces Winner of Polaris Ranger

United Blood Services is excited to announce the winner of its "Rollin' Up for a Ranger Summer Give-away" as Brian Neubauer from Breckenridge, MN. Neubauer was presented with the keys to his new Polaris Ranger 900XP on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at United Blood Services in Fargo.

The "Rollin' Up for a Ranger" Giveaway ran from July 11-September 9, 2016 in an attempt to boost the community blood supply during the typically difficult summer months when donations tend to decrease. The giveaway was offered to blood centers and area blood drives operated from United Blood Services locations in Bismarck, Fargo, and Minot, ND, Aberdeen, Mitchell, Rapid City, SD, and Casper and Cheyenne, WY. Over 20,000 participants were included in the drawing which was sponsored in part by Matt's Automotive Service Center.

"We are extremely excited to give this prize to Mr. Neubauer," said Jennifer Bredahl, representative for United Blood Services. "He is just one of the many volunteers who are committed to saving lives by donating blood. We thank all of our donors for donating blood, and ultimately supporting the community blood supply."

Across the region, over 550 blood products are needed each day to serve patients in 108 hospitals. Donors are encouraged to donate blood and ensure the shelves are stocked leading up to and through the holiday season.

To make an appointment please call 877-827-4376 or go to www.UnitedBloodServices.org.

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United Blood Services of the Dakotas has offices in Bismarck, Fargo, Minot, ND and Aberdeen, Mitchell, and Rapid City SD, collecting more than 125,000 blood products each year to help save the lives of patients in 108 area hospitals. Together these centers are part of the national United Blood Services network, which helps save and sustain the lives of patients in 18 states.

Flu vaccinations available at Sanford Aberdeen

ABERDEEN, S.D. —Sanford Aberdeen will host several flu vaccination clinics throughout October to help prepare for the upcoming flu season.

The Centers for Disease Control recommends annual flu vaccines for everyone over six months of age, but they are especially important for those with high risk of flu complications, including pregnant women, adults ages 65 and older, and young children. Due to CDC recommendations against using flu mist, Sanford Health will only offer flu vaccination injections.

Flu vaccinations will be offered at Sanford Aberdeen Clinic at the following times:

Monday, Oct. 3: 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 15: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 17: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 19: 7 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 27: 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Registration is recommended, but walk-ins are welcome. To schedule, call Sanford Aberdeen Clinic at 605-226-5500.

About Sanford Aberdeen

Sanford Aberdeen Clinic serves the health care needs of Aberdeen and the surrounding area with a medical staff consisting of more than 50 providers ranging from family medicine to advanced sub-specialty practices for both children and adults.

The clinic is connected to Sanford Aberdeen Medical Center, a full-service regional hospital that includes adult and pediatric care, emergency/trauma, labor and delivery, critical care, cardiac cath lab, inpatient and outpatient surgical and procedural areas, inpatient and outpatient therapies, laboratory and imaging services.

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2017 GROTON DOG LICENSES AVAILABLE NOW!

Licenses due by Dec. 30, 2016
Fines start after Dec. 30, 2016

Must bring proof of rabies shot information for each dog to City Hall. Spayed or neutered dogs are \$5 per dog, otherwise \$10 per dog. If you no longer have any dogs, please let City Hall know ASAP.

Worrel Pumpkin Patch



Hours are
Saturdays and Sundays
10am-4pm thru Oct. 23rd.
Group appointments call
605-377-8133
Address is 13606 429th
Ave - Webster, SD
22 Miles East of Groton

We have a large variety of Pumpkins
(white, orange, blue, green)
Gourds, Straw Bales and Melons.
Check us out on Facebook at worrelpumpkinpatch



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!

Concessions by: **THE BRASS KETTLE**

**COME DRESSED IN FRONTIER
COSTUME—GET A PRIZE!**

FREE ADMISSION

Find the Granary:
5 Mi. North of US Hwy 12—Between Aberdeen & Groton.
Near Tacoma Park. Printable driving directions online.

Sponsored by Dacotah Prairie Museum

www.dacotahpraiiemuseum.com
Granary Website: granaryfinearts.org



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Today in Weather History

September 23, 1984: Snow fell from the early morning to the late evening hours across northwest South Dakota bringing more than a foot of snow to some locations. Camp Crook in Harding County reported 14 inches. Amounts between six and twelve inches were common across Harding and Perkins Counties as well as parts of Meade and Butte Counties. Roads in these areas were slushy with icy bridges. The snow covered much of the western third of South Dakota with depths an inch or less.

September 23, 2004: A tornado touched down northeast of Browns Valley, MN during the late afternoon. This tornado traveled through a cornfield and a farmstead before dissipating. The tornado damaged several sheds and a trailer along with toppling a large grain bin. Another tornado touched down south and southwest of Rosholt in Roberts County in the late afternoon. This F2 tornado destroyed a house, a mobile home, and a travel trailer. The tornado also killed three cattle.

1551: The Grand Harbour at Valetta, Malta, was hit by a waterspout which then moved inland. This waterspout sunk four ships, killing at least 600 people. It should be noted, the year of the event could also be 1555, or 1556 as sources conflict.




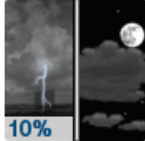



1722: La Nouvelle-Orléans (New Orleans) was founded May 7, 1718, by the French Mississippi Company, under the direction of Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville, on land inhabited by the Chitimacha. Four years later, a hurricane destroys nearly every building in the village, including the only church and hospital.

1975: On September 22, Hurricane Eloise intensified to attain Category 2 strength, and became a major hurricane of Category 3 status shortly after that as it turned towards the northeast. Several ships penetrated the storm's center during its passage through the Gulf. Hurricane Eloise continued to strengthen until it reached its peak winds of 125 mph and a minimum barometric pressure of about 955 mbar. It moved ashore along the Florida Panhandle near Panama City on September 23.

2009: A massive dust storm swept 725 miles across the outback to engulf Sydney, New South Wales producing a red hue across the region from the 22nd through the 24th. Wind gusts topped 60 mph as the storm transported an estimated 5,000 metric tons of dust, spreading it into the southern region of Queensland.

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Today	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
						
Showers and Patchy Fog	Mostly Cloudy and Breezy then Slight Chance Showers	Chance Showers then Chance T-storms	Slight Chance T-storms then Partly Cloudy	Breezy. Partly Sunny then Slight Chance Showers	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny
High: 70 °F	Low: 65 °F	High: 77 °F	Low: 52 °F	High: 63 °F	Low: 45 °F	High: 63 °F

Best Rain Chances Today And Saturday

Showers and Thunderstorms Expected

Today: Central and Northeast South Dakota

Saturday: Northeast South Dakota and West Central Minnesota

Tricky Temperature Forecast

Today: 60S and 70S North Central and Northeast South Dakota; 80S Central

Saturday: mainly 70S

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

weather.gov/Aberdeen  National Weather Service Aberdeen  @NWSAberdeen Updated: 9/23/2016 3:51 AM Central

Published on: 09/23/2016 at 4:07AM

A low pressure system moving south to north through the region will bring a couple of good chances for showers and thunderstorms, first during the day today, and then again on Saturday especially in the afternoon and primarily over the eastern third of South Dakota into west central Minnesota. Between a warm front lifting northward across the area today, and a cold front surging east into Minnesota on Saturday, the temperature forecast will be especially challenging for the next couple of days. In fact, some areas today may not see high temperatures get out of the 60s, while other areas may see the mercury climb into the mid to upper 80s.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 64.1 F at 12:00 AM

Low Outside Temp: 54.8 F at 10:56 AM

High Gust: 21.0 Mph at 2:21 AM

Precip: 0.03

Today's Info

Record High: 94° in 1935

Record Low: 22° in 2012

Average High: 69°F

Average Low: 42°F

Average Precip in Sept.: 1.69

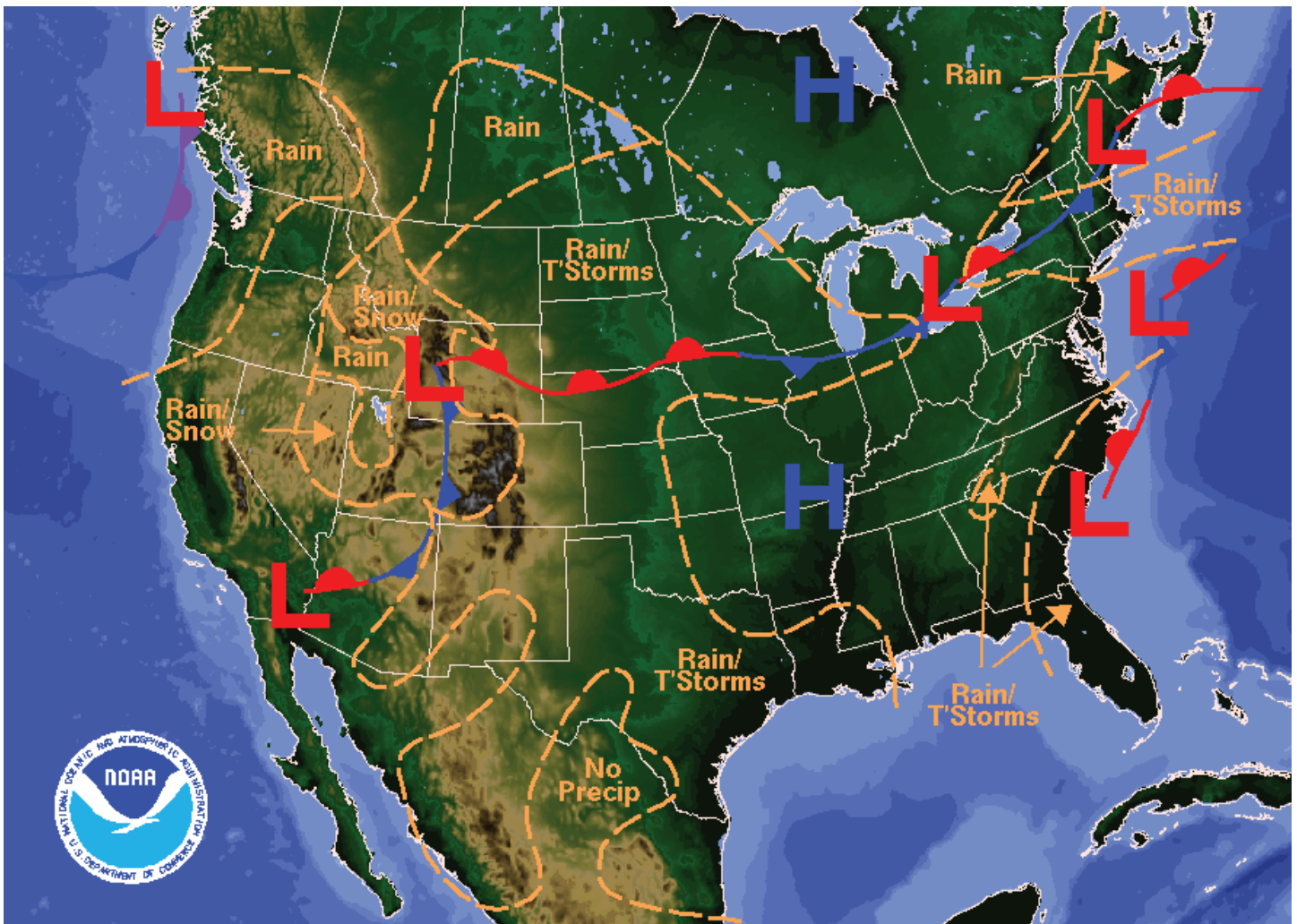
Precip to date in Sept.: 0.54

Average Precip to date: 17.98

Precip Year to Date: 13.20

Sunset Tonight: 7:28 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:23 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Fri, Sep 23, 2016, issued 4:32 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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WHAT COUNTS

In the game of baseball victory is determined by runs. It is not determined by strikes or strike outs, hits, double plays, triple plays or the number of innings a game may go. It is only determined by runs.

The player who hits the ball into left field for a single, even stretches it into a double and slides safely into second is not rewarded with "half-a-run." It is not part of the final score.

How true of life. How true of everything we do. It is not how well we start, how well we continue for a while, but whether or not we finish what we started.

Paul had a co-worker named Demas. How long he was involved with Paul or whether or not he had any particular skills in church planting is not known. What is known is that he deserted Paul because he loved the things of "this life." He allowed his desire for worldly things and pleasures to surpass his desire for the things of the Lord.

There are two ways we might view the world. One is the way God intended it to be and the way it will be when He returns in His glory. The other way we might look at the world is as Demas did – as it is now with its attractions and pleasures that can defeat us and destroy us.

All of us have the same choices as Demas and Paul: to live for the things of this world or the world to come.

Prayer: Create within us, Lord, the desire to seek first the Kingdom of God and a life of righteousness. May we honor You in all we do and forsake the world. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: 2 Timothy 4:10 For Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica, Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmania.

The logo for Golden Living, featuring the words "golden" in orange and "living" in blue, with a stylized orange and blue wave graphic below.

We now accept

The logo for Avera Health Plans, featuring the word "Avera" in white on a blue background, with a white cross symbol to the right and "Health Plans" in white below.

for out patient therapy.

**1106 N 2nd St., Groton
605/397-2365**

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News from the Associated Press

Feds send land buy-back offers to nearly 4K in Lower Brule

LOWER BRULE, S.D. (AP) — The federal government says it has sent purchase offers to nearly 4,000 landowners who have parcels on the Lower Brule Indian Reservation as part its effort to help tribal governments consolidate land.

The Interior Department says the offers sent to landowners with fractional interests on the reservation amount to more than \$11 million.

Land buy-back programs aim to help Native American tribes buy parcels of reservation land that have accumulated multiple owners. The parcels that get sold will be consolidated and held in trust for the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe.

The purchases are part of a settlement over government mismanagement of Indian land royalties.

Allotting reservation land to individual tribal members, who passed it to heirs, was once a government method for assimilating American Indians. Some parcels have several owners.

Interested sellers have until Nov. 14 to accept the offers.

Thursday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Arlington def. DeSmet, 25-11, 25-18, 25-14

Avon def. Irene-Wakonda, 25-15, 25-21, 23-25, 25-16

Bon Homme def. Burke/South Central, 25-22, 25-20, 25-27, 25-13

Canistota def. Bridgewater-Emery, 25-16, 18-25, 25-15, 25-11

Chester def. Garretson, 25-10, 25-6, 25-3

Colman-Egan def. Dell Rapids St. Mary, 25-16, 25-15, 25-18

Custer def. Belle Fourche, 25-15, 25-18, 25-22

Dell Rapids def. Flandreau, 25-19, 25-20, 23-25, 25-13

Elkton-Lake Benton def. Estelline, 25-18, 25-9, 22-25, 25-15

Ethan def. Scotland, 25-16, 25-9, 25-13

Eureka/Bowdle def. Aberdeen Christian, 25-20, 25-13, 23-25, 25-9

Faith def. New Underwood, 25-16, 19-25, 25-18, 25-18

Freeman Academy def. Andes Central/Dakota Christian, 25-11, 24-26, 29-27, 28-26

Gregory def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-9, 15-25, 25-21, 25-15

Groton Area def. Sisseton, 25-18, 25-18, 25-18

Herreid/Selby Area def. Linton-HMB, N.D., 25-20, 25-20, 25-8

Hot Springs def. Red Cloud, 24-26, 25-17, 25-14, 27-25

Ipswich def. Langford, 25-17, 18-25, 25-14, 25-16

Leola/Frederick def. Ellendale, N.D., 26-24, 25-21, 25-13

Little Wound def. St. Francis Indian, 25-19, 25-9, 25-17

Madison def. Tri-Valley, 25-20, 25-16, 25-13

Marshall, Minn. def. Sioux Falls Roosevelt, 21-25, 25-20, 25-20, 25-21

McCook Central/Montrose def. Parkston, 25-18, 25-23, 25-16

McIntosh def. Dupree, 15-25, 23-25, 25-21, 25-20, 17-15

Menno def. Freeman, 25-18, 25-16, 20-25, 25-12

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Milbank Area def. Clark/Willow Lake, 26-24, 18-25, 25-22, 25-12
Miller def. Hitchcock-Tulare, 25-27, 19-25, 25-11, 25-19, 15-9
Mobridge-Pollock def. Lemmon, 25-14, 25-17, 25-20
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Canton, 25-11, 25-22, 25-5
Northwestern def. Warner, 25-22, 25-27, 25-23, 25-23
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland def. Lake Preston, 28-26, 25-22, 27-25
Parker def. Baltic, 25-19, 25-23, 25-19
Philip def. Harding County, 25-21, 25-23, 19-25, 25-23
Potter County def. Stanley County, 25-21, 25-20, 25-13
Redfield/Doland def. Deuel, 25-21, 25-15, 25-11
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket def. Iroquois, 25-14, 25-7, 25-17
Sioux Falls Christian def. Dakota Valley, 21-25, 25-22, 25-20, 21-25, 19-17
Sully Buttes def. Sunshine Bible Academy, 25-6, 25-6, 25-6
Timber Lake def. Standing Rock, N.D., 25-13, 25-16, 25-12
Tiospa Zina Tribal def. Flandreau Indian, 25-9, 25-13, 25-23
Tiospaye Topa def. Crazy Horse, 25-16, 25-23, 25-27, 25-16
Tripp-Delmont/Armour def. Mitchell Christian, 25-20, 23-25, 25-18, 25-10
Waubay/Summit def. Florence/Henry, 25-21, 17-25, 25-22, 25-17
Waverly-South Shore def. Great Plains Lutheran, 25-11, 25-18, 22-25, 25-15
Webster def. Britton-Hecla, 25-7, 25-13, 25-23
West Central def. Lennox, 25-20, 25-17, 27-25
Alcester-Hudson Triangular
Akron-Westfield, Iowa def. Elk Point-Jefferson, 25-13, 19-25, 25-11, 25-16
Akron-Westfield, Iowa def. Alcester-Hudson, 19-25, 25-8, 25-17, 25-17
Elk Point-Jefferson def. Alcester-Hudson, 11-25, 13-25, 25-20, 25-17, 16-14
Huron Triangular
Brookings def. Sioux Falls O'Gorman, 25-21, 25-13, 25-20
Huron def. Pierre, 25-22, 25-22, 25-16
Wolsey-Wessington def. James Valley Christian, 25-21, 25-21, 28-26
Lead-Deadwood Triangular
Hill City def. Newell, 25-22, 25-8, 25-6
Lead-Deadwood def. Newell, 27-29, 21-25, 25-10, 25-13, 15-3
Lead-Deadwood def. Hill City, 25-16, 25-20, 21-25, 19-25, 15-11
White River Triangular
Kadoka Area def. White River, 25-18, 25-18, 25-21
Kadoka Area def. Pine Ridge, 25-12, 26-24, 16-25, 25-15
White River def. Pine Ridge, 25-18, 25-18, 14-25, 19-25, 15-11

Gov. Dennis Daugaard proclaims October to be Archives Month

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard has named October to be Archives Month in South Dakota.

