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Tuesday, Oct. 11

Senior Menu: BBQ Chicken, baked potato with sour cream, peas, chocolate cake, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Tomato soup, grilled cheese, carrots and dip, fruit.

Oral Interp at Milbank

4:30 p.m.: Volleyball hosts Hitchcock-Tulare (7th and 8th at 4:30 p.m., JV at 6 p.m. with varsity to follow)

7:00 pm: School Board Meeting

7:00 pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Council

Wednesday, Oct. 12

Senior Menu: Turkey and dressing, gravy, mixed vegetables, cranberry sauce, pumpkin bar.

School Breakfast: French toast sticks, links, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Meatballs, mashed potatoes, corn, tea bun, fruit.

8:30 am: Elementary Life Touch Pictures

6:30 pm: Emmanuel Lutheran League

7:00 p.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Confirmation

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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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)

Harry Implement

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Bus Drivers Wanted

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

Bates Township Mowing Notice

BATES TOWNSHIP WEED NOTICE

OWNERS & TENANTS of Bates Township are hereby notified and required, according to law, to cut all weeds and grass in road ditches adjacent to their property or tenanted by them within Bates township on or before October 1, 2016 or same will be hired done by the township board and assessed property taxes at the rate of \$300 per half mile.

Bates Township Board of Supervisors
Betty Geist
Township Clerk

Bates Township Right-Of-Way Notice

Bates Township Board of Supervisors reminds all landowners and tenants that the road right-of-way extends 33 feet from the center of the township road. This ditch is to be maintained and mowed. Any crops planted in the road right-of-way will be mowed and charged to the landowner, effective with the 2017 growing season.

Bates Township Board of Supervisors
Betty Geist
Township Clerk
(0928.1005)

THE CIRCUS SPORTS BAR & GRILL



**World
Famous
Wings
have
come to
Groton!**

Serving Mondays from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

6 Wings \$5.99
12 Wings \$10.99
20 Wings \$16.99
100 Wings \$74.99

**For orders of 20
wings or more,
please call
ahead!**

605/397-8456



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Groton Hosts the Annual Lake Region Marching Band Festival

On Friday, October 14th the Groton JH/HS Bands, thirteen area school bands, and the Northern State University Marching Wolves will converge in Groton for the Lake Region Marching Band Festival. The parade of bands will travel from South to North on Groton's Main Street from Railroad Avenue to 9th Avenue, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Following the parade, the NSU Marching Wolves will present a field marching show for all bands in attendance.

This festival originated in Milbank then moved to Waubay for 11 years. Since 2013 Groton has hosted the festival and it plans to remain there for the foreseeable future. Bands will be evaluated on their performance by a panel of three judges. Awards will be given to the top two bands in each of three categories: high school bands, middle school bands, and combined bands. A "People's Choice" award will also be awarded by a separate, secret judging panel placed throughout the parade route. Awards will also be given to the bands with the best color guard, the best drumline, and the best winds.

The festival has become a premier marching event in Northeast South Dakota, attracting bands and spectators from towns across the region. The public is invited to watch the parade of bands on Main Street as well as the NSU Marching Wolves field marching show and awards at the football field. Concessions will be available both on main street during the parade and at the football field.

Attending the festival are bands from Hoven, Leola, Aberdeen Roncalli, Ipswich, Northwestern, Waubay, Langford, Aberdeen Simmons & Holgate Middle School, Milbank Middle School, Watertown Middle School, Great Plains Lutheran High School, Britton Hecla High School, and Warner High School.

The event will be live streamed at gdilive.com

The Primary sponsor of the festival is the Groton Dairy Queen.

DOLLAR GENERAL IS HIRING!

Dollar General is a national discount retailer with over 13,000 stores employing more than 100,000 people. We offer the challenge and growth opportunities you desire. We are seeking energetic & hands-on team players to fill important roles in our stores!

**New Store Opening in Groton, SD.
Need all Candidates to apply right away as
the store will open in early December:**

Store Manager

Assistant Store Manager

Lead Sales Associates

Sales Associates

To apply, go to www.dollargeneral.com/careers

- Click on "Store Careers", then click on "Apply Online"
- Click "Search by Location -> Zip Code" to search for positions in Groton, SD 57445
- Log in to apply

Again thank you for your interest in Dollar General.

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Save time. Save money. **Every day!**

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Gas Prices Continue to Climb Nationally Despite Seasonal Drop in Demand

Monday, October 10, 2016 – Today's pump price average in South Dakota – \$2.265 per gallon – is one cent higher than it was a week ago, but four cents lower than one month ago, according to GasPrices.AAA.com.

"Gas prices have been rising across the nation, but we haven't seen it impact prices in South Dakota yet," said Marilyn Buskohl, spokeswoman for AAA South Dakota. "This is good news for motorists in South Dakota as last year the state average was twenty four cents higher."

	Today	Last Week	Change	Sept. 6	Change	Last year
Aberdeen	\$2.283	\$2.259	\$0.024	\$2.29	-\$0.003	\$2.394
Brookings	\$2.230	\$2.214	\$0.016	\$2.29	-\$0.056	\$2.488
Huron	\$2.348	\$2.415	-\$0.067	\$2.32	\$0.029	\$2.549
Mitchell	\$2.285	\$2.236	\$0.049	\$2.27	\$0.011	\$2.490
Pierre	\$2.511	\$2.341	\$0.170	\$2.40	\$0.109	\$2.709
Rapid City	\$2.274	\$2.280	-\$0.006	\$2.37	-\$0.096	\$2.476
Sioux Falls	\$2.116	\$2.057	\$0.059	\$2.13	-\$0.011	\$2.456
Vermillion	\$2.316	\$2.313	\$0.003	\$2.16	\$0.159	\$2.699
Watertown	\$2.320	\$2.316	\$0.004	\$2.30	\$0.021	\$2.474
Yankton	\$2.359	\$2.303	\$0.056	\$2.26	\$0.098	\$2.332
South Dakota	\$2.265	\$2.254	\$0.011	\$2.28	-\$0.013	\$2.507

The national average price for regular unleaded gasoline has increased for 12 of the past 14 days, reaching today's price of \$2.26 per gallon. Today's average price is 3 cents more than one week ago, 8 cents more than one month ago and 6 cents less than one year ago.

Over the weekend, Florida, Georgia and South Carolina saw the arrival of Hurricane Matthew and residents in those areas expressed significant concerns about the availability of gasoline leading up to and following the storm. Ports and fuel terminals in all three states were closed ahead of the storm. Fortunately, there were no refineries threatened by the path of the storm and by Friday afternoon many ports in southern Florida were already cleared by the Coast Guard and open to receive vessels.

Many coastal ports are expected to reopen on Monday, allowing waterborne deliveries of gasoline to continue. Barring any delays due to flooding and power outages, tanker trucks should be able to access terminals and quickly resupply stations across the impacted areas.

Quick Stats

- The West Coast continues to be the most expensive market for gasoline, including the only six states where drivers are paying \$2.50 or more on average: Hawaii (\$2.84), California (\$2.79) Washington (\$2.72), Alaska (\$2.64), Oregon (\$2.52) and Nevada (\$2.50).
- The states with the largest increases this week are Indiana (+11 cents), Michigan (+10 cents), Missouri (+8 cents), West Virginia (+8 cents), Ohio (+8 cents), Illinois (+6 cents) and Florida (+6 cents).

Great Lakes and Central States

Pump prices in the Great Lakes region saw significant increases over the past week. Regional prices remain impacted by two factors - seasonal refinery work at key plants like BP's 430,000-b/d Whiting refinery and replenishment of inventory lost last month, when product had to be moved from Ohio, Indiana and Illinois to assist states in the Southeast impacted by problems on the Colonial Pipeline. While prices in recent weeks have been a mixed bag of increases and decreases, regional prices over the past week have moved universally higher, with five Midwestern states making the list of top increases: Indiana (+11 cents), Michigan (+10 cents), Missouri (+8 cents), Ohio (+8 cents), Illinois (+6 cents).

The Central United States has some of the cheapest prices in the country, although prices have followed the national average higher over the past week. Four states in the region feature in the top-15 lowest: Arkansas (\$2.05), Missouri (\$2.07), Oklahoma (\$2.07) and Tennessee (\$2.14).

Refiners in the Gulf Coast are preparing to meet fall demand but reports from OPIS indicate that refineries in Big Spring and Pasadena, Texas had maintenance issues last week which impacted supplies and caused increases in some states.

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Oil Market Dynamics

Attention is now focused on whether the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will alter production in order to influence prices higher. OPEC members are scheduled to have a number of meetings before the end of November in order to identify the details of an output agreement, which has supported the bearish sentiment for crude oil over the past week. Traders will keep a close eye on OPEC negotiations moving forward and will be on the lookout for an oil production framework. At the close of Friday's formal trading session on the NYMEX, WTI was down 63 cents to settle at \$49.81 per barrel.

Motorists can find current gas prices along their route with the free AAA Mobile app for iPhone, iPad and Android. The app can also be used to map a route, find discounts, book a hotel and access AAA roadside assistance. Learn more at AAA.com/mobile.

Service Notice: Twila Ruden

Twila June (Sanborn) Ruden, 86, died on October 9, 2016 at Groton, SD. Funeral services will be held on Friday, October 14, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at the Groton United Methodist Church, with Pastor Thomas Carlson officiating. Burial will be at Groton Union Cemetery following the church service. Paetznick-Garness Funeral Home of Groton is in charge of arrangements. There will be visitation on Thursday, October 13, 2016 from 4 - 7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Today in Weather History

October 11, 1997: High winds and hail caused nearly \$20,000 in damage to rural Meade County homes.

1846: A major hurricane, likely a Category 5, moved through the Caribbean Sea. This Great Havana Hurricane struck western Cuba on 10 October. It hit the Florida Keys on 11 October, destroying the old Key West Lighthouse and Fort Zachary Taylor.

1906: Games 1 and 2 of all Chicago World Series were played amid snow flurries. Snow would not happen again in a World Series until 1997. The high temperature for game 3 played on this day was 43 degrees.

1925 - Widespread early season snows fell in the northeastern U.S., with as much as two feet in New Hampshire and Vermont. The heavy snow blocked roads and cancelled football games. (David Ludlum)

1954 - A deluge of 6.72 inches of rain in 48 hours flooded the Chicago River, causing ten million dollars damage in the Chicago area. (9th-11th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - More than thirty cities in the Upper Midwest reported record low temperatures for the date, including Waterloo IA and Scottsbluff NE where the mercury dipped to 16 degrees. Tropical Storm Floyd brought heavy rain to southern Florida, moisture from Hurricane Ramon produced heavy rain in southern California, and heavy snow blanketed the mountains of New York State and Vermont. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Low pressure brought gale force winds to the Great Lakes Region, with snow and sleet reported in some areas. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed in the north central U.S. The mercury hit 84 degrees at Cutbank MT and Worland WY. The temperature at Gunnison CO soared from a morning low of 12 degrees to a high of 66 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Much of the nation enjoyed "Indian Summer" type weather. Nine cities in the central U.S. reported record highs for the date as temperatures warmed into the 80s and 90s. Record highs included 90 degrees at Grand Island NE and 97 degrees at Waco TX. Strong winds along a cold front crossing the Northern High Plains Region gusted to 80 mph at Ames Monument WY during the early morning. (The National Weather Summary)

2005: A tropical depression, formerly Hurricane Vince, became the first tropical cyclone make landfall in Spain since 1842.

The Livestream logo features a red and white stylized leaf or flame icon to the left of the word "livestream" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, Oct. 11








7:00 pm: School Board

7:15 pm: Volleyball

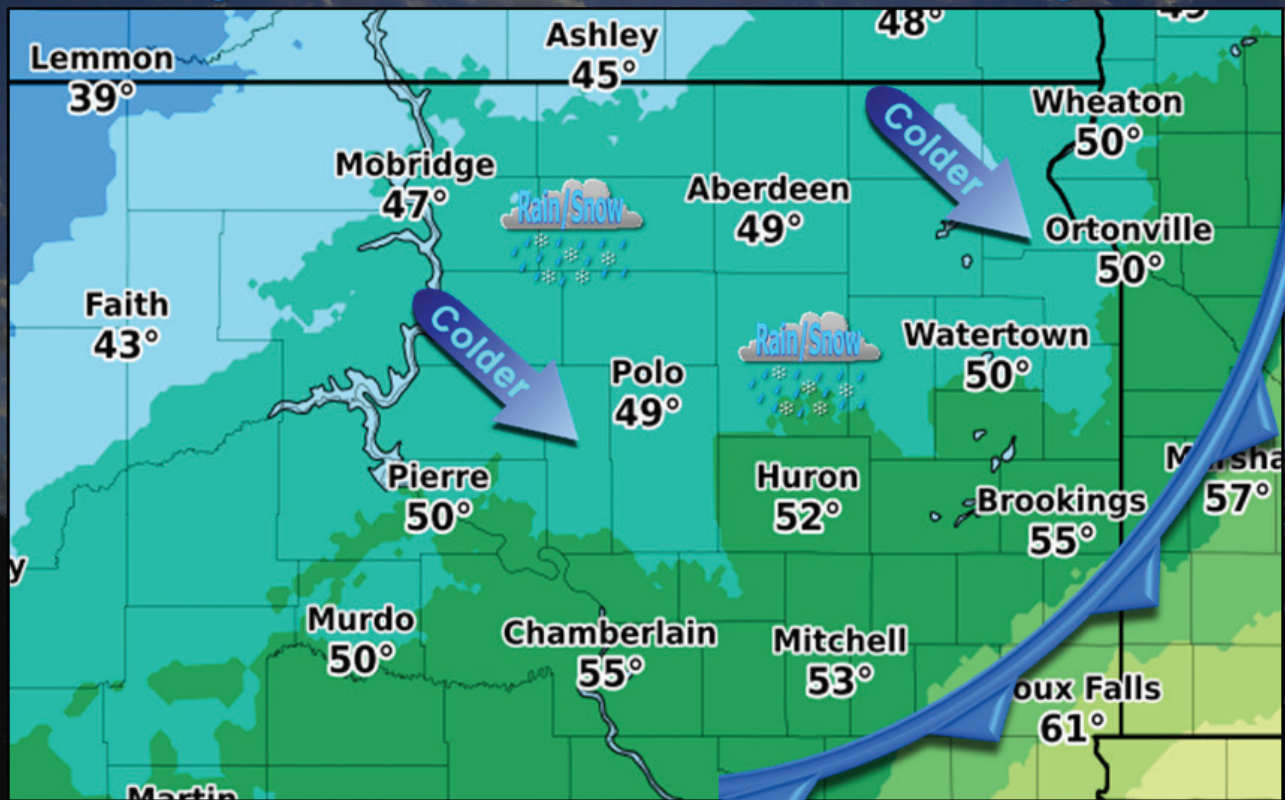
gdilive.com

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Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
						
Cloudy	Slight Chance Rain then Slight Chance Rain/Snow	Slight Chance Snow then Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 48 °F	Low: 32 °F	High: 45 °F	Low: 23 °F	High: 60 °F	Low: 39 °F	High: 69 °F

Much Cooler Today Light Rain/Snow Mix Possible Tonight



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 10/11/2016 5:49 AM Central

Published on: 10/11/2016 at 5:52AM

Much cooler air will be felt across the area today in the wake of a passing cold front. Northerly breezes and mostly cloudy skies will be the story, with cool readings in the 40s to around 50 degrees for highs. By this evening and through the overnight hours, areas of light rain are possible. There is potential for some of the rain to mix with or switch to light snow late tonight, but no accumulations are expected.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 75.1 F at 5:26 PM

Low Outside Temp: 54.5 F at 7:53 AM

High Gust: 29.0 Mph at 3:18 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 93° in 2015

