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### **Today's Headlines**

Groton Robotics Team wins at Eureka. Awaiting details

Groton Football Team beats Aberdeen Roncalli to advance to the Dome

Volleyball team to play West Central Thursday at Madison at 7 p.m.

Expecting information this afternoon about school on Friday and about tickets for the Dome game.



## **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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Discounts through out the store

Daily door prize drawings

Wine Sampling each day

Shop Local!



101 N Main St, Groton SD 605-397-8650 find us on facebook, instagram or at www.oldebankfloralsd.com

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Lori's Pharmacy Holiday Open House November 10-11-12 Goodies, door prizes and draw for your discount on gift items.

# **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.

Dollar General Corporation is an equal opportunity employer

### DOLLAR GENERAL

Save time. Save money. Every day!

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#### **Class A Volleyball Sweet 16**

#### Print Sweet 16

#### The eight (8) winners of the Sweet 16 contests will be re-seeded for the State Tournament.



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# Dome Bound!



The Groton Area Football Team rallied in the fourth quarter to beat Aberdeen Roncalli, 16-10. The game was played Saturday at Doney Field in Groton with a standing room only crowd.

The Cavaliers hit paydirt first when Conner Fiedler scored on a five yard run. The PAT kick was good and it was Roncalli on top, 7-0.

Roncalli tried to score in the third quarter, but fell short as the Cavaliers kicked a 25 yard field goal with 2:13 left in the quarter. Roncalli took a 10-0 lead into the fourth quarter.

Then the Tigers got serious in the fourth quarter. Bennett Shabazz had a big run to take the Tigers down to the 25 yard line. Jackson Oliver caught a pass from Bennett Shabazz with 6:27 left in the game. Brandon Keith caught the PAT pass from Bennett Shabazz and i twas now 10-8. The Tigers stopped the Cavalier drive and then marched down the field. With 2:30 left in the game, Lucas Hinman would hit paydirt from four yards out. Keith caught the PAT from Shabazz and the Tigers took the lead, 16-10.

With plenty of time left on the clock, the Cavaliers marched northward in an attempt to at least tie the game. But on a play in Tiger territory, Brandon Keith darted right through the Roncalli defense, throwing the Cavalier quarterback off balance as he threw the ball right into the hands of Seric Shabazz with a minute left in the game. That would end the Roncalli rally and Groton ran out the clock to finish with the win.

The Tiger win over Roncalli gives Groton Area a 10-1 season record. This is the first 10-win season for Groton since football started in in Groton in 1914.

Groton Area will play Winner at 1 p.m. on Friday at the USD Vermillion Dome.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. The sponsors were Allied Climate Professionals with Kevin Nehls, Bahr Spray Foam & Construction, Blocker Construction, Dollar General of Groton, Doug Abeln Seed Co, Groton Ford, Harry Implement of Ferney, Hefty Seed - Justin Hanson, James Valley Seed - Doug Jorgenson, James Valley Telecommunications, Johnson Agency, Ken's Food Fair of Groton, Lori's Pharmacy, McKiver Collision, Milbrandt Enterprises, Olde Bank Floral, Olson Backhoe & Trenching, Olson Development, Patios Plus, S&S Lumber & Hardware Hank, Simon Insurance & Auction Service, Subway of Groton, TNTax Business Services

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First Downs Rushing	Groton Area 13 39-229 Bennett Shabazz 27-172 Lucas Hinman 7-28, 1 TD Jackson Oliver 1-18 Trevon Tuggles 3-8 Trevor Pray 1-(-2)	Roncalli 9 37-217 Brandon Summers 18-150 Conner Fiedler 8-35 Gabe Tolbert 8-32
Passing	Bennett Shabazz 6-12-74	Brandon Summers 3-8-43
Receivers	Trevor Pray 3-34	Hunter Hilton 1-23
	Jackson Oliver 1-22	Colton Cox 2-20
	Lucas Hinman 1-16	
	Seric Shabazz 1-9	
Fumbles	Had 3, lost none	Had 1, lost 1
Penalties	5-31	5-42
Defense	McClaine Lone 10 tackles	Austin Job 8
	Brandon Keith 11 tackles	Conner Deutsch 6
	Bennett Shabazz 6 tackles	
	Marshall Lane Fumble Recovery	
	Seric Shabazz Interception	
Record	10-1	7-4
Next Game	Winner at the Dome	Done

Jackson Oliver runs down the sideline to get a first down for the Tigers. Oliver finished the game with one catch for 22 yards and one run for 18 yards and a touchdown. (Photo by Julianna Kosel)



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\* Denotes at-large team (cannot host 1st round game)

\* tie broken by result of boots \* tie broken by result of head-to-head competition

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Winner/Bridgewater-Ethan-Emery Stats We got the entire stats from the Winner game, Groton's opponent at the Dome, so we thought we would share them with you.

BOX SCORE							
Team	1	2	3	4	т		
Bridgewater/Emery	3	3	7	0	13		
Winner	8	16	6	8	38		

SCORING PLAYS					
Team	Quarter	Time	Scoring Play	BRI	WIN
Bridgewater/Emery	1	08:04	34 yard field goal attempt by #8 Jesse Grosdidier. Good!	3	0
Winner	1	02:08	#21 Cameron Kuil runs for 3 yards. Touchdown! (Two point conversion run by #20 Kayleb Brozik good)	3	8
Winner	2	08:33	#6 Riley Calhoon runs for 5 yards. Touchdown! (Two point conversion run by #26 Jayden Schroeder good)	3	16
Winner	2	04:39	#16 Drew DeMers pass complete to #20 Kayleb Brozik for 23 yards. Touchdown! (Two point conversion run by #21 Cameron Kuil good)	3	24
Bridgewater/Emery	2	00:00	24 yard field goal attempt by #8 Jesse Grosdidier. Good!	6	24
Bridgewater/Emery	3	04:19	#2 Jamin Arend runs for 26 yards. Touchdown! (Point after kick by #8 Jesse Grosdidier good)	13	24
Winner	3	04:05	Kickoff by #8 Jesse Grosdidier to the 6 yard line. #21 Cameron Kuil return for 93 yards. Touchdown! (Two point conversion pass by #16 Drew DeMers to #81 Isaac Naasz no good)	13	30
Winner	4	04:55	#20 Kayleb Brozik runs for 4 yards. Touchdown! (Two point conversion run by #20 Kayleb Brozik good)	13	38

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TEAM	STAT	COMP	ARISON
	SIAI		

	Bridgewater/Emery	Winner
Total Offense	294	226
Number of Plays	61	47
Yards per Play	4.8	4.8
Passing	82	51
Completions - Attempts	8 - 22	3 - 8
Yards per Pass	10.3	17.0
Touchdowns - Interceptions	0 - 3	1 - 0
Rushing	212	175
Rushing Attempts	39	39
Yards per Rush	5.4	4.5
Receiving	82	51
Receiving Completions	8	3
Yards per Catch	10.3	17.0
Penalties - Yards	5 - 40	6 - 45
Turnovers	5	0
Fumbles - Lost	3 - 2	0 - 0
Interceptions Thrown	3	0
Punting Attempts - Average Distance	1 - 36.0	4 - 40.0
Defensive Sacks - Yards	0 - 0	0 - 0
Time of Possession	00:25:12	00:22:48
Downs		
First Downs	15	10
First Downs - Rushing	11	8
First Downs - Passing	4	2
First Downs - Penalties	0	0
Third Down Conversions/Attempts	5/14 (35.7%)	4/11 (36.4%)
Fourth Down Conversions/Attempts	0/3 (0.0%)	1/4 (25.0%)

PASSING-B	RIDGEWATE	RIEMERY				PASSING-W	
Name	Стр	Att	Yds	TD	Int	Name	
8 Jesse Grosdidier	8	22	82	0	3	16 Drew DeMers	

PASSING-WINNER								
Name	Cmp	Att	Yds	тр	Int			
16 Drew DeMers	3	8	51	1	0			

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RUSHING-BRIDGEWATER/EMERY									
Name	Att	Yds	Avg	то					
2 Jamin Arend	11	110	10.0	1					
20 Cole Gassman	20	93	4.7	0					
22 Sam Arend	3	8	2.7	0					
8 Jesse Grosdidier	4	1	0.3	0					
7 Dustin Weber	1	0	0.0	0					

RUSHING - WINNER									
Name	Att	Yds	Avg	TD					
26 Jayden Schroeder	8	46	5.8	0					
21 Cameron Kuil	8	33	4.1	1					
30 Ty Bolton	5	28	5.6	0					
20 Kayleb Brozik	7	27	3.9	1					
8 Matt Smither	4	18	4.5	0					
16 Drew DeMers	1	9	9.0	0					
12 Carter Brickman	1	8	8.0	0					
6 Riley Calhoon	4	7	1.8	1					
22 Avery Gilchrist	1	-1	-1.0	0					

RECEIVING-	RECEIVING - BRIDGEWATER/EMERY									
Name	Rec	Yds	Avg	то						
2 Jamin Arend	1	28	28.0	0						
20 Cole Gassman	1	20	20.0	0						
3 Jacob Eddy	3	18	6.0	0						
7 Dustin Weber	1	12	12.0	0						
21 Mason Potter	1	6	6.0	0						
1 Sawyer Schultz	1	-2	-2.0	0						

RECEIVING-WINNER									
Name	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD					
21 Cameron Kuil	1	33	33.0	0					
20 Kayleb Brozik	1	23	23.0	1					
81 Isaac Naasz	0	0	0.0	0					
85 Chase Kingsbury	0	0	0.0	0					
26 Jayden Schroeder	1	-5	-5.0	0					

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DEFENSE - BRIDGEWATER/EMERY				DEFENSE - WINNER									
Name	Tkl	Solo	Ast	Sack	TFL	Int	Name	Tkl	Solo	Ast	Sack	TFL	Int
2 Jamin Arend	7.5	6	3	0.0	0.0	0	16 Drew DeMers	7.0	6	2	0.0	0.0	0
7 Dustin Weber	6.0	6	0	0.0	1.0	0	21 Cameron Kuil	7.0	5	4	0.0	0.0	1
54 Colton Plagmann	5.0	4	2	0.0	1.0	0	20 Kayleb Brozik	6.5	4	5	0.0	0.0	1
3 Jacob Eddy	4.5	4	1	0.0	0.0	0	26 Jayden Schroeder	5.5	4	3	0.0	2.0	0
66 Jaysten Riggs	3.0	3	0	0.0	1.0	0	81 Isaac Naasz	3.5	2	3	0.0	0.5	0
78 Zack Leitheiser	2.5	2	1	0.0	0.0	0	51 Tre Doren	3.5	2	3	0.0	0.0	0
1 Sawyer Schultz	2.0	2	0	0.0	0.0	0	85 Chase Kingsbury	3.0	1	4	0.0	0.0	0
70 Duot VanSickle	1.5	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	58 Jordan Turgeon	2.5	1	3	0.0	0.0	0
22 Sam Arend	1.5	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	77 John Kludt	2.5	1	3	0.0	0.0	0
76 Cade Schmitt	1.5	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	69 Krockett Krolikowski	2.5	2	1	0.0	0.5	0
62 Tyler VanRoekel	1.5	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	30 Ty Bolton	2.0	1	2	0.0	1.0	1
4 Abiah Plastow	1.5	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	55 Levi McClanahan	2.0	1	2	0.0	0.0	0
99	1.0	1	0	0.0	0.0	0	6 Riley Calhoon	1.0	1	0	0.0	0.0	0
82 Colton Sommer	1.0	1	0	0.0	1.0	0	71 Chet Bryan	1.0	0	2	0.0	0.0	0
68 Carter Dye	1.0	1	0	0.0	0.0	0	82 Nick	0.5	0	1	0.0	0.0	0
71 Bradlee Schultz	1.0	1	0	0.0	0.0	0	Lantz						

KICKING-BRIDGEWATER/EMERY				
Name	FG	FGA	ХР	Pts
8 Jesse Grosdidier	2	3	1	7

KICKING-WINNER					
Name	FG	FGA	ХР	Pts	

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PUNTING - BRIDGEWATER/EMERY				
Name	Num	Yds	Avg	120
8 Jesse Grosdidier	1	36	36.0	0

PUNTING-	PUNTING-WINNER				
Name	Num	Yds	Avg	120	
20 Kayleb Brozik	4	160	40.0	0	

PUNT RETURNS - BRIDGEWATER/EMERY				
Name	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
20 Cole Gassman	1	12	12.0	0
2 Jamin Arend	2	5	2.5	0

PUNT RETURNS - WINNER				
Att	Yds	Avg	тр	

KICKOFF RETURNS - BRIDGEWATER/EMERY				
Name	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
20 Cole Gassman	2	42	21.0	0
2 Jamin Arend	2	35	17.5	0

KICKOFF RETURNS - WINNER				
Name	Att	Yds	Avg	TD
21 Cameron Kuil	2	107	53.5	1
6 Riley Calhoon	1	17	17.0	0

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# **One Voice A** for Free Enterprise, Gun Rights, and Life

These candidates support protecting family values, the right to life, and earned the endorsement of the National Rifle Association



You can early vote now at your county courthouse Election day is November 8th at your regular polling place

A November 8, 2016 B SOUTH DAKOTA   Instructions to the Voter: Instructions to the Voter: Instructions to the Voter:   For State Representative District 02 Vou may vote for up to two or leave it blank To vote on a ballot question FILL IN the oval next to the name. To vote on a ballot question FILL IN the oval next to "yes" or "no". Use only a pencil or pen. If you make a mistake, give the ballot back and get a new one. DO NOT cast more votes than are allowed in each race.   Lana Greenfield For State Senator District 02   you may vote for One or leave it blank You may vote for One or leave it blank	SAMPLE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT				
A November 6, 2010   A Instructions to the Voter:   For State Representative District 02 To vote for a person FILL IN the oval next to the name. To vote on a ballot question FILL IN the oval next to "yes" or "no". Use only a pencil or pen. If you make a mistake, give the ballot back and get a new one. DO NOT cast more votes than are allowed in each race.   You may vote for up to two or leave it blank For State Senator District 02   Lana Greenfield You may vote for one or leave it blank					
	For State Representative District 02 you may vote for up to <u>two</u> or leave it blank Lana Greenfield	Instructions to the Voter: To vote for a person FILL IN the oval next to the name. To vote on a ballot question FILL IN the oval next to "yes" or "no". Use only a pencil or pen. If you make a mistake, give the ballot back and get a new one. DO NOT cast more votes than are allowed in each race. For State Senator			



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# Enjoy a FREE Medium Blizzard

### on Veterans Day, Friday, Nov. 11th at the Groton Dairy Queen

\* Active duty and retired members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Guard or Reserves. This is a local store marketing offer and is only available at participating locations. Must either be in uniform or show valid proof of service (military ID, veterans designation on driver's license or DD214 paperwork).

Limit one per customer, per visit. Not valid with other offers, promotions, or discounts. No cash value. Plus tax if applicable.