Daugaard says that archival institutions have a responsibility to collect and preserve records that document the history of South Dakota and the plains region for present and future generations.

Chelle Somsen, South Dakota state archivist, says the month serves as the time to focus on important records and give recognition to the people and programs who maintain them.

The South Dakota State Historical Society-Archives in October is sponsoring or participating in events

that highlight historical records.

Online: <http://history.sd.gov/archives/>

Insurance change creates challenges for rural residents

By VICTORIA LUSK, Aberdeen American News

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — In 2010, Tana Wahl of Langford started her own insurance company and began to carry her own insurance plan.

More recently, however, she also accepted a position as a registered nurse at Sanford Health in Webster, where her benefits include an optional employee health plan.

Prior to the additional employment, Wahl doctored with Avera.

"Throughout the years, our area has pretty much been Avera," Wahl said. "Because of that, many people had established a primary Avera physician who they trust as a provider," she said.

That was the case for Wahl, her children and some of her clients.

"However, when Sanford first came, it opened more doors and it allowed people to really test the waters," she said.

Now, those in rural areas who are likely serviced by either Sanford or Avera might have to choose between the two providers.

That's after Sanford Health announced Aug. 23 that it would no longer accept DakotaCare and Avera Health Plans.

Geographically, Langford is in a unique position. Residents can travel northeast to Britton, which offers Avera services, or southeast to Webster, which offers Sanford services.

Health care services can seem to be limited in rural areas, Wahl said. But technology, such as online charting and email correspondence, has been helping to change that.

Yet those features don't help in the case of an emergency, Wahl said. Emergency services aren't the only issue affected by the insurance decision. Because emergency responders will take patients to the closest facility — whether it be Avera, Sanford or somewhere else — they play the biggest role in rural care, Wahl said.

Insurance-wise, "that's a big consideration for people," she said.

Patients can often plan in advance procedures or operations. That's not the case with emergencies.

As an independent insurance agent, Wahl can't voice preference of insurance providers or hospitals. But she fields questions from many clients and others who are about concerned about the issue. Some of them express interest in moving to a Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance plan, which is accepted at both health care systems.

Because of the demand for Blue Cross Blue Shield, Wahl believes those rates could increase.

"It's going to be interesting to see how it affects health insurance in South Dakota specifically," she told the Aberdeen American News (<http://bit.ly/2d4phWR>).

There might be fewer concerns for communities in the region that are served by independent health care system — Bowdle, Faulkton, Mobridge and Oakes, N.D. Those unaffiliated hospitals accept various types of insurance coverage.

Sanford and Avera don't agree on the reasoning behind the Sanford's decision to no longer accept the insurance, which came roughly nine months after Avera purchased broad insurance network provider DakotaCare in November 2015.

However, both health care systems now assert that they will move forward in whatever ways are best for their patients, and they are seeing the same kind of response from those that carry their insurance

plans.

Jesse Tischer, executive vice president for Sanford Health Network, said that, since the decision, Sanford has fielded questions about the reasoning.

But, he said, Sanford has had a lot of support once people understand why the decision was made. He said Sanford was essentially just asking for what Avera already had — broad network coverage.

Rob Bates, executive vice president for Avera Health, said Avera has received about 100 phone calls from DakotaCare members, providers, clients and agents who are seeking to better understand the transition.

"Most calls have been from members and the majority of calls have involved questions about continuing care for those in active treatment plans or help in transitioning to a participating DakotaCare provider," Bates said.

Sanford Health insurance agents are also seeing an influx of people and employers who are seeking to at least evaluate different options, Tischer said.

"(Those agents) are also hearing from some communities and patients where we have a Sanford-only provider and they might see an Avera doctor and they want to know where they will go to receive their care," he said.

That is the most common question Avera is being asked — whether or not a DakotaCare policyholder can continue to see a Sanford provider. While that choice is up to the policyholder, it will result in higher out-of-pocket expenses because after the transition Sanford will be considered an out-of-network provider.

However, Bates said, health conditions that require longer-term services such pregnancy or cancer that have already began treatment with a Sanford provider will be treated as in-network until the treatment or process is complete.

Ultimately, choosing a provider comes down to making a decision about what services and what kind of care a person wants to receive, Tischer said.

Avera has more facilities in rural communities surrounding Aberdeen with established Avera Medical Groups. People with DakotaCare in those communities will not see any issues as DakotaCare considers Avera in-network, Bates said.

Because Avera's mission is to provide access to quality health care within its footprint, its goal is to always keep care within any community that its asked to come into, he said.

However, Sanford could increase its presence in rural communities in the future, as the health system's approach to going into new communities is also based on invitation, Tischer said. However, it is unlikely that smaller communities would have both health systems readily available. The economics — including demand and population — simply wouldn't sustain that.

Fortunately for patients, a brick-and-mortar location isn't necessarily required for rural health care.

"Acute care needs can be covered with virtual health," Tischer said, which is one way Sanford hopes to preserve access to rural care.

Information from: Aberdeen American News, <http://www.aberdeennews.com>

Wildlife officials remove brown trout from Spearfish Creek

By MARK WATSON, Black Hills Pioneer

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — Spearfish Creek offers some of the best fishing in the Black Hills.

Well known for its ample brown, rainbow and even brook trout, the stream, with its clear, cool waters is the destination of many anglers year-round.

But with 2,000 to 4,000 fish per mile, the size of the fish may not be as large as in other area creeks.

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So, the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks removed approximately 3,000 brown trout this summer in hopes of enhancing the size of the fish.

"There is a strong population as far as numbers," said Jake Davis, area fisheries supervisor with the Game, Fish and Parks Department.

The population was greater than in other streams, and while they may have led to a good fishing experience, the fisheries personnel saw "red flags" with too much completion for the limited resources in the stream.

Few fish, brown nor rainbow trout, were greater than 14 inches long — most were in the 10- to 12-inch range, Davis said.

So, the department decided to remove fish in some areas to see if the lower number would lead to a healthier fishery.

"We do a lot of population manipulation with stocking fish; however, in this case we, in certain sections of the stream, would remove individuals from those sections with a goal of freeing up (food) resources for the remaining fish . and hopefully improve growth rate and also the size structure," Davis told the Black Hills Pioneer (<http://bit.ly/2dek423>).

Fourteen areas of Spearfish Creek, in Spearfish and up Spearfish Canyon to Cheyenne Crossing, were identified and "electrofished" in late July and early August. Each was a quarter-mile long. Fisheries staff used equipment designed to send an electrical current into the water that stuns the fish causing them to float to the surface. Then other staff netted the trout marking some with radio transmitters as part of the population study.

In seven areas — the control areas — the stream was electrofished, and the fish were logged and released. In the other seven areas — the treatment areas — the fish were logged, but half were removed and later restocked in Iron Creek Lake. Only brown trout were removed.

Some of the trout were killed to identify their age, done by analyzing the ear bones of the fish.

For the next two years, a South Dakota State University student will monitor the population and will electrofish the creek each summer to determine if there is growth in the trout.

Davis said the rainbow trout population is also ample, but sizes also are smaller than in other streams. He said he hopes removing some of the brown trout will give the rainbows a boost in size as well. Davis said brown trout are generally more aggressive and will outcompete a rainbow population.

Anglers are required to release any rainbow trout caught in Spearfish Creek between the Maurice Intake and Hydro No. 2. Beyond those boundaries, anglers are limited to a combined creel of five trout daily and only one may be larger than 14 inches long.

Information from: Black Hills Pioneer, <http://www.bhpioneer.com>

Sanford research team draws scientists from around the globe

By JODI SCHWAN, Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A United Airlines flight leaves Sioux Falls at 6:25 p.m. each Friday headed to Chicago.

And nearly every time, Jill Weimer has a seat on it.

Weimer, 41, helps direct the Children's Health Research Center at Sanford Health, is the senior director of therapeutic development and also leads a team of scientists working to cure rare childhood diseases.

Her husband, a nuclear engineer, works in Chicago. So at the end of each week, Weimer boards a plane. She will return on a flight that arrives Monday night. She works from Illinois one week out of every six.

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"My lab jokes they hate it when I work off-site because they get 100 percent of my attention versus when I'm here I'm pulled into a hundred meetings," Weimer said. "They get hundreds of emails from me."

When she's in Sioux Falls, Weimer rarely is far from the lab. She estimates she works 12-hour days, while quickly adding "but the mind of a scientist actually never turns off."

The science in her lab received international recognition earlier this year, when Weimer and others from Sanford Health presented at an international stem cell conference in Vatican City. Three patients have been enrolled in a clinical trial for one type of Batten disease, and the Children's Health Research Center also is using stem cells to pursue treatments for other rare diseases and neurological disorders.

Behind the scenes is a team of scientists with global reach. Most are scientists in their 20s and 30s who hail from places as diverse as Brazil, Kenya and Italy.

Other team members split time between Sioux Falls and New York or China.

In spite of the occasional distance to bridge, they seem to be a collaborative, collegial group. While Weimer's 12-hour shifts are not the norm for her team, they have been known to be in lab until after midnight if critical data depended on it.

"I allow them to be really invested in these projects and own them as their science," Weimer told the Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2cSzCOx>). "And they see how they're helping people and what the potential is for leading to a therapy. They get as equally excited and passionate about it."

Zhiguang Guo has a commute much longer than even Weimer.

The researcher, who focuses on type 1 diabetes, spends about half his time in his native China. After six weeks there, he works six weeks in Sioux Falls and commutes to Minneapolis, where his family lives on weekends.

Scientist Haotian Zhou, whose wife and daughter live in New York, also is a Sanford Research super-commuter. He returns to New York every two months and spends a few weeks there before coming back to Sioux Falls.

The rest of the Children's Health Research Center team mostly works from the Sanford Research headquarters, but they bring a global reach of experience with them.

When research associate Katie White graduated from the University of Missouri at Columbia, she estimates she applied for 200 jobs nationwide.

Her resume included using pigs as models in research, which caught Weimer's eye because her lab does the same.

"So that's why she hired me," White, 24, said. "I really like it. I realize that a lot of people in my position in other labs across the country don't have the amount of responsibility I'm able to. In Jill's lab, I manage a whole slew of projects, which isn't the norm, so I appreciate the opportunity."

Daniel Kota, a staff scientist and native of Brazil, came to Sioux Falls from Texas, where he went to graduate school.

"The facility is great," he said, adding he was attracted by the chance to "start something new and exciting. The collaboration is good. There's a lot of collaboration here. We try to always bring different expertise together, which is great, and the people are very helpful."

Two weeks after graduating from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, Gaya Shivega started at the Children's Health Research Center. Shivega, who grew up in Kenya, first saw Sanford as part of a tour when she was a sophomore in college.

Intrigued by the research being done, she applied and was hired as a research associate.

"You just move forward when a lot of people are helping you move forward," Shivega said of her experience in the lab. "We work closely with everybody in the Children's Health Center, and you learn

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new techniques.”

Staff scientist Rosanna Beraldi also has an international history. Born in Italy, she came to the U.S. in 2006 and has been at Sanford for two years.

She had worked at Mayo Clinic and followed her husband to Sioux Falls, where he was doing his residency in internal medicine.

“I knew there was this amazing facility here and they were doing neurological diseases with pig models, and this was a great opportunity to work with pigs because they are the most similar animal model to humans, so I took the opportunity,” Beraldi said. “It’s going great. It’s fun and a very young environment. We do very serious research in a fun way.”

The nature of the lab is a good fit for Sammy Davis, 23, a research associate from Minnesota.

“I didn’t have a huge background in anything neurological, but I said, ‘I’ll do whatever you want me to do.’ I’ve learned a lot, and it’s been a great opportunity,” she said. “We have so many projects going on, but we all piggyback on each other and help.”

The older members of the research team, in their 30s, recognize what they call world-class opportunities at the Sanford facility.

Peter Vitiello, 36, an associate scientist, came to Sioux Falls from New York seven years ago when the research center had two faculty. It’s grown to 16 faculty and 75 employees.

“Finding an opportunity to be independent in science, do what you want to do and somebody is going to invest in your idea, was very slim for a while because of poor funding across the nation,” he said.

“But a lot of people said this was essentially a place that didn’t have a reputation and was career suicide. It’s been an honor to be part of a group putting their name on the map and getting our work respected out there and be part of that growth.”

There’s something, he said, “that has created such an amenable and collegial environment, where we’re just rooting for each other at all times. That’s really unique in a research environment.”

Associate scientist Kevin Francis, 38, came from West Virginia about a year ago. He leads a three-person lab with one team member from Sioux Falls and another who moved from Illinois.

“There are fantastic people to work with and a great living environment,” he said, adding the move to Sioux Falls “can be a hard sell, mostly because it’s the Midwest and not East or West Coast, California or Boston, which are considered scientific research hubs. It’s more about getting Sanford’s name and research out there to the community, so people will want to come here and work with us.”

Recruitment depends on the level of researcher Sanford is trying to attract, said Kyle Roux, 40, the senior director of biomedical sciences for the center.

Finding faculty members isn’t as difficult because there aren’t many opportunities nationwide to run a lab, he said. Technicians and associates also aren’t as hard because there are nearby universities with applicable training programs.

“If we’re talking about requiring Ph.D.s, that’s a little more difficult,” he said. “We’ve had some great success, but given the institution is not that large and relatively new, the reputation is still growing.”

It might seem counterintuitive, but when Weimer flies in potential new hires, she brings them for a visit to Sioux Falls during the winter.

“We feel that’s the one downside, and they need to see that,” she said. “When we interview folks, I tell them it’s 50 percent smarts and 50 percent personality. They need to be able to intellectually handle what we’re doing, but if they’re going to have an attitude or create a rift, I don’t need them working with us no matter how smart they are.”

Once in Sioux Falls, the Children’s Health Research Center team seems to settle in easily.

Shivega, from Kenya, calls the city a fun place to live.

“I’m definitely going to be here at least the next year,” she said. “I’m applying for medical school, so

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we'll see how that goes, but I feel like there's still room to grow. And I'm doing some really cool projects that I want to get to a point where I feel like I've moved it forward enough."

Francis, who moved from West Virginia but said he has lived "all over," calls Sioux Falls fantastic.

"For what I would call a smallish town, there's plenty to do, and the people are friendly and nice, and it's a great place to raise my family."

Beraldi, from Italy, agreed.

"I like Sioux Falls," she said, adding she will be here for at least another few years but would like to stay longer. "It's very safe, and for me not having family here — my parents are in Italy — I like to feel safe in Sioux Falls. And I'm very, very happy with the research . because I think we can really find some therapeutics that can cure disease."

Kota, from Brazil, has noticed that in Sioux Falls "people are happy to work. You don't see that anywhere else in the country."

He said he loves the city and hopes to start his own lab in the next year or two focusing on stem cell research and translational therapies.

But unlike the international nature of his team now, Kota, 36, said he's hoping to attract local talent on his team.

"I think there's a need to demystify that you can only attract talent from talent centers," he said. "Science should be more open to more people. And if you attract local people and they succeed, that affects the community. I don't think you need to go far to attract talent. That's my goal."

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

Tech school students using drone in agriculture program

By SARA BERTSCH, The Daily Republic

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — After weeks of sitting in the classroom, several Mitchell Technical Institute students were able to spend a few hours outside earlier this month— flying a drone.

The drone, which was purchased for \$49,995 by MTI in June, was being used by precision agriculture students to survey land, taking high resolution images.

The students took instruction from Devon Russell, the precision agriculture technology department head and instructor. Russell was required to attend training and become certified before flying the Trimble UX5. For five days, and eight hours each day, Russell was learning the ins and outs of the Trimble drone before the institution was allowed to purchase the device.

"It's the future," Russell said.

The students spent several minutes making sure everything was in place, going through a flight check-list and completing all of the steps before the launch.

Once the drone took flight, Russell said it pretty much "flies itself."

Before launching, the students created a flight plan in class for the area they wanted to survey. The drone downloads the plan, automatically calculates how it needs to fly the area, and does the rest on its own.

Russell said the flier has controls if there requires any evasive maneuvers, but other than that "it's going to keep its course and survey everything."

There are regulations that must be followed, Russell said, and one important rule is to be in communication with the airport. If the drone is being flown within five miles of the airport, Russell said he has to call the airport and let them know they will be flying the drone in the area.

The drones, which can go up to 60 mph, can go up thousands of feet into the air. But the maximum

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altitude allowed under regulation is 400 feet, Russell said.

Russell said the goal is getting his students certified to fly drones, and after they graduate, they can fly commercially.

"It's brand new technology everyone is interested in," Russell told The Daily Republic (<http://bit.ly/2d7zMeQ>). "Once they have their certification on their resume, that will really put them above other people."

In March, MTI received approval from the Mitchell Board of Education to purchase the drone. The lone bid, from Scott Supply of Mitchell.

Seth Weeman, an ag technology instructor, said the best part of the drone is that it provides another avenue to bring precision data back to the classroom.