Record Low: 16° in 1935

Average High: 60°F

Average Low: 35°F

Average Precip in Oct.: 0.80

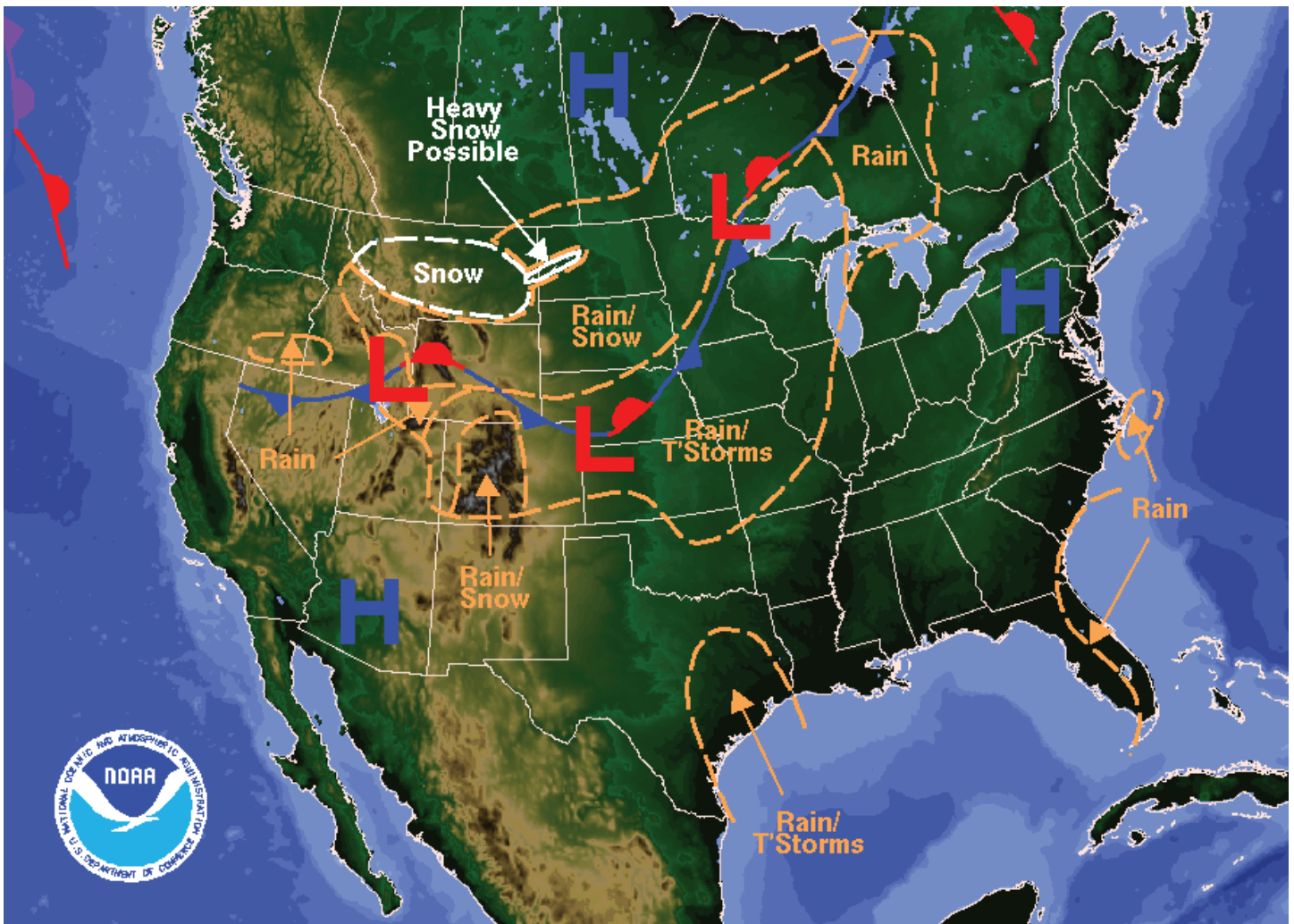
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.63

Average Precip to date: 19.28

Precip Year to Date: 13.83

Sunset Tonight: 6:54 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:46 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Tue, Oct 11, 2016, issued 4:42 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts



DECREASE TO INCREASE

A nearby church called a new pastor. He was well received and in a short time the church began to grow. The attendance at Sunday school and worship services increased beyond expectations. Even the increase in the number of people at prayer meeting surprised everyone.

"Congratulations on the way your church is responding to you," I said after being introduced to him. "What are you doing differently than most other churches to see such growth?"

"I'm decreasing," was his strange reply.

"Decreasing?" I asked with a question mark on my face. "Are you on a diet?"

"Well, not really," came his quick reply. "It's what John said about Jesus: 'He will increase if I will decrease.'"

John's willingness to decrease is an important first step in humility. Those of us who want to serve God with the gifts He has given us are always tempted to do what John did in reverse order: we want the attention and focus to be upon us and what we are doing when blessings occur and success arrives.

We must never forget that it is always about Him. If we want to see Him at work in our lives, we must do as John did so consistently: point to Him and make Him the "main attraction." We must never put ourselves first. We must stand aside and let His Kingdom grow through us!

Prayer: Lord, it's difficult to get out of the way and not want to be praised in what we do for You. We pray for hearts that are humble and lives that are surrendered to You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: John 3:30 He must become greater; I must become less.

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

Monday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Aberdeen Christian def. Sunshine Bible Academy, 25-13, 25-23, 25-19

Aberdeen Roncalli def. Britton-Hecla, 25-10, 25-17, 25-18

Baltic def. Dell Rapids, 25-21, 25-23, 15-25, 25-18

Bridgewater-Emery def. Freeman Academy/Marion, 25-21, 13-25, 25-22, 25-22

Canistota def. Iroquois, 25-20, 25-15, 25-13

Chadron, Neb. def. St. Thomas More, 25-14, 21-25, 25-9, 25-12

Clark/Willow Lake def. Lake Preston, 30-28, 23-25, 25-16, 24-26, 15-10

Madison def. Garretson, 25-11, 25-11, 25-11

Miller def. Kimball/White Lake, 25-19, 25-20, 25-18

Parker def. Beresford, 25-21, 25-21, 30-28

Philip def. Wall, 25-23, 21-25, 25-15, 23-25, 15-13

Platte-Geddes def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-12, 25-12, 25-19

South Sioux City, Neb. def. Elk Point-Jefferson, 25-21, 25-17, 23-25, 25-18

Wagner def. Mt. Vernon/Plankinton, 25-15, 25-23, 9-25, 22-25, 15-4

Waubay/Summit def. Langford, 25-21, 21-25, 25-20, 25-16

Army Corps holds off on resuming Dakota Access pipeline work

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers won't yet authorize construction of the \$3.8 billion, four-state Dakota Access oil pipeline on federal land in southern North Dakota, it said Monday, along with reiterating its earlier request that the pipeline company voluntarily stop work on private land in the area.

The Corps' statement came in the wake of a federal appeals court ruling Sunday that allowed construction to resume on the pipeline within 20 miles of Lake Oahe. That ruling sparked a large protest Monday in North Dakota that led to the arrest of 27 people, including "Divergent" actress Shailene Woodley, who is known for her activism.

A joint statement from the Justice Department, Interior Department and the Corps said it was not ready to allow pipeline work to continue on its land bordering and under Lake Oahe, a reservoir that the agency manages on the Missouri River and the water supply for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. It also called on pipeline owner Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners to voluntarily stop work in the area; ETP didn't respond to a request from The Associated Press for comment Sunday or Monday.

The Standing Rock Sioux tribe believes the pipeline, which will cross through North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and Illinois, will destroy cultural artifacts and could pollute drinking water. The tribe had asked the appeals court to continue blocking work on the section of pipeline while it appeals a lower-court ruling from September that let work on the entire pipeline go forward.

Standing Rock Chairman Dave Archambault II said in a statement Sunday that the tribe "is not backing down from this fight."

On Monday morning, about 300 people protested at two construction sites. Woodley faces misdemeanor charges of criminal trespass and engaging in a riot, which together carry a maximum punishment of two months in jail and \$3,000 in fines, according to Morton County Sheriff's Department spokesman Rob Keller. Woodley's publicist didn't immediately comment.

The federal agencies also said they're still reviewing whether there needs to be reforms in the way tribal views are considered for such projects, a process officials said they hope to conclude soon.

Officials "look forward to a serious discussion during a series of consultations, starting with a listening session in Phoenix on Tuesday, on whether there should be nationwide reform on the tribal consultation process for these types of infrastructure projects," the statement said.

Except for the section in southern North Dakota, the 1,200-mile pipeline is largely complete. Thousands of people have protested the pipeline in southern North Dakota in recent months, and nearly 125 people have been arrested since mid-August.

Follow Blake Nicholson on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/NicholsonBlake>

Governor wants Trump out of the race, but would vote for him

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — GOP Gov. Dennis Daugaard said Monday that he wants Donald Trump to quit the presidential race, but he'd still vote for Trump over Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton.

Daugaard told The Associated Press that the recent release of a 2005 tape that captured Trump making predatory sexual comments about women was the "last straw." On Saturday, Daugaard and third-ranking Senate Republican John Thune of South Dakota called on Trump to withdraw in favor of vice presidential candidate Mike Pence.

"The priority in my mind is to defeat Hillary Clinton," Daugaard said. "Trump's outrageous statements and his personal distractions make that increasingly unlikely, and I know a good Republican nominee could defeat her because she's not a strong candidate."

Daugaard said he was disgusted, but not surprised, by Trump's comments. Still, the governor said he's unwilling to vote for Clinton instead of a Republican because it wouldn't be good for the country to have another four years under a Democratic president.

Republican U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem said Monday that she plans to vote for Trump on Election Day. Noem called Trump's comments "horrific," but she hasn't joined Thune and Daugaard in urging Trump to exit the race. Trump would approve Republican policy proposals, Noem said.

"I don't look to either candidate to be a role model. When I look for a role model, I point (my children) to my lord and savior Jesus Christ," Noem said. "I'm looking for someone who will sign conservative legislation in the White House, because that's what I'm going to be sending to the White House."

World War II fighter pilot's remains to be buried in Miller

MILLER, S.D. (AP) — The remains of a World War II fighter pilot from South Dakota will be buried in his hometown of Miller more than 70 years after he went missing during a fierce combat mission in Germany.

The Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2dOx0rU>) reported that 1st Lt. Ben B. Barnes will be laid to rest on Saturday during a ceremony at GAR Cemetery in Miller. Barnes remained missing and presumed dead for decades, until his remains were recovered from a crash site northeast of Berlin.

Lt. Col. David Fossum with the South Dakota Army National Guard said Barnes' remains weren't found for so long, partly because the area where he crashed was located behind the Iron Curtain, a barrier separating the former Soviet bloc and the West prior to the decline of communism, after World War II ended and the Cold War began.

"We couldn't get in the area," said Lt. Col. David Fossum with the South Dakota Army National Guard. "The Russians wouldn't let us."

Fossum said Barnes was an only child. His father died in 1956 and his mother later died in 1973.

According to Jim Jones, a Hand County commissioner and longtime board member of the GAR Cemetery, Barnes' mother at 87, would still reminisce how students from her son's high school would crowd around the windows to see Barnes fly over in his plane.

Barnes was presumed dead a year after his final mission on Dec. 5, 1944, when he did not return to his base in England. A headstone was made for the fighter pilot at GAR Cemetery declaring him missing in action.

"I'm glad they put that headstone there, 60 or 70 years ago," Fossum said.

Barnes, a West Point Cadet, was married just before leaving for Europe but investigators could not find what happened to her. The couple did not have children.

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

Car-motorcycle crash in Sioux Falls kills motorcyclist

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A crash involving a motorcycle and a car at a Sioux Falls intersection killed the driver of the motorcycle.

Police say the crash happened about 7 p.m. Sunday. They say the motorcycle was traveling at a high rate of speed when it collided with a car at the intersection in western Sioux Falls.

The motorcyclist was taken to a hospital and later pronounced dead. The driver and passenger of the car were treated at the scene for minor injuries.

The names of those involved were not immediately released.

Authorities ID man who died in truck crash in Tripp County

CARTER, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified a Moser man who died in a one-vehicle crash in Tripp County.

The Highway Patrol says 34-year-old Tyler Antoine lost control of the pickup truck he was driving and it rolled in the ditch multiple times about 7 miles north of Carter.

The pickup was discovered about 9 a.m. Saturday, but the time of the crash isn't known. Antoine was dead at the scene.

Noem says she will vote for Trump despite vulgar comments

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Republican Rep. Kristi Noem said Monday she will vote for GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump despite the release of a video that captured Trump making predatory sexual comments about women a decade earlier.

But at the first debate for South Dakota's sole U.S. House seat, Noem and Democratic challenger state Rep. Paula Hawks avoided the stinging character attacks that have consumed the presidential contest between Trump and Hillary Clinton, instead largely focusing on policy issues ranging from agriculture to energy, health care to creating better-paying jobs.

Noem, calling Trump's comments "horrific," hasn't joined U.S. Sen. John Thune and Gov. Dennis Daugaard in urging Trump to exit the race in favor of Mike Pence, his running mate. Trump said he would sign Republican policy proposals into law, Noem said, dubbing both candidates "very flawed."

"If Hillary Clinton ends up being president, boy am I going to be a check and balance to her administration," Noem said. "If Donald Trump gets elected president, I'm going to send him conservative legislation that he can sign into law."

Hawks said she supports Clinton, citing her experience and professionalism, even though they disagree on some topics. The second-term Democratic state representative from Hartford is running to block Noem from returning to Congress for a fourth term, arguing that the state is "primed" for a change in leadership.

"I have voted in the best interest of my constituents and the state of South Dakota," she said. "That includes opportunities that I've had to toe the line as far as party loyalty is concerned, voting in the interests of the consumer rather than in the interests of the Democratic party."

Hawks cited her experience as an "endangered species" outnumbered by Republicans in the state Legislature as a testament to her ability to work across the aisle.

But, she and Noem did disagree on some traditionally divisive issues. Hawks said President Barack Obama's health overhaul should be improved, not thrown out, and that South Dakota should expand Medicaid. Noem called for the Affordable Care Act's repeal, criticizing the Obama administration on government regulations, health care and immigration.

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Noem had a substantial financial lead in the race as of the latest campaign finance reporting deadline. She had roughly \$1.75 million in the bank to wage a campaign, compared to Hawks' roughly \$152,500 on hand.

Noem, first elected after she beat incumbent Democrat Stephanie Herseth Sandlin in 2010, won against her Democratic challenger in 2014 by more than 30 percentage points.

Lawsuit over Spearfish Falls public access settled

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — A recent lawsuit settlement has cleared up uncertainty over how the public can access Spearfish Falls in western South Dakota, sparked changes to the visitor experience and removed a small obstacle to a proposed state park.

The \$1 million lawsuit was filed in 2014 by members of the Romano family, who bought a cabin and land near the falls during the decades when it was fully or partially dry due to the Homestake Mining Co.'s diversion of Little Spearfish Creek.

In 2003, the falls roared back to life when Homestake quit diverting the creek, and visitors started coming to the area. The Romano family sued the mining company and a charitable foundation that helped create a trail to the falls, to try to regain privacy and control over a parking area and bridge.

The lawsuit was settled in late September, with public access rerouted to another recently installed bridge, the Rapid City Journal reported (<http://bit.ly/2d7Ajbr>). A new elevated viewing platform also is planned for the public, said Matt Snyder, the state park regional supervisor for the Black Hills.

Eventually, the falls could be a key component of a state park in Spearfish Canyon. State government already owns Spearfish Falls and Roughlock Falls and some surrounding land, and federal legislation has been introduced to acquire some U.S. Forest Service land in the canyon that is considered necessary for the park plan.

Information from: Rapid City Journal, <http://www.rapidcityjournal.com>

Powerball lottery ticket sold in Watertown worth \$100,000

WATERTOWN, S.D. (AP) — A Powerball ticket sold in Watertown is worth \$100,000 in the latest drawing. Lottery officials say the ticket matched four of five white ball numbers and the Powerball to win the game's \$50,000 third prize in Saturday's drawing, and the ticket holder bought an option for an additional dollar that doubled the amount.