# Groton United Methodist Church Fall Dinner

Sunday. November 6. 2016

11 am to 1:30 pm

Roast Beef Dinner

Adults \$10 Children 6 - 10 \$5

Children age 5 and under Free

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### **Today in Weather History**

November 6, 1959: The strong cold front that brought near blizzard conditions and cold temperatures on the 5th continued to bring record or near record lows during the morning hours on this day. Some low temperatures include;-13 in Murdo; -12 in Eureka; -11 in Britton; -10 in Castlewood;-9 near McIntosh and Redfield; -8 in Andover; -7 in Clear Lake and Kennebec; -6 degrees in Aberdeen; -5 in Watertown; and -4 in Pierre.

November 6, 2008: A strong area of low pressure moving across South Dakota and into Minnesota brought widespread rain, freezing rain, and snow to central, north central, and northeast South Dakota. Much of the freezing fell across central and north central South Dakota west of the Missouri River. As the freezing rain changed over to snow and the winds increased, the ice and snow buildup on the power lines and poles caused hundreds of power poles to break across Jones, Stanley, Dewey, and Corson counties. East of the Missouri River, the colder air and stronger winds moved in changing the rain over to snow. Strong winds of 30 to 45 mph with gusts near 60 mph brought widespread blizzard conditions to all of the areas.

Ice buildup from the freezing rain ranged from a tenth to as much as an inch for counties west of the Missouri River. Snowfall amounts across the entire area ranged from 2 to 8 inches with a 15-inch amount recorded in southwest Corson County. Some of the snowfall amounts included, 3 inches in Eagle Butte, Blunt, Kennebec, Mission Ridge, and Onida; 4 inches in Pollock, Gettysburg, and Bowdle; 5 inches south of Harrold, Iona, and near McIntosh; 6 inches in Mobridge; 7 inches in Murdo; 8 inches in McLaughlin, and 15 inches southwest of Keldron.

All 4,600 customers of the Moreau-Grand Electric Company lost power due to the storm. The last time this occurred was during the winter of 1967-68. The monetary loss to this cooperative and other electric cooperatives for Jones, Stanley, Corson, and Dewey counties was in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Over 100 line workers were working countless hours with crews coming as far away as Nebraska and Iowa to assist in the power recovery. Over 1,000 customers were without power for an extended period. Cell phone coverage was also knocked out for parts of the West River area due to downed towers.

The blizzard resulted in numerous school, business, and road closures along with flight cancellations. Interstate 90 was shut down from Mitchell, South Dakota to the Wyoming border from Thursday the 6th until Friday evening of the 7th. Many semi-trucks and cars were stranded along the Interstate with many people being rescued. Many travels took shelter in Murdo, Chamberlain, and Pierre until the Interstate reopened. There were several accidents across the area with a serious accident in Walworth County on Highway 83 near the Potter County line. In the early afternoon hours of Friday the 7th, slippery roads, high winds, and low visibilities contributed to the rollover of a passenger van carrying seven students. The passenger van rolled several times causing serious injuries to three of the students. The Governor declared a state of emergency on the 7th, and President Bush declared South Dakota a disaster area.

1977: Several possible causes lead to the collapse of the Kelly Barnes Dam in Georgia to give way. The failure allowed a 40-acre lake to flood the Toccoa Falls College, killing 39 people and injured 60 more.

2005: The deadliest tornado to strike Indiana since April 3, 1974, occurred around 2 am. A single F3 tornado inflicted Twenty-four fatalities, 238 injuries, and nearly 90 million dollars in damage with a path length of 41 miles. This storm moved in a northeasterly direction from just north of Smith Mills Kentucky to Gentryville, Indiana and crossed the Ohio River three times. Most of the damage occurred as the tornado past southeast of the city of Evansville, Indiana.



Published on: 11/06/2016 at 4:05AM

We will see increasing clouds today, along with an isolated shower or two this evening and overnight. Not much for moisture with this system, however temperatures will once again be well above average.

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### Yesterday's Weather High Outside Temp: 76.5 F at 3:59 PM

High Outside Temp: 76.5 F at 3:59 PM Low Outside Temp: 42.0 F at 4:45 AM High Gust: 19.0 Mph at 2:13 PM

Precip: 0.00

### Today's Info Record High: 75° in 1909

Record High: 75° in 1909 Record Low: -8° in 1991 Average High: 46°F Average Low: 24°F Average Precip in Nov.: 0.18 Precip to date in Nov.: 0.00 Average Precip to date: 20.65 Precip Year to Date: 15.00 Sunset Tonight: 5:13 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:22 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sun, Nov 06, 2016, issued 3:40 AM EST OOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center Prepared by Santorelli based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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### HOPE

A successful executive of a large company had been in the hospital for days. He had waited, wondered and worried about what the diagnosis of his condition would be. After the tests were analyzed, the doctor came into his room and told him the results.

Tearfully and in shock, his wife asked, "Is there any hope, doctor?"

"It depends on where your hope is," said the doctor. "If it is in me, I'm afraid not. But if it is in God, you have all the hope you need."

Jesus gave Christians a prescription for hope. "Don't be troubled," He said. "You trust God, now trust me. There are many rooms in my Father's home, and I am going to prepare a place for you."

Fear has a unique way of bringing life into focus. And there are only a few verses of Scripture that describe eternal life. But these few words are filled with promise and hope. The promise is that Jesus has gone before us to prepare a place for us. And the hope we have is He promised that He would come again to get us so we may be with Him in Heaven.

We can look forward to eternal life with Him because He has promised it to all who believe in Him as Savior and Lord. Although we may not know all we want to know about eternal life and what heaven will be like, we need not fear. Right now He is preparing our home!

Prayer: What joy we have, Father, that You – at this very moment – are preparing a home for us in heaven. We have great peace knowing that we will be with You forever. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: John 14:1-2 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?



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## News from the Associated Press

## Saturday's Scores

#### **By The Associated Press**

Volleyball District 1AA Third Place Watertown def. Brookings, 22-25, 25-18, 25-22, 25-21 Championship Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Sioux Falls O'Gorman, 23-25, 25-21, 25-21, 21-25, 15-12 District 2AA Harrisburg def. Brandon Valley, 25-23, 25-13, 23-26, 25-16 Sioux Falls Washington def. Sioux Falls Lincoln, 25-23, 26-28, 25-16, 23-25, 15-11 District 3AA Third Place Aberdeen Central def. Mitchell, 26-24, 21-25, 25-13, 25-16 Championship Huron def. Pierre, 25-21, 25-20, 25-19 District 4AA Third Place Douglas def. Sturgis Brown, 25-20, 25-22, 22-25, 22-25, 15-11 Championship Rapid City Stevens def. Rapid City Central, 25-13, 25-20, 25-23 Region 7A Semifinal Pine Ridge def. Red Cloud, 20-25, 25-9, 25-22, 22-25, 16-14 Winner def. Little Wound, 25-13, 24-26, 25-18, 25-19

#### US attorney in the Sioux Falls serves as election officer BY RANDY DOCKENDORF, Yankton Daily Press and Dakotan

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — Kevin Koliner isn't running for office in South Dakota, but he'll be keeping close watch on the Election Day balloting.

For that matter, he has already started monitoring for any fraud or improper activity.

The Yankton native works as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Sioux Falls office. He will serve as the U.S. Department of Justice's district election officer (DEO) in South Dakota.

In his position, Koliner will serve as the Justice Department's point person on Election Day. He will oversee any potential election fraud complaints and voting rights abuses that may crop up in the Nov. 8 general election, the Yankton Daily Press and Dakotan (http://bit.ly/2e3DoOY) reported.

"We're federal officers, and we handle questions related to federal offenses," he said.

The Justice Department has conducted its Election Day monitoring program for years, Koliner said. This includes the Justice Department placing monitoring officials at different locations if something happens during any federal election.

"It's nothing new to this election. It's no reaction to the national conversation, and it has nothing to do with the news of the day or comments made in the news cycle," he said.

"There's always someone designated as the district election officer. It's a role that's been offered by the Department of Justice for many generations."

South Dakota hasn't seen many federal election offenses, Koliner said. "We don't have a history of violations rising to the level of federal prosecution in South Dakota," he added.

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U.S. Attorney Randy Seiler appointed Koliner as the district election officer for the South Dakota district. Election officers are appointed in each Justice Department district, such as Nebraska and Iowa.

"Every citizen must be able to vote without interference or discrimination and to have that vote counted," Seiler said in a news release. "The Department of Justice will act promptly and aggressively to protect the integrity of the election process."

With early voting under way, Koliner's duties as a district election officer have already begun. He has coordinated efforts with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

"I'm available at any point in time to answer questions or complaints to be lodged in any of these matters," he said. "It's not just Election Day, when we do intend to have devoted duty stations where we are managing the phones.

"I'll be positioned with an FBI agent designated for that day. We're blocking off (our schedule) for Election Day, at the very least when the polls are open. We're ready if anything happens."

Koliner has served since 2006 with the U.S. Attorney's office in Sioux Falls. However, the appointment as a district election officer is new to him.

"This is my first federal election (in this role). Randy Seiler formerly served as the district election officer. When he became U.S. attorney, he appointed me," Koliner said. "We receive a list of information from the Department of Justice, and I have gone to various training. As part of the job, I went out to training in South Carolina."

Koliner's training has covered a full range of federal election laws.

"We learn what constitutes potential federal election crimes," he said. "A big part of the training is on the laws, statutes, elements and case studies, along with past prosecutions in the courts."

The Justice Department becomes involved in elections involving federal offices, Koliner said. Those federal offices include the presidential, Senate and House races.

"We hold federal criminal jurisdiction over any election where a federal candidate's name is on the ballot. That applies to any federal or non-federal race," he said. "As long as a single ballot has a federal race, then the election process itself confers federal jurisdiction on us."

Election fraud and voting rights violations can take many forms, Koliner said. Federal offenses include providing false information for voting or registration, falsely claiming citizenship and preventing qualified voters from casting their ballots.

"We're concerned about individuals being paid to vote for certain candidates," he said. "We're concerned about bribery and offenses such as multiple voting."

In addition, federal law protects against such crimes as buying and selling votes, impersonating voters, altering vote tallies, stuffing ballot boxes and marking ballots for voters against their wishes or without their input.

"We're also watching for people who are intimidating voters through physical force or through threats of force, or people who are intimidating persons trying to register," Koliner said.

For example, the federal voting rights law may be violated by actions designed to interrupt or intimidate voters at polling places by questioning or challenging them. Another federal offense may come from photographing or videotaping voters on the pretext of uncovering illegal voting.

Further, federal law protects the right of voters to mark their own ballot or to be assisted by a person of their choice, Koliner said.

"We're also concerned about things that may not rise to the level of federal crimes," he said. "Those areas include access to voting and (handicapped accessibility) compliance."

As part of the Election Day effort, Koliner works with the FBI on establishing a contact list. Letters are sent to the Department of Homeland Security, the South Dakota secretary of state's office, attorney general's office and Division of Criminal Investigation (DC I), county auditors, state's attorneys and tribal offices.

"The FBI oversees the investigation of federal election crimes with one exception," he said. "The Department of Homeland Security agency is designated to handle any cybersecurity concerns with elections."

In addition, face-to-face meetings are held with officials at some levels, Koliner said.

"We had a variety of meetings with folks from the state side, and I was impressed by their level of

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preparedness," he said.

Koliner emphasized his role focuses on federal matters.

"I don't work with state election law. There are a number of state violations that are not federal violations," he said. "I also don't answer calls about things like, 'We opened the polling place a half-hour late, so do we stay open another half-hour? What do we do?' Those questions are referred to the secretary of state's office."

The U.S. Attorney's office also works with the American Indian tribes in the state, he said.

"We work with Indian Country, but where there is a purely tribal election, the federal government has no jurisdiction," he said.

In order to prevent Election Day problems, people can choose early voting and studying the ballot beforehand, Koliner said. That's particularly important where the ballot contains a large number of races and measures.

In approaching Election Day, Koliner sees himself as a link between state and federal officials.

"I hope to be a source of information but also a conduit of information," he said. "That's whether I'm helping state officials get in touch with the right law enforcement or with helping Washington D.C. on matters that rise to national significance."

The sanctity of voting must be protected in each election, Koliner said. In fact, the Justice Department contains divisions devoted to election law enforcement.

"It's a bedrock of our democracy," he said. "Few things are more important than ensuring our elections are fair and free, and that all of those who have that franchise have the ability to vote without intimidation." In that respect, Koliner feels prepared for next week's general election.

"My office and department have prioritized this," he said. "We have a system in place that ensures elections without interference. I also feel confident (people's) votes will be counted."

Information from: Yankton Press and Dakotan, http://www.yankton.net/

#### School teaches students Native American tradition By Mike Anderson, Rapid City Journal

PORCUPINE, S.D. (AP) — The Pine Ridge Girls' School is embarking on a mission to prepare young Lakota women for a college education and a fruitful life beyond the borders of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

The Porcupine-based school — the country's first non-denominational all-girls college prep school on a Native American reservation — had its grand opening on Sept. 23. And since then, the teachers have been bonding with their first class of sixth and seventh graders.

The girls — 11 in total in the inaugural class — will spend the rest of their K-12 educational careers at the school, and new classes will be brought on every year.

Apart from it being a school just for girls, it is also unique in its approach to Native American tradition, the Rapid City Journal (http://bit.ly/2eWjJjb) reported. Every lesson at the fledgling school — be it science or U.S. history — is communicated to the girls through the lens of Lakota language and culture.

"We're trying to teach them to be proud of who they are," said the school's head, Cindy Giago.

The school's name in Lakota is Anpo Wicahpi, which translates to "Morning Star."

On a warm day in late September, Helene Gaddi led the day's science lesson into the overgrown wilderness behind the Pine Ridge Girls' School. Wading through knee-high prairie grass, the six girls in Gaddi's class turned and looked when she pointed and said "What kind of trees are these?"

"Chokecherry trees," one of the girls chimed in immediately.

Resourcefulness and a deep connection to the natural world: These are important qualities for Native American women, Gaddi said.

The privately funded college-preparatory school is designed to create a nurturing environment for young women on the reservation to learn in ways that suit them best. While taught through the lens of Lakota culture, the science in Gaddi's outdoors classroom is sound, practical, and like every subject taught at the school by the staff of three teachers, based on established curriculum, she said.

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Earlier in the month, she taught the girls how to make lip balm from plant ingredients harvested in the greenery behind the school. Another day's lesson had to do with floral morphology and stream ecology, Gaddi said. As part of that, she guided the girls down deer paths to a creek winding beneath a formation rocky of bluffs, taking note of different herbs and a bleached cow bones on the way.

"We need more Native women scientists," Gaddi said.

Getting their hands dirty, being able to see, smell, hear and touch the subjects of their lessons; the girls learn better this way, the teacher said before leading her students back up to the school in time for math class. Once back, they learned about circumferences using a drawing of a sweat lodge, or "inipi," in preparation for building one themselves.