And the new technology is not only going to impact the precision agriculture students, but the entire agriculture department at MTI, Weeman said.

Having a drone and using it in class has caused Weeman and Russell to change the way they structure their classes, but it's a good change.

"Precision is one of those fields that every year you kind of reevaluate your curriculum and see what's relevant and what isn't anymore," Weeman said. "And so for this year, I can't say we've removed anything, but this has certainly been a huge addition to the program."

For the precision agriculture students, they are happy they can get out of the classroom and gain some hands-on experience with the drone.

Marie Demerath, a first-year precision agriculture student, chose MTI because of the program, which is bigger than other schools she considered.

Demerath said if she decides to go into crop scouting, she will have the experience she needs.

For the past few weeks, Demerath and her classmates have been learning how to operate the drone, and set up flight plans on the computer.

But the best part, Demerath said is going out and flying the drone.

"It's hands-on," Demerath said. "Actually getting to do it ourselves and not just watching."

Weeman said the drone has created more opportunity for students to spend time outside of the classroom and become proficient in the technology.

The drone, which has a battery life of about 50 minutes, allows instructors to "really mix it up," Weeman said, and gets students outside doing more practical work.

"I think that's where the tech school is shining," he said. "We've got a good mix of theoretics and practical applications here at the land labs."

Moving forward, Russell said there are plans to purchase another drone that hovers versus the Trimble UX5, which does not have these capabilities.

Right now, Russell said it's important to implement the technology and the data it delivers into all of the classes.

"The most important part is not the actual drone flying, but the data you collect and what you do with the actual data," Russell said. "You're going to get a pretty picture, but what are you actually going to do with it?"

Information from: The Daily Republic, <http://www.mitchellrepublic.com>

Authorities identify man killed in crash west of Spearfish

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified a 30-year-old man who died in a one-vehicle crash west of Spearfish.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says Adrian Gourneau of Spearfish died after he lost control of a pickup truck he was driving early Wednesday.

The pickup rolled after sliding into the ditch. The Highway Patrol says Gourneau was ejected from the truck and died from his injuries.

A 27-year-old female passenger received serious injuries that weren't a threat to her life. The Highway Patrol is investigating the crash.

Excited to vote? South Dakota absentee voting starts Friday

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Absentee voting opens Friday in South Dakota, allowing supporters of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton to cast ballots ahead of the Nov. 8 general election.

People who want to vote absentee in person at their county auditor's office or a satellite location should bring a photo ID such as a driver's license, passport or tribal identification card. Those without photo identification can sign an affidavit.

Absentee by mail voters must fill out an application to request an absentee ballot with a notarized signature or a copy of a photo ID.

WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

Voters this election will have the opportunity to decide among candidates for president, U.S. House and Senate, the state Public Utilities Commission and state legislative seats.

There are also 10 ballot measures going before voters, and voters may have county office races on their ballot. Secretary of State Shantel Krebs is encouraging people to review a sample ballot before voting since the ballot is so long this year, she said.

Democratic and Republican candidates across the state are reminding voters they can vote absentee, officials from both parties said. The parties will also use social media to inform people about the option.

WHERE IT ALL STARTED

Lawmakers in 2003 removed regulations that allowed absentee voting only for bona fide excuses, such as being absent on Election Day, illness, observance of a religious holiday or attending college away from home.

TOP RACES

In Republican-heavy South Dakota, Democratic House candidate Paula Hawks is challenging three-term GOP Congresswoman Kristi Noem, while Yankton businessman Jay Williams, a Democrat, is attempting to stop Republican U.S. Sen. John Thune from getting a third term in the Senate. Democratic Public Utilities Commission candidate Henry Red Cloud is campaigning to unseat Chris Nelson, a Republican who has served on the three-member commission since 2011.

Voters looking for a presidential option other than Clinton or Trump could choose Libertarian nominee Gary Johnson or Constitution Party candidate Darrell Castle. Green Party hopeful Jill Stein is not on the ballot.

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KEY BALLOT MEASURES

Top ballot issues include measures on payday lending interest rates, a wide-ranging plan that would let voters earmark public money for political candidates and an amendment that would create a new commission to redraw the state's legislative districts.

CHECK YOUR PHONE

Voters can use the Secretary of State's Vote605 app to view a sample ballot and track an absentee ballot request from their phone. The app also gives citizens the ability to figure out where they are registered to vote.

Online: <https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/voting/VOTE605.aspx>

Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press

Aberdeen American News, Aberdeen, Sept. 21, 2016

Mandatory police cameras would help trust factor

To protect citizens, and protect police, body cameras should be made mandatory for law enforcement in South Dakota.

American News reporter Bob Mercer recently wrote that there have been 35 shootings of criminal suspects by state, city or county law enforcement officers in South Dakota since 2001.

There have been 10 in the past 20 months, including most recently in Aberdeen on Aug. 14.

State investigators determined after each one that deadly force was justified, Mercer wrote.

You can take that news at least a couple of different ways.

Across the board, edge-to-edge, South Dakota officers are doing their jobs by the book. A perfect 35_0, which is worthy of our applause.

Or, the more skeptical view: That these investigations by the state are skewed to favor law enforcement, that a citizen has a higher burden of proof.

Again, 35_0 could raise some eyebrows.

It is important to remember that each report is a life-and-death story. Each tells of a situation in which a police officer or sheriff's deputy or state trooper faced a person with a weapon that could kill.

So who's to question past justified shootings? But what is clear is:

. The professional sophistication of the reports has increased in those 15 years. So have the details in these reports.

. Such shootings by police are becoming more common and will likely continue to escalate, 10 in the last 20 months vs. the other 25 in the 12½ years.

. The variety of places where these shootings happened shows something too. The risk is anywhere and everywhere.

. There are some common behaviors in the reports. Raise a firearm toward a law officer and shooting will begin. Charge with a knife toward an officer and shooting will begin. Try to drive a vehicle over an officer and shooting will begin. And justifiably so.

The reports also make it clear that the officers and deputies and troopers who serve and protect us never know when they will have to risk their lives to save ours.

This nation's relationship with its police force is in a volatile state. But not as much in South Dakota, or so it seems.

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Having our law enforcement officers wearing body cameras would help maintain and build upon the trust that still exists in our state.

Mandatory body cameras certainly won't solve all the problems between police and the people they serve. But it is a step in the right direction. So are more detailed reports on police shootings and releasing the findings from the body cameras.

We want to be safe, and we want our protectors to be safe. Body cameras would help both groups, and would help justify our trust in officers with video evidence.

In South Dakota, we believe law enforcement does a good job to protect and serve. We thank them for their work.

But the mood in America — including here — shows we want law enforcement to be more accountable to the people they work for. So a call by Americans for mandatory body cameras should be heeded.

The Daily Republic, Mitchell, Sept. 20, 2016

Dakota Wesleyan's forum deserves kudos

Dakota Wesleyan University is taking on an uncomfortable discussion next week that needs to be applauded.

During its annual McGovern Civic Engagement Forum, the McGovern Center and DWU will host Dr. Mary Hess, who is speaking on the topic "White Privilege in Small-town America."

The event, which is open to the public, will also have a panel discussion with local leaders regarding ways South Dakota communities need to work to overcome racism and discrimination.

It's hard to ignore the fact our region is slowly becoming more diverse.

More often, we're seeing people of color serve as teachers, doctors and manufacturing workers throughout Mitchell. DWU recruits black students who are involved in athletics and become active community members.

According to the Mitchell School District's most available report card, 86 percent of its students are of white, non-hispanic origin. That's a drop from about 89 percent during the 2010-11 school year. Last year, there were also 60 students, or 2.2 percent of the district's student body, whose ethnic makeup includes two or more races.

As South Dakota and Mitchell become more diverse, we need to embrace the change in the right manner. And, discussing the issue, as Dakota Wesleyan and the McGovern Center have organized, is the right approach.

We encourage anyone to sit in and listen to Hess and the local panel.

This topic easily could be ignored, but Wesleyan is taking great steps in bringing it to light.

To be a progressive community, we need to embrace all cultures. Next week's forum is a big step in helping Mitchell move in that direction.

Kudos to DWU and the McGovern Center for their work.

Rapid City Journal, Rapid City, Sept. 18, 2016

IHS failures should lead to change

It is inefficient, often ineffective and always costly. It also frequently falls short when it attempts to communicate its message to the public.

It's the poster child — at least in western South Dakota — of government dysfunction.

Welcome to the Indian Health Service, unless, of course, you are a patient in need of emergency care. Then you will be sent to Rapid City Regional Hospital, which is what IHS said it will do when it

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announced Tuesday the imminent closure of the emergency department at Sioux San Hospital in Rapid City.

For those who are counting, IHS has now temporarily closed two emergency rooms this year in western South Dakota. The other was on the Rosebud reservation, which was closed for several months after the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, or CMS, cited numerous deficiencies there. The same agency also cited many problems this year at the Pine Ridge hospital. Both reservations have had long-running problems at their hospitals.

CMS also cited problems at Sioux San's emergency department this year, including patients not receiving appropriate medical screenings, an essential element of health care.

But last week's announcement by IHS officials didn't mention those issues or the correction plan that was approved in May by CMS. Rather, the press release cited the age of a facility built over 100 years ago for its decision to close the department in just one week.

Among those not anticipating the announcement was Regional Hospital, whose communications manager said in a press release that the hospital was "surprised and disappointed" by the decision.

On the day of the announcement, meanwhile, a Journal reporter asked an IHS spokesperson how many emergency visits are there at Sioux San? It took another 24 hours before he learned it was 14,400 patients in the past 12 months, although he also was told most of them did not require emergency care.

Nonetheless, it seems possible that Regional Hospital could expect to soon see many new patients in its emergency room, which likely would place a substantial burden on the city's only privately run hospital.

It is interesting to note that Tuesday's announcement came less than two months after IHS officials did what they frequently seem to do when reports of inadequate performance surface: float new building plans.

In a story published in the July 23 Journal, the current acting director at Sioux San revealed that federal officials want to demolish 16 structures and the water tower, demolish or remove five buildings, rehabilitate two buildings and build "a new hospital facility" at the campus on the west side of town.

That plan comes nearly 10 years after IHS announced it would spend \$51 million to expand operations at Sioux San for a project that, perhaps fortunately, never got off the ground.

If IHS has proven one thing, however, it is that spending more money does not guarantee better results. It's clear the problems are systemic at IHS, which continues to fall short on the promise to provide adequate and reliable care to Native Americans.

It seems there has never been a better time to seriously consider an overhaul of a health-care system that only seems to excel at spending money. Sens. Thune and Rounds and Rep. Noem have all voiced concerns this year about the quality of care at IHS facilities in western South Dakota and have said they want to see change and improvements.

We ask them to now lead the charge to find a better and more cost-effective way of providing health care and reshaping a federal agency that despite its \$4 billion annual budget has failed Native Americans and taxpayers over and over again.

State defends itself from critical Medicaid fraud report

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Department of Social Services disputes a federal report that criticized the state's efforts to combat Medicaid fraud, saying it has in fact been recognized by regulators for the low number of erroneous payments made to health care providers.

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In a lengthy statement to the Argus Leader, the agency said that recognition from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services earned South Dakota an exemption from a mandatory federal audit program that most states have to undergo, the newspaper reported (<http://argusne.ws/2cUoabP>).

The inspector general's office of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issued a report last week that found that the state's Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, which is part of the attorney general's office, was generally in compliance with federal requirements. But federal officials determined that the unit was getting few referrals of potential cases from the Social Services Department's Program Integrity Unit, which they argue is understaffed.

"The limited number of staff within the PI Unit may have affected the PI Unit's ability to provide referrals to the MFCU," according to the report, which stated that as of March, the Social Services Department only had two fraud investigators.

But the state agency wrote that because of the low volume of provider fraud in South Dakota, "it's not surprising that referrals to (Medicaid Fraud Control Unit) are low compared to other states."

It said the Program Integrity Unit tries to address billing errors up front when claims are processed and the issues are brought to the attention of providers to get the fixed.

"If errors are not corrected, or there is a credible allegation of fraud, then a referral is made to (Medicaid Fraud Control Unit)," the agency wrote. The "report counts only official cases reported to (Medicaid Fraud Control Unit), it does not reflect all of the collaboration and information sharing that occurs."

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

Man who solicited sex from teenager twice arrested

RAPID VALLEY, S.D. (AP) — Law enforcement authorities in Pennington County say a man who solicited sex from the same teenager twice in the last 13 months has been arrested.

The Pennington County sheriff's office says 59-year-old Rapid Valley resident Greg Zebrowski was arrested Wednesday on the charge of hiring for sexual activity.

The sheriff's office says Zebrowski had previously solicited the same 17-year-old girl.

It wasn't immediately clear Thursday if Zebrowski has an attorney who could comment on his behalf.

Butte County resident dies of West Nile-related causes

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A second South Dakota resident has died of causes related to the West Nile virus this season.

State epidemiologist Lon Kightlinger tells the Capital Journal (<http://bit.ly/2dmdyF6>) the Butte County resident died earlier this month. He says the person was in the 70s age group.

The mosquito-borne virus was first confirmed in South Dakota in 2002. Since then, the state has reported over 2,200 human cases, including more than 30 deaths.

The first West Nile virus-related death this season was reported in late August. The person was in the 80s age group and lived in Yankton County.

Kightlinger says the state this season has seen 127 reported human cases of West Nile virus.

Symptoms of West Nile include fever, headache, body aches and rash.

Information from: Pierre Capital Journal, <http://www.capjournal.com>

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Minimum-security inmate who escaped arrested in Yankton

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — A minimum-security inmate who walked away from a Yankton corrections facility is back in custody.

The South Dakota Department of Corrections says 25-year-old Arthur Eagle Feather was arrested at an apartment complex in Yankton Wednesday, just hours after he had left the Yankton Community Work Center.

Eagle Feather is serving two sentences out of Minnehaha County for receiving or transferring a stolen vehicle.

Mental health task force gather to solidify policy proposals

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A task force studying issues surrounding mentally ill people entering the criminal justice system in South Dakota is meeting again to solidify its policy recommendations.

The Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2cYD5Ab>) reports the task force is gathering Thursday in Pierre to go over a number of proposed policies that could be implemented in the state.

South Dakota Supreme Chief Justice David Gilbertson co-chairs the group, which he proposed after the newspaper reported that a backlog of mental competency evaluations of criminal suspects is taxing county budgets and raising concerns about the rights of defendants.

The group has so far considered doubling down on training for police officers, adding treatment as a condition of some bonds and placing a cap on the wait time for the mental competency evaluations.

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

India trying diplomacy in dealing with rival Pakistan

By ASHOK SHARMA, Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi has long been known for his hard-line stance on Pakistan. It was a major part of the campaign that swept him to power.

But even with his own officials saying a recent attack on an Indian military base was launched by Pakistan-based militants, Modi is relying on diplomacy more than saber-rattling.

In large part, this is because Modi and Indian forces already must defuse the massive and relentless anti-India protests that have swept its portion of Kashmir, triggered by the killing of a young rebel leader more than two months ago. The unrest has led to a clampdown by security forces that often left the Kashmir Valley under curfew, with schools, universities and businesses shut through the summer tourist season.

Also, with China standing solidly behind Pakistan, India does not want to face both of them — either diplomatically or militarily — given India's festering border dispute with Beijing. India suffered a humiliating loss in a bloody war with China in 1962. And today, all three countries have nuclear weapons.

Gul Mohammad Wani, a political science professor at the University of Kashmir, said Friday that the region's strategic environment made it difficult for New Delhi to try any kind of military adventurism.

"China is openly favoring Pakistan," he said. Plus: "Near daily protests against India in Kashmir don't go well with New Delhi's strategic military planning."

On Sunday, militants slipped into an Indian army base in Indian-controlled Kashmir, killing at least 18 soldiers. Four militants were killed in the attack, which occurred near the highly militarized Line of Control that divides Kashmir between India and Pakistan. India and Pakistan have fought two of their three wars over control of Kashmir since they won independence from British colonialists in 1947.

Indian investigators say maps, weapons and other evidence indicated the fighters were from Jaish-

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e-Mohammed, an outlawed militant group based in Pakistan. In January, India blamed Pakistan for an attack on an Indian air force base close to the Pakistan border that left seven soldiers dead.

Many of Modi's supporters and members of his Bharatiya Janata Party say India must hit back hard. "We will take revenge," said Indresh Kumar, a Hindu nationalist leader.

That's the sort of reaction many in the BJP expected from Modi after the Sunday attack. Instead, little has happened at all.

"The strategic thinkers in the country know very well that any kind of military strike by India is likely to lead to a war," Wani said. "In such a scenario, nuclear confrontation is a real possibility. There are extreme difficulties in that option. After all, these (nuclear weapons) are not merely political weapons."

Modi's handling of this crisis stands in sharp contrast to what happened after suspected Pakistani militants attacked India's parliament in 2001. Both countries came close to a fourth war then, massing hundreds of thousands of troops in Kashmir and remaining in a state of standoff for 11 months. Tensions eventually cooled after intensive international diplomacy.

Modi's BJP was in power then also. Then-Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, facing immense public pressure, scaled down diplomatic ties with Pakistan, stopped trans-border train services and banned overflights by Pakistani aircraft.

While Modi also has these options, so far he has preferred confronting Pakistan diplomatically, said Lalit Mansingh, a former Indian ambassador to the United States.

"It is a sign of maturity that the Modi government is keeping all options open, but giving priority to diplomacy," he said. "You could see that diplomacy has virtually isolated Pakistan, as we saw at the United Nations when Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif found very few takers."

In a Wednesday speech at the U.N. General Assembly, Sharif strongly criticized India's suppression of protests in Kashmir, calling for an independent inquiry into killings there and a U.N. fact-finding mission to investigate what he called India's "brutalities." Diplomatic broadsides followed, with an Indian diplomat calling Pakistan a "terrorist state" and Pakistan's foreign ministry offering support to Kashmiris' "movement for freedom from Indian oppression."