The odds of winning Powerball's third prize are 1 in about 913,000. Winners have about six months to claim a prize.

Powerball is played in 44 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The jackpot is at \$107 million for the next drawing, on Wednesday.

11-year-old invents innovative way to carry her binder

By Megan Raposa, Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Allie Weber solves her problems with inventions.

So when the sixth-grader learned that Edison Middle School doesn't allow backpacks in classrooms, she didn't panic. She went to work.

Weber carries herself with poise beyond her 11 years. She's used to media attention — her inventions have earned her national awards and international renown — and she tosses around the thought of becoming a patent lawyer, that is, if she doesn't get a job at NASA.

"Making things is really fun," Weber said. "And if you solve a problem at the same time, it's a win-win." The Argus Leader reported (<http://argusne.ws/2cUHeJQ>) that Weber knew that in lieu of backpacks, most middle school students carry their classwork in large three-ring binders that zip shut. The binders have one strap, but she said it's flimsy and bad for posture. Some online research taught her that hauling a bag on one shoulder is particularly bad for a young spine that's still developing.

She repurposed straps from an old backpack to create a two-shoulder removable strap she calls the "Got Your Back Binder Strap."

She hopes her friends and classmates will see its value, but she's also thinking broadly and researching patents.

"I always imagined I'd be on 'Shark Tank,'" Weber said.

The middle of the strap — the part that rests on the back of the wearer's neck — attaches to the center of the binder's spine with two carabiners. Carabiners at the bottom of each strap attach to the sides of the binder using the hooks already in place for the "flimsy" strap.

When Weber puts on the strap, the binder rests comfortably against her back.

"I just figured out how to make a binder into a backpack without breaking school rules," Weber said.

Allie Weber, a sixth grader at Edison Middle School, invented a strap to attach to her binder for easier carrying to and from class.

It's not a rebellion against school rules, Weber's mother, Kara Weber, insists. She just doesn't like binders and wants to make sure her posture remains straight.

It's solving an important issue, said chiropractor Trent Gusso. Weber showed Gusso her prototype, which he said correctly distributes the binder's weight on both shoulders.

Heavy backpacks with unevenly distributed weight causes problems for many children and teens, Gusso said. It's such a widely known problem that each year South Dakota's chiropractic association promotes the correct way to wear backpacks and awareness that they shouldn't be heavier than needed.

Allie Weber, a sixth grader at Edison Elementary School, invented a strap to carry her binder. The strap helps evenly distribute the weight of her books for easier carrying.

This year, Weber's strap will bring awareness to the damage a heavy binder can do.

"I think she's identified a challenge that these kids are experiencing," Gusso said. "Instead of waiting for a more long-term problem to arrive, she's coming up with a solution to it."

Kara Weber has always supported her daughter's desire to create. She's no stranger to Walmart trips to pick up grommets or breaking out the hot-glue gun in the afternoon.

"When we see her get an idea, we always just encourage her to follow through," Kara Weber said.

So far, that follow-through has paid off.

That robot also earned her first place in the school science fair.

Weber doesn't know what the future holds, but she hopes her inventions will keep solving problems.

"I like fixing things."

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

Chicago students, teachers back to class after strike threat

By SARA BURNETT, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Students and teachers in Chicago are heading back to the classroom Tuesday after the Chicago Teachers Union and the nation's third-largest school district averted a strike with a tentative contract agreement reached minutes before a midnight deadline.

Chicago Teachers Union President Karen Lewis said at a news conference late Monday that after more than a year of negotiations, the two sides had hammered out an agreement that isn't perfect but is good for students, teachers and the city.

The deal still must be approved by the union's House of Delegates and the full membership, a process that could take weeks.

"There will be classes in the morning," she said. "It wasn't easy, as you all know ... We're very pleased we were able to come to this tentative agreement."

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel said the proposal ensures teachers are respected and "appropriately rewarded," while strengthening CPS finances and reassuring parents and taxpayers that the two sides are able to work together. There was no immediate information about how much the deal would cost or how the financially struggling district would pay for it.

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"Students across Chicago will be in school this morning and on the path to a stronger and brighter future," Emanuel said at an early morning news conference at City Hall.

The four-year proposal includes cost-of-living increases of 2 percent in the third year and 2.5 percent in the fourth year. It doesn't require current teachers to pay more toward their pensions — a change CPS had been seeking and the union rejected earlier this year. Future CPS hires would have to pick up that additional pension cost. The tentative agreement also addresses class sizes for younger grades by assigning an assistant to any class with more than 32 students.

The CTU had directed its roughly 28,000 members to report to picket lines Tuesday morning, unless they heard otherwise from union negotiators for a walkout that would have affected nearly 400,000 students.

Samsung stops making Galaxy Note 7s as fresh problems emerge

By YOUKYUNG LEE, AP Technology Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Samsung Electronics said Tuesday that it is discontinuing production of Galaxy Note 7 smartphones permanently, a day after it halted global sales of the star-crossed devices.

The South Korean company said in a regulatory filing that it decided to stop manufacturing Note 7s for the sake of consumer safety.

Samsung is struggling to regain consumer trust after a first round of recalls that prompted criticism both for the faulty devices and for the company's handling of the problem.

After the earlier recall, the company said it had identified a manufacturing defect in the batteries of its top-of-the-line smartphone.

It started shipping new Note 7 phones that were supposed to be safer. But reports that even the replacements were catching fire led Samsung to announce it was stopping sales of the devices.

Authorities in the U.S. and South Korea are still investigating why even the replacement Note 7 phones that Samsung equipped with a safer battery are catching fire. An official at the South Korean safety agency said the replacement phones may have a defect that is different from the problem with the original Note 7s.

Meanwhile Tuesday, China's product safety regulator said Samsung will recall all Galaxy Note 7 smartphones sold in mainland China, amounting to around 191,000 units.

The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine said it was investigating for defects in the devices

Samsung will either provide a full refund at the original price or replace Note 7 units with any other model of Samsung phone, and give refunds of the difference in prices, along with a 300 yuan (\$45) voucher.

Samsung's brand has already been battered by complaints it is doing too little to reassure Chinese owners their handsets are safe.

Initially, Samsung had said in September that the Note 7s sold in China would not be affected because their batteries came from a different supplier, ATL. Samsung recalled 1,858 Note 7 phones in China in September, saying they were distributed for testing before sales to the public began on Sept. 1.

WHO urges countries to raise taxes on sugary drinks

By JAMEY KEATEN, Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — The U.N. health agency on Tuesday recommended that countries use tax policy to increase the price of sugary drinks like sodas, sport drinks and even 100-percent fruit juices as a way to fight obesity, diabetes and tooth decay.

The World Health Organization, in a statement timed for World Obesity Day, said that the prevalence of obesity worldwide more than doubled between 1980 and 2014, when nearly 40 percent of people globally were overweight.

In a 36-page report on fiscal policy and diet, WHO also cited "strong evidence" that subsidies to reduced prices for fresh fruits and vegetables can help improve diets. It said that tax policies that lead to a 20-percent increase in the retail prices of sugary drinks would result in a proportional reduction in consumption.

Drawing on lessons from campaigns to fight tobacco use, WHO says imposing or increasing taxes on

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sugary drinks could help lower consumption of sugars, bringing health benefits and more income for governments such as to pay for health services. The health agency has long recommended that people keep intake of sugar to less than 10 percent of their total energy needs.

"Consumption of free sugars, including products like sugary drinks, is a major factor in the global increase of people suffering from obesity and diabetes," says Dr. Douglas Bettcher, who heads WHO's department for preventing non-communicable diseases. "If governments tax products like sugary drinks, they can reduce suffering and save lives."

WHO officials say that the U.S. is no longer the leading consumer of sugar-sweetened beverages — Chile and Mexico are now in front. They also noted rapid increase in consumption like China and sub-Saharan Africa. At least three in five adolescents in countries like Chile, Argentina and Algeria consume soft drinks daily, compared to between 20 to 40 percent in the U.S. and much of Europe.

"Taxation policies can be a very important tool — just one tool among many — but a very important tool for the reduction of sugar-sweetened beverages," said Dr. Francesco Branca, who heads WHO's Department for Nutrition and Health. He pointed to "pioneering" efforts by Michael Bloomberg, during his time as mayor of New York, and other U.S. officials to reduce sugar consumption.

The report was based on information collected in May last year, but WHO is coming forward with its recommendation on Tuesday because the evidence of the link between tax policy and reduced consumption coupled with health benefits have only recently emerged, said Temo Waqanivalu, coordinator of WHO's department for the prevention of non-communicable diseases.

Waqanivalu said that "discussion is ongoing" with companies behind such beverages on efforts to reduce sugar consumption.

Tensions flare as Republicans clash over Trump

By **STEVE PEOPLES, JULIE PACE and ERICA WERNER, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Donald Trump's candidacy has long exposed divisions within the Republican Party. But GOP leaders had hoped to prevent an all-out civil war at least until after the election.

They appear to be failing.

The top Republican in Congress on Monday effectively abandoned Trump, while the head of the Republican National Committee, or RNC, declared he was in full coordination with the embattled presidential nominee — opposing positions that highlight a political party increasingly battling itself as Election Day approaches.

Pro-Trump protesters clogged the sidewalk in front of the RNC's Capitol Hill headquarters on Monday.

"He already has to fight Hillary and Bill (Clinton) and the media. Now he has to fight other Republicans?" asked Kelley Anne Finn, 58, from northern Virginia. "We're not voting for any of the people who aren't voting for Trump."

Forty Republican senators and congressmen have revoked their support for the Republican presidential nominee — with nearly 30 of them calling on him to quit the race altogether in recent days. Few were passionate Trump supporters to begin with, the last straw being a video released late last week revealing the former reality television star using predatory language regarding women a decade earlier.

House Speaker Paul Ryan told fellow lawmakers on Monday he would not campaign for or defend the floundering businessman in the election's closing weeks.

Ryan essentially conceded defeat, saying he would devote his energy to ensuring Clinton doesn't get a "blank check" as president with a Democratic-controlled Congress, according to people on his private conference call with GOP House members. While the Wisconsin Republican did not formally rescind his own tepid endorsement of Trump, he told lawmakers they were free to do just that and fight for their own re-election.

Trump fired back on Twitter, saying Ryan, who is third in line for the presidency, "should spend more time on balancing the budget, jobs and illegal immigration and not waste his time on fighting Republican nominee."

Later in the day, one of Ryan's closest friends, Republican chairman Reince Priebus, privately assured

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anxious RNC members the party would not abandon its nominee under any circumstances. In a national conference call, the chairman described Trump's apology for his sexually aggressive comments as "heartfelt." Trump apologized during Sunday's debate, but also repeatedly described groping women without their permission as "locker room talk."

"Everything is on course," Priebus said, according to a participant in the call. He said the RNC would continue to coordinate the party's field efforts in battleground states with the Trump campaign, despite recent reports to the contrary.

The intraparty chaos underscored the perilous predicament Republicans find themselves in one month from Election Day.

Recent revelations of Trump's predatory comments deepened the worries among GOP officials who fear he'll drag down their own electoral prospects in November — if not stain the Republican brand for a generation. But others see no way for Republicans in other races to win without the backing of Trump's loyal supporters.

"I am just tired of these guys folding up like a cheap tent just when the going gets tough," pro-Trump protester Myron Pecs said outside the RNC as he waved a sign that read, "Fight for Trump."

He called Ryan's approach on the conference call "wishy-washy." "He's been wishy-washy from the start. I wish he wasn't re-elected," said Pecs, a 27-year-old writer from Fairfax, Virginia.

For Ryan, the most pressing goal through the next four weeks is preventing Republicans from losing control of the House, a scenario that seemed remote as recently as a week ago. Republicans are not yet panicking given their wide 246-186 seat majority, but party leaders acknowledged on Monday's conference call that the majority was more in peril given Trump's problems.

Meanwhile, Clinton's campaign hammered Republicans for recoiling from Trump at this late date, and she urged voters to hold GOP candidates accountable for standing by their nominee for months. She released new ads featuring Republican voters crossing party lines to cast their ballots for the former secretary of state.

"I don't always agree with her, but she's reasonable and she's smart," Republican Jennifer Kohn says in one spot.

Like the Capitol Hill protesters, Trump supporters in Congress are furious that Republican leaders would turn their backs on the nominee their party selected. In the conference call with Ryan, California Rep. Dana Rohrabacher called GOP leaders "cowards," according to one participant, who like others, insisted on anonymity in order to describe the private discussions.

Trump's Virginia chairman, Corey Stewart, who helped organize the RNC protest, said Ryan and other party elite didn't understand that "the grass roots took control of this party when we nominated Donald Trump."

Stewart was fired immediately after the gathering as Trump's staff worked to downplay intra-party tensions.

"We have a tremendous working relationship with the RNC," Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway said.

Imprisoned Chinese minority scholar given human rights award

By CHRISTOPHER BODEEN, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — A group of leading rights organizations has awarded its annual prize for human rights defenders to imprisoned Chinese Muslim minority economics professor Ilham Tohti, shining new attention on a case that has brought strong international condemnation.

The Martin Ennals Award is bestowed by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and eight other human rights groups. The award ceremony takes place in Geneva, Switzerland, on Tuesday evening.

Tohti, 46, was given a life sentence on charges of separatism in September 2014 after a two-day trial. A member of the Turkic Muslim Uighur ethnic group, he taught at Beijing's Minzu University and was an outspoken critic of Beijing's ethnic policies in the far western region of Xinjiang. Tohti denied Beijing's

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relentless accusations of advocating separatism and violence.

Tohti has "sought reconciliation by bringing to light repressive Chinese policies and Uyghur grievances. This is information the Chinese government has sought to keep behind a veil of silence," the group said in a statement, using an alternative spelling for Uighur.

"He remains a voice of moderation and reconciliation in spite of how he has been treated," it said.

Prevented from publishing, Tohti turned to the internet, running the site Uyghurbiz.net to foster discussion about the economic, social and developmental issues Uighurs face.

Seven of Tohti's students were also sentenced in what was seen as a move to strengthen the government's case against him.

Authorities accused Tohti and his students of forming a criminal gang that sought to split Xinjiang from China.

Tohti's sentence was one of the harshest handed down to a government critic in recent years and came amid a sweeping crackdown on dissent under President Xi Jinping. He was tried and imprisoned in Xinjiang, more than 2,000 kilometers (1,250 miles) from Beijing, making it difficult and expensive for his family to see him in brief bi-monthly visits.

Tohti's trial and sentencing brought statements of condemnation from numerous Western governments and the European Union, and in January this year several hundred academics petitioned China's authoritarian Communist government to release him.

Many pointed out that Tohti was a voice for moderation and understanding at a time of intense friction between Islam, the West and China.

"The real shame of this situation is that by eliminating the moderate voice of Ilham Tohti, the Chinese government is in fact laying the groundwork for the very extremism it says it wants to prevent," said Dick Oosting, chairman of the foundation that presents the award, named after a former secretary general of Amnesty International.

Many Uighurs say Chinese government policies and an influx of migrants belonging to China's majority Han ethnic group have threatened their culture and left them economically marginalized. Such sentiments are seen as driving occasional outbursts of violence, including deadly riots in the regional capital of Urumqi in 2009.

At a regular briefing, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman reiterated the authorities' allegation that Tohti was inciting others to participate in terrorist activities. Geng Shuang said Tohti's case was backed by evidence and "has nothing to do with human rights."

The government was enraged by the awarding of the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize to imprisoned pro-democracy activist Liu Xiaobo. China accused Norway, which hosts the award ceremony, of a deliberate insult, and relations between the two have yet to recover.