The meditative smoke and darkness of the sweat lodge are already familiar to the girls, as are many other Lakota rituals, all taught to them by the school's elders, Gene Giago — Cindy's husband — Rick Two Dogs, and Ethleen Iron Cloud Two Dogs.

Before eating a lunch of pasta with buffalo meat and corn-on-the-cob (homemade in the school's openair kitchen), the quiet elders looked on as the girls gathered in a circle, smudged with sweet grass, and presented a small offering of food for the spirits. Then one of the girls took a plate to Gene, who smiled and nodded in thanks.

"In a spiritual sense, I watch over the girls," he said. "In a physical sense, I do the laundry and take out the dishes."

The girls refer to their spiritual instructors as "kaká" and "unci" respectively, the Lakota words for grandfather and grandmother. The intimate titles have arisen organically as a result of the serene and familial atmosphere that Cindy and her small band of teachers have created at the school.

"They treat each other like family," Cindy said of the girls.

"It makes me feel like home," said sixth-grader Breiana High Wolf, 12, while her classmates laughed and batted a volleyball between themselves during recess. "It makes me feel comfortable, that I can tell my teachers and classmates everything."

Like all of her fellow students, Breiana used to attend school elsewhere on or near the reservation. At her old school, Lakota language and culture were taught only during a single period in the day. At the Pine Ridge Girls' School, it is all around her.

"We get to learn to sing the songs and speak fluently," she said. "I'm learning our way of life."

Cindy and the teachers agree that immersion in the language and culture is essential to the learning process and is all too often deficient or altogether missing in schools like the one Breiana used to attend. At the Pine Ridge Girls' School, all of the students get their own Lakota names, granted to them during spiritual ceremonies. Pasted on each girl's locker is the name of a Native American woman significant in U.S. history: Winona LaDuke. Jodi Collette. Maria Tallchief. Buffalo Calf Road Woman. Nellie Red Owl. Marie Randall.

"We want to normalize being Lakota, where it's not separate in our minds," said Dusty Nelson, the school's Lakota language and writing teacher. "We are always Lakota. It's not something we do on the side. A lot of times when people think of academic rigor, they don't think it includes Lakota thought and philosophy."

On the dry-erase board in Nelson's classroom was a Lakota medicine wheel, often used as a sort of flow chart for organizing ideas and schedules. The room was brimming with Lakota books. While the girls wrote in their journals for the day, they bobbed their heads and hummed along to the Native pop music on Nelson's Bluetooth speaker.

"I love it. It's beautiful," Cindy said. "I don't want to go home; we're allowing them to create their own identities from what's inside them."

The girls have already gone on several field trips, including to Bear Butte near Sturgis and Fort Robinson, Nebraska, to learn how Tashunka Witko, the Lakota name for the war chief Crazy Horse, was captured and killed by U.S. soldiers. They are in the midst of planning another trip, this time to Cannon Ball, North Dakota, where a large group of Native American activists are camped in protest of the Dakota Access Pipeline. The trip was the girls' idea, the teachers said.

"It's really amazing to see these girls; it's a miracle happening before our eyes," Nelson said. "They've

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bonded and they're being themselves and they're happy to learn about all this. These girls are really lucky. When I was younger, I feel like if I had a place to go like this, to be who I want to be and comfortable around other girls, I would have had a stronger foundation and I wouldn't have struggled so much."

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

#### **Saturday's Scores** By The Associated Press

#### PREP FOOTBALL Class 11B Semifinal

Groton Area 16, Aberdeen Roncalli 10 Winner 38, Bridgewater-Emery/Ethan 13 Class 9A Semifinal Colman-Egan 56, Potter County 26 Warner 57, Sully Buttes 21 Class 9AA Semifinal Gregory 44, Stanley County 7

### Webster 38, Baltic 28

#### Class 9B Semifinal

Colome 28, Corsica/Stickney 27 Langford 61, Harding County 44

### After further review, S. Illinois still tops S. Dakota 35-28

Southern Illinois made two game-ending stops on Saturday to hold off South Dakota 35-28 to win its first Missouri Valley Football Conference game of the season. It also gave sophomore quarterback Sam Straub a win in his first starting assignment for the Salukis. Straub threw for 339 yards and two touchdowns and ran for a team-high 68 yards and a score.

#### **By JAMES PURSLEY**

CARBONDALE, Ill. (AP) — Southern Illinois made two game-ending stops on Saturday to hold off South Dakota 35-28 and win its first Missouri Valley Football Conference game of the season.

It also gave sophomore quarterback Sam Straub a win in his first starting assignment for the Salukis. Straub threw for 339 yards and two touchdowns and ran for a team-high 68 yards and a score. He completed 19 of 34 passes without an interception.

After stopping the Coyotes (4-5, 3-3) on third-and-goal as time ran out, players from both teams left the field and coaches were doing interviews before being called back and one second put back on the clock. Chris Streveler's fourth-down pass was also incomplete and the Salukis escaped with the win.

Playing in his third game of the season, Straub had completed just one of five passes for 20 yards in two previous games.

Straub threw TD passes of 31 yards to Israel Lamprakes and 7 yards to Hans Carmien.

"Nothing anything special," SIU coach Nick Hill said of his quarterback's first real action. "He's been around here for a long time and he knows our offense."

With 6:25 left in the first quarter, Straub tossed a 7-yard TD pass to Carmien, and the PAT gave the Salukis a 7-0 lead.

USD quarterback Chris Streveler atoned for an early interception by throwing a 57-yard TD pass to Alonge Brooks to tie the game 7-7 with 14:13 left in the first half.

Streveler passed for 219 yards and two scores and ran for a game-high 113 yards and a score.

SIU responded with a seven-play, 64-yard drive capped by Cameron Walter's 1-yard run with 11:40 left in the half.

With 4:24 left in the second quarter, Missouri State's Jonathan Mixon scored on a 1-yard run. A Salukis'

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scoring threat ended with a fumble at the 4-yard line with seconds left in the half.

Straub's pass to Lamprakes and his 2-yard run made it 35-14.

USD closed within 35-21 with 7:30 to play on Mike Fredrick's 34-yard run.

With 2:35 left to play, Brooks hauled in a 27-yard TD from Streveler to pull the Coyotes within 35-28. The two-minute drive covered 82 yards.

USD's last-second drive down to the SIU 4-yard line ended in the end zone twice.

### S. Dakota St. grinds out 49-24 win over Missouri St.

South Dakota State unleashed a balanced offensive effort and pulled away in the second half to beat Missouri State 49-24 Saturday in the Missouri Valley Football Conference. Brady Mengarelli had two of the Jackrabbits' six rushing touchdowns, equaling the team's season total in eight previous games. The Jackrabbits (6-3, 5-1 MVFC) put the game away with 21 points in the first eight minutes of the third quarter to remain in a tie with North Dakota State for first place in the MVFC.

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota State unleashed a balanced offensive effort and pulled away in the second half to beat Missouri State 49-24 on Saturday.

Brady Mengarelli had two of the Jackrabbits' six rushing touchdowns, equaling the team's season total in its eight previous games.

The Jackrabbits (6-3, 5-1 Missouri Valley) put the game away with 21 points in the first eight minutes of the third quarter to remain in a tie with North Dakota State for first place in the conference.

"It was fun watching those guys get into the end zone," SDSU coach John Stiegelmeier said. "We started out running the football. We came in thinking that would be part of our gameplan."

Leading 21-17 at halftime, the Jackrabbits got rushing touchdowns from three different players in a span of 3:42 of the third quarter.

"We were really disappointed at halftime. We know if we played Jackrabbit football and didn't beat ourselves we knew we should be up more," Mengarelli said.

Mengarelli had 89 yards on 10 carries. He scored on runs of 19 and 10 yards. He also caught five passes for 68 yards and Isaac Wallace added 38 yards and touchdowns of 1 and 3 yards. Mikey Daniel scored on a 1-yard run and Kyle Paris added a 4-yard TD run.

The only South Dakota State touchdown through the air was a 51-yard pass to Dallas Goedert in the first quarter.

Jake Wineke had six catches for 114 yards and Goedert added 113 yards on seven receptions, becoming the first SDSU teammates to go over 1,000 receiving yards in the same season.

Wieneke has 1,023 yards and 14 touchdowns and Goedert has 1,050 and 10 TDs.

"Those guys are special," Stiegelmeier said.

Daniel opened the scoring with a 3-yard run with 10:19 left in the first quarter. The drive covered 72 yards in 11 plays. But Daniel was injured and didn't play in the second half.

The Jackrabbits extended the lead to 14-0 when Taryn Christion hit Goedert over the middle 51 yards for a TD.

But the Bears came right back as Brodie Lambert flipped an inside screen to Zac Hoover, who went 91 yards for a score then threw a 38-yard TD to Malik Earl to tie it 14 with 1:35 to play in the first. Hoover had three catches for 113 yards.

Lambert completed 10 of 24 passes for 224 yards and three scores for Missouri State (4-5, 2-4). He had an 8-yard TD pass to Erik Furmanek in the fourth quarter.

The Bears' second TD was set up by a Brady Upchurch interception.

Christion was 22 for 37 for 324 yards and the one interception.

Isaac Wallace put SDSU on top to stay with a 1-yard run midway through the second quarter.

Paris, Mengarelli and Wallace scored in the third quarter.

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### Wildlife refuges reorganizing because of staff, program cuts

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP) — Federal wildlife regulators are planning to reorganize the National Wildlife Refuge system in Montana and several other states, including Wyoming and Colorado, because of staff and program cuts.

A draft report from U.S. Fish and Wildlife concluded some of the affected areas will have to rely on private landowners.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife officials said the draft document has been in the works for three years, the Missoulian reported (http://tinyurl.com/jplnlfv ).

"Status quo is not an option," said the report. "We cannot operate with high numbers of vacant positions on organizational charts while we try to continue to do the work of those vacant positions - it is simply not sustainable."

Will Meeks, assistant regional director for the Mountain Prairie region that covers Montana, the Dakotas, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Nebraska and Kansas, said it comes down to priorities.

"We're looking at larger landscapes. ... Engaged private landowners are now a key component of our conservation mission," Meeks said.

"With our growing workloads and budget realities, we will have to look for creative solutions and an increased reliance on volunteers," said U.S. Fish and Wildlife Public Affairs specialist Ryan Moehring.

One proposal calls for Montana to be carved into three large wetland management districts in western, central and northeast Montana where staff would be shared among refuges.

Instead of assigning some staff members to specific refuges, the positions could be pooled and headquarters shared.

Opponents say volunteers still need someone to lead them and some positions still need to be filled.

Lee Metcalf Refuge Manager Tom Reed said the refuge's environmental education programs will be eliminated, including one that involved about 2,000 students.

Meeks says the current recommendations are just the first phase and it could take five years to complete the reorganization.

Information from: Missoulian, http://www.missoulian.com

### Scott McCarron, Tom Byrum share PGA Tour Champions lead

Scott McCarron and Tom Byrum shared the Dominion Charity Classic lead Saturday, with Bernhard Langer two strokes back in the second of three PGA Tour Champions playoff events.

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Scott McCarron and Tom Byrum shared the Dominion Charity Classic lead Saturday, with Bernhard Langer two strokes back in the second of three PGA Tour Champions playoff events.

McCarron shot his second straight 5-under 67, and Byrum had a 69 to reach 10-under 134 on The Country Club of Virginia's James River Course. Langer also had a 69 in his return for a left knee injury that forced him to withdraw from the playoff opener last week in California.

McCarron birdied the par-5 16th and 18th for the second day in a row, holing a 12-footer on 18.

"I made two nice putts on 2 and 3 from probably 30 feet or so," McCarron said. "It's always nice to get off to a good start when you're making putts like that. Then just played pretty solid and took advantage of the par 5s coming in. Really like this golf course. It's a great track. It's in perfect shape, we have unbelievable weather, so looking forward to tomorrow."

Byrum closed birdie-bogey-birdie, making a 20-footer on 18 to tie McCarron.

"I hung in there. Just tried to stay patient," Byrum said. "Hit the ball decent on the front nine, struggled a lot on the back nine. I had to scramble a little bit, but all in all it was a good day playing under the pressure of leading and guys coming after me. ... Maybe I can be a little more aggressive tomorrow."

Langer is fighting the knee injury that he re-aggravated at home doing routine spinning. The 59-yearold German star leads the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs standings, had a tour-high our victories and has wrapped up the season money title with \$2,697,459.

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"The worst thing for me is walking downhill and bending," Langer said. "I can't bend my knee very well, so I'm just trying to avoid all stress, if possible."

The playoff field was cut from 72 to 54 for the event, and Tom Lehman dropped out because of an elbow injury. The top 36 after the week will qualify for the season-ending Charles Schwab Cup Championship next week in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Each dollar earned in the first two events is worth two points — first place is worth \$305,000 and 610,000 points this week — and is added to the regular-season total. At the Charles Schwab Championship, points will be reset so that the top five only have to win to capture the Charles Schwab Cup.

The 51-year-old McCarron is fifth in the standings. He won the Principal Charity Classic in Iowa in June for his first victory on the 50-and-over tour.

"I'm having an absolute blast," the three-time PGA Tour winner said. "I'm playing with some of my best buddies. When you get to play with Hall of Famers like Bernhard Langer it really is a lot of fun."

The 56-year-old Byrum is 27th in the standings. He's winless on the senior tour after winning once on the PGA Tour.

Jay Haas (71), Michael Allen (69), Rocco Mediate (71), Scott Parel (66), Paul Broadhurst (68) and Brandt Jobe (69) were 6 under. The 62-year-old Haas won a month ago in Newport Beach, California, to become the second-oldest winner in tour history.

### Bedroom communities around Sioux Falls grow in size, economy

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Small communities in the Sioux Falls area are planning for the future as they experience increased interest from families and businesses that want to move away from the urban core. Experts credit the trend to the area's surging population and economy, coupled with the unique appeal of small towns, the Argus Leader (http://argusne.ws/2e68C3a) reported.

Nick Fosheim, who heads economic development groups for Lincoln and Minnehaha counties, said he has noticed healthy communities growing across the counties.

"It's pretty clear that there are healthy growing communities out there," Fosheim said. "Sometimes it happens under the radar because we don't see it every day."

In 2015, the metro area's population breached the quarter-million threshold because thousands of people moved to houses in the outskirts. Data from the U.S. Census Bureau show that rural areas around the city added more than 5,300 people and nearly 400 rooftops between 2010 and 2015.

"We often talk about this regional ecosystem," Fosheim said. "That concept of the rising tide lifts all boats." The more people move to the area the more towns will have a balance between residential, retail and industrial development, said Fosheim.

According to Crooks Mayor Jamison Rounds the town was landlocked and unable to grow outward until recently. By forming the quasi-governmental Housing and Redevelopment Commission, Crooks officials were able to purchase 25 acres of land with the intention to induce the local economy.

Commission members have reserved 12 acres of the land for housing and the other half will go toward answering sales tax questions from the town.