The South Asian nations' dispute over Kashmir is a perennial topic at the annual gathering of world leaders, but most countries now favor settling the dispute by India and Pakistan through direct talks.

India's friendship with the United States has helped defuse the situation, Mansingh said.

"We don't expect Americans to send their forces if we have any conflict. But the fact is that having a powerful country like the United States on your side diplomatically means a lot," he said.

Associated Press Writer Aijaz Hussain in Srinagar, India, contributed to this report.

Patriots go from Brady to back up to Brissett, keep winning

By KYLE HIGHTOWER, AP Sports Writer

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — The more assets the Patriots lose this season, the better they seem to play.

New England entered Week 3 of Tom Brady's four-game "Deflategate" suspension down to just one healthy full-time quarterback following backup Jimmy Garoppolo's shoulder injury last week against Miami.

But not even one of the NFL's top-ranked defenses could slow down a Patriots train that has barely missed a beat while getting off to a 3-0 start.

The latest exhibition was a 27-0 dismantling of the Houston Texans (2-1), a team that suddenly looked very pedestrian.

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"We really asked a lot out of the team this week — they responded," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said. "Just really proud of the way our guys competed."

Belichick rolled the dice by not adding another quarterback to the roster during the short week, and the trust he had in rookie Jacoby Brissett proved to be spot on .

Brissett began the season as the third-string quarterback behind Brady and Garoppolo. He trotted out on the field Thursday as the first rookie start for the Patriots since Drew Bledsoe in 1993.

He didn't have a stats-rich game, but was composed and made plays when it counted. He finished the night 11 of 19 for 103 yards, and ran eight times for 48 yards and a touchdown.

"You just always want to be ready and we have a great team, so players just welcome you no matter who is in the huddle," Brissett said. "At any moment in the game no one wavered, no one flinched, and the results proved themselves with what our team did tonight."

Under Belichick, quarterbacks are 6-0 in their first career start.

The Patriots have 10 days to recuperate, with only a game against Buffalo (0-2) on Oct. 2 remains before Brady could inexplicably return to a 4-0 team.

Meanwhile a Texans team that looked so promising after wins over Chicago and Kansas City, was lethargic in all three phases.

But Houston coach Bill O'Brien said it's much too early to panic.

"Losing is horrible. I mean it's absolutely horrible," he said. "There is nothing really in my mind that comes out good, but what I will say is that there is a resilient team in that locker room. These guys work hard. ...There is a lot of season left. We haven't even played a division game."

GRONK'S DAY: Rob Gronkowski finally made his 2016 debut after sitting out the first two weeks of the season nursing a sore hamstring. He wasn't his normal self by any means. He played 14 snaps and was targeted just one time. It was the first time he appeared in a regular-season game and went without a catch.

"I got to get my feet wet," he said. "It felt great just to get out there. I blocked the whole time, but it feels great just playing football again."

WATT'S UP?: J.J. Watt was a non-factor one a week after he had 1 1/2 sacks and seemed to be on his way back to the form that won him the NFL Defensive Player of the Year award last season. Watt assisted on just two tackles in the game, and the Texans were only able to sack Brissett once in the game, for a loss of 6 yards.

"They never really put him in a situation where he had to be throwing the ball too much," Watt said. "They did a great job at the run game, and did a great job all around and he played well being in a tough situation."

Watt is 0-5 (including one playoff game) against the Patriots, recording only a 1/2 sack in those contests.

VERY SPECIAL TEAMS: Belichick has always been a stickler about special teams. It paid off big time on Thursday. New England forced and recovered two fumbles on Texans' kickoffs that led to 14 points. Brandon Bolden forced the first one in the first quarter, which was scooped up by Duron Harmon on Houston's 22 to set up Brissett's touchdown run. Later in the third quarter Nate Ebner forced another fumble that was recovered by Jordan Richards on the Texans' 21. It set up a 1-yard score by LeGarrette Blount.

GROUND GAME: Blount has scored touchdowns in all three games this season. He ran 24 times for 105 yards and two touchdowns, including the 41-yarder in the fourth quarter to give New England a 27-0 lead Thursday. It's the third time in his career he has had back-to-back 100-yard games, and the first time since 2011. Blount also had a 1-yard TD run in the third quarter.

LEAPING WITH LAMBEAU: With the win, Belichick tied Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame coach Curly Lambeau for fourth on the NFL's all-time list with 226 regular-season victories.

"You know how much respect I have for Curly Lambeau and what he accomplished in his great career, but really today's not about me," Belichick said. "This is about our team. ... I wouldn't really want anything to deflect the credit that they deserve for what they accomplished tonight."

Up next is Tom Landry (270), with George Halas (324) and Don Shula (347) atop the list.

Follow Kyle Hightower on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/khightower>

Criminal charges in Tulsa police shooting may prevent unrest

By JUSTIN JUOZAPAVICIUS and SEAN MURPHY, Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — Less than a week after an unarmed black man was shot dead by a white police officer on a Tulsa street, prosecutors charged the officer with first-degree manslaughter, a decision that may prevent unrest in a city with a long history of tense race relations.

Tulsa officer Betty Shelby "reacted unreasonably" when she fatally shot 40-year-old Terence Crutcher on Sept. 16, prosecutors wrote in an affidavit filed with the charge on Thursday. Police also acted quickly to provide videos of the shooting to black community leaders and members of Crutcher's family and then released them to the public.

Shelby was booked in the Tulsa County jail at 1:11 a.m. Friday and was released at 1:31 a.m. after posting \$50,000 bond, according to jail records.

The swift action in Tulsa stood in contrast to Charlotte, North Carolina, where police refused under mounting pressure Thursday to publicly release video of the shooting of another black man this week and the National Guard was called in after two nights of violent protests. Demonstrations in Tulsa since Crutcher's death have been consistently peaceful.

Tulsa Mayor Dewey Bartlett praised the police department for quickly providing evidence to District Attorney Steve Kunzweiler's office.

"These are important steps to ensure that justice and accountability prevails," Bartlett said in a statement. "We will continue to be transparent to ensure that justice and accountability prevails."

Phil Turner, a Chicago-based defense attorney and former federal prosecutor, said the motivation of prosecutors in Tulsa may have been partly to allay outrage and avoid the kind of violence Charlotte has seen.

"But I don't think the charge was only to give the crowd some blood. ... No. I think (prosecutors) must have thought charges were warranted," he said.

If convicted, Shelby faces between four years and life in prison.

Crutcher's twin sister, Tiffany Crutcher, said her family is pleased with the charge, but she and her attorneys want to ensure a vigorous prosecution that leads to a conviction.

Attorney Damario Solomon-Simmons said: "We are happy that charges were brought, but let me clear — the family wants and deserves full justice.

"Not only for this family, not only for Terence but to be a deterrent for law officers all around this nation to know that you cannot kill unarmed citizens."

Shelby's attorney, Scott Wood, did not immediately respond to telephone messages seeking comment on the charges.

Dashcam and aerial footage of the shooting and its aftermath showed Crutcher walking away from Shelby with his arms in the air. The footage does not offer a clear view of when Shelby fired the single

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shot that killed Crutcher. Her attorney has said Crutcher was not following police commands and that Shelby opened fire when the man began to reach into his SUV window.

But Crutcher's family immediately discounted that claim, saying the father of four posed no threat to the officers. And police said Crutcher did not have a gun on him or in his vehicle.

The affidavit filed Thursday indicates that Shelby "cleared the driver's side front" of Crutcher's vehicle before she began interacting with Crutcher, suggesting she may have known there was no gun on the driver's side of the vehicle.

The affidavit says Shelby told police homicide investigators that "she was in fear for her life and thought Mr. Crutcher was going to kill her. When she began following Mr. Crutcher to the vehicle with her duty weapon drawn, she was yelling for him to stop and get on his knees repeatedly."

Prosecutors offer two possible theories in charging documents: That Shelby killed Crutcher impulsively in a fit of anger or that she wrongly killed him as she sought to detain him. Lee F. Berlin, a Tulsa-based defense lawyer and a former assistant district attorney in Oklahoma, said prosecutors could present both theories or may decide to move forward with only one and let jurors decide.

Berlin also said he thought ongoing tests by the state medical examiner's office would be enough to delay the filing of criminal charges.

"So, yes, I was surprised it came back quickly," he said, adding that he and other Tulsa attorneys he spoke with thought any charges against Shelby were unlikely.

Shelby, who joined the Tulsa Police Department in December 2011, was en route to a domestic violence call when she encountered Crutcher's vehicle abandoned on a city street, straddling the center line. Shelby did not activate her patrol car's dashboard camera, so no footage exists of what first happened between the two before other officers arrived.

The police footage shows Crutcher approaching the driver's side of the SUV, then more officers walk up and Crutcher appears to lower his hands and place them on the vehicle. A man inside a police helicopter overhead says: "That looks like a bad dude, too. Probably on something."

Police Sgt. Dave Walker has said investigators found a vial of the drug PCP in Crutcher's vehicle. Shelby's attorney, Wood, has said that Shelby completed drug-recognition expert training and thought Crutcher was acting like he might be under the influence of PCP.

Attorneys for Crutcher's family said the family didn't know whether drugs were found in the SUV, but that even if they were, it wouldn't justify the shooting.

In the videos, the officers surround Crutcher and he suddenly drops to the ground. A voice heard on the police radio says: "Shots fired!" The officers back away and Crutcher is left unattended on the street for about two minutes before an officer puts on medical gloves and begins to attend to him.

Crutcher's shooting followed a long history of troubled race relations in Tulsa, dating to the city's 1921 race riot that left about 300 black residents dead. As recently as 2013, a City Council vote to rename the city's glitzy arts district, which had been named after the son of a Confederate veteran and Ku Klux Klan member, drew vehement opposition.

Earlier this year, a white former volunteer deputy with the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office was sentenced to four years in prison after he was convicted of second-degree manslaughter in the shooting death of Eric Harris, who was also black and unarmed.

But Kunzweiler, the Tulsa prosecutor, emphasized the city's peaceful reaction in the aftermath of Crutcher's shooting.

"It's important to note that despite the heightened tensions felt by all, which seemingly beg for an emotional response and reaction, our community has consistently demonstrated the willingness to respect the judicial process," he said.

Associated Press reporters Michael Tarm in Chicago, Jill Bleed in Little Rock, Arkansas, and Ken Miller in Oklahoma City contributed to this report. Murphy reported from Oklahoma City.

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

1. CHARLOTTE MOSTLY PEACEFUL ON THIRD NIGHT OF PROTESTS

Demonstrations over the fatal police shooting of Keith Lamont Scott give way to quiet streets after the city enacts a curfew and National Guard members protect office buildings.

2. SWIFT LEGAL ACTION IN TULSA

Less than a week after Terence Crutcher, an unarmed black man, was shot dead by a white police officer, prosecutors charge Officer Betty Shelby with first-degree manslaughter.

3. SYRIAN GOVERNMENT FORCES RESUME INTENSE BOMBING CAMPAIGN

Airstrikes in Syria's rebel-held Aleppo districts intensify — among the targets, the renowned volunteer civil defense group known as the White Helmets.

4. FOR TRUMP, A BALANCING ACT

The Republican is seeking to show law-and-order toughness along with empathy for African-Americans as he criticizes violent protests in the wake of fatal police shootings.

5. NEW LAWS, RULINGS COULD CAUSE ELECTION DAY CONFUSION

For more than 120 million Americans, voting rules are determined by states and counties, so geography — and local politics — largely determine how easy it is to register and cast a ballot.

6. HACK DOESN'T SEND MESSAGE YAHOO NEEDED

The tech giant has been struggling for years to keep people coming back to its digital services such as email, and the hacking of at least 500 million accounts won't help.

7. RAHAMI'S FATHER SAYS HE TOLD FBI THAT SON HAD 'BECOME BAD'

Mohammad Rahami tells the AP the suspected Manhattan bomber's personality changed after visiting Afghanistan and Pakistan in 2013.

8. GRITTY INDIANA TOWN'S HOUSING COMPLEX CONTAMINATED

The mayor's order to evacuate 1,000 residents in East Chicago because of lead contamination should not have come as a surprise, as public documents and news coverage show the problem was known for decades.

9. WHO WOULD BENEFIT MEDICALLY UNDER A NEW ADMINISTRATION

A new study by the Commonwealth Fund finds that Trump would cause about 20 million people to lose health care coverage while Clinton would provide coverage for an additional 9 million.

10. THIRD-STRINGER LEADS PATS TO BIG WIN

Jacoby Brissett, filling-in for injured backup Jimmy Garoppolo, had a 27-yard touchdown run in his first NFL start and New England beats the Houston Texans 27-0.

Intense bombing campaign targets Syria civil defense centers

By SARAH EL DEEB, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — A bombing campaign in Syria's rebel-held districts of Aleppo city intensified Friday, targeting several neighborhoods and centers of the award-winning volunteer civil defense group known

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as the White Helmets, as the government announced a new offensive in the area.

The intense bombing and the declaration of a new offensive come as diplomatic efforts failed to salvage a cease-fire that lasted nearly a week, before giving way to a new level of violence. Residents and activists say the bombing, which began in earnest late Wednesday night, has been unprecedented, targeting residential areas, infrastructure and civil defense centers. Some streets have been closed off because of piles of rubble.

The Britain-based Observatory for Human Rights said at least three people were killed in about 30 raids that began overnight.

Ibrahim Alhaj, a member of the Syrian Civil Defense, said at least two civil defense centers have been targeted in the air bombing campaign that usually accelerates after dark. By Friday morning, one center in the Ansari neighborhood in the southern part of the rebel-held district has been put out of service. Ambulances and firefighting vehicles were damaged. In another center, Alhaj said, a bomb fell in the courtyard of the center and the extent of the damage is not yet clear.

"It is really critical. (Syrian President Bashar Assad air forces) have directly targeted civil defense centers," Alhaj said. There were no reported casualties among the group's volunteers.

Amid the intense campaign, it has become even more deadly for the civil defense teams to move. Already suffering from a shortage of fuel, their vehicles have been hard pressed to meet the increased demand on their services. For hours Thursday, the civil defense teams searched to save civilians who were buried under rubble in several neighborhoods in rebel-held Aleppo.

Other residents reported that one of two water stations feeding the city had been hit. A pro-government TV station, Addounia TV, blamed the armed groups for targeting the water station in Bab al-Nairab which feeds both sides of the contested city. The station said pumping from the station has ceased, but said work had begun to fix it. It was not immediately possible to verify or assess the extent of the damage or independently confirm who hit it.

The air campaign was followed by an announcement late Thursday by Syria's military command in Aleppo that it is launching new operations in rebel-held eastern quarters of the city. The announcement and reports of clashes on several edges of the besieged city raised concerns of imminent ground operations.

Rami Abdurrahman, of Observatory for Human Rights, said Friday that government troops seized buildings on the frontline, pushing back rebel fighters in the southern al-Amiriah district.

Alhaj, of the Civil Defense, confirmed the government troop movements on the city's southern edge. The Observatory said there were also air raids on the north of Aleppo city, and reported clashes on the frontline, near the old city center.

After a contentious two-and-a-half hour meeting with colleagues in New York, Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said they would meet again Friday in a bid to find a way forward. After a week of diplomatic talks and attempts to seek consensus, developments on the ground in Syria seem to have overshadowed prospects for bringing about calm.

Trump walks line between law and order, empathy for blacks

By STEVE PEOPLES and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump is seeking to show law-and-order toughness along with empathy for African-Americans as he criticizes violent protests stemming from another fatal police shooting of a black man.

His Democratic opponent, Hillary Clinton, was behind closed doors as she prepared for their initial debate and did not address on Thursday the escalating racial tensions in Charlotte, North Carolina. The city was under a midnight curfew after two previous nights of chaotic protests that led to one death as

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well as injuries, arrests and vandalism.

Trump has spent the last several weeks asking black Americans for their support and asserting that President Barack Obama has failed the black community, but those appeals have been undermined at times. On Thursday, the Trump campaign accepted the resignation of an Ohio volunteer, Mahoning County chair Kathy Miller, who told the Guardian newspaper, "I don't think there was any racism until Obama got elected."

Trump himself sent a mixed and at times unclear message that could rankle African-Americans even as he called for a nation united in "the spirit of togetherness."

"The rioting in our streets is a threat to all peaceful citizens and it must be ended and ended now," the New York businessman declared at a rally in suburban Philadelphia on Thursday night. He added: "The main victims of these violent demonstrations are law-abiding African-Americans who live in these communities and only want to raise their children in safety and peace."

Earlier in the day, however, Trump seemed to suggest that protesters outraged by the police shootings of black men were under the influence of drugs.

"I will stop the drugs from flowing into our country and poisoning our youth and many other people," he said during an appearance at an energy conference in Pittsburgh. He added, "And if you're not aware, drugs are a very, very big factor in what you're watching on television at night."

Trump's campaign said he was referring to news reports about the recent increase in drug-related deaths, not the protests seen on cable news the last few nights.

On Wednesday, Trump seemed to call for the national expansion of "stop-and-frisk," a police tactic that has been condemned as racial profiling. He clarified on Thursday that he had been referring only to murder-plagued Chicago.

Clinton has made curbing gun violence and police brutality central to her candidacy. She said Wednesday that the shooting in North Carolina and a fatal shooting of a black man by a white police officer in Tulsa, Oklahoma, had added two more names "to a long list of African-Americans killed by police officers. It's unbearable and it needs to become intolerable." The Tulsa officer has since been charged with first-degree manslaughter.

At his evening rally Thursday, Trump accused Clinton of supporting — "with a nod" — "the narrative of cops as a racist force in our society."

"Those peddling the narrative ... share directly in the responsibility for the unrest that is afflicting our country and hurting those who have really the very least," he said.

As she prepared for their debate Monday night, Clinton used humor to poke at her opponent by appearing on comic Zach Galifianakis' web program, "Between Two Ferns." The comedian asked her what Trump might wear.

"I assume he'll wear that red power tie," Clinton said.

Galifianakis responded, "Or maybe like a white power tie."