"The award not only duly recognizes Prof. Ilham Tohti's courageous work promoting minority rights and dialogues between Hans and Uighurs, it also highlights the Chinese government's increasingly harsh punishment against its critics," said Maya Wang, a Hong Kong-based researcher with Human Rights Watch.

"Instead of reacting angrily to the news, the Chinese government should release Ilham Tohti and reverse its repressive policies in Xinjiang," Wang said.

This year's other finalists for the award were Ethiopian independent journalism collective Zone 9 Bloggers, and Syrian human rights lawyer, activist and journalist Razan Zaitouneh.

Tohti is also one of four candidates for the European Union's prestigious Sakharov Prize for human rights awarded later this month.

Senate GOP leader's right moves may not be enough with Trump

By ANDREW TAYLOR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans nervously eyeing the White House race are learning a lesson with Donald Trump that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell painfully learned in 2010 and 2012.

Faulty outsider candidates blew several perfectly winnable Senate elections those years. Since then, the

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crafty Kentuckian has tried to make all the right moves. McConnell, the top fundraiser and field general for the Senate Republicans, helped orchestrate the 2014 midterm romp that delivered the Senate back to his party. McConnell and national Republicans aggressively swung behind incumbents and favored candidates while crushing the chances of tea partiers and far-right hopefuls unlikely to prevail in the general election.

McConnell-backed candidates swept this year's primary cycle. He helped convince Sen. Marco Rubio to run for re-election after the Floridian's failed presidential bid, boosting the GOP chances of holding the seat. Just two weeks ago, the GOP was cautiously optimistic that the party would retain control of the Senate despite defending 24 of the 34 seats up for grabs this year.

It all may prove futile.

Trump was already sinking in opinion polls after his poor performance in his first debate with Democrat Hillary Clinton last month. His crude, predatory comments about women in a 2005 videotape that leaked on Friday threatened to scuttle his campaign altogether and take the GOP's Senate majority with it.

McConnell is a disciplined politician, and when it comes to Trump, the senator has kept as quiet as possible after a brief statement in May signaling his support for the presidential nominee. On Monday, as House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., stoked controversy by vowing never to campaign for Trump, McConnell simply kept his own counsel.

"If some of you are here thinking I'm going to elaborate on the presidential election, let me disabuse you of that notion," McConnell said in an address to the Danville, Kentucky, Chamber of Commerce. "If you are interested in the presidential election you might as well go ahead and leave because I don't have any observations to make about it."

For Republicans, Trump is reminiscent of Senate candidates like Richard Mourdock of Indiana and Todd Akin of Missouri, who defeated establishment favorites in GOP primaries in 2012 only to make politically stupid remarks about rape and lose by wide margins in states swept by GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney. In 2010, bad tea party candidates lost in Nevada, Delaware and Colorado, enabling Democrats to hold those seats in spite of that year's Republican wave.

"The biggest lesson that the Senate side had learned that perhaps the rest of the party has lagged on is that in order to win general elections you need to win primary elections with candidates who have a broad mainstream appeal," said GOP consultant Josh Holmes, a McConnell confidante and former campaign manager. "What manifested itself in Senate elections in '10 and '12, that was subsequently corrected in '14 and '16 and has for the first time hit the national stage."

McConnell, however, has more sway over his domain on Capitol Hill than Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus, whose laissez-faire approach to the presidential field helped produce Trump.

For instance, McConnell himself led the charge against conservative groups like the Senate Conservatives Fund, and he beat back a tea-party challenger in his own re-election campaign two years ago. This year, tea party challenges to Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., John McCain, R-Ariz., and Lisa Murkowski, R-Ala., all fizzled. McConnell also swung behind the decisive primary win of Rep. Todd Young, a more viable general election candidate, over Rep. Marlin Stutzman for an open GOP-held seat in Indiana.

"Having aggressively beaten some of the professional conservative groups last cycle was really important in terms of drying up their money and ability to cause mischief," said GOP consultant Brian Walsh of Rokk Solutions. "They just didn't have the resources to seriously make trouble for incumbents this cycle."

McConnell, allies say, is aggressive in urging incumbents to not get caught napping — either when facing a tea party primary challenger or an unexpectedly tough fall campaign. Not a single GOP seat fell to Democrats two years ago.

Senate races, however, have increasingly moved in synch with national trends, and Democratic Senate candidates have done particularly well in presidential years. So regardless of how strong a campaign McConnell allies like Sen. Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania are running, if Trump loses a state by 10 points instead of, say, five points, there's very little they can do to save themselves. That's why Trump's sinking poll numbers have Republicans so alarmed.

Advisers say McConnell almost certainly won't withdraw his endorsement of Trump. To do so could put endangered candidates, especially in states where the billionaire nominee has an avid following — like North Carolina, Missouri, and Indiana — in a difficult spot.

In split, Ryan stumping for House GOP but not for Trump

By ALAN FRAM, Associated Press

CHESTER SPRINGS, Pa. (AP) — For Paul Ryan, October is now all about protecting the Republican majority of the House — and his own job as speaker.

The Wisconsin Republican can't ignore Donald Trump, his party's bull-in-a-china-shop presidential candidate. Nor can he offend Trump's millions of voters, whom many House GOP candidates need to survive next month's elections. Yet amid the remarkable spectacle of the party's White House nominee and its highest elected official practically at war, Ryan said Monday he's not going to lift a finger for Trump or even be seen with him.

Ryan said he will focus "his entire energy making sure that Hillary Clinton does not get a blank check" with a Democratic Congress if she's elected president. He made the comment during a conference call with House GOP lawmakers, according to someone on the call.

Ryan made two campaign stops in eastern Pennsylvania last week in which he never spoke the words "Donald Trump," dramatizing how he's trying to guide House candidates through rocky political waters Trump has roiled with regularity.

"We see ourselves in the House as offering ideas and solutions, kind of adding a rudder and a keel to our party," Ryan said last Thursday as he appeared with the local GOP congressman at J-Tech USA, all but suggesting that such substance and stability was not emanating from the top of the ticket. The company services trucks for highway crews.

Ryan was scheduled to spend this week tending to political events in his home state. He then resumes a feverish coast-to-coast effort to defend GOP control of the House, a tour that was scheduled to cover at least 17 states and 42 cities and might grow.

Republicans have been favored to retain House control in November's voting, with Democrats needing to gain 30 seats to take charge of the 435-member chamber. But Democratic hopes have grown — and GOP nerves have been frazzled — after two weeks of politically seismic setbacks for Trump, capped by Friday's release of a video showing him making vulgar boasts about forcing himself on women.

In Monday's rare conference call, jumpy House Republicans heard Oregon Rep. Greg Walden, who heads their campaign organization, say the political situation was deteriorating for the GOP, especially among women, according to two people on the call. Walden urged them to poll frequently and warned that the path to victory for candidates in tight races resembled landing a plane in the fog with a hurricane blowing.

On that same call, Ryan said he would not defend Trump or campaign with him and would focus on protecting the House GOP majority, two listeners said. One said Ryan told Republicans to do what "you think is right personally, and what you need to do politically."

Trump fired back on Twitter.

"Paul Ryan should spend more time on balancing the budget, jobs and illegal immigration and not waste his time on fighting Republican nominee," he wrote.

The two men have clashed for months, with Ryan repeatedly criticizing Trump's comments about Muslims and others and each belatedly endorsing the other's election bid. After the Trump tape was released, Ryan said he was "sickened" and withdrew his invitation for Trump to attend a Wisconsin political event, which would have been their first joint appearance of the campaign.

Ryan's comments Monday upset some of his own colleagues — a potential danger sign for Ryan.

Some conservatives criticized Ryan during the call, listeners said. Rep. Dana Rohrabacher of California denounced Ryan's approach as "cowardly" and demanded that party leaders stop their "Trump can't win defeatism," said three Republicans familiar with the call.

Some lawmakers said party leaders should help Trump because down-ballot candidates like them would fare better if Trump lost narrowly to Democrat Hillary Clinton than if he was beaten resoundingly.

"I never doubted he should be speaker," Rohrabacher said of Ryan in an interview Monday. "However, if he can't prevent himself from panicking and helping the enemy in a situation like this, well, then we'll find out."

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Ryan is expected to seek re-election as speaker if Republicans retain the majority and may run for president in 2020, and in each case needs conservative support.

Many Republicans have begun viewing Trump as a problem for their own careers, especially since last Friday's release of the tape. Dozens of House and Senate Republicans have rescinded past endorsements of Trump or called for him to end his candidacy.

Rep. Ryan Costello, R-Pa. — whose district Ryan visited last week — also never mentioned Trump's name during their joint appearance. The closest either lawmaker came was when Costello said, "We're running to make this country an even greater place to live and work and raise a family" — paraphrasing Trump's campaign slogan, "Make America Great Again."

Ryan aides say he has raised more than \$40 million since becoming speaker last fall, a huge number. He's given about three-fourths of that to the National Republican Congressional Committee, which Walden heads, with the rest going to other GOP candidates and committees and his own campaign.

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>

AP Congressional Correspondent Erica Werner contributed to this report.

Indians top Ortiz, Red Sox 4-3, complete sweep, reach ALCS

By JIMMY GOLEN, AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — The ball settled into the right fielder's glove, the Cleveland Indians poured onto the diamond and the Fenway fans fell silent.

Then, slowly from the crowd rose a chant of "Pa-pi!"

Cleveland swept the Red Sox out of the postseason and sent David Ortiz into retirement on Monday night with a 4-3 victory that completed a three-game AL Division Series sweep. But even as the Indians frolicked on the field in their celebratory hats and T-shirts, Boston fans weren't ready to let their beloved Big Papi go.

"I'm glad he didn't get a hit to beat us," manager Terry Francona said after leading the Indians to just the second postseason sweep in franchise history. "I thought it was an honor to be on the field, competing against him in his last game, because he's truly one of the best. You could tell the way people were hanging around yelling his name and everything. He deserves every bit of that."

Coco Crisp hit a two-run homer, closer Cody Allen got four outs and the Indians advanced the AL Championship Series for the first time since 2007. That year, they took a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven series against Boston before losing three in a row.

Cleveland also blew a 2-0 lead against Boston in the best-of-five round in 1999.

But this year there would be no fold.

Perhaps inspired by the Cavaliers' NBA title — the city's first pro sports championship since 1964 — the Indians shut down Ortiz and the most prolific offense in the league. Rookie Tyler Naquin delivered a two-run single and Josh Tomlin pitched five strong innings for the Indians, who will open the ALCS at home against Toronto on Friday.

Cleveland went 4-3 this year against the wild-card Blue Jays, who swept AL West champion Texas to reach the ALCS for the second straight year.

"Nobody in this clubhouse doubts what we're what capable of," reliever Andrew Miller said as music blared and corks popped in the visitors' clubhouse. "I think we saw in our games in Cleveland how much support we have. It's a special place to be. I think we have bigger things ahead of us, but it's not going to be any easier."

To advance, the Indians had to shut down the most prolific offense in the major leagues and weather the emotional farewell to Ortiz. The Red Sox designated hitter went 1 for 9 in the series, collecting a

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sacrifice fly in Game 3 before walking on four pitches in his final plate appearance .

Ortiz was lifted for a pinch runner in the eighth and left to a standing ovation.

But that wasn't enough for the crowd of 39,530 — the largest at Fenway since at least World War II. Chanting "We're not leaving!" and "Thank you, Pa-pi!" for more than 10 minutes while the Indians celebrated their victory, the crowd finally drew the beloved slugger back onto the field.

Wearing a red warmup and a scowl on his face, Ortiz lumbered out to the mound and tipped his cap in all directions, tapping his heart. Only when the camera zoomed in on him did it become apparent that the frown was not regret over an early postseason exit: Big Papi was crying.

"Tonight when I walked to the mound, I realized that it was over. It was pretty much probably the last time as a player to walk in front of a crowd," Ortiz told reporters afterward. "And the emotion came back out again."

After two minutes, Ortiz retired to the dugout and retired for good, ending to a career that brought three World Series titles to Boston and transformed the once-futile franchise into winners.

"I'm happy, not just for me, not just how my career went down, but for the organization, the step that we took, from going from last place to win the division this year," he told reporters. "Even if things didn't end up the way we were looking for ... it's like going from bad to good, from day to night."

Making it their goal to send their beloved Big Papi out as a winner, the Red Sox managed to win the AL East — the second time in four seasons they went from worst to first.

Boston raised fans' hopes with an 11-game winning streak in September but then lost eight of its last nine games, including the playoffs. After winning the first two games in the best-of-five AL Division Series, and then waiting an extra day because of Sunday's rainout, the Indians it took a 2-0 lead off Clay Buchholz in the fourth inning on Naquin's single.

Tomlin gave up Andrew Benintendi's Green Monster-scraping RBI double in the fifth, which gave some life to the Fenway crowd.

But with one run in, one out, one on and the fans taunting the Indians starter — "Tom-lin! Tom-lin!" — he struck out Sandy Leon on a pitch in the dirt and then Jackie Bradley Jr. grounded out to first. In the sixth, Crisp hit a two-run homer over the left-field wall to make it 4-1.

Buchholz allowed two runs and six hits in four innings, joining David Price and Rick Porcello as postseason losers.

Tomlin allowed two runs on four in five-plus innings. Miller pitched two innings , Bryan Shaw got two outs and Allen came on to face Ortiz with two out and a man on first in the eighth.

After walking on four pitches , Ortiz stood on first and waved his arms at the mostly dormant crowd. The fans rose to cheer for him and stayed there as Hanley Ramirez singled to make it 4-3.

Now representing the tying run at second, Ortiz was lifted for pinch-runner Marco Hernandez, leaving the field to a raucous cheer. But even after coming out of the game, his work wasn't done: With one foot on the top step of the dugout, he continued to cheer the team on.

Xander Bogaerts hit a hard line drive to second and Ortiz jumped onto the dirt, only to turn around and walk dejectedly back into the dugout when it was caught for the last out.

In the ninth, Jackie Bradley Jr. singled with two out and Dustin Pedroia drew a walk on a 3-2 pitch. Travis Shaw worked the count full before popping up to end it.

"I was cheering so bad," Ortiz said. "Once I got out of the game I was screaming at my team to put me back in it. Make me wear this uniform one more day. Because I wasn't ready to be over with the playoff."

Health conditions worsen as aid trickles into remote Haiti

By DAVID McFADDEN and BEN FOX, Associated Press

DAME MARIE, Haiti (AP) — In this most western tip of Haiti, 300 patients with festering wounds lay silently on beds at the main hospital in the seaside village of Dame Marie waiting for medicine a week after Hurricane Matthew hit the remote peninsula.

Among the injured was Beauvoir Luckner, a cobbler and farmer who walked 12 kilometers (7 miles) in

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three days after a tree crushed his leg and killed his mother when it fell on their house. His leg might have to be amputated, but all doctors can do is clean his wounds because the hospital has run out of everything, including pain killers.

"There's no water, no antibiotics," Dr. Herby Jean told The Associated Press. "Everything is depleted ... We hear helicopters flying overhead, but we're not getting anything."

There was also no power and frustration grew on Tuesday as food, medicine and fresh water kept arriving at the main city in Haiti's southwest peninsula but was slow to reach increasingly desperate communities like Dame Marie.

Meanwhile, Luckner lay on a mattress with no sheets and a bandage around his left leg.

"It took a lot of misery to get here and now that I'm here, there's still misery," he said.

Meanwhile, at a cramped police station serving as a makeshift clinic in the nearby town of Marfranc, Darline Derosier fastened IV drips to jail cell bars, wiped the brows of cholera patients and tended to the wounds of those injured in the storm.

She was the only health worker helping about 40 patients inside the station bereft of police as she waited for help to arrive. Among the patients was an elderly woman lying unconscious on a jail cell floor with a leg bandaged in an old rag and a man with gashes around his neck, his eyes fluttering.

"People will die soon if we don't get some aid," an overwhelmed Derosier told the AP.