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

### Wanted felon from Kansas picked up in South Dakota

BOX ELDER, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have captured a wanted felon from Kansas in South Dakota. Officials said 42-year-old Perry Peterson was arrested Friday afternoon in Box Elder. Peterson had active warrants from Kansas for aggravated kidnapping, aggravated battery and criminal damage to property. Authorities say Peterson has ties to the Rapid City region. The Pennington County Sheriff's Office and the U.S. Marshals Service took part in the arrest.

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### Civil war veterans get proper headstones for graves

ARMOUR, S.D. (AP) — Two Civil War veterans were given proper headstones on Wednesday, decades after their deaths.

More than 30 people attended the event at Pleasant Ridge Cemetery. Douglas County Veteran Service Officer Fred Kuil along with the South Dakota Department of Veteran Affairs dedicated the headstones to the late veterans Chris Schroder and Joseph Chamberlain, who both resided in the Armour area. The headstones were complete with markings indicating their service to the U.S. during the war, according to the Daily Republic (http://bit.ly/2fmIlib).

Kuil said this was first time to his awareness that Douglas County was dedicating a veteran's headstone. "These men knew patriotism in ways we likely never will," Kuil said. "These men were of high honor and deserve to be recognized."

The idea for the project was introduced when family members of the late veterans voiced their disappointment in the gravestones' lack of words. Kuil fundraised \$800 over about eight months for the new headstones, which "aren't fancy, but they're something," he said.

After the ceremony, members of the 1st Infantry of Ft. Randall celebrated by firing a cannon.

"We added (the cannon) because it makes it interesting —something special," Kuil said. "The whole thing about anything like this is you're trying to keep patriotism going, especially with the younger people who hear about it but don't understand much about what it really means. This jumps out at them, I think." Some students from Armour Elementary School attended the event as well.

Chamberlain was a member of the Ohio National Guard, and Schroder was enlisted in the Union Army.

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

#### Syrian Kurds announce campaign to retake Raqqa from IS By ZEINA KARAM and PHILIP ISSA, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Kurdish-led Syrian forces backed by the U.S. announced plans Sunday to retake the Islamic State group's de facto capital of Raqqa, urging civilians to avoid "enemy gatherings" in the Syrian city and warning Turkey not to interfere in the operation.

The announcement by a coalition of Kurds and Arabs known as the Syria Democratic Forces came at a news conference in Ein Issa, north of Raqqa, attended by commanders and representatives of the group. An official who read a statement said the operation to liberate Raqqa, dubbed "Euphrates Rage," had officially begun.

Islamic State forces already are under attack by U.S.-backed Iraqi forces on the eastern edges of the city of Mosul, which the militant group seized in 2014 when it captured territory across Iraq and Syria for its self-proclaimed caliphate. The Iraqi forces, who began their operation Oct. 17, are trying to push deeper into the city, which is the militants' last urban bastion in Iraq.

Kurdish officials said the two anti-IS campaigns are not coordinated but simply a matter of "good timing."

"We call on our heroic steadfast people in Raqqa and surrounding areas to stay away from enemy gatherings which will be a target for the liberating forces and the coalition forces, and to head to areas that will be liberated," said Cihan Ehmed, an SDF fighter reading the statement.

She said 30,000 fighters will take part in the operation and that a joint operations command had been set up to coordinate various factions on all fronts.

The SDF is dominated by the main Syrian Kurdish fighting force known as the People's Protection Units, or YPG. The United States considers the group to be the most effective force against the IS, but Turkey views it as a terrorist organization and claims it's linked to Turkey's outlawed Kurdish group. Turkish officials including President Recep Tayip Erdogan have said they will not accept a role for the Kurds in the liberation of Raqqa.

Turkey's defense minister last week suggested that instead of the Kurds, Turkish-backed forces can

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present an "alternative."

But Kurdish officials have rejected any role in the Raqqa campaign for Turkey or the opposition forces it backs inside Syria, and U.S. officials have also acknowledged that the YPG will be a major part of any Raqqa offensive.

"Our hope is that the Turkish state will not interfere in the internal affairs of Syria," Ahmad said at the news conference, suggesting SDF forces would defend themselves if it did. "Raqqa will be free by its own sons."

There was no immediate comment from Turkey, the U.S. or the Syrian government of President Bashar Assad on the Kurdish announcement.

SDF spokesman Talal Sillo told The Associated Press that the Raqqa campaign will occur on several fronts. "We want to liberate the surrounding countryside, then encircle the city, then we will assault and liberate it," he said. Asked whether he had assurances from the U.S. that Turkey or other forces will not interfere, he replied: "Of course, to begin the operation, we have made sure there will be no other forces but the SDF in the operation."

U.S. officials have acknowledged that ousting IS from Raqqa poses tougher political challenges than the Mosul offensive, and have suggested the initial stage would involve isolating the city before any forces try to move in.

The commander of anti-IS coalition forces, Lt. Gen. Stephen Townsend, said last week that U.S. intelligence has detected signs that Islamic State attacks against Western targets are being plotted from Raqqa, adding urgency to coalition plans to encircle and eventually assault the city.

"We know this plot-and-planning is emanating from Raqqa. We think we've got to get to Raqqa pretty soon."

But coalition leaders have been struggling with the timing for the Raqqa campaign, not only because of the demands of the large Iraqi-led Mosul operation but also because the political and military landscape in Syria is more complicated amid a civil war that has lasted more than five years and has devastated much of the country.

Townsend said more Syrian opposition fighters need to be recruited, trained and equipped for the Raqqa battle, but he and other officials have said in recent days that the Mosul and Raqqa operations will overlap.

Unlike in Iraq, where the coalition has a coherent government to work with, the U.S. and its coalition partners in Syria are relying on a hodgepodge of local Arab and Kurdish opposition groups, some of which are fierce rivals. The tensions are exacerbated by the presence of Russian and Syrian forces on one side and Turkish forces on another.

Townsend said, however, that the YPG will necessarily be part of the offensive.

"The facts are these: The only force that is capable on any near-term timeline is the Syrian Democratic Forces, of which the YPG are a significant portion," he said.

#### Sheriff: Man faces murder charges in 2003 slayings By SEANNA ADCOX and JEFFREY COLLINS, Associated Press

WOODRUFF, S.C. (AP) — A South Carolina man killed at least seven people in a hidden crime spree that lasted more than a decade and only was uncovered when police rescued a woman chained at the neck in a storage container, authorities said Saturday.

Todd Kohlhepp accepted responsibility for an unsolved massacre one day before the 13th anniversary of the deaths that stumped authorities, said Sheriff Chuck Wright, first elected a year after the murders.

Kohlhepp, 45, confessed to the deaths of the owner, service manager, mechanic and bookkeeper of Superbike Motorsports, a motorcycle shop in Chesnee, in Spartanburg County. He faces four counts of murder and a single kidnapping charge, according the Spartanburg County Sheriff website on Sunday.

"God answered our prayers. If it wasn't for Him answering our prayers and Todd talking to us, I don't know that we'd ever solve that case," Wright said.

Wright says Kohlhepp also showed law enforcement officers Saturday where he says he buried two of his other victims on his 95-acre property near Woodruff. Kohlhepp, in handcuffs and wearing an orange

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jumpsuit, was at the site for less than an hour.

Those are in addition to the body found Friday at the site. Wright and Coroner Rusty Clevenger identified that victim as 32-year-old Charles Carver, the boyfriend of the woman found Thursday in a locked metal container.

Carver and the woman went missing around Aug. 31. Their last known cellphone signals led authorities to the property.

The Associated Press is not naming the woman because the suspect is a sex offender, though authorities have not said whether she was sexually assaulted.

Carver died of multiple gunshot wounds. An anthropologist is helping determine how long Carver was buried, Clevenger said. He declined to say how many times Carver had been shot.

The sheriff says it's possible more bodies will be uncovered.

The wife of one of the 2003 victims said detectives told her Kohlhepp was an angry customer who had been in the shop several times.

Melissa Ponder told The Associated Press she was resigned that her husband Scott's death would never be solved before getting a phone call Saturday evening from one of the case's original detectives.

Detectives told family members of all four victims of the confession at the same time.

"He knew too much about the crime scene," Ponder said of Kohlhepp's account to detectives. "He knew everything."

The Superbike killings stunned the Chesnee community, with rumors like they were committed by a Mexican drug gang or were part of a love triangle crushing the families of the victims.

Melissa Ponder is glad the rumors weren't true.

"It isn't closure, but it is an answer," she said. "And I am thankful for that."

Kohlhepp was released from prison in Arizona in 2001. At 15 years old, he was convicted of raping a 14-year-old neighbor at gunpoint and threatening to kill her siblings if she called police. Kohlhepp had to register as a sex offender.

But that didn't stop him from getting a South Carolina real estate license in 2006 and building a firm. Wright said "it's strange" that Kohlhepp managed the pretext of a normal life for so long.

Scott Waldrop, who's lived next door to the Woodruff property for nearly 22 years, said he thought Kohlhepp was a serious Doomsday "prepper" who liked his privacy, but "he didn't seem like a threat."

Waldrop said when he saw the container, it was full of bottled water and canned goods. After buying the property two years ago, Kohlhepp immediately started putting a chain link fence around it.

Waldrop said Kohlhepp paid him to put no trespassing signs, cut trees for him and other odd jobs around the property. Kohlhepp also installed deer cameras and put bear traps throughout.

"I was the only one he let over there, I think because I laughed at his jokes and listened to him," he said. "I just hate to know somebody who's done something like this."

Kohlhepp has a house about 9 miles away in Moore, where neighbor Ron Owen said Kohlhepp was very private, but when they did talk across the fence, he was a "big bragger."

Kohlhepp liked to talk about the money he made day trading online, for example, and about his two BMWs. He recently told Owen, 76, that he'd spent \$80,000 on the chain link fence.

"We didn't see any signs whatsoever that this was going on," Owen said. "My first reaction's a baseball bat, but I know I'm not to take that in my own hands. God will deal with him."

Collins reported from Columbia.

Associated Press writers Allen G. Breed and Jonathan Drew in Raleigh, North Carolina; and Alex Sanz in Spartanburg contributed to this report.

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#### Mosul battle rages as IS bombings elsewhere in Iraq kill 20 By SUSANNAH GEORGE, Associated Press

MOSUL, Iraq (AP) — Iraq's special forces worked Sunday to clear neighborhoods on the eastern edge of Islamic State-held Mosul as bombings launched by the extremist group elsewhere in the country killed at least 20 people.

The Mosul offensive has slowed in recent days as Iraqi forces have pushed into more densely populated areas, where they cannot rely as much on airstrikes and shelling because of the risk posed to civilians, who have been told to stay in their homes.

"There are a lot of civilians and we are trying to protect them," said Lt. Col. Muhanad al-Timimi. "This is one of the hardest battles that we've faced till now."

Some civilians are fleeing the combat zone, while IS militants are holding others back for use as human shields, making it harder for Iraqi commanders on the ground to get approval for requested U.S.-led coalition air strikes. Iraq's special forces are some of the country's best troops, but they still largely rely on air support to clear terrain.

Iraqi forces first entered the eastern edge of the city on Tuesday. On Friday, forces began pushing into Mosul proper, but so far have advanced just over a kilometer (mile) into the city.

On the southern front, Iraqi forces are still some 12 miles (20 kilometers) from the city center. The fighting is centered on the town of Hamam al-Alil, where Associated Press journalists could hear gunfire and saw attack helicopters firing on IS positions.

Kurdish peshmerga fighters launched mortar rounds and fired heavy artillery at the IS-held town of Bashiqa, about 8 miles (13 kilometers) northeast of Mosul. The town, which is believed to be largely empty except for IS militants, has been encircled by Kurdish forces.

The extremists captured Mosul and surrounding areas in 2014, and have had plenty of time to dig trenches, block off roads and mine approaches to the city.

"Daesh dug trenches that they filled with water and they have a lot of suicide attackers and car bombs," said al-Timimi, using the Arabic acronym for the IS group.

The extremists meanwhile struck far from the front lines with a series of bombings.

The deadliest attack took place in the city of Samarra, 60 miles (95 kilometers) north of Baghdad, which is home to a major Shiite shrine. Provincial spokesman Ali al-Hamdani said the attacker set off a bombpacked ambulance in a parking lot near Shiite pilgrims before detonating his explosives vest.

The attack killed 11 people, including at least four Iranians, and wounded up to 100 other people. Another suicide attacker rammed an explosives-laden car into a busy checkpoint outside the city of Tikrit, killing at least nine people. Al-Hamdani said five female students, a woman and three policemen were killed in the attack, while 25 others were wounded.

IS had also captured Tikrit during its lightning blitz across Iraq in the summer of 2014. Iraqi forces drove the militants from the city, around 80 miles (130 kilometers) north of Baghdad, in April 2015.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman, Bahram Ghasemi, condemned the two attacks, which he said had killed 21 people, including 10 Iranian pilgrims, the semi-official Mehr news agency reported. It was not immediately possible to reconcile the conflicting tolls, which are common in the chaotic aftermath of attacks.

In an online statement, IS claimed all three bombings and said the ambulance bomb was set off by a second suicide attacker. The AP could not verify the authenticity of the statement, which was posted on a militant website commonly used by the extremists.

Associated Press writers Sinan Salaheddin in Baghdad, Cristiana Mesquita near Bashiqa, Iraq, Balint Szlanko near Hamam al-Alil, Iraq, and Maamoun Youssef in Cairo contributed to this report.

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#### How AP rates the presidential race and the Road to 270 By EMILY SWANSON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the final days of the 2016 campaign, Hillary Clinton holds advantages over Donald Trump in just enough states to win her the White House — if she can hold them on Election Day. But Clinton's national lead appears to have narrowed in the last two weeks, and Clinton's winning map appears more fragile than it once did.

The Associated Press this week moves New Hampshire from leaning Democratic to a toss-up, Arizona and Iowa from a toss-up to leaning Republican, Virginia from strong Democratic to leaning Democratic, and Texas from leaning Republican to strong Republican.

The analysis is of the map as it stands today. It considers preference polling, recent electoral history, demographic trends and campaign priorities such as advertising, travel and on-the-ground staff.

SOLID DEMOCRATIC: California, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington state (200 total electoral votes).

LEANS DEMOCRÀTIC: Colorado, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Virginia (74 total electoral votes).

TOŚS-UP: Florida, Maine 2nd District, Nebraska 2nd District, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Utah (74 total electoral votes).

LEANS REPUBLICAN: Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Iowa, Missouri (46 total electoral votes).

SOLID REPUBLICAN: Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia, Wyoming (144 total electoral votes).

Follow AP Polling Editor Emily Swanson on Twitter at: http://twitter.com/EL\_Swan

Want to chart your own path along the Road to 270? Figure out how Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton can get the Electoral College votes they'll need to win the White House with AP's interactive map: http://elections.ap.org/content/road-270-0

### Trump, Clinton take different strategies to shore up votes By LISA LERER and STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

PEMBROKE PINES, Fla. (AP) — Donald Trump is promising to take his campaign into traditional Democratic territory as a sign that he's not giving up on appealing to people outside the Republican Party. Hillary Clinton is focusing her efforts in the campaign's final days on energizing voters who usually support the Democratic nominee, but may need an extra boost.