"That's even more appropriate," Clinton said.

Peoples reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Jason Keyser in Chicago and Julie Carr Smyth in Columbus, Ohio, contributed to this report.

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What political news is the world searching for on Google and talking about on Twitter? Find out via AP's Election Buzz interactive. <http://elections.ap.org/buzz>

Rahami's father says he told FBI that son had 'become bad'

By **MUNIR AHMED**, Associated Press

The father of the man charged with setting off bombs in New York and New Jersey informed the FBI in 2014 about his son's apparent radicalization, he said.

Speaking to The Associated Press early Friday in a telephone interview, Mohammad Rahami, father of alleged bomber Ahmad Khan Rahami, said his son underwent a personality shift after visiting Afghanistan and Pakistan in 2013. Speaking in Urdu, Mohammed Rahami said his son was not the same after that trip.

"I found a change in his personality. His mind was not the same. He had become bad and I don't know what caused it but I informed the FBI about it," he said.

The elder Rahami said he doesn't think the FBI took any action against his son at the time. He said he and his family were in a state of shock following last weekend's blasts, which injured 31 people.

"I condemn the act of my son and I am sad over injuries caused to people," he said, adding that he was cooperating fully with investigators.

Rahami, an Afghan-born U.S. citizen was shot and severely injured during his arrest Monday. He has been unconscious and intubated for much of the time since undergoing surgery, said Robert Reilly, a spokesman for the FBI's Newark office.

Prosecutors say Rahami, 28, planned the explosions for months as he bought components for his bombs online and set off a backyard blast. They say he wrote a journal that praised Osama bin Laden and other Muslim extremists, fumed about what he saw as the U.S. government's killing of Muslim holy warriors and declared "death to your oppression."

Ahmed reported from Islamabad

US, Russia continue to seek to revive Syria cease-fire

By **BRADLEY KLAPPER and MATTHEW LEE**, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — With prospects plummeting to revive an all but dead Syria cease-fire, the United States and Russia have grudgingly agreed to another round of talks to keep hopes alive.

After a contentious two-and-a-half hour meeting with colleagues in New York, Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said they would meet again Friday in a bid to find a way forward.

But frustration over recent developments, including the Syrian military's announcement of a new offensive in Aleppo, suggested that chances were slim for success.

"We can't go out to the world and say we have an agreement when we don't," Kerry said after meeting Lavrov and the top diplomats from more than a dozen European and Middle Eastern countries.

Kerry's statement, after three days of private and public diplomacy on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly, provided an ominous end note to a week diplomats had hoped would be a major capstone toward peace.

Instead, Kerry and Lavrov, who negotiated the truce two weeks ago, went their separate ways as violence in Syria flared up anew and the relationship between the two key foreign powers in the conflict appeared to reach a new low.

No one spoke of being able to quickly resuscitate the cease-fire. While Kerry and Lavrov were set to hold more talks Friday, even confidence-building measures seemed beyond their reach.

As the diplomats huddled in a New York hotel, Syria's military command said it would restart opera-

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tions in the northern city of Aleppo, scene of some of the bitterest fighting in recent months.

According to one official present in the gathering, Kerry was informed of the news when his chief of staff showed him a headline on his BlackBerry.

A furious Kerry then told the entire room, Lavrov included, that "even while we are meeting here, they are doing this," said the official, who wasn't authorized to speak publicly on the matter and demanded anonymity.

Lavrov told Russian media that consultations would continue to "guarantee" the cease-fire.

But even as Kerry vowed to press on with all efforts to find a peaceful solution to the war between Syrian President Bashar Assad's Russian-backed government and U.S.-backed rebels, the American acknowledged the current strategy wasn't working.

"We can't be the only ones trying to hold this door open," Kerry told reporters. "Russia and the regime must do their part or this will have no chance."

He called for the immediate grounding of planes and helicopters that have launched airstrikes, including a Russian one earlier this week that the U.S. says hit an aid convoy, killing 20 civilians. Russia has denied responsibility, while raising a range of ulterior scenarios for how the caravan might have been struck.

"Absent a major gesture like this, we don't believe there is a point to making more promises or issuing more plans or announcing something that can't be reached," Kerry said, describing a "moment of truth" for Syria, Russia and all those trying to halt the bloodshed.

The meeting came after Assad told The Associated Press in an interview in Damascus that the United States was to blame for the deal's failure. He cited U.S. inability to control "terrorist" groups and a weekend attack that killed dozens of Syrian soldiers. The U.S. apologized for what it described as a mistake.

Lavrov had sought a three-day pause in fighting to revive the cease-fire.

But U.S. officials said there was no point returning to a situation in which rebels would be pressed to hold fire, while the Syrian and Russian military could violate the agreement.

Kerry and others made the point repeatedly to Lavrov that Russia had to undertake new steps that go beyond previous agreements to salvage the process. Lavrov pushed only for all sides to recommit to the Sept. 9 truce, according to officials.

Russia provided "unsatisfactory" answers, French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said.

Kerry said he would wait for Lavrov to tell him Friday if Russia would suspend airstrikes for a significant period of time.

At the U.N., Assad's other major supporter also rejected the U.S.-led call for aircraft to be grounded.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said doing so would aid "terrorists."

"This course has no foundation, no logic," said Rouhani, whose country has directed Iranian troops and Hezbollah forces in support of Assad.

The war has killed as many as a half-million people, contributed to Europe's worst refugee crisis since World War II and allowed the Islamic State group to emerge as a global terror threat.

Associated Press writer Edith M. Lederer at the United Nations contributed to this report.

Americans waiting, but not watching, before making last pick

By DOUG FERGUSON, AP Golf Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — The Tour Championship is a lot tougher than it needs to be for Justin Thomas. He was among three players at Hazeltine — site of this year's Ryder Cup — on Monday, a clear signal

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that Thomas, Daniel Berger and Bubba Watson were being considered by Davis Love III as the final captain's pick to be announced Sunday night after the Tour Championship.

So instead of thinking only about East Lake, and possibly winning the FedEx Cup, there's a distraction. "It's probably the hardest thing I've ever had to deal with when it comes to not thinking about it," Thomas said after opening with a 68 on Thursday. "It's one thing to come down the stretch of a tournament and not think about winning, but I've just had so long to think about the Ryder Cup. And for people to say they don't think about it, I think is absurd. It enters my mind every round at some point." It could be worse.

He could be Kevin Chappell, who didn't get invited at all. Neither did Kevin Kisner.

"Not one time have I been contacted by Davis," Chappell said matter-of-factly after a 66 to tie for the lead.

Chappell has never won on the PGA Tour. He has three runner-up finishes this season in which someone simply outplayed him — Jason Day, the world's No. 1 player, at Bay Hill and The Players Championship; and Kisner at the RSM Classic at Sea Island, where Love is the tournament host.

Was he offended that he didn't get an invite?

"I wasn't personally offended," Chappell said. "But I disagree with having non-members practicing with the team. It sets a bad precedent for the players who thought they were on the bubble, or thought they had a chance."

Kisner said he was not invited to Hazeltine. When asked if he was offended by that, he replied, "Probably." He doesn't know why he wasn't asked to take part, and he wasn't inclined to ask Love for a reason.

"I figure he'll call me when he needs me," Kisner said.

Waiting to make the final pick just five days before the Ryder Cup starts might be more absurd than assembling a "Ryder Cup Task Force" that cooked up this idea.

The plan was to make sure the Americans had the hot player available to them at the last minute. But to listen to the players — those who received invitations and those who didn't — makes it unclear if it matters who's hot.

Love said last month in New York, after eight players qualified for his team, that he would have to pay attention to dozens of players.

"Anybody in the top 100 has to be on our radar because a guy could get hot the next two weeks and move himself to the Tour Championship and be in the running for the FedEx Cup," Love said on Aug. 29. "And I get to pick him on Sunday night."

So why not invite every American to Hazeltine who qualified for the Tour Championship and was not on the team?

Maybe they already have been ruled out, which certainly appears to be the case with Chappell and Kisner, along with Memorial winner William McGirt, Gary Woodland, Jason Dufner and others.

Love has said one awkward part of this process was making phone calls. He might be inclined to call those who didn't make the team on the same night he shared the good news with those who did. Because there is one more pick, perhaps he needs to wait on those calls.

And so everyone waits.

But is anyone paying attention to what happens at East Lake? Apparently not.

"There's nothing I can do now," Watson said. "Davis said it's all about strategies and different things. It's not about my play. It's not about anybody's play. So I can't worry about that."

That suggests that it's not about performance, which runs counter to what Love said a month ago before the FedEx Cup playoffs began.

"The only thing I know that he told me — and he's told everybody — is that it's about who matches up well. I don't know what that means," Watson said. I don't know if it's about partners, if a guy matches up better with two people or a guy matches up better with three people. I don't know that. I know the same as you, except I got to see the course. I went and played a practice round. So I know a little bit more, I guess."

Thomas doesn't quite understand, either. He's just trying to play good golf at East Lake because that won't hurt. Why the invitations to play Hazeltine?

"Obviously there was some, or else we wouldn't have been there," he said.

None of this will matter a week from today.

The grandstands that Thomas and Watson saw set up across Hazeltine will be packed with fans. No one will be talking about who wasn't picked or who wasn't on the team. All that counts is who's playing and the score.

Until then, Love is waiting until the last minute for a hot hand when that player could get nothing but a cold shoulder.

Big email hack doesn't exactly send the message Yahoo needed

By MICHAEL LIEDTKE, AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Yahoo has been struggling for years to keep people coming back to its digital services such as email. That challenge just got more daunting after hackers stole sensitive information from at least 500 million accounts.

The startling breach disclosed Thursday is believed to be the largest to hit a single email provider. The security breakdown risks magnifying Yahoo's preexisting problems — specifically, that it is losing users, traffic and the advertising revenue that follows both, to rivals such as Google and Facebook.

Some snarky online commentators quipped that the hack would have been far more devastating if people actually still used the company's services. While there's some truth to that observation, millions around the world still rely on Yahoo mail and other services, and are now potentially at risk of identity theft or worse.

LOSING USERS

And if these people give up on Yahoo as a result, the consequences for the company itself — now scheduled to become part of Verizon as soon as its \$4.8 billion deal closes — could also be dire. "Yahoo may very well be facing an existential crisis," said Corey Williams, senior director of products and marketing at the computer security firm Centrifify.

Yahoo was already facing a steep decline in email traffic, despite CEO Marissa Mayer's efforts to upgrade the service in order to foster more user loyalty. In July, 161 million people worldwide used Yahoo email on personal computers, a 30 percent decline from the same time in 2014, when the breach first occurred. That's according to the latest data from the research firm comScore. By contrast, Google's rival Gmail service saw desktop users rise 9 percent to nearly 429 million over the same period.

The email breach raises questions about Yahoo's ability to maintain secure and effective services, particularly since it's been laying off staff and trimming expenses to counter a steep drop in revenue over the past eight years.

At the time of the break-in, Yahoo's security team was led by Alex Stamos, a respected industry executive who left last year to take a similar job at Facebook.

ONCE MORE UNTO THE BREACH

Yahoo didn't explain what took so long to uncover a heist that it blamed on a "state-sponsored actor" — parlance for a hacker working on behalf of a foreign government.

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The Sunnyvale, California, company declined to explain how it reached its conclusions about the attack for security reasons, but said it is working with the FBI and other law enforcement. Yahoo began investigating a possible breach in July, around the time the tech site Motherboard reported that a hacker who uses the name "Peace" was trying to sell account information belonging to 200 million Yahoo users.

Yahoo didn't find evidence of that reported hack, but additional digging later uncovered a far larger, allegedly state-sponsored attack.

"We take these types of breaches very seriously and will determine how this occurred and who is responsible," the FBI said in a Thursday statement.

MOST ACCOUNTS EVER STOLEN

The Yahoo theft represents the most accounts ever stolen from a single email provider, according to computer security analyst Avivah Litan with the technology research firm Gartner Inc.

"It's a shocking number," Litan said. "This is a pretty big deal that is probably going to cost them tens of millions of dollars. Regulators and lawyers are going to have a field day with this one."

Yahoo says it has more than 1 billion monthly users, although it hasn't disclosed how many of those people have email accounts.

The data stolen from Yahoo includes users' names, email addresses, telephone numbers, birth dates, scrambled passwords, and the security questions — and answers — used to verify an account holder's identity. The company said the attacker didn't get any information about its users' bank accounts or credit and debit cards.

Security experts say the Yahoo theft could hurt the affected users if their personal information is mined to break into other online services or used for identity theft. All affected users will be notified about the theft and advised how to protect themselves, according to the company.

Yahoo also is recommending that all users change their passwords if they haven't done so since 2014. If the same password is used to access other sites, it should be changed too, as should any security questions similar to those used on Yahoo.

THE VERIZON IMPACT

News of the security lapse could cause some people to have second thoughts about relying on Yahoo's services, raising a prickly issue for the company as it tries to sell its digital operations to Verizon.

That deal, announced two months ago, isn't supposed to close until early next year. That leaves Verizon with wiggle room to renegotiate the purchase price or even back out if it believes the security breach will harm Yahoo's business. That could happen if users shun Yahoo or file lawsuits because they're incensed by the theft of their personal information.

Verizon said it still doesn't know enough about the Yahoo break-in to assess the potential consequences. "We will evaluate as the investigation continues through the lens of overall Verizon interests, including consumers, customers, shareholders and related communities," the company said in a statement.

DELAY OF SALE?

At the very least, Verizon is going to need more time to assess what it will be getting into if it proceeds with its plans to take over Yahoo, said Scott Vernick, an attorney specializing in data security for the law firm Fox Rothschild.

"This is going to slow things down. There is going to be a lot of blood, sweat and tears shed on this" Vernick said. "A buyer needs to understand the cybersecurity strengths and weaknesses of its target these days."

3rd night of Charlotte protests stays largely peaceful

By MITCH WEISS and MEG KINNARD, Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Protesters massed on Charlotte's streets for a third night Thursday in the latest sign of mounting pressure for police to release video that could resolve wildly different accounts of the shooting of a black man.

Demonstrators chanted "release the tape" and "we want the tape" while briefly blocking an intersection near Bank of America headquarters and later climbing the steps in front of the city government center. Later, several dozen demonstrators climbed onto an interstate highway through the city, but they were pushed back by police in riot gear.

Still, the protests lacked the violence and property damage of previous nights — and a midnight curfew enacted by the mayor encouraged a stopping point for the demonstrations. Local officers' ranks were augmented by members of the National Guard carrying rifles and guarding office buildings against the threat of property damage.

So far, police have resisted releasing police dashcam and body camera footage of the death of 43-year Keith Lamont Scott earlier this week. His family was shown the footage Thursday and demanded that police release it to the public. The family's lawyer said he couldn't tell whether Scott was holding a gun.

But Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Chief Kerr Putney said earlier in the day that releasing the footage of Scott's killing could undermine the investigation. He told reporters the video will be made public when he believes there is a "compelling reason" to do so.

"You shouldn't expect it to be released," Putney said. "I'm not going to jeopardize the investigation."

Charlotte Mayor Jennifer Roberts signed documents Thursday night for the citywide curfew that runs from midnight to 6 a.m. But demonstrators continued to march after the curfew took effect, and Police Capt. Mike Campagna told reporters that officers wouldn't seek to move curfew violators off the street as long as they were peaceful. The demonstrators' ranks appeared to thin from their peak of several hundred as the early morning arrived.

Charlotte is the latest U.S. city to be shaken by protests and recriminations over the death of a black man at the hands of police, a list that includes Baltimore, Milwaukee, Chicago, New York and Ferguson, Missouri. In Tulsa, Oklahoma, on Thursday, prosecutors charged a white officer with manslaughter for killing an unarmed black man on a city street last week.

In Charlotte, scores of rioters Wednesday night attacked reporters and others, set fires and smashed windows of hotels, office buildings and restaurants in the city's bustling downtown section. The NASCAR Hall of Fame was among the places damaged.

Forty-four people were arrested after Wednesday's protests, and one protester who was shot died at the hospital Thursday; city officials said police did not shoot the man and no arrests have been made in 26-year-old Justin Carr's death.

Police have said that Scott was shot to death Tuesday by a black officer after he disregarded loud, repeated warnings to drop his gun. Neighbors, though, have said he was holding only a book. The police chief said a gun was found next to the dead man, and there was no book.

Putney said that he has seen the video and it does not contain "absolute, definitive evidence that would confirm that a person was pointing a gun." But he added: "When taken in the totality of all the other evidence, it supports what we said."

Justin Bamberg, an attorney for Scott's family, watched the video with the slain man's relatives. He said Scott gets out of his vehicle calmly.

"While police did give him several commands, he did not aggressively approach them or raise his hands at members of law enforcement at any time. It is impossible to discern from the videos what, if

anything, Mr. Scott is holding in his hands," Bamberg said in a statement.

Scott was shot as he walked slowly backward with his hands by his side, Bamberg said.

The lawyer said at a news conference earlier in the day that Scott's wife saw him get shot, "and that's something she will never, ever forget." That is the first time anyone connected with the case has said the wife witnessed the shooting. Bamberg gave no details on what the wife saw.

Roberts, who also watched the footage of the shooting, was asked by CNN whether she saw Scott holding a gun.

"It is not a very clear picture and the gun in question is a small gun. And it was not easy to see ... so it is ambiguous," she replied.

Experts who track shootings by police noted that the release of videos can often quell protest violence, and that the footage sometimes shows that events unfolded differently than the official account.

"What we've seen in too many situations now is that the videos tell the truth and the police who were involved in the shooting tell lies," said Randolph McLaughlin, a professor at Pace University School of Law. He said it is "irresponsible" of police not to release the video immediately.

Other cities have released footage of police shootings. Just this week, Tulsa police let the public see video of the disputed Sept. 16 shooting, though the footage left important questions unanswered.

The police chief acknowledged that he has promised transparency in the investigation, but said, "I'm telling you right now, if you think I say we should display a victim's worst day for consumption, that is not the transparency I'm speaking of."