The U.N. humanitarian agency in Geneva has made an emergency appeal for nearly \$120 million in aid, saying about 750,000 people in southwest Haiti alone will need "life-saving assistance and protection" in the next three months. U.N. officials said earlier that at least 1.4 million people across the region need assistance and that 2.1 million overall have been affected by the hurricane. Some 175,000 people remain in shelters.

Electricity was still out, water and food were scarce, and officials said young men in villages along the road between the hard-hit cities of Les Cayes and Jeremie were building blockades of rocks and broken branches to halt relief convoys.

The National Civil Protection headquarters in Port-au-Prince raised the official nationwide death toll to 372, which included at least 198 deaths in Grand-Anse. But local officials have said the toll in Grand-Anse alone tops 500.

The U.N. also said the hurricane has increased the risk of a "renewed spike" in the number of cholera cases. A cholera outbreak since 2010 has already killed roughly 10,000 people and sickened more than 800,000.

Roosevelt Zamos of the Civil Protection Agency said there were 40 cases of cholera in Jeremie alone. He said eight people have died of cholera in Grand-Anse since the storm.

It can take from 12 hours to five days for cholera symptoms to appear after ingesting contaminated food or water, according to the World Health Organization.

The open-air cholera treatment center at Jeremie's main hospital had no running water Monday, and at least a dozen of the new patients were under age 10.

Dr. Thierry Francois, lead doctor for the Ministry of Health at the cholera center, said he didn't know how many new cases had been caused by the storm nationwide.

"Certainly there are cases we don't know anything about," he said, referring to still-isolated areas.

People in the southern seaside community of Les Anglais and surrounding areas said little to no aid had reached them. An aid group tried to distribute food and other emergency supplies by boat on Sunday, but it was forced to leave after a large crowd gathered and began to fight.

An estimated 158 people died in Les Anglais, said two police officers who declined to give their names because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

Francis Jean, a 42-year-old farmer and taxi driver, was awaiting help after he, his wife and three daughters survived the storm but lost their roof and all their belongings.

"You can't even explain what happened here. I've never seen anything like this in my life," he said. "This town doesn't exist anymore. There's nothing."

Fox reported from Les Anglais, Haiti.

As babies stricken by Zika turn 1, health problems mount

By ADRIANA GOMEZ LICON, Associated Press

RECIFE, Brazil (AP) — Two weeks shy of his first birthday, doctors began feeding Jose Wesley Campos through a nose tube because swallowing problems had left him dangerously underweight.

Learning how to feed is the baby's latest struggle as medical problems mount for him and many other infants born with small heads to mothers infected with the Zika virus in Brazil.

"It hurts me to see him like this. I didn't want this for him," said Jose's mother, Solange Ferreira, breaking into tears as she cradled her son.

A year after a spike in the number of newborns with the defect known as microcephaly, doctors and researchers have seen many of the babies develop swallowing difficulties, epileptic seizures and vision and hearing problems.

While more study is needed, the conditions appear to be causing more severe problems in these infants than in patients born with small heads because of the other infections known to cause microcephaly, such as German measles and herpes. The problems are so particular that doctors are now calling the condition congenital Zika syndrome.

"We are seeing a lot of seizures. And now they are having many problems eating, so a lot of these children start using feeding tubes," said Dr. Vanessa Van der Linden, a pediatric neurologist in Recife who was one of the first doctors to suspect that Zika caused microcephaly.

Zika, mainly transmitted by mosquito, was not known to cause birth defects until a large outbreak swept through northeastern states in Latin America's largest nation, setting off alarm worldwide. Numerous studies confirmed the link.

Seven percent of the babies with microcephaly that Van der Linden and her team have treated were also born with arm and leg deformities that had not previously been linked to other causes of microcephaly, she said.

To complicate matters, there are babies whose heads were normal at birth but stopped growing proportionally months later. Other infants infected with the virus in the womb did not have microcephaly but developed different problems, such as a patient of Van der Linden's who started having difficulties moving his left hand.

"We may not even know about the ones with slight problems out there," Van der Linden said. "We are writing the history of this disease."

On a recent day, Jose laid on a blue mat wearing just brown moccasins and a diaper, his bony chest pressed by a respiratory therapist helping him clear congested airways.

Jose, who has been visited by The Associated Press three times in the last year, is like a newborn. He is slow to follow objects with his crossed eyes. His head is unsteady when he tries to hold it up, and he weighs less than 13 pounds, far below the 22 pounds that is average for a baby his age.

Breathing problems make his cries sound like gargling, and his legs stiffen when he is picked up. To see, he must wear tiny blue-rimmed glasses, which makes him fussy.

Arthur Conceicao, who recently turned 1, has seizures every day despite taking medication for epilepsy. He also started taking high-calorie formula through a tube after he appeared to choke during meals.

"It's every mom's dream to see their child open his mouth and eat well," said his mother, Rozilene Ferreira, adding that each day seems to bring new problems.

Studies are underway to determine if the timing of the infection during pregnancy affects the severity of the abnormalities, said Ricardo Ximenes, a researcher at the Fiocruz Institute in Recife.

Also, three groups of babies whose mothers were infected with Zika are being followed for a study funded by the U.S. National Institutes of Health. The groups include infants born with microcephaly, some born with normal-sized heads found to have brain damage or other physical problems and babies who have not had any symptoms or developmental delays.

At birth, Bernardo Oliveira's head measured more than 13 inches, well within the average range. His mother, Barbara Ferreira, thought her child was spared from the virus that had infected her during preg-

nancy and stricken many newborns in maternity wards in her hometown of Caruaru, a small city 80 miles west of Recife.

But Bernardo cried nonstop. The pediatrician told Ferreira that her baby was likely colicky and would get better by the third month. Instead, the crying got worse, so Ferreira took him to a government-funded event where neurologists were seeing patients with suspected brain damage.

"At the end of the second month, beginning of the third, his head stopped growing," Ferreira said. "Bernardo was afflicted by the Zika virus after all. I was in despair."

In Brazil, the government has reported 2,001 cases of microcephaly or other brain malformations in the last year. So far, only 343 have been confirmed by tests to have been caused by Zika, but the Health Ministry argues that the rest are most likely caused by the virus.

Health Minister Ricardo Barros said there was a drop of 85 percent in microcephaly cases in August and September compared to those months last year, when the first births started worrying pediatricians. He credited growing awareness of the virus and government attempts to combat mosquitoes through spraying campaigns.

Despite all the problems, some infants with the syndrome are showing signs of progress.

On a recent evening, 11-month-old Joao Miguel Silva Nunes pulled himself up in his playpen and played peek-a-boo with his mother, Rosileide da Silva.

"He is my source of pride," Silva said. "He makes me feel that things are working out."

Associated Press video journalist Renata Brito and AP photographer Felipe Dana contributed to this story.

Giving up on Trump? Ryan focusing on saving GOP majority

By JULIE PACE, ERICA WERNER and STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Paul Ryan, the nation's top elected Republican, effectively abandoned Donald Trump Monday, telling anxious fellow lawmakers he will not campaign for or defend the floundering businessman in the election's closing weeks. Pro-Trump members rebelled in anger, accusing Ryan of conceding the election to Hillary Clinton.

Indeed, Ryan said he would devote his energy to ensuring Clinton doesn't get a "blank check" as president with a Democratic-controlled Congress, according to people on his private conference call with GOP House members. While the Wisconsin Republican did not formally rescind his own tepid endorsement of Trump, he told lawmakers they were free to do just that and fight for their own re-election.

Trump fired back on Twitter, saying Ryan "should spend more time on balancing the budget, jobs and illegal immigration and not waste his time on fighting Republican nominee."

Trump retained the backing of the Republican National Committee, which has overseen crucial field efforts for the candidate in battleground states. On a conference call with RNC members, chairman Reince Priebus said the party remains in full coordination with Trump.

"Everything is on course," Priebus said, according to a participant in the call.

Still, Ryan's announcement underscored the perilous predicament Republicans find themselves in one month from Election Day. Recent revelations of Trump's predatory sexual comments about women deepened the worries among GOP officials who fear he'll drag down their own electoral prospects in November. But others look at Trump's loyal bands of supporters and see no way for Republicans in other races to win without their support.

Trump himself made no reference to Ryan and the GOP defections at a Pennsylvania rally, except perhaps one line that could apply to fleeing Republicans as well as the Democrats.

"The last 72 hours has framed what this election is all about. It's about the American people fighting back against corrupt politicians who don't care about anything except for staying in power," he said.

Running mate Mike Pence said he was staying with Trump. "I'm honored to be standing with him," Pence said.

Trump's candidacy long ago laid bare the turmoil roiling the GOP. Some party leaders had hoped to push

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off a reckoning until after the election, but with Ryan and other lawmakers publicly distancing themselves from Trump — and in some cases even calling for the real estate mogul to drop out of the race — that now appears impossible.

For Ryan, the most pressing goal through the next four weeks is preventing Republicans from losing control of the House, a scenario that seemed remote as recently as a week ago. Although Republicans are not yet panicking given their wide 246-186 seat majority, Ryan and Greg Walden, the chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, both acknowledged on Monday's conference call that the majority was more in peril in light of Trump's problems.

Walden told lawmakers they still could win their seats, but that it would require delicate maneuvering akin to landing an airplane in a hurricane in a fog, several participants said.

On the other side of the Capitol, there were also signs that more Republican Senate candidates were moving to distance themselves from Trump. Two Republicans said they expected to see ads urging voters to back GOP Senate candidates as a check on Clinton's power in the White House.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell refused to even acknowledge Trump, telling business leaders in his home state of Kentucky that if they expected to hear him discuss the presidential race they "might as well go ahead and leave."

Clinton's campaign hammered Republicans for recoiling from Trump at this late date and urged voters to hold GOP candidates accountable for standing by their nominee for months.

"Donald Trump didn't become the nominee of his party on his own," said Jennifer Palmieri, Clinton's communications director.

Seeking to pad her lead in battleground states, Clinton was making a direct appeal for moderate Republican voters turned off by Trump. The Clinton campaign released new ads featuring Republican voters crossing party lines to cast their ballots for the former secretary of state.

"I don't always agree with her but she's reasonable and she's smart," Republican Jennifer Kohn says in one spot.

Trump supporters are furious at the notion that Republican leaders are abandoning the nominee selected by their party. In the conference call with Ryan, California Rep. Dana Rohrabacher called GOP leaders cowards," according to one participant, who like others, insisted on anonymity in order to describe the private discussions.

Corey Stewart, the chairman of Trump's Virginia campaign, said Ryan and other party elite didn't understand that "the grass roots took control of this party when we nominated Donald Trump." Stewart said he was leading a group of Republicans to protest outside party headquarters near the Capitol Monday afternoon.

Stewart was fired immediately after the protest, which drew dozens of angry Trump supporters to the front step of the Republican National Committee headquarters. Said Deputy Campaign Manager Dave Bossie: "Corey made this decision when he staged a stunt in front of the RNC without the knowledge or the approval of the Trump campaign."

Trump had hoped to stop the exodus of Republicans running away from his campaign with a solid performance in Sunday's presidential debate. He did energize his core supporters by hurling insults at Clinton — he called her the "devil" and promised to put her in jail if he's president — but he appeared to do little to win over new voters. He insisted his aggressively vulgar remarks on the videotape were mere "locker room" talk and tried to turn the attention to Bill Clinton's extramarital affairs.

AP writers Alan Fram, Bradley Klapper, Lisa Lerer, Jonathan Lemire, Matthew Barakat and Adam Beam contributed to this report.

10 Things to Know for Tuesday

By The Associated Press

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

1. HOUSE SPEAKER PAUL RYAN TELLS HOUSE REPUBLICANS HE WON'T DEFEND TRUMP

The move is one of the clearest signs that GOP leaders believe Donald Trump will lose the November election.

2. HURRICANE MATTHEW MOVES OUT TO SEA

But a disaster is still unfolding in North Carolina as more than a foot of rain falls in some places and flows into rivers and downstream.

3. FOOD, MEDS AND FRESH WATER REACH PARTS OF HARD-HIT HAITI AFTER MATTHEW

But that's not enough for health workers who are struggling to treat cholera patients in the southwest corner of the country.

4. THE NEXT US LEADER WILL INHERIT THIS CRISIS

But neither Hillary Clinton nor Donald Trump has articulated a comprehensive or realistic proposal to deal with the war in Syria.

5. SAMSUNG HALTS SALES OF GALAXY NOTE 7

The decision follows a spate of fires involving new devices that were supposed to be safe replacements for recalled models.

6. HILLARY CLINTON SPEECHES COME TO LIGHT

The speeches reveal that the Democratic candidate adopted a more accommodating tone with Wall Street than she has on the campaign stump.

7. WHAT A SUPREME COURT JUSTICE THINKS OF FOOTBALL PLAYERS WHO DON'T STAND FOR THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

Ruth Bader Ginsburg has called the on-the-knee protests by San Francisco 49ers quarterback Colin Kaepernick and other athletes "dumb and disrespectful."

8. WHO WON THE NOBEL IN ECONOMICS

A pair of professors from Harvard and MIT received the prize for their groundbreaking work on how to make contracts fairer and more effective.

9. PLENTY OF TALK ABOUT "LOCKER ROOM TALK"

Some professional and college athletes are telling Donald Trump to stop using the term "locker room talk."

10. AN INTERVIEW WITH ASHTON KUTCHER REVEALS THIS

The actor wishes he had a rewind button and if he did would reset his career and stay under the radar.

Nearly a week after hurricane hit Haiti, UN appeals for aid

By DAVID McFADDEN and BEN FOX, Associated Press

MARFRANC, Haiti (AP) — At a cramped police station serving as a makeshift clinic, Darline Derosier fastened IV drips to jail cell bars, wiped the brows of cholera patients and tended to the wounds of those injured when Hurricane Matthew slammed into Haiti's southwestern peninsula.

She was the only health worker helping about 40 patients Monday inside the station bereft of police as she waited for help to arrive in the hard-hit town of Marfranc nearly a week after the Category 4 storm struck Oct. 4.

Among the patients was an elderly woman lying unconscious on a cell floor with a leg bandaged in an old rag and a man with gashes around his neck, his eyes fluttering.

"People will die soon if we don't get some aid," an overwhelmed Derosier told The Associated Press.

The town is a 45-minute drive southwest from the coastal city of Jeremie, where food, medicine and fresh water are finally arriving but still slow to reach increasingly desperate communities.

"We haven't received anything from Jeremie," Derosier said, adding that she has made several calls requesting help and medical supplies.

The U.N. humanitarian agency in Geneva made an emergency appeal Monday for nearly \$120 million

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in aid, saying about 750,000 people in southwest Haiti alone will need "life-saving assistance and protection" in the next three months. U.N. officials said earlier that at least 1.4 million people across the region need assistance and that 2.1 million overall have been affected by the hurricane. Some 175,000 people remain in shelters.

Electricity was still out, water and food were scarce, and officials said young men in villages along the road between the hard-hit cities of Les Cayes and Jeremie were building blockades of rocks and broken branches to halt relief convoys.

A convoy of food, water and medicine was attacked by gunmen in a remote valley where there had been a mudslide, said Frednel Kedler, coordinator for the Civil Protection Agency in the Grand-Anse Department, which includes Jeremie.

The National Civil Protection headquarters in Port-au-Prince raised the official nationwide death toll to 372, which included at least 198 deaths in Grand-Anse. But local officials have said the toll in Grand-Anse alone tops 500.

The U.N. also said the hurricane has increased the risk of a "renewed spike" in the number of cholera cases. A cholera outbreak since 2010 has already killed roughly 10,000 people and sickened more than 800,000.

Roosevelt Zamos of the Civil Protection Agency told AP there were 40 cases of cholera in Jeremie alone. He said eight people have died of cholera in Grand-Anse since the storm.

It can take from 12 hours to five days for cholera symptoms to appear after ingesting contaminated food or water, according to the World Health Organization.