To do that, Clinton is pressing her case with music and sports celebrities, a strategy Trump dismissed. "I just have me," he told supporters in North Carolina on Saturday, "but I have my family." With him was his wife, Melania, who rarely campaigns with her husband.

A brief scare Saturday night disrupted Trump's rally in Reno, Nevada, when Secret Service agents suddenly hustled the Republican nominee off the stage. The agency later said that someone near the stage had shouted "Gun!" but that a subsequent apprehension of a man and search revealed no weapon. Trump returned a few minutes later to resume his remarks and declared "We will never be stopped."

As if to prove that point, Trump scheduled rallies Sunday in Minnesota, which hasn't supported a Republican nominee since 1972, and Michigan, which hasn't since 1988. Polls show that unlikely to change this year, but Trump was including them in a single day of campaigning covering five states.

Clinton faced dark skies, intense rain and strong wind in Florida on Saturday before appearing in Pennsylvania with pop singer Katy Perry. The Democratic nominee was preparing to campaign Sunday with

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basketball superstar Lebron James, having shared the stage Friday night with music diva Beyoncé and hip hop mogul husband Jay Z.

"Tonight, I want to hear you roar," a smiling Clinton said before introducing Perry for a Saturday night performance in Philadelphia.

Perry, who hugged Clinton while wearing a purple cape bearing the words, "I'm with Madam President," shouted, "In three days, let's make history!"

The final-days scramble highlighted sharp differences between the campaigns in a turbulent 2016 campaign season.

Backed by President Barack Obama and her party's political elite, Clinton spent much of the last year fighting to unify Obama's coalition of minorities and younger voters, aided at times by Trump's deep unpopularity among women in both parties.

Trump has courted working-class white voters on the strength of his own celebrity, having scared off many would-be Republican allies during a campaign marred by extraordinary gaffes and self-created crises. Just four weeks ago, a video emerged in which a married Trump admitted to kissing women and grabbing their genitalia without their permission.

Clinton also faced extraordinary challenges of her own in recent days after the FBI confirmed plans to renew its focus on the former secretary of state's email practices. The development is seen as particularly threatening for Clinton in states like Michigan, Pennsylvania and New Hampshire that don't offer early voting.

At least 41 million Americans across 48 states have already cast ballots, according to an Associated Press analysis. That's significantly more votes four days before Election Day than voted early in the 2012.

House Speaker Paul Ryan campaigned Saturday alongside Trump's running mate, Mike Pence — a rare show of unity, but not with Trump himself.

The speaker encouraged Republicans to "come home" to support Trump in Ryan's home-state Wisconsin, ignoring for a day his icy relationship with the Republican nominee.

Peoples reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Jill Colvin in Wilmington, North Carolina, Kathleen Hennessey in Washington and David Eggert in Holland, Michigan, contributed to this report.

#### Trump pressing into Democratic territory in final days By LISA LERER and STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

PEMBROKE PINES, Fla. (AP) — Fighting as a party of one, Donald Trump vowed Saturday to press into Democratic strongholds over the campaign's final days as Hillary Clinton looked to an army of A-list celebrities and politicos to defend her narrowing path to the presidency.

The divisive Republican outsider conceded he was largely on his own — even as he promised to march into Minnesota, a state that hasn't backed a GOP presidential nominee in more than four decades.

"Hillary Clinton has all of these celebrities and failed politicians out campaigning for her," a defiant Trump said in North Carolina, one of four battleground states he was visiting on Saturday. "I just have me, but I have my family."

At a subsequent appearance in Nevada, a disturbance erupted near the podium in the middle of Trump's speech. Two agents rushed the Republican nominee off stage after someone yelled "Gun!", the Secret Service said in a statement. The person was apprehended but no weapon was found, the agency said. Trump returned minutes later and declared, "We will never be stopped."

Meanwhile, Democrat Clinton faced dark skies in Florida, fighting intense rain and wind in a key battleground state before a Pennsylvania appearance with pop singer Katy Perry. Clinton was preparing to campaign Sunday with basketball superstar Lebron James, having shared the stage the night before with music diva Beyoncé and hip hop mogul husband Jay Z.

"Tonight, I want to hear you roar," a smiling Clinton said before introducing Perry for a Saturday night performance in Philadelphia.

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Trump has frustrated party leaders in many ways, particularly by ignoring the hard work that fuels most successful modern-day campaigns.

The Republican outsider has done little to collect data on prospective supporters. He has no significant staffing presence on the ground in key states. And he has been unwilling to invest in a major advertising campaign to keep pace with his Democratic rival.

Clinton's campaign has spent more than \$267 million in television advertising through Election Day. Trump, who claims a net worth of roughly \$10 billion, has invested \$93 million, according to data collected by Kantar Media.

His entire campaign strategy has hinged on an aggressive schedule packed with massive rallies. The path of his luxury campaign jet has been fueled by somewhat risky ambition at times, however.

Rather than hunkering down in must-win Florida this weekend, Trump flew Saturday to Democraticleaning territory: Wilmington, North Carolina, then Reno, Nevada, and Denver. And as defiant as ever, he promised to make subsequent appearances in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Minnesota.

Minnesota hasn't cast its electoral votes for a Republican since 1972. A Republican nominee hasn't won Michigan or Pennsylvania since 1988.

"We're going into what they used to call Democrat strongholds, where we're now either tied or leading," he said in Florida.

Clinton, meanwhile, announced plans to devote valuable attention to Michigan, another unlikely battleground where both she and President Obama planned to campaign on Monday.

"I know Hillary all of a sudden, she's making all of these trips, she's going all over the place. She was supposed to be home sleeping. This is not good for her," Trump told a crowd at his final rally Saturday night in Denver.

He said Clinton's campaign must be "worried" as she plans trips to states like Michigan.

"See, Michigan was never really in play for a Republican, but you know what? It's in play for us," he said. "It's in play now."

Trump may not have Clinton's celebrity help, but he has relied on his family for public support at times. On Saturday, he made a rare campaign stop with his wife, Melania Trump, whose appearance came as The Associated Press revealed more details about her early employment in the U.S.

The AP found that Melania Trump was paid for modeling jobs in the United States worth \$20,056 that occurred in the seven weeks before she had legal permission to work in the country, according to detailed

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accounting ledgers, contracts and related documents from 20 years ago.

While showering his wife with affection, Trump also boasted Saturday that he doesn't need stars to fill his venues.

"We do it the old-fashioned way," Trump said.

Peoples reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Jill Colvin in Reno, Nevada, Kathleen Hennessey in Washington and David Eggert in Holland, Michigan, contributed to this report.

#### 2 former aides of Park arrested as S. Korea scandal widens By TONG-HYUNG KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korean prosecutors on Sunday formally arrested two former presidential aides as they bring their investigation over a bizarre political scandal that has engulfed the nation a step closer to President Park Geun-hye.

Park has issued consecutive apologies following suspicion that she allowed her longtime friend and daughter of a late cult leader to manipulate power from the shadows. But the apologies did little to assuage simmering public anger, which culminated in the largest anti-government rally in the capital in nearly a year on Saturday when tens of thousands of people demanded that Park step down.

The Seoul Central District Court granted prosecutors' request for the arrest of Ahn Jong-beom, Park's former senior secretary for policy coordination who is suspected of pressuring companies into making large donations to nonprofit organizations controlled by Park's friend, court spokesman Shin Jae-hwan said.

The court also issued an arrest warrant for Jung Ho-sung, another former presidential aide accused of passing on classified presidential documents to Choi Soon-sil, whose close relationship with Park triggered the scandal.

Prosecutors on Sunday also summoned for questioning Woo Byung-woo, former senior presidential secretary for civil affairs who has been blamed for failing to prevent Choi from influencing state affairs and is embroiled in separate corruption allegations surrounding his family.

Park has admitted that she sent drafts of her speeches to Choi for editing. However, she avoided more damning allegations raised by the media that Choi perhaps meddled in important government decisions on policy and personnel. Choi was arrested earlier in the week on charges of abuse of authority and attempted fraud.

Tens of thousands of people rallied in Seoul on Saturday calling for the resignation of Park. But opposition parties, demanding that Park to step away from domestic affairs and transfer the duties to a prime minister picked by the parliament, have yet to make a serious push for Park's resignation or impeachment over concerns of negatively impacting next year's presidential race.

Holding banners, candles and colorful signs that read "Park Geun-hye out" and "Treason by a secret government," a sea of demonstrators filled a large square in front of an old palace gate and nearby streets, singing and thunderously applauding speeches calling for the ouster of the increasingly unpopular conservative president.

They shifted into a slow march in streets around City Hall, shouting "Arrest Park Geun-hye," "'Step down, criminal" and "We can't take this any longer," before moving back to the square and cheering on more speeches that continued into the night.

"Park should squarely face the prosecution's investigation and step down herself. If she doesn't, politicians should move to impeach her," said Kim Seo-yeon, one of the many college students who participated in the protest. "She absolutely lost all authority as president over the past few weeks."

Choi Kyung-ha, a mother of three, said her children asked her who Choi was "and whether she's the real president, and I couldn't provide an answer."

Police estimated the crowd at 45,000, although protest organizers said about 200,000 people turned out. Park has tried to stabilize the situation by firing eight aides and nominating three new top Cabinet officials, including the prime minister, but opposition parties have described her personnel reshuffles as a

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diversionary tactic.

One national poll released Friday had Park's approval rating at 5 percent, the lowest for any president in South Korea since the country achieved democracy in the late 1980s following decades of military dictatorship.

Opposition parties, sensing weakness, immediately threatened to push for her ouster if she doesn't distance herself from domestic affairs and transfer the duties to a prime minister chosen by parliament. The parties have also called for a separate investigation into the scandal led by a special prosecutor.

Park has 15 months left in her term. If she resigns, an election must be held within 60 days.

#### Senate control in question as candidates make final pitches By ERICA WERNER, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Control of the Senate hung in the balance as candidates from Nevada to New Hampshire made their closing pitches to voters Saturday after a tough and costly campaign. Republicans feared their slim 54-46 majority could slip away as they battled cross-currents from all sides, not least their unconventional presidential nominee, Donald Trump.

The GOP Senate candidates in Pennsylvania and Nevada, Sen. Pat Toomey and Rep. Joe Heck, left voters guessing to the end on whether they were voting for Trump. Both refused to say, in Heck's case after initially backing Trump, then un-endorsing him last month after tape surfaced in which Trump boasts he can get away with groping women.

In New Hampshire, incumbent GOP Sen. Kelly Ayotte was neck-in-neck with Democratic challenger Gov. Maggie Hassan. Ayotte faced voter anger at home after her own un-endorsement of Trump.

"I would like to see her support her nominee," Daniel Peltier, 21, of Littleton, New Hampshire, said as he finished up breakfast at The Coffee Pot restaurant where Ayotte was campaigning Saturday morning.

Halfway through a statewide tour with 50 stops in five days, Ayotte told diners: "I will kick butt, but I need your vote."

Overall, Republicans faced a challenging Senate map, defending 24 seats compared with 10 for the Democrats. Democrats need to pick up five seats to take the majority, or four if Hillary Clinton wins the White House and could send her vice president to break ties in a 50-50 Senate.

Democrats seemed likely to defeat GOP incumbents in Illinois and probably Wisconsin. Republican senators in Florida, Arizona and Ohio appeared to have comfortable leads.

But a half dozen states could go either way Tuesday: Nevada, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Missouri, North Carolina and Indiana.

In Pennsylvania, Toomey sprinted across Philadelphia's critical suburbs, attending at least six different events.

Speaking to about 80 party faithful at a Veterans of Foreign Wars post in West Chester, Toomey criticized Democrat Katie McGinty as a would-be collaborator on a tax and regulatory policy "that is absolutely devastating our whole economy."

But Toomey is running a very different message on TV, where ads showing primarily in the Philadelphia area feature praise from President Barack Obama over Toomey's work on gun issues.

That led to a stinging rebuke from the president Saturday. "Pat Toomey won't tell Pennsylvania voters where he stands on Donald Trump, trying instead to have it both ways by telling different people what he thinks they want to hear," Obama said in a statement.

Democrats accused Ayotte of similar mixed messages as she sought to appeal to potential ticket-splitting voters in New Hampshire. Ayotte produced an online ad with images of Chelsea Clinton as the Democratic nominee's daughter campaigned at local colleges.

Hundreds of millions of dollars were being spent by both sides, through the official party committees and super-PACs aligned with the Senate leaders, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.

Reid's retirement after five terms created a vacancy in Nevada that is the one Democratic-held seat being seriously contested by the GOP. Heck faced former Nevada Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto,
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who would be the first Latina U.S. senator and hoped to benefit from Latino voters' suspicion of Trump and a hefty get-out-the-vote effort by Nevada unions.

Cortez Masto stopped by a Mexican grocery store late Friday where some people waited hours to cast their votes on the final day of early voting and where elections officials extended the cutoff two hours to accommodate crowds. Nevada Republicans planned a massive weekend get-out-the-vote push to try to counteract Democrats' strong performance in early voting, but Heck himself was making fewer appearances than Cortez Masto after struggling to explain his stances on Trump.

In North Carolina, Missouri, Indiana, Florida and Wisconsin, Republican incumbents were supporting Trump, though with varying degrees of enthusiasm. And GOP operatives complained that unlike a normal election year, when the top of the ticket would be working as a team with down-ballot candidates, that level of cooperation was absent on the Republican side even as Democratic candidates were benefiting from strong support from the Clinton campaign.

Two GOP incumbents who arguably should be safe in Republican-friendly states were in extremely tight races: Sens. Roy Blunt in Missouri and Richard Burr in North Carolina. Blunt faced an energetic young Democrat, Secretary of State Jason Kander, who was capitalizing on voters' outsider mood to tag Blunt as a Washington insider, a message he tried to pound home on a bus tour in the final weekend of the campaign. Blunt responded with new messaging criticizing the "Clinton-Kander" agenda.

In North Carolina, in keeping with a laid-back style that's given national GOP operatives fits, Burr was traveling on his own for much of the day without his campaign staff in tow, with plans to attend a fish fry in Catawba County in late afternoon. His opponent, Democrat Deborah Ross, spent part of Saturday encouraging voters on the final day of early voting.

Associated Press writers Marc Levy in West Chester, Pennsylvania, Michelle Rindels in Las Vegas, Holly Ramer in Littleton, New Hampshire, and Gary Robertson in Raleigh, North Carolina, contributed to this report.

### Human shields, barricades slow Iraqi advance into Mosul By SUSANNAH GEORGE and QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA, Associated Press

MOSUL, Iraq (AP) — Islamic State fighters launched counterattacks Saturday against Iraqi special forces in eastern Mosul, emerging from populated areas deeper in the city to target the troops with mortars and suicide car bombs in clashes that raged late into the night.