Associated Press writers Tom Foreman Jr., Jonathan Drew Seanna Adcox, Jeffrey Collins, Jack Jones and Gary Robertson contributed to this report.

Reach Weiss and Kinnard at <http://twitter.com/mitchweiss> and <http://twitter.com/MegKinnardAP> . Read more of their work at <http://bigstory.ap.org/author/mitch-weiss> and <http://bigstory.ap.org/content/meg-kinnard/>

New laws and rulings could cause Election Day confusion

By CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — With more than 120 million Americans expected to cast ballots for president this fall, the nation's voting process seems more convoluted than ever and rife with potential for confusion come Election Day.

Voting rules vary widely by state and sometimes by county, meaning some Americans can register the same day they vote, while others must do so weeks in advance. Some can mail in a ballot, while others must stand in line at a polling place that might be miles from home. Some who forget photo identification can simply sign an affidavit and have their ballot count, while others must return with their ID within a few days or their vote doesn't matter.

Fourteen states have new voting and registration rules in place for this election, according to the Brennan Center for Justice at the NYU School of Law. Legal challenges have led to a multitude of recent court rulings that have blocked or struck down some provisions and upheld or reinstated others, scrambling the picture further.

The new rules and the rapidly shifting landscape have already caused confusion, and some experts fear problems on Nov. 8.

"You would think that by 2016 we would have gotten our act together, but in fact it seems things

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are as litigious and confusing as ever," said Rick Hasen, an expert on election law and professor at the University of California, Irvine School of Law.

The battle over voting mirrors the larger battle for political power in the U.S.

While Democrats and Republicans have both supported efforts to expand access, particularly online registration, it's largely been Republicans who have been pushing restrictive laws, such as those requiring voters to show photo identification before casting ballots.

Supporters say such measures are aimed at preventing fraud; critics say such laws fall most heavily on the poor and minorities, who might not have driver's licenses or could find it difficult to obtain the documents needed.

Recent court decisions have rolled back some of the more far-reaching restrictions but have also created headaches for state and local officials who need to make sure they are complying with the latest rules.

In Wake County, North Carolina, election officials prepared two training manuals for their poll workers — one with the state's voter ID requirements and one without. (Voter ID was ultimately struck down over the summer.)

Advocacy groups worry that confused poll workers might, for example, demand documents that are not required. They also fear that all the publicity surrounding voter ID laws might lead some people to stay home because they mistakenly think they won't be able to vote.

"In periods of change, it can often lead to a lot of confusion for voters as to what the rules are, and for election officials, too," said Wendy Weiser with the Brennan Center, pointing to problems in 2012 in places like Pennsylvania, where the state's voter ID law was put on hold and then struck down. "There were also voters in Ohio, New Jersey who mistakenly thought — hearing the news from Pennsylvania — that they had to show ID, too."

The Supreme Court opened the way for some of these measures in 2013 when it struck down a part of the Voting Rights Act that required certain states and local jurisdictions with a history of discrimination — particularly in the South — to get Justice Department approval of any changes in their election laws.

Soon after, Republicans in North Carolina passed a package of measures that not only required voters to show photo ID but also reduced early voting and eliminated same-day registration during the early voting period.

Moses Colbert, a black pastor from Kings Mountain, North Carolina, was among those who found himself unable to vote in 2014 as a result of the changes. Colbert had recently moved to Cleveland County from nearby Gaston County after his wedding.

Shortly after the move, he went to the local motor vehicle office to update his address and voter registration information. Yet when it came time to vote, Cleveland County officials told him he wasn't registered there and to go back to Gaston County. When he did, Gaston County officials wouldn't let him vote because the address on his driver's license no longer matched the address on his voter registration form. Before the changes, Colbert would have been able to update his registration during the early voting period.

"I was just numb, so we had to fight," said Colbert, 62, who became a plaintiff in the lawsuit challenging the North Carolina law. "I believe we are standing on the shoulders of so many who died before us for the opportunity to vote. I grew up in the 1960s. This is not something I read about in a book."

In July, a federal appeals court struck down several parts of the North Carolina law, saying they "target African Americans with almost surgical precision." Republican officials have said discrimination was not their intent. A divided U.S. Supreme Court declined in August to take up the case.

Texas officials have agreed to spend \$2.5 million on voter outreach before Election Day as part of an

agreement to amend its voter ID law after a court found it discriminated against minorities and the poor.

Elsewhere, an effort by Democrats in Ohio to restore “golden week,” when people could register and cast ballots at the same time, failed after the U.S. Supreme Court declined to intervene. Earlier this week, a federal judge ordered North Dakota to return to a system it had in place before the Republican-led Legislature imposed a tougher voter ID requirement four years ago; voters there who do not have a state-required photo ID can once again sign an affidavit swearing they are a qualified voter.

An ongoing Kansas court fight has focused on whether a group of as many as 50,000 residents could vote because they did not submit citizenship documents, as required under state law, when registering at motor vehicle offices or with a federal form. Federal courts had previously ordered the state to count their votes in federal elections. The secretary of state’s office had sought to toss out their votes in state and local races — something a state judge has since blocked.

Confusion also persists in Wisconsin, which has been in turmoil since Republican lawmakers backed a voter ID law in 2011.

It was initially blocked by the courts, then went into effect for the presidential primary in April. In July, a federal judge left the voter ID requirement in place for the fall contest but struck down more than a dozen other election changes, including limits on early voting hours and locations.

It’s been estimated that as many as 300,000 Wisconsin voters may not have the required photo ID. Molly McGrath, with the national group VoteRiders, has been working with homeless people and others to make sure they have the proper ID and are registered to vote.

“There’s a tremendous amount of unawareness and confusion about the law,” McGrath said. “You can’t help but think: Is this confusion a bug or part of the design?”

Republicans who have pushed the various voter ID laws reject any suggestion of discrimination.

“Voters in Wisconsin support voter ID, and our administration will continue to work to make it easy to vote and hard to cheat,” Gov. Scott Walker said last month.

Associated Press writer Scott Bauer in Madison, Wisconsin, contributed to this report.

Follow Christina Almeida Cassidy on Twitter: http://twitter.com/AP_Christina.

Cheers erupt as Puerto Rico slowly emerges from blackout

By DANICA COTO, Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Cheers erupted as lights slowly began to flicker on across Puerto Rico overnight as the U.S. territory struggled to emerge from an island-wide blackout following a fire at a power plant that caused the aging utility grid to fail.

More than 390,000 of 1.5 million homes and businesses served by the power utility had electricity restored by late Thursday, with cries of, “The lights are back on!” echoing through some neighborhoods.

Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla said he expected more than half of customers to have power by Friday morning.

“The number is rising rapidly,” he said, adding that 90 percent of customers will likely have power by Saturday. However, he cautioned: “Problems may arise. I don’t want to create false expectations.”

The blackout hit the entire island of 3.5 million people early Wednesday afternoon and prompted Garcia to activate the National Guard and declare a state of emergency. Public schools remained closed on Friday, and heavy storms that hit the island Thursday afternoon knocked out power to some areas

where electricity had been restored.

While those with power celebrated a return to normalcy, others lamented having to face another night in darkness with no air conditioning in the tropical heat. Most Puerto Ricans don't have generators, and many expected to once again drag mattresses out to balconies and porches to spend the night outside.

"It's been horrible," said San Juan resident Elizabeth Maldonado, adding that she was resigned to another sleepless night. "I take showers every three hours at night to stay refreshed."

For those who could afford it, hotels offered special rates for residents that were quickly snapped up.

As sunset approached on Thursday, long lines formed at ice plants, supermarkets and gas stations. Elsewhere, people crouched around power outlets at generator-powered supermarkets and malls to charge cellphones.

Traffic lights remained dark most of Thursday, and police officers stood in the streets directing traffic all day, some in heavy downpours. Workers at the main international airport filled out luggage tickets by hand.

The governor said at least one person died the first night from exposure to carbon monoxide after setting up a personal generator. A 76-year-old man was taken to the hospital in good condition after spending the night trapped in an elevator at a government building, Garcia said. In addition, four police officers were hit while directing traffic but were expected to recover.

Localized power outages are common in Puerto Rico, which has an outdated energy infrastructure, but widespread failures such as this are extremely rare.

The Electric Power Authority said it was trying to determine what caused the fire at the Aguirre power plant in the southern town of Salinas. The fire apparently knocked out two transmission lines that serve the broader grid, which tripped circuit breakers that automatically shut down the flow of power as a preventive measure, officials said. Executive director Javier Quintana said a preliminary investigation suggests that an apparent failure on one transmission line that might have been caused by lightning caused the switch to explode.

Garcia rejected suggestions the blackout was caused by maintenance problems that have plagued the utility for years, largely a result of the island's economic and fiscal crisis. He said the switch where the fire happened had been properly maintained.

It was not yet clear how much damage the fire caused. The utility is struggling with a \$9 billion debt that it hopes to restructure as it faces numerous corruption allegations. Company officials have said they are seeking revenue to update outdated equipment.

Danica Coto on Twitter: www.twitter.com/danicacoto

Chicago's mayor details mentoring plans in crime speech

By SOPHIA TAREEN, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Mayor Rahm Emanuel appealed to Chicago residents Thursday for help fighting the troubling rise in city violence, announcing youth mentoring efforts, policing strategies and gun legislation as his plan to fight and prevent crime.

He used the invitation-only speech to cap off announcements in recent days that the city will add nearly 1,000 police officers, expand the use of body cameras and require de-escalation training, reforms in the wake of an ongoing U.S. Department of Justice investigation of the police department.

The former White House chief of staff highlighted a new \$36 million public-private mentoring partnership that'll help over 7,000 youths over the next three years, veering from prepared remarks when

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describing the struggles young people face in neighborhoods tormented by gangs and violence.

"The deck has been stacked against the kids," he said. "It's time we reshuffle the deck and put our kids on the top of that deck."

Inside the Malcolm X College gym on Chicago's near West Side, security was tight and the reception was friendly with the audience of aldermen, community leaders and Emanuel administration members applauding at least a dozen times during the 40-minute speech. Outside, there were a few protesters calling for scrutiny of police misconduct investigations, a theme that's rippled for months.

Emanuel, in his second term as mayor, has been trying to rebuild trust in his leadership, particularly after the 2014 death of Laquan McDonald, a black teenager shot 16 times by a white police officer. The officer was charged with murder, but only after a judge ordered the public release of the graphic squad car video last year. Circulation of the video prompted frequent protests, allegations of a cover-up and repeated calls for Emanuel to step down.

The Justice Department has since launched a systemic probe of department practices. And Emanuel, who initially opposed the idea of a federal probe, said Thursday that the city should work with federal agencies to improve.

"Fighting crime requires a partnership between the police and the community. And we all know that this partnership has been tested in Chicago," he said. "It is a problem that has festered in this city for decades. The shooting of Laquan McDonald brought it to a breaking point."

His speech also touched on new technology, including gunshot-tracing cameras; gun shop legislation; and the need for more neighborhood resources.

He bluntly asked Chicagoans for assistance. Calling respect "a two-way street," he said there's no pass for people to taunt police or for officers to dismiss citizens who need help.

"Every one of us has a role to play in rebuilding the vital partnership between our police and the community. We all have to hold ourselves, and each other, to a higher standard," he said. "So today I am calling on all Chicagoans to join in a comprehensive plan — a blueprint — to confront gun violence."

Emanuel recapped changes instituted by his administration, including abolishing the agency that handles police investigations and pitching a new system for reviewing police misconduct and department audits.

Chicago has seen a dramatic rise in the number of shootings and homicides this year. In August alone, there were 90 homicides, marking the first time in two decades there have been that many in a single month. Overall, the city has recorded more than 500 homicides this year — higher than all of 2015 — and is on pace to climb past the 600-homicide mark for the first time since 2003.

The city's image has also come up on the presidential campaign trail with Republican nominee Donald Trump suggesting Thursday that Chicago is more violent than Afghanistan. Trump also endorsed a stop-and-frisk policing method for the city, which a federal judge said New York City used unconstitutionally because of its overwhelming impact on minority residents.

During the speech, Emanuel described several high-profile cases, his voice cracking when noting the shooting death of the 19-year-old son of a Chicago police officer.

Emanuel didn't specify how the city would pay for the new efforts in his speech, including the addition of the new officers, which is expected to cost about \$134 million.

The addition of police has prompted criticism from groups including Black Lives Matter, who say resources should be spent on schools, health care and affordable housing.

Alderman Willie Cochran said he was encouraged by Emanuel's efforts, but said more could have been done sooner.

"He knew all along there was a need," he said. "The proof is in the pudding."

Follow Sophia Tareen at <http://twitter.com/sophiatareen> .

Associated Press writer Don Babwin contributed to this report.

Tulsa, Oklahoma, police officer charged in man's death

By JUSTIN JUOZAPAVICIUS and SEAN MURPHY, Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — Prosecutors charged a white Oklahoma police officer with first-degree manslaughter Thursday, less than a week after she killed an unarmed black man on a city street and just days after police released graphic videos, saying in court documents the officer “reacted unreasonably.”

Tulsa officer Betty Shelby fatally shot 40-year-old Terence Crutcher on Sept. 16. The affidavit filed with the charge says Shelby “reacted unreasonably by escalating the situation from a confrontation with Mr. Crutcher, who was not responding to verbal commands and was walking away from her with his hands held up, becoming emotionally involved to the point that she over reacted.”

Tulsa County District Attorney Steve Kunzweiler said arrangements were being made for Shelby’s surrender.

The swift action in Tulsa stood in contrast to Charlotte, North Carolina, where police refused under mounting pressure Thursday to release video of the shooting of another black man this week and the National Guard was called in to try to head off a third night of violence. Demonstrations in Tulsa since Crutcher’s death have been consistently peaceful.

Dashcam and aerial footage of the shooting and its aftermath showed Crutcher walking away from Shelby with his arms in the air. The footage does not offer a clear view of when Shelby fired the single shot that killed Crutcher. Her attorney has said Crutcher was not following police commands and that Shelby opened fire when the man began to reach into his SUV window.

But Crutcher’s family immediately discounted that claim, saying the father of four posed no threat to the officers. They also pointed to an enlarged photo from police footage that appears to show Crutcher’s window was rolled up. And police said Crutcher did not have a gun on him or in his vehicle.

The affidavit filed Thursday also indicates that Shelby “cleared the driver’s side front” of Crutcher’s vehicle before she began interacting with Crutcher, suggesting she may have known there was no gun on the driver’s side of the vehicle.

The affidavit says Shelby told police homicide investigators that “she was in fear for her life and thought Mr. Crutcher was going to kill her. When she began following Mr. Crutcher to the vehicle with her duty weapon drawn, she was yelling for him to stop and get on his knees repeatedly.”

Crutcher was wearing “baggy clothes” but Shelby “was not able to see any weapons or bulges indicating a weapon was present,” the affidavit states.

Prosecutors offer two possible theories in charging documents: that Shelby killed Crutcher impulsively in a fit of anger or that she wrongly killed him as she sought to detain him. The case first goes to a judge, who will decide whether there is enough evidence for a trial. Lee F. Berlin, a Tulsa-based defense lawyer and a former assistant district attorney in Oklahoma, said prosecutors may at some point decide to move forward with only one of the theories or could present both to jurors and let them decide.

If convicted, Shelby faces between four years and life in prison.

Crutcher’s twin sister, Tiffany Crutcher, said the family was pleased the criminal charge was filed and urged a vigorous prosecution that leads to a conviction.

“Our goal now is to ensure that this never happens to another innocent citizen,” Tiffany Crutcher said. “We’re going to break the chains of injustice. We’re going to break the chains of police brutality.”

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Tulsa Mayor Dewey Bartlett said police worked quickly to provide Kunzweiler with the information he needed to decide whether to charge the officer.

"I appreciate their efforts as well as the District Attorney's usual thorough evaluation of the rules of law for which we are all accountable," Bartlett said in a written statement. "We will continue to be transparent and ensure the system carries out its responsibility to provide justice."

Shelby, who joined the Tulsa Police Department in December 2011, was en route to a domestic violence call when she encountered Crutcher's vehicle abandoned on a city street, straddling the center line. Shelby did not activate her patrol car's dashboard camera, so no footage exists of what first happened between the two before other officers arrived.

The police footage shows Crutcher approaching the driver's side of the SUV, then more officers walk up and Crutcher appears to lower his hands and place them on the vehicle. A man inside a police helicopter overhead says: "That looks like a bad dude, too. Probably on something."

Police Sgt. Dave Walker has said investigators found a vial of the drug PCP in Crutcher's vehicle. Shelby's attorney, Scott Wood, has said that Shelby completed drug-recognition expert training and thought Crutcher was acting like he might be under the influence of PCP.

Attorneys for Crutcher's family said the family didn't know whether drugs were found in the SUV, but that even if they were, it wouldn't justify the shooting.

A toxicology report could take several weeks.

Wood did not immediately return phone messages seeking comment about Shelby being charged.

In the videos, the officers surround Crutcher and he suddenly drops to the ground. A voice heard on the police radio says: "Shots fired!" The officers back away and Crutcher is left unattended on the street for about two minutes before an officer puts on medical gloves and begins to attend to him.

"The tragic circumstances surrounding the death of Mr. Crutcher are on the hearts and minds of many people in this community," Kunzweiler said. "It's important to note that despite the heightened tensions felt by all, which seemingly beg for an emotional response and reaction, our community has consistently demonstrated the willingness to respect the judicial process."

At least two dozen people gathered outside the courthouse after the district attorney announced the officer was charged. Later, a peaceful rally was held in front of City Hall. Some demonstrators expressed disappointed Shelby wasn't charged with first-degree murder, but others considered Thursday's announcement a victory.

"Today we can say without a shadow of a doubt that the system has worked for black lives," said activist Marq Lewis, an organizer of the civil rights group We the People Oklahoma, which led the rally in front of City Hall. "We are getting something done in Tulsa that no other city is getting done."

