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Sunday, Jan. 8

Catholic Parish: Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church at 9 a.m., then at St. Joseph in Turton at 11 a.m.

United Methodist Parish: Worship in Conde at 9 a.m., coffee fellowship time at 10 a.m. and worship in Groton at 11 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Groton: Worship at 9 a.m., Sunday School at 10 a.m.

Heaven Bound Ministries in Pierpont: Worship at 10 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church: Worship at 9 a.m., Sunday School at 10 a.m.

Open Gym for JH-8 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and for grades 6-12 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 9

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study at 6:30 a.m. School Board Meeting at 7 p.m.

Senior Menu: Beef stew, buttermilk biscuits, fruit, sherbet.

School Breakfast: Mini pancakes, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Submarine, potato chips, fruit.

Tuesday, Jan. 10

Emmanuel Lutheran: Council potluck for newly elected and outgoing at 6:15 p.m. followed by meeting.

Senior Menu: Baked fish, au gratin potatoes, 3-bean salad, peach cobbler, whole wheat bread.

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

School Lunch: Quesadilla, mixed vegetable, fruit, romaine salad.

GBB vs. Waubay-Summit at Waubay

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 **Closed**



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Time for A Real Strategy to Protect Americans from Cyber Threats

It is alleged that in recent months, the Russian government conducted cyber hacks of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) server and attempted to hack the Republican National Committee (RNC) email system.

In October 2016, the Department of Homeland Security and the Director of National Intelligence stated that the cyber hackers “intended to interfere with the U.S. election process” – a very serious charge. On Dec. 29, President Obama imposed sanctions against Russian intelligence services and kicked dozens of Russian diplomats out of the country in retaliation.

The DNC hack is a reminder to all Americans that the United States is not immune to damaging cyber-attacks from hostile foreign nations and other bad actors. We must update our national security policies to deter such attacks before a future debilitating attack occurs, possibly on civilian critical infrastructure.

Imagine what would happen if a foreign actor interfered with the operations of a nuclear power plant, or shut down the communications that control aircraft operations, rail operations or water releases from large dams. Such an attack on our critical infrastructure could threaten our entire economy or – worse – lead to loss of life. Without an appropriate plan in place to stop or respond to these cyber-attacks, we put ourselves at increased risk for a catastrophic attack to occur.

As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC), broadening our national defense policies to adequately address cyber-attacks on civilian critical infrastructure has been a priority of mine. SASC Chairman John McCain (R-Ariz.) recently held a hearing to examine foreign cyber threats. He has also indicated that he will create a new subcommittee within SASC that is solely focused on cybersecurity.

I am glad that Congress included a provision in the 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) which would begin the process of defining when an act in cyber space constitutes an act of war. With language similar to my Cyber Act of War Act, which I cosponsored with Sen. Angus King (I-Maine), the NDAA will require the administration to determine when a cyber-attack on the United States requires a military response. This is vital because, while current policies permit the Pentagon to respond to a cyber-attack against military forces, our nation does not have a clear policy to govern our response to attacks on civilian infrastructure. The NDAA seeks to change that.

Defining when a cyber-attack requires a military response is but one in a series of steps we must take to deter our enemies from attacking the United States with this new, sophisticated form of aggression. We cannot know if the alleged hacks in 2016 would have been thwarted had the provisions of the Cyber Act of War Act already been in law. What we do know is that, absent a clear message to our adversaries as to when a cyber-attack may warrant a U.S. military response, we will not have done all we can to deter devastating attacks in the future.

Lady Tigers beat St. Francis, lose to Hamlin County

Groton Area Lady Tigers split a pair of games this past weekend, losing to Hamlin County in Hayti on Friday and then beating St. Francis at the Redfield Classic on Saturday.

Both of these games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Northern Plains Psychological Associates, Mike-N-Jo's Body-N-Glass, Hefty Seed with Justin Hanson and Kalen Kjellsen, Groton Ford, James Valley Seed with Doug Jorgenson, Ken's Food Fair, Basekamp Lodge of Groton, S & S Lumber & Hardware Hank, Blocker Construction, Krueger Brothers Dirt & Gravel, Rosewood Court and Jazzy Bobbins.