Artillery shelling thundered across the city as snipers traded fire from rooftops and civilians emerged from the front lines waving white flags. There were fresh indications that other residents were being held back by the militants to be used as human shields.

The seesawing battle highlights the challenges ahead for Iraqi forces as they press into more densely populated neighborhoods of the country's second largest city, where they will not be able to rely as much on airstrikes because of the risk of killing civilians.

"Daesh is in the city center and we must be very careful as our forces advance," said Maj. Gen. Sami al-Aridi of the Iraqi special forces, using the Arabic acronym for IS.

The special forces entered the Gogjali district, on the eastern edge of Mosul, on Tuesday, marking their first major foray into the city itself after more than two weeks of fighting in its rural outskirts.

IS fought back Saturday, pushing the special forces from the southern edge of the neighborhood. Both sides fired mortar rounds and automatic weapons, while the Iraqi troops also responded with artillery. Snipers dueled from rooftops in residential areas, where most buildings are just two stories high.

Dozens of civilians emerged from their homes over the course of the day, some carrying white flags. Many civilians traveling with children and elderly relatives said they had to walk more than 6 miles (10 kilometers) to reach a camp for the displaced.

Just a few kilometers (miles) from the clashes, Iraqi officers coordinating airstrikes with the U.S.-led coalition watched live drone footage showing a team of IS fighters regrouping near the front line.

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"They're moving in front of the mosque," an Iraqi soldier said as he called in an airstrike, which moments later flattened a small building. Civilians moved into the area soon thereafter, and the soldiers said the militants appeared to have corralled them there to prevent further strikes.

"Daesh have continued to hide behind civilians and facilitate harm to them," said Col. John Dorrian, a spokesman for the U.S.-led coalition, which has been launching airstrikes to aid the Iraqi advance.

He said Iraqi forces and the coalition "developed a plan that is intended to reduce the possibility of civilian casualties and collateral damage."

But Iraqi Cpt. Naqib Jaff, who was covered in dust after helping to hold positions east of Mosul overnight, said the air support "hasn't been enough" and that the coalition was only striking suicide car bombs.

He said that in previous operations against IS-held towns and cities, civilians would be moved away from the front lines, allowing forces to advance. But he said in Mosul, his men have been ordered to keep families inside their homes.

"We've never been in such a situation before. We would be fighting and there would be a family right next to us," he said.

The government has ordered residents to stay inside, fearing a mass exodus from the city, which is still home to more than 1 million people.

The advance of the Iraqi forces was also slowed by fortifications erected by the extremists in the more than two years since they captured the city. Trenches and berms have turned the streets and alleyways of a neighborhood once named after former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein into a maze.

Satellite images show rows of concrete barricades, earthen mounds and rubble blocking key routes into the city center. The images, taken Monday by Stratfor, a U.S.-based private intelligence firm, showed that IS fighters have cleared terrain and leveled buildings around Mosul airport and a nearby former military base on the west bank of the Tigris.

Mosul is the last major IS stronghold in Iraq, and driving the militants out would deal a major blow to their self-styled caliphate stretching into neighboring Syria.

Iraqi forces have made uneven progress since the operation to retake Mosul began on Oct. 17. The territory they have retaken inside Mosul is just a small fraction of the city, which measures more than 9 miles (15 kilometers) across.

On Saturday, Iraqi forces advanced toward the town of Hamam al-Alil, which lies along the Tigris River about 9 miles (15 kilometers) from the southern edge of Mosul. Kurdish television channel Rudaw broadcast live footage of Iraqi troops and armored vehicles amassing outside the town as an attack helicopter fired rockets.

Up to 1,600 civilians may have been loaded onto trucks and forcibly relocated from Hamam al-Alil to the IS-held town of Tal Afar earlier this week, the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights said Friday. It warned that the captive civilians might be taken as far as Syria to be used as human shields. Another 150 families from Hamam al-Alil were moved to Mosul itself, the U.N. said.

Other civilians have embarked on their own harrowing journeys to escape the fighting.

Ghanim Abd fled his home in Gogjali when Iraqi forces entered on Tuesday and found shelter in an abandoned home deeper inside Mosul. The 56-year-old said he and his children and grandchildren made their way down alleys they feared were littered with roadside bombs after the family ran out of food.

On Saturday, after government forces pushed further into the city, they were able to return home, but he said there was no telling how long they would be able to stay.

"The battle is so harsh, we don't know where to go next."

Associated Press writers Adam Schreck in Irbil, Iraq, Balint Szlanko at Qayara Air Base, Iraq, and Brian Rohan in Baghdad contributed to this report.

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### Hurricane Matthew brought town's demise, needs a 'miracle' By SEANNA ADCOX, Associated Press

NICHOLS, S.C. (AP) — Nearly a month since floodwaters consumed this Mayberry-like hamlet in rural South Carolina, few have returned. The fear is that many never will.

Nichols wasn't directly hit by Hurricane Matthew, but its location 50 miles inland from Myrtle Beach, between two converging rivers caused it to fill up like a bathtub after 18 inches of rain fell.

A stew of water, fuel, fertilizer and sewage settled in homes for over a week. As the water receded, toxic black mold grew rampant, leaving nearly all of the town's 261 homes uninhabitable. Brown lines, which start mid-way up once-white doors and get increasingly darker closer to the floor, show how the receding water "got nastier and nastier," said the Rev. Eddie Collier, pastor of Nichols' Methodist church.

He knew he was in trouble when he woke up in bed about 3:15 a.m. Oct. 10, and his hand hit water. His wife's cellphone had just enough power to make one call, and they were rescued by boat several hours later.

While waiting for help, he opened a window.

"But the odor was horrific," Collier said. "I actually closed the window back."

His is among homes already gutted to the studs, thanks to the help of church volunteers and Ameri-Corps members. Many more need to be gutted. Collier said he's encouraging parishioners and neighbors to come back to clean out. The longer they wait, the more unsalvageable their homes will be, he said.

He saw one set of neighbors briefly: "They threw up their hands and left. I haven't seen them since." Most of the people in town recently were there only for the cleanup process. Lifetimes' worth of belongings was piled high along the streets. On some, the stench of molded furniture, wood and carpeting mixed with rotting food in garbage bags, waiting to be hauled off.

Looking at a yard full of trashed belongings, Bill Gleason got choked up as he motioned to family photos. "I'm fine except when I talk about the pictures," he said.

He and his wife, who recently got a job with a propane gas company in Nichols, moved in two weeks before 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> feet of contaminated water consumed their home. "I just sunk pretty much everything I had into renovating this place." They're not coming back.

Nothing's been done at James Jones' home. The 69-year-old Vietnam veteran said he can't even walk inside due to his respiratory issues. He tried to get help through Veterans Affairs, he said, but was told he doesn't qualify for homeless assistance, since he owns a home.

"We're in bad shape," he said. He and his wife left the shelter last Thursday to live with a nephew.

Few residents, if any, had flood insurance. And the Federal Emergency Management Agency is offering pittance.

Mayor Lawson Battle said he worries about "the citizens who couldn't make ends meet before this happened."

Most of the town's 400 residents are retired or disabled, and they can't afford to take out the low-interest loans FEMA offers, he said.

"These people are not getting the resources they need to even get back to town," he said, noting 300 vehicles were also ruined. "It's going to take a huge miracle to fix Nichols."

The town's six churches and all 22 businesses were flooded. Glass fronts along Main Street smashed from the pressure; 5 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> feet inundated the pharmacy, washing residents' prescriptions into the watery mix. By last Friday, only a seed-cleaning business and auto mechanic shop had reopened.

"We're trying to salvage and get help to the farmers," said Nichols Farm Supply owner Jimmy Devers, 66, whose ancestor founded the town. He and his wife are living in their home's second floor: "I was lucky because it didn't get the whole house."

Devers said the gas station he partially owns will re-open, but he's unlikely to re-open the laundromat, which was "struggling anyway."

Two weeks after the flood, the town's family doctor re-opened elsewhere in Marion County. With 4,000 area patients, Dr. James Carroll said, he had no choice.

"I don't know what's going to happen to Nichols — where they're going to get the money from," said

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Carroll, who hasn't decided whether to rebuild his home along the Little Pee Dee River. "I love the town loved practicing there — but it forced me to do something fast."

Hazel Lee, a 63-year-old school cafeteria manager, thought she was nearing retirement.

"I can't now because it's like starting all over again," she said. "I had to throw away everything."

Standing outside the shell of her home of 40 years, she pointed to a refrigerator that floated into her yard from a neighbor's and a walk-in freezer that floated half a mile from a grocery store. Staying with family, she and her 72-year-old husband hope to eventually move back.

"It'll be like a ghost town," she said. "If I could afford it, I would relocate myself."

### Amid political furor, ever-growing rumors permeate S. Korea By KIM TONG-HYUNG and TIM SULLIVAN, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — She was the secret power behind the South Korean throne, the first allegations said, a mysterious woman whose influence reached deep into the presidential mansion and guided many of the president's public relations efforts.

She is Choi Soon-sil, the daughter of a cult leader and a longtime friend to President Park Geun-hye. And so far, about the only thing that South Korea knows for sure is that Choi edited some of the president's speeches.

But as the political furor has grown, the rumors — widely reported here, widely believed and repeated regularly by the political opposition — have grown as well, permeating almost every corner of South Korean society.

By Friday, Choi had been accused of everything from swaying the careers of pop singers to helping craft North Korea policy to influencing Seoul's multi-billion-dollar purchase of American F-35 fighter jets. With rumors flying, a string of celebrities, from the rapper PSY to a former Miss Korea, have issued statements denying links to Choi's family or distancing themselves from the scandal.

Such allegations may seem ridiculous, but the gladitorial combat of South Korean politics — and the country's long traditions of official corruption and influence-peddling — have bred a deep public cynicism. This is a country, after all, where one former president was ordered to repay more than \$200 million he had taken in bribes, and another killed himself in 2009 amid a bribery investigation by throwing himself off a cliff.

"We virtually had two presidents handling state affairs," Choo Miae, a leader of the Minjoo Party, the largest party in the opposition, said last week after allegations began to spill out. "Park Geun-hye was the president during the day, and Choi Soon-sil was the president at night."

It is unlikely that Choi really had that much power, an octopus with tentacles that steered everything from weaponry purchases to celebrity careers. But there are plenty of signs that she did more than edit a few speeches and handle some public relations issues, as the president has acknowledged.

Choi was formally arrested a few days ago, with prosecutors saying they are investigating accusations that she and a former presidential aide pressured prominent Korean companies to give \$70 million to two foundations that she controlled.

In addition, a former senior official of the foundations reportedly told a prominent South Korean newspaper that a presidential aide would regularly give Choi thick stacks of draft government documents on a variety of policy topics. Choi would read the documents with a group of colleagues, then send back assessments for the president.

"We would write a report based on Choi's orders and we would later receive official Blue House documents that looked exactly like how we wrote them, not a word different," the official, Lee Seong-han, told the Hankyoreh newspaper.

South Korea's presidential mansion is commonly known as the Blue House.

With her popularity ratings among the lowest in South Korean history, Park has tried to stabilize the situation by firing eight aides and nominating three new top Cabinet officials, including the prime minister.

But Park's opponents smell blood. Already weakened by the country's less-than-stellar economy and her

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aloof style of governing, they are unlikely to back down anytime soon.

While her opponents are not expected to try to force her to step down — the opposition is not ready yet for elections, and constitutional term limits mean she has only 15 months left in office — they could leave her badly weakened politically.

On Friday, Park issued a remarkably abject apology in a televised speech, expressing shame over the way her friendship with Choi had spilled into the government.

She also reminded South Korea of the sacrifices she has endured. Her father, dictator Park Chung-hee, was killed by his own spy chief in 1979. Five years earlier, her mother had been killed during an assassination attempt on her father's life. Single and estranged from her siblings, Park said Friday that the loneliness of power had pushed her to spend more time with Choi.

"Living alone, it was difficult to find people who could help me with the personal things I needed to get done, so I began receiving help from Choi Soon-sil with whom I had a long relationship," she said.

One speech, though, will not end this kind of turmoil.

Tens of thousands of South Koreans are expected to rally Saturday against the president.

Sullivan reported from New Delhi.

This story has been corrected to show Park has 15 months left in office.

### 2 New York police sergeants shot, 1 killed; suspect dead By JAKE PEARSON and JENNIFER PELTZ, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A police sergeant was shot and killed and a second one was wounded Friday in a gunfight on a street with an armed man who had broken into his estranged wife's home, officials said.

The gunman also was killed in the exchange of shots that took the life of Sgt. Paul Tuozzolo, a 19-year veteran of the New York Police Department and the father of two young children.

"The city is in mourning, and the family of the NYPD is in mourning," Mayor Bill de Blasio said at a news conference held at a Bronx hospital.

The mayor, a Democrat, called Tuozzolo "a very good man, a devoted man, a man who committed his life to protecting all of us."

The other wounded sergeant, Emmanuel Kwo, was undergoing treatment for a gunshot wound to the leg, officials said.

The violent encounter began to unfold at 2:45 p.m., when a woman called police and said a Long Island man, Manuel Rosales, had forced his way into an apartment where his estranged wife and their 3-year-old son were staying. Rosales stayed for hours before fleeing, police said.

Patrol officers spotted his car just a few minutes later about a half-mile away. Several officers converged on the vehicle. As they approached, Rosales opened fire with a .45-caliber semi-automatic pistol, police said. Tuozzolo was shot at close quarters, police Commissioner James O'Neill said.

"There's nothing worse than a day like today," O'Neill said.

News helicopter footage of the scene showed the red SUV that Rosales had been driving mounted on a sidewalk, pinned between a flatbed truck and a police vehicle.

Area resident Gary Mayo, a city worker, was home on a day off when he heard five or six booms. "That doesn't sound like firecrackers," he said he thought.

From the terrace of his fourth-floor apartment he saw a swarm of police cars converging on a nearby street and could tell whatever happened was "something really big," he said.

Rosales, 35, had a history of 17 arrests, some related to domestic disputes, and had served time in state prison for possession of stolen property.

A court issued an order in January 2015 telling him to stay away from his wife. In July, he was arrested in Bay Shore and was accused of violating that order by grabbing her hair and yanking her head back and forth.

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He was scheduled to appear in court on Long Island on Nov. 16 on a charge of violating a protective order. A lawyer who previously represented Rosales said he wasn't violent but declined to comment further. Tuozzolo is the fifth New York Police Department officer to be fatally shot in the line of duty in the last two years.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo, a Democrat, said in a statement that Tuozzolo had "made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty."

Nassau County Police Benevolent Association president James Carver issued a statement Friday night saying "It is a sad day for law enforcement."

He said Tuozzolo was a Long Island resident and that the PBA would do whatever it could to support his family and that of Kwo.

### **Melania Trump modeled in US prior to getting work visa** By ALICIA A. CALDWELL, CHAD DAY and JAKE PEARSON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Melania Trump was paid for 10 modeling jobs in the United States worth \$20,056 that occurred in the seven weeks before she had legal permission to work in the country, according to detailed accounting ledgers, contracts and related documents from 20 years ago provided to The Associated Press.