Earlier this year, a white former volunteer deputy with the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office was sentenced to four years in prison after he was convicted of second-degree manslaughter in the shooting death of Eric Harris, who was also black and unarmed.

Murphy reported from Oklahoma City. Associated Press writers Michael Tarm in Chicago and Ken Miller in Oklahoma City contributed to this report.

Donald Trump steps deeper into US race debate

By STEVE PEOPLES and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Stepping deeper into America's race debate, Donald Trump on Thursday warned African-American protesters that their outrage was creating suffering in their own community, as he

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worked to walk a line between his law-and-order toughness and new minority outreach.

"The rioting in our streets is a threat to all peaceful citizens and it must be ended and ended now," Trump, the Republican nominee for president, declared at a rally in suburban Philadelphia on Thursday night.

"The main victims of these violent demonstrations," he added, "are law-abiding African-Americans who live in these communities and only want to raise their children in safety and peace."

The comments came hours after a white Oklahoma police officer was charged with manslaughter Thursday in the fatal shooting of an unarmed black man whose vehicle had broken down in the middle of the street. That and another police shooting of a black man in North Carolina have sparked fierce protests that continued to simmer Thursday night.

Trump, eager to blunt criticism that his campaign inspires racism in the midst of what he called "a national crisis," has sought to express empathy in recent days. But his words could rankle some in the African-American community, underscoring the challenges he faces.

Earlier in the day, Trump seemed to suggest that protesters outraged by the police shootings of black men were under the influence of drugs.

"I will stop the drugs from flowing into our country and poisoning our youth and many other people," Trump declared at an energy conference in Pittsburgh. He added, "And if you're not aware, drugs are a very, very big factor in what you're watching on television at night."

Trump's campaign rejected the interpretation that he was talking about the protests seen on cable news the last few nights.

"It is clear what he said, and what he meant. It's obvious that he was referring to the recent increase in drug-related deaths and subsequent news reports, thus making it a hot-button issue," said campaign rapid response director Steven Cheung.

Trump also raised eyebrows Wednesday when he seemed to call for the national expansion of "stop-and-frisk," a police tactic that has been condemned as racial profiling. On Thursday, Trump clarified that he had been referring only to murder-plagued Chicago.

Democrat Hillary Clinton did not address escalating racial tensions Thursday as she prepared for her first debate-stage meeting with Trump. She dinged her opponent, albeit in a humorous way, in an interview released Thursday on comic Zach Galifianakis' web program, "Between Two Ferns."

The comedian asked her what Trump might wear to Monday's debate.

"I assume he'll wear that red power tie," Clinton said. Galifianakis responded, "Or maybe like a white power tie."

"That's even more appropriate," Clinton said.

At his evening rally, Trump hit back, accusing Clinton of supporting — "with a nod" — "the narrative of cops as a racist force in our society."

"Those peddling the narrative ... share directly in the responsibility for the unrest that is afflicting our country and hurting those who have really the very least," he said.

Both candidates are working to navigate the politics of race with Election Day less than seven weeks away and early voting about to begin in some states.

Trump, in particular, has struggled to balance a message that appeals to his white, working-class base with one that improves his standing with minorities and educated whites who may worry about racial undertones in his candidacy. He was slow to disavow former KKK leader David Duke earlier in the year and has repeatedly promoted tweets by white supremacists during his White House bid. The Republican nominee admitted for the first time publicly last week that President Barack Obama was born in the United States.

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On Thursday, Trump tried at times to project a softer message, calling for a nation united in "the spirit of togetherness."

"The job of a leader is to stand in someone else's shoes and see things from their perspective. You have to be able to do that," he said.

At the same time, Mahoning County, Ohio, chair Kathy Miller, a campaign volunteer, came under fire after telling the Guardian newspaper, "I don't think there was any racism until Obama got elected." The Trump campaign accepted her resignation after what a spokesman called "inappropriate" comments.

In North Carolina, Republican Rep. Robert Pittenger, whose district includes parts of Charlotte where protests have turned violent, said they stemmed from protesters who "hate white people because white people are successful and they're not." Pittenger later apologized.

Clinton has made curbing gun violence and police brutality central to her candidacy. She said Wednesday that the shootings in Oklahoma and North Carolina added two more names "to a long list of African-Americans killed by police officers. It's unbearable and it needs to become intolerable."

Peoples reported from Washington. AP writers Jason Keyser in Chicago and Julie Carr Smyth in Columbus, Ohio, contributed to this report.

Follow Colvin on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/colvinj> and Peoples on <https://twitter.com/sppeoples>

What political news is the world searching for on Google and talking about on Twitter? Find out via AP's Election Buzz interactive. <http://elections.ap.org/buzz>

Most Puerto Ricans face a second night without electricity

By DANICA COTO, Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Most Puerto Ricans faced another night of darkness Thursday as crews slowly restored electricity a day after a fire at a power plant caused the aging utility grid to fail and blacked out the entire island of 3.5 million people.

Nearly 370,000 of the 1.5 million homes and businesses served by the power utility had power back by late Thursday. Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla said he hoped more than half would be reconnected by Friday morning, adding that public school classes were canceled on Friday.

Garcia, who declared a state of emergency, expressed sympathy for people's frustrations over the outage, which comes amid a decade-long economic crunch that has worn down Puerto Ricans.

"We all want the system to be back online," the governor said. "Let's hold someone responsible for this. Blame me. I'll take the blame."

The power company posted a tweet expressing annoyance over people cursing at its workers, saying such behavior wasn't justified.

Most Puerto Ricans don't have generators, and the many still without power faced another night in darkness and with no air conditioning in the tropical heat. Many likely planned to drag mattresses out to balconies and porches to spend the night outside.

"Puerto Rico is not prepared for something like this," said Celestino Ayala Santiago, who slept in his car Wednesday night so he could have some air conditioning to escape the heat.

As sunset approached, lines formed at ice plants, supermarkets and gas stations, and people crouched around power outlets at generator-powered supermarkets and malls to charge cellphones.

Traffic lights remained out and police officers stood in the streets directing traffic all day, some in heavy downpours across the island. Workers at the main international airport filled out luggage tickets

by hand.

"To see everything blacked out, my God," said Virginia Davila, a nurse's assistant who lives on the 11th floor of an apartment building in San Juan.

The governor said at least one person died the first night from exposure to carbon monoxide after setting up a personal generator. A 76-year-old man was taken to the hospital in good condition after spending the night trapped in an elevator at a government building, Garcia said.

Localized power outages are common in Puerto Rico, which has an outdated energy infrastructure, but widespread failures such as this generally have happened only with tropical storms. "This is an apocalypse," Jose Tavela said as he ate at a small cafe in the capital that had a generator.

The Electric Power Authority said it was trying to determine what caused the fire Wednesday afternoon at the Aguirre power plant in the southern town of Salinas. The fire apparently knocked out two transmission lines that serve the broader grid, which tripped circuit breakers that automatically shut down the flow of power as a preventive measure, said Yohari Molina, a spokeswoman for the utility.

The governor wanted that restoring power would be a slow process. "Given that the system is so old, numerous setbacks could occur," he said. "The system is not designed to withstand a failure of this magnitude."

But Garcia rejected suggestions the blackout was caused by maintenance problems that have plagued the utility for years, largely a result of the island's economic and fiscal crisis. He said the switch where the fire happened had been properly maintained.

It was not yet clear how much damage the fire caused or where the power company would obtain the money to repair or buy new equipment. The utility is struggling with a \$9 billion debt that it hopes to restructure as it faces numerous corruption allegations. Company officials have said they are seeking revenue to update outdated equipment.

The Latest: Trump offers plan to cut college tuition

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

8:28 p.m.

Donald Trump is threatening to cut off certain federal funding to colleges that fail to work to curb soaring tuition costs. His plan sounds a lot like the one proposed by New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie during his own 2016 presidential run.

Trump tells a rally crowd in suburban Philadelphia on Thursday night that "one of the biggest problems facing young people and families today is the cost of college education."

To rein in costs, he says he wants to work with Congress to make sure colleges only get access to certain federal tax breaks and other benefits if they "make good-faith efforts to reduce the cost of college and student debt."

Trump has often mentioned the issues of college affordability and debt in passing. But this is the first time he's proposed how to address it.

Christie is now a top Trump adviser.

7:48 p.m.

The trash talk is underway ahead of Monday's first showdown between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton.

Trump asked supporters at a rally outside Philadelphia Thursday, "Where is Hillary today?"

Then he answered his own question: "They say she's practicing for the debate. Some people think

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she's sleeping."

Trump has long tried to cast Clinton as having weak stamina.

Clinton's camp has confirmed she is preparing for the debate and has no public events scheduled.

Asked earlier today if he's preparing, Trump suggested that his choice to campaign rather than huddle so far this week speaks for itself.

7:45 p.m.

Bill and Hillary Clinton have bought a three-bedroom home next door to their house in Chappaqua, New York.

Westchester County property records in New York show the Clintons purchased the 3,631-square-foot home in mid-August. It sits on 1.5 acres of land and allows the former president and the current Democratic presidential nominee to expand their property in Chappaqua.

The New York Post first reported the purchase of the ranch-style house Thursday. The newspaper said the Clintons paid \$1.16 million in the transaction.

Clinton's campaign did not immediately comment on the sale.

7:43 p.m.

Democratic vice presidential candidate Tim Kaine said he makes no apologies for spending much of his time on the campaign trail raising money from the wealthy at private fundraisers.

Kaine often bemoans the outsized influence of rich donors on politics and told reporters on his campaign plane Thursday he supports "dramatic" reform of the federal campaign finance system. But he said he'll continue to raise money at high-dollar events until the law is changed.

"You cannot unilaterally disarm," Kaine said. "You can't."

Kaine has spent the first part of the week raising money in California. He's set to attend a fundraiser in Houston with singer Michael Bolton Thursday evening and another fundraiser Friday at the home of a billionaire ex-wife of an Oklahoma oil baron.

7:42 p.m.

Donald Trump is making a direct appeal to women at a rally in the Philadelphia suburbs.

Trump tells a rally crowd it should be easier to access and pay for college.

He says, "Women also value security," pledging to provide "great security for this country."

Trump is also accusing rival Hillary Clinton of doing too little to help women and children — despite the fact that she has spent decades advocating on their behalf.

Trump asks why so many continue to live in poverty and claims Clinton "all of a sudden" "wants to do childcare," even though Clinton rolled out a plan far earlier and has discussed the issue far more.

7:34 p.m.

Donald Trump says the rioting currently taking place "in our streets is a threat to all peaceful citizens." He says it "must be ended now."

Trump is delivering his law-and-order message at a rally in Chester Township, Pennsylvania.

His comments come after violent protests rocked Charlotte, North Carolina, following the police shooting death of an unarmed man.

The Republican presidential nominee has said he wouldn't tolerate that kind of behavior if he makes it to the White House.

Trump is also going on attack against rival Hillary Clinton, claiming she doesn't "have to worry" about

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“the sirens and the gunshots at night.”

7:05 p.m.

Donald Trump is playing a new song for his entrance to an evening rally near Philadelphia: “Gonna Fly Now,” the theme from the classic 1976 boxing film “Rocky.”

It’s an attempt to connect Trump to one of Philly’s favorite sons, the plucky boxer Rocky Balboa, played by Sylvester Stallone.

The soaring theme song played Thursday night as Trump took the stage in Chester Township, Pennsylvania, about 30 miles southwest of Philadelphia. A Rocky statue wearing a Trump campaign T-shirt also graced the stage.

7:10 p.m.

Democratic vice presidential nominee Tim Kaine says society hasn’t “even really started” discussing institutional racism in American’s criminal justice system and is criticizing his GOP counterpart for not wanting to talk about it more.

Kaine says he disagrees with Republican vice presidential nominee Mike Pence, who said U.S. society should “set aside talk” of institutional racism in the wake of more fatal police shootings of black men.

“We are imperfect people, we lock people up way more than other nations do and there’s biases in the way we do it. And if we aren’t willing to talk about that then we’ll never solve the problem,” Kaine said to reporters aboard his campaign plane.

Kaine added that he thinks Democrats and Republicans can find common ground on sentencing reform.

6:55 p.m.

President Barack Obama says his advice to Hillary Clinton for Monday night’s presidential debate against Republican Donald Trump is to “be yourself and explain what motivates you.”

Obama, speaking with ABC News, said Thursday he believes Clinton is in the race for the right reasons, but he acknowledges she has a trust problem with some voters. Obama says he’s gotten to know his former secretary of state and has seen her in tough times and good times.

“There’s a level of mistrust and a caricature of her that just doesn’t just jibe with who I know — this person that cares deeply about kids,” Obama said.

Monday night’s faceoff will take place at New York’s Hofstra University.

6:48 p.m.

Hillary Clinton has called Charlotte Mayor Jennifer Roberts and North Carolina Congresswoman Alma Adams on Thursday to discuss the recent shooting and protests in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Clinton’s campaign says the Democratic presidential nominee offered her assistance and discussed with the leaders steps needed to take to ensure that “everyone is respected by the law, and everyone has respect for the law.”

Clinton talked to Roberts and Adams about the need to come together to stop the violence and restore the bonds of trust between police officers and the communities they serve, her campaign said.

5:21 p.m.

Donald Trump Jr. says he was being straightforward and not dabbling in “microaggression” when he

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compared Syrian refugees to a bowl of poisoned Skittles candy in a tweet earlier this week.

The eldest son of Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump said Thursday in Boise, Idaho, that he's surprised by the reaction because he viewed the post as raising concern about properly vetting people coming to the United States. He said it takes a special type a person to find a message that isn't there.

Trump Jr. tweeted a picture of a bowl of Skittles with the warning: "If I had a bowl of skittles and I told you just three would kill you, would you take a handful?" Monday's tweet went on: "That's our Syrian refugee problem."

Roughly 20 people holding signs and Skittles protested outside the event in Boise, which has more Syrian refugees than Los Angeles and New York City combined.

4:55 p.m.

Donald Trump is sounding confident about his debate preparation just four days ahead of the first showdown against rival Hillary Clinton.

Trump was asked at Geno's cheesesteak joint in Philadelphia Thursday how his preparations were going. He suggested that his choice of activities — campaigning rather than private preparation — speaks for itself.

He said, "Well, I'm here at Geno's. I think it's going great."

Trump was also asked to explain his comment Wednesday that he'd finally acknowledged President Obama was born in the U.S. because he wanted people to stop asking about it. Trump declined to answer. Instead, a smile spread across his pursed lips.

He said, "Jobs, jobs everybody, jobs. We need jobs."

4:05 p.m.

Donald Trump is paying a visit to the famous Geno's Steaks cheesesteak house in Philadelphia.

The Republican presidential nominee was greeted with shouts of "Trump for president!" "We love you Donald!" and cheers of glee from patrons after pulling up in is motorcade.

As he ordered at the restaurant's window, Trump jokingly offered a taste to the gathered press and onlookers.

"Anybody want?" he asked. "Good stuff."

Trump also joked about maybe buying a sandwich for his rival, Hillary Clinton. "She'll choke on it," a bystander responded.

3:50 p.m.

It was supposed to be her "47 percent" moment.

After Hillary Clinton said that half of Donald Trump's supporters belong in a "basket of deplorables," Republicans believed they'd found her campaign-ending blunder.

It was a way to cement her image as out-of-touch snob, just as Democrats did four years ago to Mitt Romney after he said "47 percent" of voters backed President Barack Obama because they are "dependent on government."

But a new Associated Press-GfK poll finds Clinton's stumble didn't have quite the impact that Trump and his supporters wanted.

Instead, it's Trump who's viewed as disconnected and disrespectful. Sixty percent of Americans say Trump does not respect "ordinary Americans," according to the poll. That's far more than the 48 percent who say the same about Clinton.

Trump debate challenge: Keeping his cool if Clinton attacks

By JULIE PACE, AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump's advisers are urging him to keep his cool during next week's presidential debate and resist attempts by Hillary Clinton to provoke him with questions about his business record, wealth or controversial comments about minorities.

The focus underscores the campaign's concern that too many Americans still don't believe the Republican has the temperament to be president, which could be a difference-maker in a close race with Clinton.

"He can't let Hillary get under his skin," said Newt Gingrich, the former House speaker and Trump adviser.

Gingrich is part of a rotating cast of politicians and policy experts traveling with Trump on his private plane for mid-flight debate preparations, according to Republicans familiar with the preparations. Others include retired Lt. Gen. Mike Flynn, who is advising Trump on national security, and economist Peter Navarro. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, a loyal Trump supporter, has been helping on issues such as the federal government's relationship with the states.

Trump has eschewed the kind of mock debate setups candidates traditionally use to get ready for the high-pressure events and hasn't tapped anyone to play Clinton in his prep sessions. But aides say he is studying written briefing material on domestic and international issues and is also talking through topics with advisers.

"He's a formidable, well-prepared candidate with a formidable, well-prepared team," said Navarro, a professor at the University of California, Irvine.

Some Trump aides are more concerned about Trump's disposition on the debate stage than his command of the issues, according to Republicans who insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the private debate preparations.

In particular, Trump advisers are trying to steel him for the likelihood that Clinton will aim to get a rise out of him on live television in front of what both campaigns expect to be a record-setting audience.

The Republican has long lashed out at critics in deeply personal ways, especially after a perceived slight. Clinton has raised that habit as evidence that Trump is too thin-skinned to be trusted with nuclear weapons and other life-and-death decisions that cross a president's desk.

Voters seem to share Clinton's concerns. According to a new AP-GfK poll, just 30 percent of registered voters say they consider Trump at least somewhat qualified to be president. Only 24 percent consider him at least somewhat civil, while half consider him at least somewhat racist.

It's unclear how aggressive Clinton will be in trying to bait Trump during Monday night's faceoff at New York's Hofstra University. On the campaign trail and in television ads, she's targeted Trump's criticism of a U.S.-born judge of Mexican descent, his feud with an American-Muslim family whose son was killed in Iraq while serving in the Army and his mocking of a disabled reporter. She's also challenged his business success and suggested he isn't releasing his taxes to the public because he's not as wealthy as he contends.