Groton started off strong against Hamlin County, taking a 10-9 lead after the first quarter, but fouls put the Tigers in trouble and the Chargers made nine of 14 free throws in the second quarter to help propel Hamlin to a 23-15 lead at half time. Hamlin County made three three-pointers and outscored the Tigers, 19-4, in the third quarter to take a 42-19 lead into the fourth quarter. Hamlin went on to win, 54-33.

Audrey Wanner led the Tigers with 12 points followed by Miranda Hanson with six, Jennie Doeden had five, Harleigh Stange four and Jessica Bjerke, Payton Maine and Samantha Menzia each had two points. Groton Area made nine of 23 two-pointers for 39 percent, four of 18 three-pointers for 22 percent, three of eight free throws for 38 percent, had 18 rebounds with Wanner having five, 12 steals with Taylor Holm having three, six assists with Bjerke having two, 19 team fouls with Bjerke fouling out and 24 turnovers.

Hamlin was led by Lexi Wadsworth with 19 points followed by Grace West with 10, Reagen Nebel and Brynn Alfson each had seven, Logan Keszler six, Chloe Grantham three and Stacia West and Faith Leiseth each had two points.

Hamlin won the C game, 38-21. Scoring for Groton Area: Sam Menzia 12, Caitlyn Barse 4, Tyden Glover 3, Kaycie Hawkins 2.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 36-32. Scoring for Groton Area: Miranda Hanson 14, Payton Maine 10, Jennie Doeden 5, Taylor Holm 3, Madison Sippel 2, Sam Menzia 2, Portia Kettering 2.

St. Francis had the early start in Saturday's game, taking a 15-12 lead at the end of the first quarter, but then Groton scored the last nine points of the first half to take a 25-19 lead. St. Francis tied the game at 35 but the Tigers never gave up the lead, taking a 39-37 lead into the fourth quarter and the Lady Tigers went on to win, 53-45.

Audrey Wanner led the Harleigh Stange made seven of eight field goals as she led the Tigers with 23 points. Audrey Wanner had 10, Katie Koehler and Jennie Doeden each had nine and Jessica Bjerke added two points.

Groton Area made 17 of 42 two-pointers for 40 percent, two of 11 three-pointers for 18 percent, 13 of 23 free throws for 57 percent, had 31 rebounds with Bjerke having nine, Bjerke had five of the team's 16 steals, Wanner had seven of the team's 11 assists, Groton Area had 16 team fouls and 13 turnovers.

Matilda Anderson led the Warriors with 14 points followed by Charlize Arcoren and Cayliah Brady with 11 each, Jazlea Arcoren had four, Laine Four Horns had three and Lanie Crazy Bull had two points.

Groton Area, now 3-3 on the season, will travel to Waubay on Tuesday to take on the Waubay-Summit Mustangs.

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Harleigh Stange



Audrey Wanner

Photos by Julianna Kosel



Jessica Bjerke



Katie Koehler

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St. Francis Game Stats

Player	2-pt	3-pt	FT	Pts	Rbs	Steals	Assists	TO	Fouls
Audrey Wanner	4-17	0-2	2-4	10	7	3	7	4	3
Katie Koehler	2-4	1-2	2-4	9	3	3	2	2	2
Jessica Bjerke	1-6	0-1	0-0	2	9	5	1	2	1
Harleigh Stange	7-8	1-3	6-9	23	2	3	1	3	3
Jennie Doeden	3-4	0-0	3-4	9	3	0	0	1	2
Taylor Holm	0-2	0-0	0-2	0	6	1	0	0	1
Alex Stange	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Miranda Hanson	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	1	0	0	0	3
Payton Maine	0-0	0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	17-42	2-11	13-23	53	31	16	11	13	16