The open-air cholera treatment center at Jeremie's main hospital had no running water Monday, and at least a dozen of the new patients were under age 10.

Etienne Chimene tried her best to soothe her 13-month-old son, Cenelson, who was lying in a wooden bed with a hole cut in it and a bucket underneath.

"I feel like my baby is getting worse," she said as she stroked his head and he whimpered.

The center was overcrowded, and patients who were improving were forced outside. Among them was 21-year-old Nedrine Cabane, who sat on the ground with her father. He had brought her a pot of plantain soup that she ate gratefully — her first meal in three days.

"The fact that there is so much dirty water around makes me think that more people are going to get sick," she said.

Dr. Thierry Francois, lead doctor for the Ministry of Health at the cholera center, said he didn't know how many new cases had been caused by the storm nationwide.

"Certainly there are cases we don't know anything about," he said, referring to still-isolated areas.

People in the southern seaside community of Les Anglais and surrounding areas said little to no aid had reached them by Monday.

An aid group tried to distribute food and other emergency supplies by boat on Sunday, but it was forced to leave after a large crowd gathered.

"There were too many people fighting. They went to give it someplace else," Claude Pierre Louis, 63, said angrily as she washed pots in a plastic bucket on the porch of her house, which lost its roof during the storm.

She said Les Anglais needed building supplies because almost every house was damaged, and most were destroyed. She added that people already had created a community group to help clear the streets of debris and rebuild on their own.

An estimated 158 people died in Les Anglais, said two police officers who declined to give their names because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

Francis Jean, a 42-year-old farmer and taxi driver, was awaiting help after he, his wife and three daughters survived the storm but lost their roof and all their belongings.

"You can't even explain what happened here. I've never seen anything like this in my life," he said. "This town doesn't exist anymore. There's nothing."

Fox reported from Les Anglais, Haiti. Associated Press writer Jamey Keaton in Geneva contributed.

Trump puts Clinton sex abuse claims at center of campaign

By JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

AMBRIDGE, Pa. (AP) — Donald Trump on Monday put the claim that Bill Clinton was a sexual predator whose wife attacked the victims at the center of his flailing presidential campaign, insisting his own vulgar words about women in 2005 weren't as bad as the Clintons' alleged deeds two decades ago.

"I was getting beaten up for 72 hours for inappropriate words, locker room talk, whatever you want to call it," said Trump at a noisy rally at a high school gymnasium in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. "But Bill Clinton has sexually assaulted innocent women and Hillary Clinton was attacking those women viciously."

"Bill Clinton was the worst abuser of women to ever sit in the Oval Office. He was a predator," Trump added.

The rally was Trump's first campaign event following the town hall-style debate Sunday night against Hillary Clinton, his Democratic rival. It came just hours after the nation's most senior elected Republican leaders effectively dropped any effort to elect their own presidential nominee.

Monday morning, Speaker Paul Ryan told GOP House members he would no longer campaign for Trump and instead would focus on maintaining the party's majority. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, meanwhile, refused to even acknowledge Trump, telling business leaders in his home state of Kentucky that if they expected to hear him discuss the presidential race, they "might as well go ahead and leave."

The every-Republican-for-himself approach was a stark rejection of Trump after a history-making weekend in presidential politics. On Friday, The Washington Post broke the story that Trump had been recorded in 2005 bragging about groping women without their consent. Trump apologized "if anyone was offended" and in the same video said Bill Clinton's actions were worse.

Widespread condemnation followed. Even his own running mate, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence refused to defend the remarks, with all eyes on Trump's Sunday debate with Clinton.

But before it began, Trump lobbed another bomb designed to change the subject to the Clintons' alleged treatment of women. He abruptly appeared live on Facebook at a table with women who have accused Bill Clinton of rape and unwanted advances. He then sat the women in the debate hall, where members of the Clinton and Trump families gathered to watch the debate.

Bill Clinton has denied or not admitted to the women's accusations. Hillary Clinton has never addressed them, and that held true through the 90-minute showdown.

Increasingly isolated, Trump on Monday tried to frame his candidacy as a comeback bid, saying he could revive a struggling nation and suggesting his supporters don't care about personal mistakes.

"The last 72 hours has framed what this election is all about," he said. "It's about the American people fighting back against corrupt politicians who don't care about anything except for staying in power."

But personal attacks clearly were his focus. In addition to Bill Clinton, Trump also invoked the 1969 incident when a woman died after then-Massachusetts Sen. Ted Kennedy crashed his car in Chappaquiddick, Massachusetts. The celebrity nominee claimed the media protected their "hero" in Kennedy and was doing the same for the Clintons.

Trump's campaign was foundering even before The Washington Post published the 2005 video, which included comments by him that many said describe sexual assaults of women.

"When you're a star, they let you do it. You can do anything," said Trump, who said he to "grab them by the p----" and they wouldn't resist.

Pennsylvania is a linchpin to Trump's hope to carry blue-collar voters in the Rust Belt, but the odds have long been stacked against him.

After hurricane, chaos lingers in water-logged N. Carolina

By EMERY P. DALESIO and MARTHA WAGGONER, Associated Press

LUMBERTON, N.C. (AP) — With floodwaters from Hurricane Matthew on the rise, at least one North Carolina city appeared near chaos Monday, its police station shuttered and sporadic gunfire in the air, and authorities worried that more communities could end up the same way.

The storm is gone, but it left behind a water-logged landscape where flooding was expected to persist for the rest of the week. At least three rivers were forecast to reach record levels, some not cresting until Friday. In many areas, the scene resembled a repeat of Hurricane Floyd, which caused \$3 billion in damage and destroyed 7,000 homes as it skirted the coast in 1999.

Officials were concerned that other cities could suffer the fate of Lumberton, a community of 22,000 people about 80 miles from the ocean.

The Rev. Volley Hanson worried that stress from the lack of running water and electricity might push people over the edge. Robeson County, which includes Lumberton, had North Carolina's highest violent crime rate in 2014.

"The cash is going to be running out. We've already got street vendors hawking water, Cokes and cigarettes. Cigarettes are at seven bucks a pack," Hanson said. "It's nuts here, and it's going to get worse."

The storm killed more than 500 people in Haiti and at least 23 in the U.S. — nearly half of them in North Carolina. At least three people were missing.

The full extent of the disaster in North Carolina was still unclear, but it appeared that thousands of homes were damaged, and more were in danger of flooding.

One silver lining may be that emergency planners now have sophisticated models that can precisely determine a river's crest and pinpoint which buildings will be flooded. But even those models have their limits. They cannot predict when a levee or a dam will fail. A levee in Lumberton appeared to fail overnight, but officials later concluded that floodwaters had flowed around it.

About 1,500 people had to be rescued early Monday. Most of them were in knee-deep water, but some fled to rooftops as the brown waters swirled around them.

Rescuers still have not made it to all the submerged cars or figured out exactly how many people are missing or dead, county Emergency Management Director Stephanie Chavis said.

"I've been here right at 28 years," Chavis said. "This seems to be the worst one we've had in my career."

Damien Mosher and his fiancée were trying to make it to their coastal home in South Carolina but were detoured to Lumberton because Interstate 95 — a major artery for the East Coast — was closed. Shelters turned them away because of their two dogs so they ended up in the police department parking lot, listening to occasional gunfire around them. The department's doors were locked and most of the 75 or so officers were out helping with traffic or rescues.

The Lumber River crested 4 feet above its record level Sunday in Lumberton and was forecast to remain there until Saturday.

River flooding was happening in other places, too. In the tiny town of Nichols, South Carolina, downstream from Lumberton, at least 100 people spent the night on the third floor of the town hall.

North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory pleaded with residents to heed evacuation orders and to be careful. The seven-day forecast of clear, cooler weather was good for cleanup, but might lure people into a false sense of security.

"This is going to be a prolonged hurricane for us even though the skies are blue," the governor said.

Engineers had no estimate on when I-95 would reopen. Driving was difficult, if not impossible because hundreds of roads were closed, in some cases isolating entire towns. Dozens of school districts and East Carolina University canceled classes for the entire week. Nearly 1 million people in North Carolina and South Carolina were without power, two days after the eye of the hurricane moved out to sea.

In addition to the 11 deaths in North Carolina, there were five in Florida and three each in Georgia and South Carolina. One death was reported in Virginia.

Authorities in coastal Georgia and South Carolina warned residents it may take days or even weeks to

restore electricity and clean up all the debris. People who tried to go home but were blocked by authorities who said the damage was still too severe grew increasingly frustrated.

Maureen Miller, her family and dog finally did make it back to their coastal Georgia home. She now wishes she hadn't listened to the dire warnings to leave or drown after finding her house unscathed.

"I will never evacuate again," Miller said. "If we stayed, we'd be fine. I'm sure there are a lot of people who feel the same way."

Matthew's flooding in North Carolina was made worse by heavy rains in September. Many areas east of I-95 got at least twice their normal amount of rain in September, in part because the remnants of Tropical Storm Julia parked off the coast for several days.

That's a lot like what happened with Hurricane Floyd in 1999. Weeks of heavy rain preceded the storm. "Floyd. That's what everybody is saying," said Blake Griswold, who was at a park watching a creek flow over its banks. "That was a 100-year flood. It's been 16 years, and we have another one."

Associated Press writers Jack Jones, Meg Kinnard and Jeffrey Collins in Columbia, South Carolina; Tom Foreman Jr. in Winston-Salem; and Gary D. Robertson in Raleigh, North Carolina, contributed to this report.

For showing how contracts work best, 2 economists win Nobel

By PAUL WISEMAN and KARL RITTER, Associated Press

Let insiders easily cash in stock options, as Enron did, and you risk seeing executives abandon a failing company. Encourage contractors to sacrifice quality to cut costs and you might cause problems like those that led the U.S. Justice Department to phase out privately run prisons.

Designing contracts is a tricky business. For their groundbreaking work on how to make contracts fairer and more effective, Oliver Hart of Harvard University and Bengt Holmstrom of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology won the 2016 Nobel prize for economics Monday. They will share the 8 million kronor (\$930,000) award for their contributions to contract theory.

For decades, the two men have studied practical problems involving the countless kinds of contracts that underlie modern commerce:

How should companies pay their executives? What types of tasks should government agencies outsource to private contractors? How best to write an auto insurance policy to protect drivers from financial loss without lulling them into carelessness?

Pay packages, Holmstrom's work suggests, are best tailored to avoid either punishing or rewarding CEOs for happenings beyond their control.

"You don't want to reward the CEO because the S&P 500 (stock index) has gone up 20 percent," said Patrick Bolton of Columbia University Business School, who studied under Hart and has written a textbook on the economics of contracts. "You want to reward the CEO when his company outperforms the S&P."

Likewise, companies fare best when they establish pay packages that incentivize executives to prioritize the long term as much as the short term, to avoid focusing too much on quarterly profit expectations.

"These kinds of insights into how we should design contracts are very important because we don't want to give the wrong incentives to people," said Tomas Sjostrom, a member of the Nobel committee. "We don't want to reward them for things that they were not responsible for. We want to reward the right thing."

Hart, 68, is a London-born U.S. citizen who has taught at Harvard since 1993. Holmstrom, 67, is an academic from Finland who formerly served on the board of the country's mobile phone company Nokia. Economists who have long known the two men and their work offered warm praise Monday.

"This is the Nobel Prize in economics at its best," said George Akerlof of Georgetown University, who won the prize in 2001. "The character of both Bengt and Oliver shines through in their work and their character: They are true intellectuals and truly great people."

At a news conference at MIT, Holmstrom declined to say whether he thought CEO pay — a hotly contentious issue in the United States and elsewhere — had become excessive.

"It is somewhat demand and supply working its magic," he said.

But he said companies can give executives the wrong incentives, as the energy firm Enron did, when it allowed insiders to unload their stock options as the company fell into a death spiral.

"The problem wasn't options," Holmstrom said. "The problem was the way people could sell out."

The Internal Revenue Service used Hart as an expert witness in cases involving Black and Decker and Wells Fargo. At issue was whether some of the companies' transactions had had a legitimate corporate purpose or had been designed just to reduce their tax bills.

Robert Gibbons at MIT's Sloan School of Management notes that the term "contract theory" might make Holmstrom and Hart's work sound narrower than it is. But, Gibbons explained, their research goes well beyond legally binding contracts. They have analyzed the practical arrangements worked out between many disparate players — partners within a law firm, say, or companies and their suppliers or government agencies and private contractors.

Gibbons says Holmstrom and Hart's work is just now beginning to have a practical effect as it evolves from academic research to management training to real workplaces.

"The real-world stuff is coming," he said. "You're starting to see it."

In his writing, Hart has expressed concern about private prisons: Would profit-seeking contractors over-emphasize cost-cutting over maintaining quality?

His concerns proved perceptive: After discovering that private prisons were marred by more safety and security problems than government-run ones were, the Justice Department in August ordered the Bureau of Prisons to reduce and eventually end the use of private prisons.

The economics prize is not an original Nobel Prize. Formally called the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences, it was added to the others in 1968 by Sweden's central bank.

The Nobel Prizes in medicine, physics, chemistry and the Nobel Peace Prize were announced last week. This year's Nobel announcements will end Thursday with the literature award. The laureates will collect the awards on Dec. 10, the anniversary of prize founder Alfred Nobel's death in 1896.

At Harvard, Hart said it "means a lot" to share the prize with Holmstrom.

"I'm glad I won it with him," Hart said. "It's going to be fun to celebrate in Sweden with him."

Wiseman reported from Washington, Ritter from Stockholm. Associated Press writers Keith Moore in Stockholm, Mark Pratt in Boston and Philip Marcelo in Cambridge, Massachusetts, also contributed to this report.

Chain of Indian colleges seeks to gain foothold in the US

By COLLIN BINKLEY, Associated Press

BROOKLINE, Mass. (AP) — One of India's largest colleges is expanding into the U.S. with the purchase of one campus in New York and a proposal to buy two more, drawing opposition from state officials in Massachusetts about the quality of the education it will offer.

Dozens of U.S. colleges have opened overseas campuses, but few foreign schools have sought to establish branches in the United States, in part because of the cost and tighter regulation. Amity University, a system of private colleges based in New Delhi, has long sought to create a global network of schools, however.

Since it was founded in 2003, the chain has opened campuses in India, England, China, South Africa and five other countries.

Add the U.S. to that list.

Amity paid \$22 million last month to buy a Long Island branch of St. John's University in New York City, which was selling the campus and shifting to a smaller site on Long Island. Amity plans to open its first U.S. branch at the 170-acre, century-old campus after it gains ownership in June 2017.

The chain also has made a deal to buy the New England Institute of Art, a for-profit college near Boston, and one of its sister schools, the Art Institute of New York City, according to paperwork filed in Massachusetts. The deal would require approval from state education officials.

"We are very, very skeptical about this," said Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey, who is

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asking the state's Board of Higher Education to block the sale. "It's hard to imagine that this outfit from overseas, which has never done any education work here in this country, is well-suited to provide any kind of education to these students."

Amity hopes a U.S. campus will attract students from abroad who want to gain the prestige that comes with studying in the United States. It also hopes to forge research partnerships with other colleges, and to connect foreign scholars with their counterparts here.

"We have a global vision for education, a model of education which allows for student mobility, faculty collaboration and research collaboration," said Aseem Chauhan, Amity's chancellor. "We believe that the leaders of tomorrow will be those who have perspectives from different parts of the world."

Owned by a nonprofit company, the chain offers bachelor's and graduate degrees in a range of fields, from art to engineering. It enrolls 125,000 students at more than a dozen campuses, and has grown rapidly amid rising demand for higher education in India.

Its founder president, Ashok Chauhan, was charged with fraud in the 1990s by authorities in Germany, where he ran a network of companies. He returned to India and was never extradited. A plastics company in the U.S. also sued Chauhan in 1995 for failing to pay \$20 million in debts, which led to an ongoing court battle in India. Amity officials said Chauhan is not involved in the U.S. expansion. The university is now in the hands of his sons, Aseem Chauhan and Atul Chauhan.