"We have no doubt that his handlers are prevailing on him to arrive at the debate more subdued and to try to suppress his true self," said Brian Fallon, Clinton's spokesman. "Clearly his advisers agree that that is not a very presidential image."

Trump backers say the real estate mogul is prepared to stay steady no matter what Clinton throws at him.

"We're going to see the debate prep making sure that she's not going to be able to pull him somehow off the message," said Rep. Chris Collins, a New York Republican who is one of Trump's most loyal back-

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ers in Congress. He spoke shortly after joining other supportive lawmakers for a meeting Thursday with Trump political director Jim Murphy.

Collins said the Republican nominee understands the importance of presenting "President Trump to the American public."

Trump has had more success staying on message following an August campaign shakeup and he's given in to his new senior team's insistence that he stick to a more scripted message during campaign rallies. The debates will be the biggest test of whether he can keep that up for 90 minutes of live television with his political opponent standing just a few feet from him.

In an interview Thursday morning on "Fox and Friends," Trump said he would "stay cool" in the debate. "I'm going to be very respectful of her," he said. "I think she deserves that and I'm going to be nice. And if she's respectful of me, that'll be nice."

But during a Thursday night rally in suburban Philadelphia, Trump revived his efforts to cast Clinton's stamina as weak.

"Where is Hillary today?" he asked. "They say she's been practicing for the debate. Some people think she's sleeping."

Associated Press writers Jill Colvin in Philadelphia and Laurie Kellman and Erica Werner in Washington contributed to this report.

Follow Julie Pace on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC>

A look at the accounts of the Tulsa police shooting

By JILL BLEED, Associated Press

A white Oklahoma police officer was charged with manslaughter Thursday in the fatal shooting of an unarmed black man whose vehicle had broken down in the middle of the street. Prosecutors say Betty Shelby "reacted unreasonably" when she opened fire on Terence Crutcher.

The charges came just days after authorities released dashcam and aerial footage, 911 calls and police radio traffic related to the Sept. 16 shooting in Tulsa. Here's a look at the early evidence and different accounts of events.

WHAT THE VIDEOS SHOW

The shooting can be seen on two videos provided by authorities — one from a police helicopter and the other from another officer's dashboard camera. They both show the 40-year-old Crutcher walking with his hands in the air toward his stopped SUV, which is straddling the center line. A female officer is following him.

As Crutcher approaches the driver's side, more officers walk up and Crutcher appears to lower his hands and place them on the vehicle. A man inside a police helicopter overhead says: "That looks like a bad dude, too. Probably on something."

The officers surround Crutcher and he suddenly drops to the ground. Someone on the police radio says, "I think he may have just been tasered." Almost immediately, a woman's voice yells on the radio, "Shots fired!" Crutcher is left lying on the pavement.

The officers slowly back away. Crutcher, his white shirt stained with blood, lies on the ground for nearly two minutes before an officer puts on medical gloves and begins to examine him. Emergency medical responders arrive about four minutes after the gunfire.

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WHAT THE OFFICER'S ATTORNEY HAS SAID

Shelby's attorney, Scott Wood, has said Crutcher repeatedly ignored Shelby's commands and did not respond to her questions.

Wood said Shelby has completed drug-recognition training and thought Crutcher might be under the influence of the drug PCP. Shelby was also concerned about Crutcher repeatedly reaching toward his pockets because a person with a weapon often touches it to make sure it's still there, Wood said.

The attorney said the officer drew her handgun after Crutcher walked toward the police car's passenger side and started to put his hand in his left pocket.

Another officer arrived and drew his stun gun, the lawyer said, adding that the stun gun and handgun were fired simultaneously because both officers perceived the same threat.

He said Crutcher's head was tilted but his eyes were on Shelby. Wood said Shelby recalled Crutcher mumbling incoherently when she asked him if the SUV belonged to him.

Shelby opened fire when Crutcher's "left hand goes through" the SUV window, Wood said.

WHAT PROSECUTORS HAVE SAID

Shelby was charged with first-degree manslaughter, which is punishable by a minimum of four years in prison.

The officer "reacted unreasonably by escalating the situation from a confrontation with Mr. Crutcher, who was not responding to verbal commands and was walking away from her with his hands held up, becoming emotionally involved to the point that she overreacted," according to an affidavit filed with the charge.

Tulsa County District Attorney Steve Kunzweiler said arrangements were being made for the officer to surrender.

"I do not know why things happen in this world the way they do," Kunzweiler said. "We need to pray for wisdom and guidance."

WHAT POLICE HAVE SAID

A Tulsa police spokeswoman initially told reporters that Crutcher refused requests to put his hands in the air. After the footage suggesting otherwise was released, spokeswoman Jeanne MacKenzie said she was relying on reports from officers.

Tulsa Police Chief Chuck Jordan has said that Crutcher did not have a gun on his body or in his SUV.

Authorities have held back many details, citing the investigation, but police confirmed the discovery of PCP in Crutcher's vehicle and that Shelby had a stun gun but did not use it.

WHAT THE FAMILY AND THEIR ATTORNEYS HAVE SAID

The family and their attorneys say the video clearly shows Crutcher wasn't threatening the officers. The attorneys also provided an enlarged photo from the police footage that appears to show the SUV's window rolled up, which would contradict Shelby's claim that Crutcher was reaching inside his vehicle.

Whether Crutcher possessed or used drugs is also irrelevant, the lawyers said.

"If a case like this with clear video can't be appropriately dealt with justly, then what case can be?" attorney Damario Solomon-Simmons has said. "Once people lose hope in our justice system, everything else falls down."

Bleed reported from Little Rock, Arkansas. Associated Press writer Justin Juozapavicius contributed to this report from Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Kerry admits diplomacy at impasse as Syrian truce collapses

By **BRADLEY KLAPPER** and **MATTHEW LEE**, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The United States and Russia ended any pretenses Thursday of their cease-fire for Syria remaining in force after days of increased violence and the Syrian military's announcement of a new offensive in Aleppo.

"We can't go out to the world and say we have an agreement when we don't," Secretary of State John Kerry said after meeting the top diplomats from Russia and more than a dozen European and Middle Eastern countries.

Kerry's statement, after three days of private and public diplomacy on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly, provided an ominous endnote to a week diplomats had hoped would be a major capstone toward peace.

Instead, Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, who negotiated the truce two weeks ago, went their separate ways as violence in Syria flared up anew and the relationship between the two key foreign powers in the conflict appeared to reach a new low.

No one spoke of being able to quickly resuscitate the cease-fire. While Kerry and Lavrov were set to hold more talks Friday, even confidence-building measures seemed beyond their reach at this point.

As the diplomats huddled in a New York hotel, Syria's military command said it would restart operations in the northern city of Aleppo, scene of some of the bitterest fighting in recent months.

According to one official present in the gathering, Kerry was informed of the news when his chief of staff showed him a headline on his BlackBerry.

A furious Kerry then told the entire room, Lavrov included, that "even while we are meeting here, they are doing this," said the official, who wasn't authorized to speak publicly on the matter and demanded anonymity.

Lavrov told Russian media that consultations would continue to "guarantee" the cease-fire.

But even as Kerry vowed to press on with all efforts to find a peaceful solution to the war between Syrian President Bashar Assad's Russian-backed government and U.S.-backed rebels, the American acknowledged the current strategy wasn't working.

"We can't be the only ones trying to hold this door open," Kerry told reporters. "Russia and the regime must do their part or this will have no chance."

He called for the immediate grounding of planes and helicopters that have launched airstrikes, including a Russian one earlier this week that the U.S. says hit an aid convoy, killing 20 civilians. Russia has denied responsibility, while raising a range of ulterior scenarios for how the caravan might have been struck.

"Absent a major gesture like this, we don't believe there is a point to making more promises or issuing more plans or announcing something that can't be reached," Kerry said, describing a "moment of truth" for Syria, Russia and all those trying to halt the bloodshed.

The meeting came after Assad told the AP in an interview in Damascus that the United States was to blame for the deal's failure. He cited U.S. inability to control "terrorist" groups and a weekend attack that killed dozens of Syrian soldiers. The U.S. apologized for what it described as a mistake.

Lavrov had sought a three-day pause in fighting to revive the cease-fire.

But U.S. officials said there was no point returning to a situation in which rebels would be pressed to hold fire, while the Syrian and Russian military's could violate the agreement.

American officials described the two-and-a-half-hour meeting in the Palace Hotel as "contentious."

Kerry and others made the point repeatedly to Lavrov that Russia had to undertake new steps that

went beyond previous agreements to salvage the process. Lavrov pushed only for all sides to recommit to the Sept. 9 truce, according to officials.

Russia provided "unsatisfactory" answers, French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said.

Kerry said he would wait for Lavrov to tell him Friday if Russia would suspend airstrikes for a significant period of time.

At the U.N., Assad's other major supporter also rejected the U.S.-led call for aircraft to be grounded.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said doing so would aid "terrorists."

"This course has no foundation, no logic," said Rouhani, whose country has directed Iranian troops and Hezbollah forces in support of Assad.

The war has killed as many as a half-million people, contributed to Europe's worst refugee crisis since World War II and allowed the Islamic State group to emerge as a global terror threat.

Associated Press writer Edith M. Lederer at the United Nations contributed to this report.

Yahoo hack steals personal info from at least 500M accounts

By MICHAEL LIEDTKE, AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Computer hackers swiped personal information from at least 500 million Yahoo accounts in what is believed to be the biggest digital break-in at an email provider.

The massive security breakdown disclosed Thursday poses new headaches for beleaguered Yahoo CEO Marissa Mayer as she scrambles to close a \$4.8 billion sale to Verizon .

The breach dates back to late 2014, raising questions about the checks and balances within Yahoo — a fallen internet star that has been laying off staff and trimming expenses to counter a steep drop in revenue during the past eight years.

At the time of the break-in, Yahoo's security team was led by Alex Stamos, a respected industry executive who left last year to take a similar job at Facebook.

ONCE MORE UNTO THE BREACH

Yahoo didn't explain what took so long to uncover a heist that it blamed on a "state-sponsored actor" — parlance for a hacker working on behalf of a foreign government.

The Sunnyvale, California, company declined to explain how it reached its conclusions about the attack for security reasons, but said it is working with the FBI and other law enforcement. Yahoo began investigating a possible breach in July, around the time the tech site Motherboard reported that a hacker who uses the name "Peace" was trying to sell account information belonging to 200 million Yahoo users.

Yahoo didn't find evidence of that reported hack, but additional digging later uncovered a far larger, allegedly state-sponsored attack.

"We take these types of breaches very seriously and will determine how this occurred and who is responsible," the FBI said in a Thursday statement.

MOST ACCOUNTS EVER STOLEN

The Yahoo theft represents the most accounts ever stolen from a single email provider, according to computer security analyst Avivah Litan with the technology research firm Gartner Inc.

"It's a shocking number," Litan said. "This is a pretty big deal that is probably going to cost them tens of millions of dollars. Regulators and lawyers are going to have a field day with this one."

Yahoo says it has more than 1 billion monthly users, although it hasn't disclosed how many of those people have email accounts. In July, 161 million people worldwide used Yahoo email on personal com-

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puters, a 30 percent decline from the same time in 2014, according to the latest data from the research firm comScore.

The data stolen from Yahoo includes users' names, email addresses, telephone numbers, birth dates, scrambled passwords, and the security questions — and answers — used to verify an account holder's identity. The company said the attacker didn't get any information about its users' bank accounts or credit and debit cards.

Security experts say the Yahoo theft could hurt the affected users if their personal information is mined to break into other online services or used for identity theft. All affected users will be notified about the theft and advised how to protect themselves, according to the company.

Yahoo also is recommending that all users change their passwords if they haven't done so since 2014. If the same password is used to access other sites, it should be changed too, along with any security questions similar to those used on Yahoo.

THE VERIZON IMPACT

News of the security lapse could cause some people to have second thoughts about relying on Yahoo's services, raising a prickly issue for the company as it tries to sell its digital operations to Verizon.

That deal, announced two months ago, isn't supposed to close until early next year. That leaves Verizon with wiggle room to renegotiate the purchase price or even back out if it believes the security breach will harm Yahoo's business. That could happen if users shun Yahoo or file lawsuits because they're incensed by the theft of their personal information.

Verizon said it still doesn't know enough about the Yahoo break-in to assess the potential consequences. "We will evaluate as the investigation continues through the lens of overall Verizon interests, including consumers, customers, shareholders and related communities," the company said in a statement.

DELAY OF SALE?

At the very least, Verizon is going to need more time to assess what it will be getting into if it proceeds with its plans to take over Yahoo, said Scott Vernick, an attorney specializing in data security for the law firm Fox Rothschild.

"This is going to slow things down. There is going to be a lot of blood, sweat and tears shed on this," Vernick said. "A buyer needs to understand the cybersecurity strengths and weaknesses of its target these days."

Investors evidently aren't nervous about the Verizon deal unraveling yet. Yahoo's stock added a penny Thursday to close at \$44.15. But the Verizon sale represents a sliver of Yahoo's total market value, which primarily consists of a stake in Chinese e-commerce leader Alibaba Group currently worth \$42 billion.

AP Technology Writer Bree Fowler in New York contributed to this story.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Friday, Sept. 23, the 267th day of 2016. There are 99 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 23, 1846, Neptune was identified as a planet by German astronomer Johann Gottfried Galle (GAH'-luh).

On this date:

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In 1779, during the Revolutionary War, the American warship Bon Homme Richard, commanded by John Paul Jones, defeated the HMS Serapis in battle off Yorkshire, England; however, the seriously damaged Bon Homme Richard sank two days later.

In 1780, British spy John Andre was captured along with papers revealing Benedict Arnold's plot to surrender West Point to the British.

In 1806, the Lewis and Clark expedition returned to St. Louis more than two years after setting out for the Pacific Northwest.

In 1926, Gene Tunney scored a ten-round decision over Jack Dempsey to win the world heavyweight boxing title in Philadelphia.

In 1939, Sigmund Freud (froyd), the founder of psychoanalysis, died in London at age 83.

In 1952, in what became known as the "Checkers" speech, Sen. Richard M. Nixon, R-Calif., salvaged his vice-presidential nomination by appearing on television to refute allegations of improper campaign fundraising.

In 1955, a jury in Sumner, Mississippi, acquitted two white men, Roy Bryant and J.W. Milam, of murdering black teenager Emmett Till. (The two men later admitted to the crime in an interview with Look magazine.)

In 1957, nine black students who'd entered Little Rock Central High School in Arkansas were forced to withdraw because of a white mob outside.

In 1962, New York's Philharmonic Hall (later renamed Avery Fisher Hall) formally opened as the first unit of the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. "The Jetsons," an animated cartoon series about a Space Age family, premiered as the ABC television network's first program in color.

In 1973, former Argentine president Juan Peron won a landslide election victory that returned him to power; his wife, Isabel, was elected vice president.

In 1987, Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., withdrew from the Democratic presidential race following questions about his use of borrowed quotations and the portrayal of his academic record.

In 1996, space shuttle Atlantis left Russia's orbiting Mir station with astronaut Shannon Lucid, who ended her six-month visit with tender goodbyes to her Russian colleagues.

Ten years ago: Three young children were found dead in an East St. Louis, Illinois, apartment, hours after Tiffany Hall was charged with killing their pregnant mother and her fetus in a grisly attack. (Hall later pleaded guilty to four counts of murder and one count of intentional homicide in the death of the fetus and was sentenced to life in prison without parole.) Barry Bonds hit his 734th career home run in the Giants' 10-8 loss to the Brewers, breaking Hank Aaron's NL record.

Five years ago: Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas (mahk-MOOD' ah-BAHS') took his people's quest for independence to the United Nations, seeking the world body's recognition of Palestine and sidestepping negotiations that had foundered for nearly two decades. Pope Benedict XVI, visiting his native Germany, met with victims of sexual abuse by priests and expressed "deep compassion and regret," according to the Vatican. After 41 years, the soap opera "All My Children" broadcast its final episode on ABC-TV.

One year ago: In the first canonization on U.S. soil, Pope Francis elevated to sainthood Junipero Serra, an 18th-century missionary who's brought Catholicism to the American West Coast. Earlier in the day, the pontiff met with President Barack Obama at the White House and was greeted by adoring crowds during an outdoor procession. Chinese President Xi Jinping (shee jihn-peeng), visiting Seattle, addressed Amazon.com founder Jeff Bezos, billionaire investor Warren Buffett and other top American and Chinese business leaders, vowing his country would work to remove barriers to foreign investment and improve intellectual property protections. Volkswagen CEO Martin Winterkorn resigned, days after

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admitting that the world's top-selling carmaker had rigged diesel emissions to pass U.S. tests during his tenure; Winterkorn denied any personal wrongdoing.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Julio Iglesias is 73. Actor Paul Petersen (TV: "The Donna Reed Show") is 71. Actress-singer Mary Kay Place is 69. Rock star Bruce Springsteen is 67. Director/playwright George C. Wolfe (Film: "Nights in Rodanthe") is 62. Rock musician Leon Taylor (The Ventures) is 61. Actress Rosalind Wiseman is 59. Golfer Larry Mize is 58. Actor Jason Alexander is 57. Actor Chi McBride is 55. Country musician Don Herron (BR549) is 54. Actor Erik Todd Dellums is 52. Actress LisaRaye is 50. Singer Ani (AH'-nee) DiFranco is 46. Rock singer Sarah Bettens (K's Choice) is 44. Recording executive Jermaine Dupri is 44. Actor Kip Pardue is 40. Actor Anthony Mackie is 38. Pop singer Erik-Michael Estrada (TV: "Making the Band") is 37. Actress Aubrey Dollar is 36. Pop singer Diana Ortiz (Dream) is 31. Tennis player Melanie Oudin (oo-DAN') is 25.

Thought for Today: "Education is hanging around until you've caught on." — Robert Frost, American poet (1874-1963).