Hamlin County Game Stats

Player	2-pt	3-pt	FT	Pts	Rbs	Steals	Assists	TO	Fouls
Audrey Wanner	4-5	1-2	1-2	12	5	3	1	3	2
Katie Koehler	0-3	0-1	0-0	0	1	0	0	5	1
Jessica Bjerke	1-5	0-3	0-0	2	2	2	2	3	5
Harleigh Stange	0-2	1-6	1-3	4	2	1	1	5	1
Jennie Doeden	2-3	0-1	1-3	5	2	0	1	0	3
Taylor Holm	0-2	0-0	0-0	0	4	3	0	1	3
Alex Stange	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Miranda Hanson	0-1	2-4	0-0	6	1	1	0	4	2
Emily Locke	0-0	0-1	0-0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Payton Maine	1-1	0-0	0-0	2	0	1	0	1	0
Sam Menzia	1-1	0-0	0-0	2	0	1	0	1	0
TOTALS	9-23	4-18	3-8	33	18	12	6	24	19

Groton Area boys advance to 7-0 with win over Hamlin

Groton Area's boys powered in 13 three-pointers to breeze past Hamlin County in basketball action played Friday night in Hayti. Groton Area held a 15-12 lead at the end of the first quarter, a 35-24 lead at half time and a 47-36 lead at the end of the third quarter en route to the 59-43 Northeast Conference win.

Sean Schuring and Seric Shabazz each had 19 points to led the Tigers followed by Bennett Shabazz with eight, Brandon Keith seven, Peyton Johnson three, Jonny Doeden two and Luke Thorson one.

Groton Area made 19 of 51 field goals for 37 percent, made 13 of 39 three-pointers for 33 percent, made eight of 16 free throws for 50 percent off of Hamlin's 13 team fouls, had 10 assists with Bennett Shabazz having five and 11 turnovers with eight of them being steals.

Hamlin was led by John Roe with 14 points followed by Mitchell Noem with nine, Danny Strande had seven, Caden Arnold had five and Bryce Williams and Haeden Uecker each had four.

Hamlin County made 16 of 36 field goals for 44 percent, four of 16 three-pointers for 25 percent, made seven of 17 free throws for 41 percent off of Groton Area's 14 team fouls, had 28 rebounds with Strande having six, six assists and 17 turnovers of which eight were steals with Bennett Shabazz, Sean Schuring and Luke Thorson each having two.

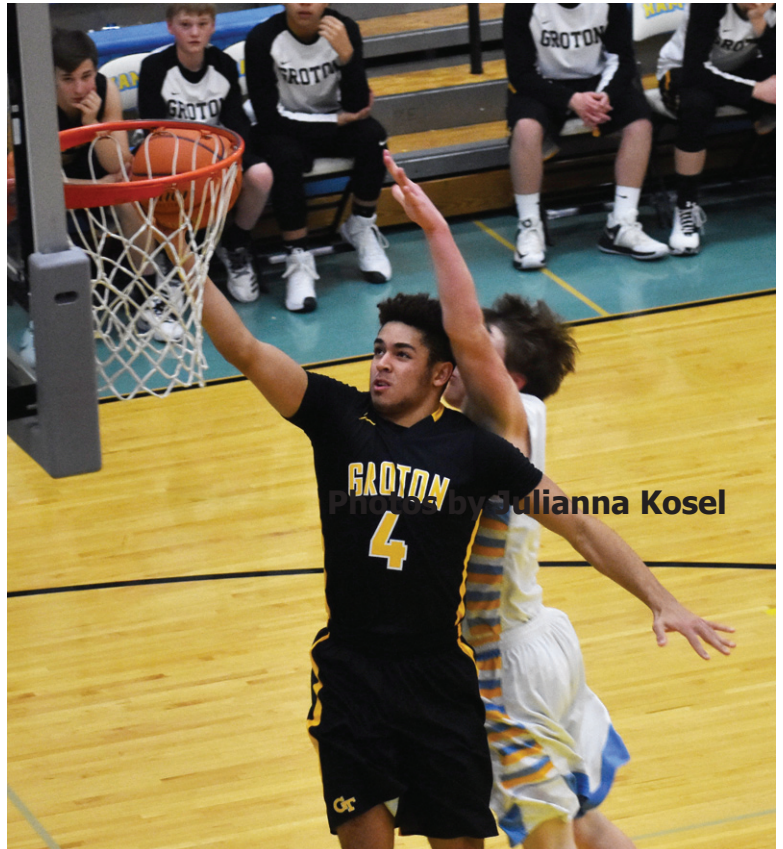
Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 40-34. Scoring for Groton Area: Jonny Doeden 13, Treyton Diegel 3, Austin Jones 2, Marshall Lane 2, Darien Shabazz 6, Peyton Johnson 12 and Alex Morris 1.