The details of Mrs. Trump's early paid modeling work in the U.S. emerged in the final days of a bitter presidential campaign in which her husband, Donald Trump, has taken a hard line on immigration laws and those who violate them. Trump has proposed broader use of the government's E-verify system allowing employers to check whether job applicants are authorized to work. He has noted that federal law prohibits illegally paying immigrants.

Mrs. Trump, who received a green card in March 2001 and became a U.S. citizen in 2006, has always maintained that she arrived in the country legally and never violated the terms of her immigration status. During the presidential campaign, she has cited her story to defend her husband's hard line on immigration.

The wife of the GOP presidential nominee, who sometimes worked as a model under just her first name, has said through an attorney that she first came to the U.S. from Slovenia on Aug. 27, 1996, on a B1/B2 visitor visa and then obtained an H-1B work visa on Oct. 18, 1996.

The documents obtained by the AP show she was paid for 10 modeling assignments between Sept. 10 and Oct. 15, during a time when her visa allowed her generally to be in the U.S. and look for work but not perform paid work in the country. The documents examined by the AP indicate that the modeling assignments would have been outside the bounds of her visa.

It is highly unlikely that the discovery will affect the citizenship status of Mrs. Trump. The government can seek to revoke the U.S. citizenship of immigrants after the fact in cases when it determines a person willfully misrepresented or concealed facts relevant to his naturalization. But the government effectively does this in only the most egregious cases, such as instances involving terrorism or war crimes.

The disclosures about the payments come as Mrs. Trump takes on a more substantial role advocating for her husband's candidacy. She made her first speech in months Thursday, in which she spoke of her time working as a model in Europe and her decision to come to the U.S.

"As a young entrepreneur, I wanted to follow my dream to a place where freedom and opportunity were in abundance. So of course, I came here," she said. "Living and working in America was a true blessing, but I wanted something more. I wanted to be an American."

The documents obtained by the AP included ledgers, other accounting documents and a management agreement signed by Mrs. Trump from Metropolitan International Management that covered parts of 1996 and 1997. The AP obtained the files this week after seeking copies since August from employees of the now-defunct modeling firm, after Mrs. Trump made comments earlier this summer that appeared inconsistent with U.S. immigration rules.

A New York immigration lawyer whom Mrs. Trump asked to review her immigration documents, Michael J. Wildes, also reviewed some of the ledgers at AP's request. Wildes said in a brief statement that "these

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documents, which have not been verified, do not reflect our records including corresponding passport stamps." He did not elaborate or answer additional questions asking for clarification. Wilde appeared to be referring to Mrs. Trump's arrival in the United States on Aug. 27, 1996, one day after the ledgers list a charge for car service to pick up Mrs. Trump from the airport. Trump campaign spokeswoman Hope Hicks also did not answer additional written questions from the AP.

Since questions arose earlier this year, Mrs. Trump has declined to publicly release her immigration records. Wildes, the immigration lawyer, released a letter in September that laid out the details of what he said Mrs. Trump's immigration records show, including a seven-week window in which Mrs. Trump was in the U.S. before her work visa was issued.

During that seven-week period, the ledgers list modeling work for clients that included Fitness magazine and Bergdorf Goodman department store. The management agreement, which said it was not an employment agreement, included a handwritten date of Aug. 27, 1996. The top of the document said it was "made and entered into as of this 4th day of September 1996."

Many of the documents were part of a legal dispute related to the dissolution of the firm in the late 1990s and found recently in storage. The accounting ledgers for the firm's models were listed on hundreds of pages of continuously fed paper that appeared yellowed with age. They were authenticated by a former employee who worked at the firm at the time. The employee spoke on condition of anonymity because this person feared retaliation and threats from Trump's presidential campaign.

Exhibit markings with the records were also consistent with documents filed in New York state court, including a deposition of one former partner that referred to the same exhibit number. The sworn testimony describing the exhibit's content matches the documents obtained by the AP.

A former partner, Paolo Zampolli, who previously told the AP that he recruited Mrs. Trump to come to the U.S. as a model, confirmed that the contract language was used by his firm and his signature appeared on the document. Mrs. Trump's signature on the contract resembled her signature on her marriage license recorded in 2005. Asked about the two dates on the document, Zampolli said he usually vacationed in Europe each August and likely arranged for the contract to be formally executed when he returned to New York after Labor Day, even though Mrs. Trump had signed it eight days earlier.

Zampolli previously told the AP that Mrs. Trump obtained a work visa before she modeled professionally in the United States. He said the ledgers for Mrs. Trump were consistent with printouts used by his firm at the time, but he would not personally vouch for them because he said money matters were handled by the company's chief financial officer, who has since died.

Zampolli said he did not recall Mrs. Trump working without legal permission. "Honestly, I don't know. It's like 20 years ago," he said. "The contract looks (like) a real one and the standard one."

Foreigners are not allowed to use a visitor visa to work for pay in the U.S. for American companies. Doing so would violate the terms of that visa and could prohibit a foreigner from later changing his or her immigration status in the U.S. or bar the foreigner from the United States again without special permission to come back. The E-verify system started in 1997— after Mrs. Trump came to the country— and was dramatically expanded after 2007.

Some ledgers obtained by the AP identify Mrs. Trump by her professional name and detail her involvement with the modeling agency from July 18, 1996, through Sept. 26, 1997. Other documents from the same accounting ledgers identify Mrs. Trump as Melanija Knaus and list \$20,526 in gross earnings for the period before she was granted her work visa on Oct. 18, 1996. The documents also show the modeling company paid for her rent, lent her money and paid for her pager.

Some ledgers were first made available to True.Ink, an online lifestyle publication, and then independently obtained and verified by the AP.

Metropolitan International Management managed the careers of about 65 women in 1996 and 1997, according to court records. It paid the women as independent contractors, collecting a 20 percent commission and deducting expenses. The ledger shows that the firm also deducted federal taxes from the models' gross earnings, including Mrs. Trump's.

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Pearson reported from New York.

### Democrats across nation sue GOP alleging voter intimidation By JOSH CORNFIELD and DAVID PORTER, Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Lawyers for Democrats around the country are filing lawsuits claiming Republicans and the campaign of GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump are pushing supporters to intimidate and confront voters on Election Day.

Trump has called on his supporters to act as "election observers" in certain areas of the country to help prevent fraud.

In Ohio, a federal judge on Friday issued a temporary restraining order against Trump's campaign and his friend and informal adviser, Roger Stone, barring them from harassing or intimidating Ohio voters during Tuesday's election. Friday evening, a federal judge in Arizona denied a similar injunction request.

Attorneys representing the Democratic Party argued Friday in New Jersey court that the GOP was coordinating with Trump to intimidate voters, accusations that the Republican Party says are not true in that state or in five other states where Democrats are waging similar battles.

Here's a look at the cases being heard around the country:

#### **NEW JERSEY**

The case is different than the ones filed in the states as it relates to a consent decree in place since 1982 regulating what the Republican National Committee can do when it comes to issues of ballot security.

The consent decree was created after Democrats alleged that the RNC helped intimidate black voters during New Jersey's 1981 gubernatorial election. The RNC and New Jersey's Republican Party allegedly had off-duty law enforcement officers stand at polling places in urban areas wearing "National Ballot Security Task Force" armbands. Some had guns visible.

The RNC admitted no wrongdoing but agreed to the decree to settle the case. The decree only regulates work done by the RNC and is scheduled to end next year. The Democratic National Committee wants it extended another eight years, but needs to convince a judge that the RNC has violated the 34-year-old rules.

Joshua Kaul, an attorney representing the Democratic National Committee, told the judge in Newark, New Jersey, on Friday that Trump has "repeatedly encouraged his supporters to engage in vigilante efforts" in the guise of ferreting out potential voter fraud. Kaul said the RNC is participating.

Bobby Burchfield, an attorney for Republicans, told the judge that party volunteers are engaging in normal poll-watching and that Democrats haven't found one instance in which someone was intimidated or prevented from voting.

Judge John Michael Vazquez did not immediately rule.

#### OHIO

A federal judge said Friday in issuing a temporary restraining order against Trump's campaign and his friend Roger Stone that anyone who engaged in intimidation or harassment inside or near Ohio polling places would face contempt of court charges.

U.S. District Judge James Gwin in Cleveland said charges would be filed regardless of political alliance. The judge's written order blocks activities from both campaigns that include unauthorized poll watching, the admonishing or questioning of voters, and taking photos or recording voters inside or near polling places.

The Ohio Democratic Party had claimed in its lawsuit that the Ohio GOP, the Trump campaign, Stone and Stone's political action committee Stop the Steal were conspiring to suppress minorities in urban areas from casting ballots on Tuesday. The lawsuit cited comments made by Trump and his surrogates about voter fraud and efforts by Democrats to steal the election.

Gwin dismissed the Ohio Republican Party as a defendant in the case.

David Pepper, chairman of the Ohio Democratic Party, said the judge's decision was "a big win for Ohio

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voters."

#### MICHIGAN

The Michigan Democratic Party on Friday filed a lawsuit Friday asking a judge to order the state Republican Party not to intimidate voters on Election Day.

Democrats sued in Detroit federal court, seeking an injunction against Republicans, Donald Trump's presidential campaign and GOP allies. The court filing listed no specific allegations in Michigan.

Republican spokeswoman Sarah Anderson said the lawsuit is "insulting and shameful." She called it a "desperate act" by supporters of Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton.

#### NEVADA

A federal judge in Las Vegas said Friday he'll hold a hearing Monday before deciding whether to restrict Election Day exit polling in Nevada by Republican political operative Roger Stone's group, "Stop the Steal."

Attorney Paul Jensen, representing Stone, said he needed time to prepare because he only recently got legal notice about a lawsuit alleging that Stone is encouraging what Nevada Democrats call "vigilante voter intimidation" by exit-pollers.

U.S. District Judge Richard Boulware said he's also keeping time open for a Tuesday hearing, in case allegations of voter intimidation come up during morning voting.

The judge made official his findings following hearings Wednesday and Thursday that the Nevada Republican Party and the Donald Trump campaign aren't working together and the campaign isn't training people to intimidate voters in Nevada.

The decision not to issue a restraining order regarding poll-watchers came after Nevada's top Trump election day official testified Thursday that he went back and notified everyone he's trained as poll observers about state laws they have to follow if they challenge a voter's eligibility.

#### ARIZONA

A federal judge in Phoenix on Friday refused to issue an injunction sought by Democrats that would have ordered Republicans not to engage in illegal voter intimidation tactics at the polls next week.

U.S. District Judge John Tuchi's ruling said the state Democratic Party hadn't shown evidence that the Republicans were conspiring to conduct illegal voter intimidation. He said he's willing to revisit the issue if evidence of voter intimidation appears.

The suit named the Arizona Republican Party, Trump's presidential campaign, a Republican political operative and his group. The Democrats alleged that Trump supporter Roger Stone and his group "Stop the Steal" planned to harass Arizona voters, mainly in minority communities. They said Trump has encouraged the activity and the state GOP has gone along.

All denied the accusations. Arizona Republican Party Chairman Robert Graham testified at a hearing Thursday that the party specifically trains its poll watchers not to harass or intimidate voters. Stone's attorney said he's engaging in protected free speech.

#### PENNSYLVANIA

A judge has scheduled arguments in Pennsylvania on Monday.

Cornfield reported from Trenton, New Jersey. Associated Press writers Mark Gillespie in Cleveland, Bob Christie in Phoenix and Ken Ritter in Las Vegas contributed to this story.

### Clinton's campaign taps star power as Trump goes it alone By LISA LERER and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

CLEVELAND (AP) — Hillary Clinton dispatched musical and political celebrities across battleground states Friday to try to energize Democrats in what's become an increasingly competitive race. Donald Trump, meanwhile, defended his go-it-alone approach.

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The Democratic presidential nominee wrapped up a day of campaign stops at a packed, star-studded concert in Cleveland. Standing alongside singer Beyonce and her husband, rapper Jay Z, on a brightly lit stage at the Wolstein Center, Clinton lavished praise on the celebrity couple and asked thousands of cheering fans their votes.

"Please take this energy out with you," she said, rattling off the address of an early voting location. "Help us win Ohio."

Trump bragged that he didn't need stars to draw thousands to his events.

"I didn't have to bring J-Lo or Jay Z," he told a crowded rally Friday night in Hershey, Pennsylvania. "I am here all by myself. Just me. No guitar, no piano, no nothing."

Trump, whose controversial campaign has divided the Republican Party, has appeared with a ragtag group of supporters including former Indiana University basketball coach Bobby Knight. An event with New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie scheduled for Saturday was canceled after two of his top aides were found guilty Friday on all counts for their roles in the George Washington Bridge lane closure scandal.

Trump and Clinton will be campaigning in Florida on Saturday, last-ditch efforts to win support in a state where early voting has already exceeded 2012 levels. Clinton's team was encouraged by strong Latino turnout, particularly around Miami. But the Democrats have seen their chances decline in Ohio, a key battleground state that's been leaning toward Trump, and New Hampshire, where Clinton's numbers are weakening.

Clinton's campaign has hosted a series of free concerts designed to drum up enthusiasm for her bid, particularly among millennials and minority voters. Rocker Bon Jovi and R&B singer Ne-Yo rallied voters in North Carolina, while singer/actress Jennifer Lopez took the stage in Miami and singer Steve Wonder was performing in Philadelphia.

On Saturday night, Clinton will host a concert with pop star Katy Perry in Philadelphia, then return to the city on Monday for a joint rally with President Barack Obama, first lady Michelle Obama and Clinton's husband, former President Bill Clinton. Pennsylvania is a state where Clinton has long had a solid lead; it has not voted for a Republican in six presidential elections.

The celebrity firepower only adds to what's an already deep bench of political surrogates eager to campaign for Clinton. On Friday, Vice President Joe Biden campaigned in Wisconsin, Sen. Bernie Sanders in Iowa, and President Obama in North Carolina.

Describing Election Day as a "make or break moment," Clinton predicted war and discord in a Trump administration, repurposing a riff often used in the primaries, where she encouraged voters to "imagine a tomorrow" filled with campaign promises like debt-free college, universal early childhood education and paid family leave.

Clinton invited voters to "imagine its Donald Trump standing in front of the Capitol."

"Imagine how easily it could be that Donald Trump would feel insulted and start a real war — not just a Twitter war," she said, adding, "Everywhere he goes he leaves people behind."

Trump told voters in a new ad that they were "the only force strong enough to save our country" from a "corrupt political machine."

He spent Friday on a tour of rural areas, hoping to boost turnout among the voters drawn to his promise to bring back a lost America. He started his day in Atkinson, New Hampshire, population 6,800 and almost 98 percent white, according to the Census Bureau. From there, he was bound for Wilmington, Ohio, another overwhelmingly white town where just 13 percent of its 12,500 residents have a college degree.