Some in the U.S. say the school is more similar to a for-profit college than a traditional four-year university.

"They are a subsidiary of a conglomerate of companies," said Barmak Nassirian, director of federal relations and policy analysis for the American Association of State College and Universities. "This is by no means reassuring, if you ask me."

Aseem Chauhan counters that Amity has an "excellent and exceptional" track record of student outcomes, although he declined to provide the statistics.

The school's leaders have been eyeing a U.S. expansion for years. In 2011, Amity was one of seven colleges that entered a competition to build an engineering campus in New York City. Cornell University and a school in Israel ultimately won. In 2014, Amity filed paperwork to open a nonprofit school in California, tax records show, but never opened a campus.

Amity has been pushing for U.S. expansion while some traditional schools close because of dwindling enrollment, and as many for-profit institutions seek buyers amid increasing federal regulation and oversight.

"The for-profit market is really wide open right now," said Kevin Kinser, a professor of education policy at Pennsylvania State University. "An institution with a lot of resources might see this as a cheap opportunity to get a foothold in the industry."

Chauhan wouldn't discuss Amity's proposed purchase of the two for-profit schools, and neither would the company that's selling them, the Pittsburgh-based Education Management Corporation. But both sides signed a letter to Massachusetts education officials in July outlining the "anticipated acquisition" by Amity.

They say the sale would save the New England Institute of Art, which started making plans to close last year after half a decade of steep enrollment and revenue losses. The institute has stopped adding new students, and many others have left. Some former students are now planning to sue the institute for fraud.

Massachusetts education officials have requested more information from Amity about the proposal.

Even if it's approved, Amity could face a long road before it starts work in the U.S. To begin granting degrees, it would need approval from a U.S. accreditor, often a rigorous process. And to receive federal financial aid for its students, it would have to be screened by the U.S. Department of Education.

Still, Chauhan said he's ready to make his case.

"We continuously benchmark our quality with the best quality standards and the best accreditation standards globally," he said.

Trump, Clinton offer few plans for Syrian mess lying ahead

By MATTHEW LEE, AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Whoever wins the White House, he or she will inherit the war in Syria, one of the most complex and brutal crises in the world. But neither Hillary Clinton nor Donald Trump has articulated a comprehensive or realistic proposal to deal with it.

With Syrian President Bashar Assad and his allies Russia and Iran dug in and no sign the fighting is nearing an end, the new U.S. president will confront a problem for which there is no clean or clear solution. The civil war, complicated by the occupation of key areas by the Islamic State and other extremist groups, has further destabilized the Middle East and spread outward, along with millions of refugees, around the globe.

Presidential nominees Clinton and Trump spar repeatedly over the best way forward.

Trump has said the only American interest in Syria is defeating the Islamic State group and has suggested he might leave Syria's fate to Russia and Iran.

"I don't like Assad at all, but Assad is killing ISIS," Trump said at Sunday night's debate. "Russia is killing ISIS. And Iran is killing ISIS. And those three have now lined up because of our weak foreign policy." He continued: "Syria is no longer Syria. Syria is Russia and it's Iran."

Trump said he disagreed with his running mate, Indiana Gov. Mike Pence, who said last week that he would support U.S. military action against Syrian targets to protect civilians in the besieged city of Aleppo. But he did not offer a specific policy prescription for Syria short of setting up safe zones, to be paid for by Arab nations, for Syrian civilians who have fled the fighting.

Trump accused President Barack Obama and Clinton, as secretary of state, of having abandoned the country by not following through on a threat to bomb Syria if Assad used chemical weapons.

On that point, Clinton incorrectly said she had already left the administration when Obama, and then she herself, warned Assad of a "red line" that would be crossed if chemical weapons were used. But she was no longer in office when Assad crossed that line and Obama decided not to follow through on his threat.

It fell to her successor, Secretary of State John Kerry, to negotiate a step-down, which involved a deal with Russia to press Assad to get rid of his remaining declared chemical weapons. Obama maintains that decision was the right one, but he has been criticized by many who believe it undercut U.S. credibility.

Clinton pointed out that she, as chief diplomat, had pushed for a more robust response in Syria.

"I, when I was secretary of state, advocated and I advocate today a no-fly zone and safe zone," she said at the debate. "We need some leverage with the Russians, because they are not going to come to the negotiating table for a diplomatic resolution unless there is some leverage over them."

The problem with no-fly and safe zones is that they need to be enforced, an issue that vexed the Pentagon when first proposed four years ago because of the resources required. Since Clinton became a candidate, Russia's military intervention has only exacerbated that problem. Russia has introduced advanced air defense systems to Syria, which would make enforcement of a no-fly zone far more dangerous for America and a potential cause for a direct military confrontation with the Russians.

Clinton said she would target IS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in the same way Obama went after Osama bin Laden.

She also said she is in favor of continuing to funnel weapons to Iraq's Kurdish armed forces, the Peshmerga, and hinted she would consider extending that support to Kurd fighters in Syria, where small numbers of U.S. special forces are on the ground.

But she said she would not use U.S. ground troops in Syria as they would become an occupying force.

Trump lashed out at Clinton for the proposal even as he appeared to exaggerate what she would consider.

"She wants to fight for rebels," he said. "There's only one problem. You don't even know who the rebels are. So what's the purpose?"

In adopting this argument, Trump positioned himself with Russia, which has repeatedly accused the U.S. of tacitly supporting the Islamic State and Syria's al-Qaida affiliate by its support of what were once moderate rebel groups interested in a democratic election to replace Assad. Russia says the moderate rebel forces that the U.S. and its allies are supporting are so intermingled with ISIS and al-Qaida as to be indistinguishable.

In neighboring Iraq, Clinton held out hope that the Islamic State group may no longer be entrenched by Inauguration Day in January. The Iraqi government with assistance from the U.S. and others is launching an operation to expel the IS from the city of Mosul this fall.

Trump, in turn, questioned why Iraqi and allied military officials were telegraphing the assault on Mosul. "Why do they have to say we're going to be attacking Mosul within the next four to six weeks?" he asked. "How stupid is our country?"

Clinton shot back that it was appropriate preparation.

"There is a lot of very important planning going on, and some of it is to signal to the Sunnis in the area, as well as Kurdish Peshmerga fighters, that we all need to be in this," she said.

3 Syrians aid German police in alleged bomb plot suspect

By KIRSTEN GRIESHABER, Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — A Syrian man wanted for allegedly preparing a bombing attack was apprehended by three of his countrymen, who overpowered him, tied him up in their apartment, and then alerted police, authorities said Monday.

The overnight arrest of Jaber Albakr ended a nearly two-day nationwide search for the 22-year-old that German authorities launched after finding several pounds of explosives and components hidden inside an apartment in the eastern city of Chemnitz on Saturday.

Albakr arrived in Germany amid a flood of 890,000 asylum seekers last year. Saxony criminal police chief Joerg Michaelis said that the three Syrians who captured him recognized the suspect from wanted posters police posted online as part of the manhunt.

After taking him to their apartment late Sunday night, two of the Syrians bound and held Albakr while the third brought a mobile phone photo of Albakr to a local police station, leading to the arrest early Monday, Michaelis said.

Prosecutors and police said Monday that they considered Albakr an extremist with likely links to the Islamic State group. Germany's domestic intelligence agency had been watching him since September and alerted Saxony authorities about his alleged possible plot on Friday, authorities said.

When police raided the apartment in the city of Chemnitz where he was thought to be staying on Saturday, Albakr was able to flee. Inside the apartment they found 1.5 kilograms (3.3 pounds) of "extremely dangerous explosives" and components, according to federal prosecutors.

Criminal police chief Michaelis said that, at this stage of the investigation, "the behavior and actions of the suspect currently speak for an IS context." He didn't elaborate.

A security official said there was no indication yet that Albakr was being directed by the Islamic State group, but that investigators still were combing through seized evidence. The official wasn't authorized to discuss the investigation publicly and so spoke on condition of anonymity.

Police said it was not clear when and how the suspect met up with his three countrymen in Leipzig, about 80 kilometers (50 miles) from Chemnitz, or if they already knew him.

They would not release any further information about the three Syrians who apprehended Albakr. If the signs of his having an extremist background were substantiated, "the people who gave the tip are of course in danger," the police chief said.

Federal prosecutors, who handle terrorism investigations in Germany, said in a statement Monday they had no indications that a target already had been chosen for an attack.

Hans-Georg Maassen, the head of the domestic intelligence agency, later told ARD public broadcaster that their investigation suggests the suspect had "an eye on the Berlin airports" as potential targets.

A 33-year-old Syrian at whose Chemnitz apartment police found the hidden explosives was arrested over the weekend and is considered a co-conspirator in the alleged bomb plot, prosecutors said.

He was identified only as Khalil A. in keeping with German privacy laws. Albakr's full identity and photograph had been released while he was on the run and being sought.

The explosives were described as similar to the ones used in the deadly Nov. 13 attacks in Paris and

the March 22 attacks in Brussels. Known as TATP, or triacetone triperoxide, it is fairly easy to make and detonate, police said.

"According to everything we know today, the preparations in Chemnitz are similar to the preparations for the attacks in Paris and Brussels," German Interior Minister Thomas de Maiziere said.

A bomb squad destroyed the explosives Saturday in a pit outside the five-story apartment building because they were considered too dangerous to transport.

The incident comes amid ongoing concerns about the flood of asylum seekers that entered Germany last year and increasing support for populist parties with anti-migrant rhetoric.

The country also has been on edge since two attacks in July carried out by asylum seekers and claimed by the Islamic State group, in which multiple people were injured and the assailants were killed.

Geir Moulson, Frank Jordans and David Rising contributed from Berlin.

Greitens taps charity donors for Missouri gubernatorial bid

By DAVID A. LIEB, Associated Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP) — Missouri gubernatorial candidate Eric Greitens has capitalized on the connections he made as the founder of a charity for military veterans to help finance his Republican campaign, but denies he used a charity donor list for political purposes in potential violation of federal laws.

Financial records analyzed by The Associated Press show Greitens has received nearly \$2 million from donors who previously gave significant amounts to The Mission Continues — an overlap that was especially beneficial during the crucial startup of his campaign.

A separate Excel spreadsheet obtained by the AP suggests that correlation is no coincidence. The spreadsheet, labeled "All donors \$1K total and up — as of 5-7-14," shows the names, email addresses and phone numbers of people who gave at least \$1,000 to The Mission Continues. Its properties show it was created by a Mission Continues employee May 6, 2014, shortly before Greitens stepped down as CEO, and was last saved March 24, 2015, by Michael Hafner, who had been working for Greitens' gubernatorial exploratory committee.

Federal law bars 501(c)(3) charities such as The Mission Continues from intervening in political campaigns on behalf of candidates. The Internal Revenue Service has ruled charities cannot give donor lists to politicians but can rent them at fair market value if made available to all candidates.

Missouri's gubernatorial race between Greitens and Democratic Attorney General Chris Koster is among the most competitive nationally. Republicans have targeted it as a potential pickup because Democratic incumbent Jay Nixon is barred by term limits from seeking re-election.

It's unclear exactly how Greitens' campaign staffer came into possession of the list.

Mission Continues spokeswoman Laura L'Esperance said Monday that the St. Louis-based charity Greitens founded in 2007 did not share its donor list with Greitens or his campaign and, as a general practice, does not share, sell or rent the list to external parties.

Greitens denied using the charity's donor database for his campaign and said he fired Hafner around that time because Hafner had ties to political consultants working for John Brunner, a Republican gubernatorial rival. Hafner later went to work for Brunner's campaign.

"No, we were not working off of a Mission Continues donor list," Greitens told The Associated Press.

But Greitens acknowledged soliciting contributions for his campaign from some of the same people who supported his charity.

"We were calling people who had become friends and gotten to know me over the course of seven years, who invested in The Mission Continues, and got to know me as a leader," said Greitens, a former Navy SEAL officer, author and motivational speaker who is making his political debut.

Hafner declined to comment about whether he used a Mission Continues donor list while working for Greitens or was directed to do so, citing a nondisclosure agreement he signed. Hafner said his contract was not renewed "due to a change in political strategies by Mr. Greitens and his office."

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Koster, whose office enforces state laws regarding charities, said nonprofit organizations “must maintain a strict non-partisan status.”

“If there has been coordination between The Mission Continues and the Greitens campaign that would be troubling,” Koster said.

Other legal experts said federal laws about charities and politics are subject to considerable interpretation. “The IRS has not provided bright lines about where these rules are — exactly what you can do and what can’t do. So there’s a lot of guess work which can make it hard for charities,” said Eric Gorovitz, a San Francisco attorney who specializes in advising tax-exempt organizations.

The AP analyzed thousands of itemized contributions made to Greitens and Koster as of their most recent comprehensive financial reports filed Sept. 1.

Greitens received nearly 14 percent of his money from donors who previously gave at least \$1,000 to The Mission Continues or who are tied to businesses and foundations that did. Of the more than \$525,000 he raised during an initial two-month period in 2015, about 85 percent of it came from donors who previously gave to The Mission Continues.

The analysis shows Koster received more than \$2 million — slightly more than 14 percent of his money — over a nearly two-year-period from attorneys, law firms and prosecutors — people with whom he might interact in his job.

Koster was the lead example in an October 2014 New York Times article describing how state attorneys general had changed policies and negotiated more favorable legal settlements after receiving campaign contributions and lobbyist perks. After that report, Koster adopted a policy banning the acceptance of lobbyist gifts and campaign contributions from anyone with litigation involving the attorney general’s office.

Greitens said Koster’s recent donations from attorneys make him “ beholden to special interests” seeking to influence state laws. He said that’s not the case with many of The Mission Continues donors now supporting his campaign.

Several of those donors contacted by the AP said they were backing Greitens because of his charitable work.

John Hauck, a St. Louis private equity firm executive, contributed more than \$100,000 to The Mission Continues in 2014 through his family’s charitable foundation. He gave \$100,000 to Greitens to help launch his gubernatorial campaign and contributed an additional \$200,000 this year. Hauck said he got to know Greitens through The Mission Continues.

“I thought that was a really honorable thing — we’re trying to do something for our veterans,” Hauck said. “It’s very simple.”

Follow David A. Lieb at: <http://twitter.com/DavidALieb>

Medics plead for access to Syria’s embattled Aleppo

By PHILIP ISSA, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Doctors Without Borders pleaded on Monday for access to treat the wounded in the rebel-held part of Syria’s Aleppo as government forces pressed ahead with an offensive that has killed hundreds of people in recent weeks.

The international charity, also known by its French acronym MSF, said in a statement that medical workers in Aleppo are exhausted and that the overstretched facilities face an impending fuel shortage. MSF, which supports eight hospitals in Aleppo’s besieged eastern quarters, says just 35 doctors remain in the area, serving a population of 275,000.

Eastern Aleppo’s Health Directorate said the wounded were sleeping outside overcrowded hospitals, waiting for care. The U.N. has warned that the Aleppo bombardment by Syrian and Russian warplanes could leave thousands more dead by the year’s end.

“Russia and Syria must stop the indiscriminate bombing now and abide by the rules of war to avoid the extreme suffering of the unprotected civilian population,” said Pablo Marco, MSF’s operations manager for the Middle East.

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The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which monitors the conflict through local contacts, reported heavy fighting along the east-west Aleppo front lines. Another activist-run group, the Local Coordination Committees, said rebels were fighting to repel government forces from the city's largest water facility, which serves over a million people.

In another besieged area near the capital, Damascus, doctors reported up to two dozen cases of kidney failure that they said resulted from malnutrition. Muhammad Darwish, a local physician, said doctors confirmed renal failure in 12 people in the town of Madaya and were investigating another 12 cases.