Speaking more than 2,000 miles from the Mexican border, Trump drew loud cheers in Atkinson when he vowed to build a massive wall between the U.S. and Mexico. The crowd booed when he contended that Clinton supports open borders.

"Her plans would mean generations of terrorism, extremism and radicalism spreading into your schools and through your communities," Trump declared.

In spite of a close race in national polling, Trump's path to victory remains narrow. His campaign is increasingly looking to make up for losses among suburban voters, particularly college-educated women,

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by attracting new voters in out-of-the-way places.

But with polls tightening across battleground states, Democrats are taking little for granted. Hillary Clinton made a Friday afternoon stop in Detroit, Bill Clinton worked to drive up turnout in Colorado, and Vice President Joe Biden was going to Wisconsin -- all states Clinton was thought to have locked up weeks ago.

Obama halted an afternoon speech in Fayetteville, North Carolina, to defend a pro-Trump protester who was chanting the Republican nominee's name.

The Democratic president told the crowd to "sit down and be quiet." He defended the man's right to free speech. The protester was eventually escorted out of the venue.

"If we lose focus, we could have problems," Obama said.

Associated Press writers Steve Peoples and Kathleen Hennessey in Washington and Josh Lederman in Fayetteville, North Carolina, contributed to this report.

### Tens of thousands to demand Park quit amid scandal By FOSTER KLUG and HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Tens of thousands of South Koreans are expected to march in Seoul to demand President Park Geun-hye's resignation on Saturday, a day after she took blame for a "heartbreak-ing" scandal and rising suspicion that she allowed a mysterious confidante to manipulate power from the shadows.

Police expect around 40,000 people in what could be the largest anti-government rally in nearly a year while organizers say as many as 100,000 will turn out.

Dozens of police buses were parked in streets around City Hall and also a square in front of an old palace gate, which the police plan to close off to prevent protesters from marching toward the Blue House, the presidential office and residence.

Smaller protests have taken place daily in past weeks amid growing calls for Park to step down, although opposition parties have yet to make a serious push for her resignation or impeachment for fears of negatively impacting next year's presidential elections.

In Friday's televised apology, Park vowed to accept a direct investigation into her actions, but the opposition, sensing weakness, immediately threatened to push for her ouster if she doesn't distance herself from domestic affairs and focus on diplomacy, and accept a prime minster chosen by the parliament.

"I feel a huge responsibility (for the scandal) deep in my heart," Park said, her voice shaking. "It is all my fault and mistake."

Park's comments were rife with astonishing moments, and included a frank assessment of her relationship with the woman at the heart of the scandal, Choi Soon-sil, the daughter of a late cult leader and a longtime friend of Park's.

"I put too much faith in a personal relationship and didn't look carefully at what was happening," Park said. "Sad thoughts trouble my sleep at night. I realize that whatever I do, it will be difficult to mend the hearts of the people, and then I feel a sense of shame and ask myself, 'Is this the reason I became president?"

In another exceptional moment, Park denied media speculation that she had "fallen into worshipping cult religions or that shamanistic rituals were held at the presidential Blue House."

Her comments come at what may well prove to be the crucial moment of her presidency. Park is attempting to show the contrition and sense of responsibility that South Koreans demand while also trying to re-establish her tarnished credibility. She is in the fourth year of a single five-year term and faced criticism even before this scandal, particularly for the government's response to a 2014 ferry sinking that killed more than 300 people.

One national poll released earlier Friday had her approval rating at 5 percent, the lowest for any president in South Korea since the country achieved a democracy in the late 1980s following decadeslong dictatorships.

"Anyone found by the current investigation to have done something wrong must be held responsible for what they have done, and I am also ready to face any responsibility," Park said. "If necessary, I'm

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determined to let prosecutors investigate me and accept an investigation by an independent counsel too." Last week Park surprised many when she acknowledged that she had relied on Choi for help editing presidential speeches and other undefined "public relations" issues.

Anger has exploded in the days since, with media reports claiming that the influence Choi went much deeper. There are reports that Choi reviewed and made recommendations on government policy papers and pushed businesses to donate millions of dollars to two foundations that she controlled. Other reports speculate Choi also helped choose presidential aides and even picked out Park's wardrobe.

Park has fired eight presidential secretaries and nominated three new Cabinet members, including the prime minister, but opposition parties described Park's personnel reshuffles as a diversionary tactic.

Soon after Park's speech, the main opposition Democratic Party said her apology lacks sincerity and issued a set of demands that it says Park must immediately accept if she doesn't want see rallies calling for the end of her government. The demands include Park withdrawing her prime minister nomination in favor of a new person recommended by the National Assembly for the country's No. 2 job; and accepting separate investigations by lawmakers and an independent counsel.

"The president now comes right into a dead end," party chief Choo Mi-ae said. Park "must comply with what the people want."

Park may survive what has become the worst patch of an already rocky term. But if she is forced to name a prime minister chosen by the opposition, it will hamstring her authority and may end her ability to govern.

Only Choi has been formally arrested in connection with the scandal. Prosecutors on Friday requested an arrest warrant for ex-Park aide, Ahn Jong-beom, for his alleged involvement in extracting \$70 million in donations. On Wednesday night, prosecutors detained another ex-presidential aide, Jeong Ho-seong, for allegedly leaking confidential documents to Choi, and are reviewing whether to seek an arrest warrant for him, too.

Park said she couldn't talk about many specifics because of the investigation, but she was frank in her comments about Choi, who has been the subject of widespread rage.

Choi was "a person who stood with me during the hardest moment in my life," Park said in her speech, apparently referring to the assassinations of Park's mother and later her father, the dictator Park Chunghee. "It's true that I lowered my guard and my sense of wariness" of Choi.

Associated Press writer Kim Tong-hyung contributed to this report.

### Questions on Christie role swirl after ex-allies' conviction By DAVID PORTER, Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Two former aides to Republican Gov. Chris Christie were convicted on Friday of causing epic traffic jams for political revenge near the nation's busiest bridge, a verdict that further damages his legacy and raises anew questions about why he and his inner circle escaped prosecution.

Bridget Kelly, Christie's former deputy chief of staff, and Bill Baroni, Christie's appointee to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, were found guilty of all counts against them. Kelly cried as the verdict was read; Baroni showed no emotion. They announced plans to appeal.

The verdict also had ramifications on the presidential campaign trail, where Christie became an adviser to Republican Donald Trump after his own campaign collapsed, in part because of the bridge case. Before the verdict was issued, Trump's campaign had announced Christie would stump for him in New Hampshire and Pennsylvania on Saturday, but later said he would not be on the trail Saturday.

Testimony during the seven-week trial contradicted Christie's statements about when he knew about the four days of gridlock at the base of the George Washington Bridge in Fort Lee in September 2013. The traffic jams were aimed at retaliating against Democratic Fort Lee Mayor Mark Sokolich for not endorsing Christie's re-election, prosecutors alleged.

Other testimony described some of Christie's top advisers and confidants knowing about the plan ahead

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of time or soon afterward and being aware of the political motivation well before Christie told reporters in December 2013 that none of his staff was involved.

Baroni's attorney, Michael Baldassare, called the case "a disgrace" and said the U.S. attorney's office should be "ashamed" of where it drew the line on who to charge.

"They should have had belief in their own case to charge powerful people, and they did not," Baldassare said.

Baroni and Kelly were indicted last year. Also charged was former Port Authority official David Wildstein, who pleaded guilty and testified against them.

U.S. Attorney Paul Fishman declined to say whether any of the testimony could lead to charges against Christie or others. He said prosecutors only charged people where they had "evidence beyond a reasonable doubt" to convict.

Christie said the verdict affirmed his decision to terminate Baroni and Kelly and the jury held them responsible "for their own conduct." He repeated his assertions he had no knowledge of the plot and said he would "set the record straight" soon about "the lies told by the media and in the courtroom."

"I had no knowledge prior to or during these lane realignments and had no role in authorizing them," Christie said. "No believable evidence was presented to contradict that fact. Anything said to the contrary over the past six weeks in court is simply untrue."

At the time the scandal unfolded, Christie was considered a top presidential contender and was on the verge of a runaway re-election victory to demonstrate his crossover appeal.

Christie ultimately dropped out of the presidential race after a poor showing in the New Hampshire primary and said recently the scandal probably influenced Trump's decision not to pick him as a running mate. Christie is chairman of Trump's transition team, in charge of hiring thousands of employees if he wins the presidency.

John Podesta, chairman of Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton's campaign, called on Trump to ask Christie to resign from the transition team.

Wildstein, a former political blogger and high school classmate of Christie's, testified Christie was told about the traffic jam at a Sept. 11 memorial event in New York while the gridlock in Fort Lee was in progress. He said Christie laughed and made a sarcastic joke when he learned of Sokolich's distress over not getting his calls returned.

It was unclear from Wildstein's testimony whether Christie knew then that the mess was manufactured for political reasons; however, Kelly testified she told Christie about Sokolich's concerns about political retaliation during the week of the traffic jams at the bridge, which connects New York and Fort Lee.

The federal jury took five days to reach a verdict, convicting Baroni and Kelly of conspiracy, misapplying the property of the Port Authority, wire fraud and deprivation of civil rights. The most serious charges carry up to 20 years in prison, but Fishman said the defendants likely would receive far less time. Sentencing was scheduled for Feb. 21.

Wildstein faces a maximum of 15 years in prison, but under his plea agreement and sentencing guidelines he could receive a sentence of 20 to 27 months. His sentencing hasn't been scheduled.

Democratic state Sen. Loretta Weinberg, who helped lead a legislative effort to investigate the lane closings, said it was a terrible day for New Jersey and "a terrible day to have a spotlight on the kind of administration that was run."

The defense portrayed Wildstein as a liar and a dirty trickster — "the Bernie Madoff of New Jersey politics" — and argued Christie and his inner circle had thrown Kelly under the bus. Kelly and Baroni, both 44, testified that they believed Wildstein that the lane closings were part of a legitimate traffic study.

"They want that mother of four to take the fall for them. Cowards. Cowards," Kelly attorney Michael Critchley said in a thundering closing argument.

One of the most damning pieces of evidence was an email in which Kelly wrote: "Time for some traffic problems in Fort Lee." Then, as the gridlock unfolded and Sokolich complained about children unable to get to school, she texted: "Is it wrong that I am smiling?"

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On the witness stand, Kelly explained she was referring to what she thought was a traffic study and expressing satisfaction it was going well.

Trial testimony reinforced Christie's reputation among his critics as a bully, with accounts of profane tirades, threats of bodily harm and tough-guy posturing that seemed straight out of "The Sopranos."

Montclair State University political science professor Brigid Callahan Harrison said Christie was damaged by "the narcissistic way" he was portrayed at the trial.

"These convictions will be an essential defining feature of Christie's legacy in office," she said, "and will forever taint how his administration is perceived and will be remembered."

Associated Press writers Ula Ilnytzky in Newark, Michael Catalini and Michael R. Sisak in Trenton, and Jill Colvin in Middletown, Pennsylvania, contributed to this report.

### **Today in History** By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Nov. 6, the 311th day of 2016. There are 55 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 6, 1860, former Illinois congressman Abraham Lincoln of the Republican Party was elected President of the United States as he defeated John Breckinridge, John Bell and Stephen Douglas. On this date:

In 1861, Confederate President Jefferson Davis was elected to a six-year term of office.

In 1906, Republican Charles Evans Hughes was elected governor of New York, defeating newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst.

In 1928, in a first, the results of Republican Herbert Hoover's presidential election victory over Democrat Alfred E. Smith were flashed onto an electric wraparound sign on the New York Times building.

In 1934, Nebraska voters approved dissolving their two-chamber legislature in favor of a nonpartisan, single (or "unicameral") legislative body, which was implemented in 1937.

In 1944, British official Lord Moyne was assassinated in Cairo, Egypt, by members of the Zionist Stern gang.

In 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower won re-election, defeating Democrat Adlai E. Stevenson.

In 1962, Democrat Edward M. Kennedy was elected Senator from Massachusetts.

In 1976, Benjamin L. Hooks was chosen to be the new executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, succeeding Roy Wilkins.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan won re-election by a landslide over former Vice President Walter Mondale, the Democratic challenger.

In 1986, former Navy radioman John A. Walker Jr., the admitted head of a family spy ring, was sentenced in Baltimore to life imprisonment. (Walker died in prison in 2014 at age 77.)

In 1990, about one-fifth of the Universal Studios backlot in southern California was destroyed in an arson fire.

In 2012, President Barack Obama was elected to a second term of office, defeating Republican challenger Mitt Romney.

Ten years ago: On the eve of midterm elections, Democrats criticized Republicans as stewards of a stale status quo while President George W. Bush campaigned from Florida to Arkansas to Texas in a drive to preserve GOP control of Congress. Kenny Chesney won entertainer of the year and Brooks & Dunn's inspirational song "Believe" won three trophies, including single and song of the year, at the 40th Annual Country Music Association Awards.

Five years ago: Greece's embattled prime minister, George Papandreou, and its main opposition leader, Antonis Samaras, agreed to form an interim government to ensure the country's new European debt deal. Geoffrey Mutai (jahf-FREE' MOO'-ty) of Kenya shattered the course record in the New York City Marathon,

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winning the men's title in 2:05:06, while Firehiwot (FRAY'-waht) Dado of Ethiopia made a stunning comeback for her first major marathon title in 2:23:15.

One year ago: Ending a seven-year political saga, President Barack Obama killed the proposed Keystone XL pipeline, declaring it would have undercut U.S. efforts to clinch a global climate change deal at the center of his environmental legacy.

Today's Birthdays: Actress June Squibb is 87. Country singer Stonewall Jackson is 84. Singer Eugene Pitt (The Jive Five) is 79. Singer P.J. Proby is 78. Actress Sally Field is 70. Singer Rory Block is 67. Jazz musician Arturo Sandoval is 67. TV host Catherine Crier is 62. News correspondent and former California first lady Maria Shriver is 61. Actress Lori Singer is 59. Actor Lance Kerwin is 56. Rock musician Paul Brindley (The Sundays) is 53. Former Education Secretary Arne Duncan is 52. Rock singer Corey Glover is 52. Actor Brad Grunberg is 52. Actor Peter DeLuise is 50. Actress Kelly Rutherford is 48. Actor Ethan Hawke is 46. Chef/TV judge Marcus Samuelsson is 46. Actress Thandie Newton is 44. Model-actress Rebecca Romijn (roh-MAYN') is 44. Actress Zoe McLellan is 42. Actress Nicole Dubuc is 38. Actress Taryn Manning is 38. Basketball player Lamar Odom is 37. Actress Patina Miller is 32. Actress Katie Leclere (LEH'-klehr) is 30. Singer-songwriter Ben Rector is 30. Singer-songwriter Robert Ellis is 28. Actress Emma Stone is 28. Actress Mercedes Kastner is 27.

Thought for Today: "Surprise is the greatest gift which life can grant us." — Boris Pasternak, Russian author (1890-1960).