Government forces have laid siege to Madaya, home to some 40,000 people, since late last year. Last winter, MSF reported at least 16 deaths there resulting from malnutrition and lack of medical care.

"We are only eating carbohydrates. We aren't receiving any vitamins or protein," said Darwish.

The government has prohibited the U.N. from delivering seeds or dialysis kits to the town, in what the opposition says is a strategy aimed at forcing the town to surrender.

The U.N. Security Council is deadlocked over how to respond to the Aleppo crisis, with Russia on Saturday vetoing a French-drafted resolution demanding an immediate halt to Russian and Syrian airstrikes and the rest of the council voting down a Russian resolution calling for the evacuation of opposition fighters.

Moscow has been a key backer of Syrian President Bashar Assad throughout the conflict.

Russia and Syria's government have both endorsed a proposal by U.N. envoy Staffan de Mistura to evacuate al-Qaida-linked militants from east Aleppo while skirting around the reciprocal part of the proposal, to abide by a cease-fire for the besieged area.

An official at Syria's Foreign Ministry said the government would ensure the safety of any civilians or militants who desire to leave, saying gunmen could take their personal weapons and relocate to other rebel areas. The official spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity in line with ministry regulations.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said during a visit to Turkey on Monday that Moscow and Ankara want to facilitate the delivery of aid to Aleppo, but that Syrian rebels would have to withdraw from a main supply route to ensure the safety of deliveries. He blamed the U.S. for failing to get them to do so, saying "the American side does not want to do that, or is not capable of doing that."

Moscow and Washington have repeatedly traded blame for the failure of a Syrian cease-fire last month.

U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon meanwhile urged the Security Council to refer the situation in Syria to the International Criminal Court for investigation of possible war crimes. He told reporters Monday that he was "deeply disappointed" at the lack of unity on Syria in the council, saying it must stop debating and disagreeing and "work to protect human lives, to bring this matter to a political solution."

Earlier, in an interview with the German broadcaster Deutsche Welle, Ban blamed Assad for the bloodshed, saying more than 300,000 people have been killed since the start of the war because of his "failure of leadership." He also referenced previous conflicts in which the international community failed to halt mass killings.

"We should have prevented Srebrenica. We should have prevented the Rwandan genocide. In Aleppo, we're doing our utmost," he said. "The future of one person, like President Assad, should not block this process."

The Czech Republic meanwhile dispatched a plane with medical aid to the Syrian Arab Red Crescent. The Czech Republic has coordinated aid deliveries directly with the Syrian government, while other Western nations have worked through third parties. The Czechs pledged earlier this year to provide aid worth some \$8 million to Syria until 2019.

Associated Press writers Albert Aji in Damascus, Syria, Cinar Kiper in Istanbul, Edith M. Lederer at the United Nations and Karen Janicek in Prague, Czech Republic contributed to this report.

Missiles fired from rebel-held Yemen land near US destroyer

By JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Two missiles fired from rebel-held territory in Yemen landed near an American destroyer in the Red Sea, the U.S. Navy said Monday, the second such launch targeting ships in the crucial international waterway in recent days.

The missile launches Sunday came as a ballistic missile fired from Yemen apparently targeted a Saudi air base near the Muslim holy city of Mecca, the deepest strike yet into the kingdom by Shiite rebels and their allies. The rebels fired another two missiles into the Saudi Jizan region along the border on Monday, wounding two foreigners who worked there, the local civil defense said in a statement.

Yemen's Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, and their allies offered no reason for the launches, though they came after a Saudi-led airstrike targeting a funeral in Yemen's capital killed over 140 people and wounded 525 on Saturday.

In a statement, the Navy said no American sailors were wounded and no damage was caused to the USS Mason, an Arleigh Burke class of guided missile destroyer whose home port is Norfolk, Virginia. Lt. Ian McConnaughey, a spokesman for U.S. Navy Forces Central Command, said that it's unclear if the USS Mason was specifically targeted, though the missiles were fired in its direction over an hour's time, starting at around 7 p.m.

An American defense official said the USS Mason used onboard defensive measures after the first missile was fired, but it wasn't clear if that caused the missile to splash harmlessly into the sea. The destroyer was north of the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, which serves as a gateway for oil tankers headed to Europe through the Suez Canal, the official said.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss details of the incident that haven't been made public.

The Houthi-controlled SABA news agency of Yemen quoted an anonymous army official denying its forces fired on the USS Mason, without elaborating.

Last week, an Emirati-leased Swift boat came under rocket fire near the same area and sustained serious damage. The United Arab Emirates described the vessel as carrying humanitarian aid and having a crew of civilians, while the Houthis called the boat a warship.

U.S. Navy officials declined to immediately discuss what kind of rockets were used in the USS Mason incident.

Analysts with the Washington Institute for Near East Policy suggested in a report that the Houthis may have targeted the Emirati ship with an Iranian anti-shipping cruise missile, based on purported video of the attack.

Shiite power Iran supports the Houthis, but denies arming them. Any Iranian involvement could exacerbate tensions with the U.S. following a series of tense naval encounters in the Persian Gulf in recent months.

Saudi state television aired a brief clip of what appeared to be a projectile that was said to have landed in Taif, in the ballistic missile attack. The video shows the flash of an explosion, followed by images of emergency vehicles. Taif is home to Saudi Arabia's King Fahd Air Base, which hosts U.S. military personnel training the kingdom's armed forces.

The Saudi military said the missile fired late Saturday night was intercepted and caused no damage. The U.S. military's Central Command, which oversees troops in the Middle East, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Al-Masirah, a Houthi-run satellite news channel, identified the missile as a local variant of a Soviet-era Scud. It said the Volcano-1 missile targeted the air base.

The Houthis have fired a series of ballistic missiles in Saudi Arabia since a kingdom-led coalition of Arab countries launched an offensive against them in Yemen in March 2015. Most of those ballistic missiles have hit areas far closer to Saudi Arabia's border with Yemen.

In the Taif attack, however, the missile struck a target more than 520 kilometers (325 miles) from the border. Taif also is just outside of Mecca, which is home to the cube-shaped Kaaba that all of the world's

Muslims pray toward.

The Saudi military said it earlier intercepted another ballistic missile fired Sunday on the Yemeni city of Marib.

The Houthis gave no reason for their targeting of Taif, but it comes after a Saudi-led airstrike Saturday targeting a funeral in Yemen's capital, Sanaa. On Sunday, thousands marched through the streets of Sanaa to protest the strike, one of the deadliest single attacks in the impoverished Arab country's relentless civil war.

The Saudi Foreign Ministry said its U.N. mission sent a letter on Sunday to the Security Council, expressing the kingdom's "deep regret of the reported attack" on the funeral. Saudi officials have promised to investigate the bombing.

Yemen's war is largely overshadowed by the conflict against the Islamic State group elsewhere in the Middle East, though rights groups have mounted increased criticism of the Saudi-led airstrikes in recent months for killing civilians. The U.N. and rights groups estimate the conflict has killed at least 9,000 people and displaced nearly 3 million more.

Associated Press writers Maggie Michael in Sanaa, Yemen, Brian Rohan in Cairo, and Lolita C. Baldor in Washington contributed to this report.

This story has been corrected to show that the missile fire happened in the Red Sea, not the Persian Gulf.

Samsung changes Note 7 output schedule after fire reports

By YOUKYUNG LEE, AP Technology Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Samsung's crisis with its Galaxy Note 7 smartphone deepened Monday as the company confirmed it has adjusted its production following reports that newly released versions offered as replacements for recalled fire-prone devices have also overheated or caught fire.

The company, however, did not confirm or deny a report by South Korea's Yonhap news agency earlier Monday that it has suspended production of the phones.

In a statement and in a regulatory filing, Samsung Electronics said it is "temporarily" adjusting the Galaxy Note 7 production schedule and production volume to "ensure quality and safety matters." The company added that it will issue an update when more details are available.

Before the reports of a production suspension emerged, U.S. phone retailers AT&T and T-Mobile had already opted to stop giving new Note 7 replacement smartphones to consumers.

Samsung and U.S. authorities are investigating multiple reports of new Note 7 replacement smartphones catching fire, including a Samsung phone that emitted smoke and forced a Southwest Airlines flight in Kentucky to evacuate passengers. The Consumer Product Safety Commission is investigating the incident.

The production change suggests fresh trouble for Samsung as it awaits the U.S. authorities' investigation into the replacement phones. It had promised that its new Note 7 devices with a green battery icon were safe.

The reports of replacement phones catching fire raise doubts over whether the battery is the only problem in the fire-prone smartphone as Samsung has said. When it issued a global recall on Sept. 2, Samsung blamed batteries provided by one of its two battery suppliers and assured consumers that other parts of the smartphones were fine.

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Asian stocks mostly up amid reports on Samsung, oil supply

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares were mostly higher on Tuesday, while South Korea's benchmark fell following reports of fresh problems with Samsung's Galaxy Note 7 phone.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 rose 1.2 percent to 17,046.16. Tokyo markets were closed Monday for a national holiday. South Korea's Kospi slipped 0.9 percent to 2,039.04. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 added nearly 0.2 percent to 5,484.60. Hong Kong's Hang Seng was flat at 23,849.01, while the Shanghai Composite gained 0.3 percent to 3,057.02. Shares in Southeast Asia were mixed.

SAMSUNG WOES: Shares in Samsung Electronics fell 5.4 percent after the company said it was sales of its Note 7 smartphones. It advised customers to turn off their devices or replace them. Samsung issued a worldwide recall of the Note 7, a huge phone-bordering-on-tablet with a powerful battery, in late September after the devices were found to have a tendency to catch fire. South Korean officials said Tuesday that replacement devices have also overheated or caught fire.

WALL STREET: The Dow Jones industrial average picked up 88.55 points, or 0.4 percent, to 18,329.04. The index rose as much as 159 points earlier. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 9.92 points, or 0.5 percent, to 2,163.66. The Nasdaq composite added 36.27 points, or 0.7 percent, to 5,328.67.

OIL AND RUSSIA: Oil prices fell slightly after spiking to their highest level in a year after Russian President Vladimir Putin said Monday that Russia, which is not a member of OPEC, supports a preliminary agreement by OPEC nations to cut oil output.

THE QUOTE: "It was Russia to the rescue last night, as Vladimir Putin said Russia was ready to join with OPEC in creating a deal to curb production and pump up prices. At the same Energy Congress in Istanbul, the ever outspoken Algerian Energy Minister called on other non-OPEC producers to join them," Jeff Halley, a senior market analyst at OANDA, said in a commentary.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude fell 11 cents to \$51.24. It added \$1.54 to \$51.35 a barrel in New York on Monday, its highest closing price since July 2015. Brent crude, used to price international oils, slipped 7 cents to \$53.07 a barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 103.94 yen from 102.96 yen late Monday in Asia. The euro fell to \$1.1128 from \$1.1192.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 11, the 285th day of 2016. There are 81 days left in the year. The Jewish Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur, begins at sunset.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 11, 1986, President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev opened two days of talks concerning arms control and human rights in Reykjavik, Iceland.

On this date:

In 1779, Polish nobleman Casimir Pulaski, fighting for American independence, died two days after being wounded during the Revolutionary War Battle of Savannah, Georgia.

In 1890, the Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in Washington, D.C.

In 1905, the Juilliard School was founded as the Institute of Musical Art in New York.

In 1910, Theodore Roosevelt became the first former U.S. president to fly in an airplane during a visit to St. Louis.

In 1932, the first American political telecast took place as the Democratic National Committee sponsored a program from a CBS television studio in New York.

In 1944, the classic films "To Have and Have Not," starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, and "Laura," starring Gene Tierney and Dana Andrews, opened in New York.

In 1958, the lunar probe Pioneer 1 was launched; it failed to go as far out as planned, fell back to Earth, and burned up in the atmosphere.

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In 1968, Apollo 7, the first manned Apollo mission, was launched with astronauts Wally Schirra, Donn Fulton Eisele and R. Walter Cunningham aboard. The government of Panama was overthrown in a military coup.

In 1975, Bill Clinton and Hillary Diane Rodham were married in Fayetteville, Arkansas. "NBC Saturday Night" (later "Saturday Night Live") made its debut with guest host George Carlin.

In 1984, Challenger astronaut Kathryn D. Sullivan became the first American woman to walk in space as she and fellow Mission Specialist David C. Leestma spent 3 1/2 hours outside the shuttle.

In 1985, Arab-American activist Alex Odeh was killed by a bomb blast in Santa Ana, California. (The case remains unsolved.)

In 1991, testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Anita Hill accused Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of sexually harassing her; Thomas re-appeared before the panel to denounce the proceedings as a "high-tech lynching."

In 2002, former President Jimmy Carter was named the recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Ten years ago: A single-engine plane carrying New York Yankees pitcher Cory Lidle (LY'-dul) and flight instructor Tyler Stanger crashed into a high-rise apartment building in New York City, killing both men. The charge of treason was used for the first time in the U.S. war on terrorism, filed against Adam Yehiye Gadahn (ah-DAHM' YEH'-heh-yuh guh-DAHN'), also known as "Azzam the American," who'd appeared in propaganda videos for al-Qaida. (Gadahn was killed by a U.S. drone strike in Pakistan in Jan. 2015.)

Five years ago: Presidential challenger Mitt Romney accused President Barack Obama of failing to lead in a time of economic peril but sounded less conservative than his Republican rivals in their debate in Hanover, New Hampshire, defending the 2008-2009 Wall Street bailout and declaring he could work with "good" Democrats. U.S. officials accused agents of the Iranian government of plotting to assassinate the Saudi ambassador to the U.S., Adel al-Jubeir (AD'-duhl ahl-joo-BEHR'). The U.S. women rolled to their third title at the world gymnastics championships held in Tokyo. The Detroit Tigers won their first game of the 2011 AL championship series, sweeping past the Texas Rangers 5-2 in Game 3.

One year ago: In an interview that aired on CBS' "60 Minutes," President Barack Obama said that Hillary Clinton's use of a private email server to conduct government business when she served as secretary of state was a mistake but didn't endanger national security. A spokesman for Iran's judiciary said that Washington Post reporter Jason Rezaian (reh-ZY'-ahn), detained for more than a year on charges including espionage, had been convicted. (Rezaian was released in Jan. 2016.) In Incheon, South Korea, the United States rallied to win the Presidents Cup for the sixth straight time, 15 1/2-14 1/2.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Earle Hyman is 90. Former U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry is 89. Actor Ron Leibman is 79. Actor Amitabh Bachchan is 74. Country singer Gene Watson is 73. Singer Daryl Hall (Hall and Oates) is 70. Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., is 66. Rhythm-and-blues musician Andrew Woolfolk is 66. Actress-director Catlin Adams is 66. Country singer Paulette Carlson is 65. Actor David Morse is 63. Actor Stephen Spinella is 60. Actress-writer-comedian Dawn French is 59. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Steve Young is 55. Actress Joan Cusack is 54. Rock musician Scott Johnson (Gin Blossoms) is 54. Comedy writer and TV host Michael J. Nelson is 52. Actor Sean Patrick Flanery is 51. Actor Lennie James is 51. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL player Chris Spielman is 51. Actor Luke Perry is 50. Country singer-songwriter Todd Snider is 50. Actor-comedian Artie Lange is 49. Actress Jane Krakowski is 48. Rapper U-God (Wu-Tang Clan) is 46. Actress Constance Zimmer is 46. Bluegrass musician Leigh Gibson (The Gibson Brothers) is 45. Rapper MC Lyte is 45. Figure skater Kyoko Ina is 44. Actor/writer Nat Faxon is 41. Singer NeeNa Lee is 41. Actress Emily Deschanel is 40. Actor Matt Bomer is 39. Actor Trevor Donovan is 38. Actress Michelle Trachtenberg is 31. Actress Lucy Griffiths is 30. Golfer Michelle Wie is 27.

Thought for Today: "When a friend speaks to me, whatever he says is interesting." — Jean Renoir, French movie director (1894-1979).