Hamlin County won the C game, 39-30. Scoring for Groton Area: Cade Guthmiller 8, Darien Shabazz 7, Alex Morris 7, Anthony Schinkel 4, Hunter Schaller 2 and Mitchell Thurston 2.

Groton Area, now 7-0 on the season, is one of four undefeated teams left in the state. Other undefeated teams are Flandrea at 7-0, Vermillion at 9-0 and Miller at 5-0. Groton Area will host Sisseton on Friday.



Seric Shabazz



Bennett Shabazz

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Sean Schuring



Peyton Johnson

Photos by Jeslyn Kosel

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VISITOR: Groton ()

NO	PLAYER	P	TOT-FG		3-PT		FT	FTA	REBOUNDS			PF	TP	A	TO	BK	S	MIN
			FG	FGA	FG	FGA			OFF	DEF	TOT							
4	Shabazz, Bennett	*	3	10	1	6	1	4	4	3	7	1	8	5	2	0	2	24:00
12	Schuring, Sean	*	6	11	3	8	4	5	3	3	6	3	19	1	1	0	2	0:00
20	Keith, Brandon	*	2	6	2	6	1	3	2	1	3	1	7	3	4	0	1	16:00
40	Johnson, Peyton	*	1	4	1	2	0	0	0	3	3	2	3	0	1	0	1	8:00
42	Shabazz, Seric	*	6	14	6	14	1	2	0	1	1	3	19	0	0	0	0	8:00
3	Sippel, Anthony		0	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	1	1	0	0	24:00
10	Lane, Marshall		0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	24:00
14	Diegel, Treyton		0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16:00
24	Wuestewald, Frankie		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8:00
30	Doeden, Jonny		1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	8:00
32	Jones, Austin		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0:00
34	Thurston, Mitch		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8:00
50	Thorson, Luke		0	1	0	0	1	2	3	2	5	0	1	0	0	0	2	16:00
TEAM REBOUNDS									3	4	7							
Team Totals			19	51	13	39	8	16	16	17	33	14	59	10	11	0	8	160

Total FG% - 1st: 12/30 0.400 2nd: 7/21 0.333 Game: 0.373 Deadball Rebounds (5,0)
 3-PT FG% - 1st: 9/22 0.409 2nd: 4/17 0.235 Game: 0.333
 Total FT% - 1st: 2/3 0.667 2nd: 6/13 0.462 Game: 0.500

HOME: Hamlin ()

NO	PLAYER	P	TOT-FG		3-PT		FT	FTA	REBOUNDS			PF	TP	A	TO	BK	S	MIN
			FG	FGA	FG	FGA			OFF	DEF	TOT							
10	Bren,	*	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0:00
22	Noem,	*	2	4	2	4	3	4	0	1	1	2	9	2	2	0	2	24:00
24	Strande,	*	3	10	0	4	1	7	3	3	6	2	7	1	6	0	2	24:00
30	Williams,	*	1	3	1	3	1	2	0	4	4	2	4	0	3	0	3	24:00
44	Roe,	*	7	9	0	1	0	1	0	3	3	2	14	0	2	0	0	16:00
2	Mors,		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8:00	
12	Arnold,		2	4	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	5	0	2	0	0	8:00
14	Poppen,		0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	24:00
20	Uecker,		1	3	0	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	4	2	1	0	0	16:00
34	Antonen,		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	8:00
40	Grantham,		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0:00
42	Thue,		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	8:00
TEAM REBOUNDS									1	3	4							
Team Totals			16	36	4	16	7	17	9	19	28	13	43	6	17	0	8	160

Total FG% - 1st: 8/18 0.444 2nd: 8/18 0.444 Game: 0.444 Deadball Rebounds (4,0)
 3-PT FG% - 1st: 1/5 0.200 2nd: 3/11 0.273 Game: 0.250
 Total FT% - 1st: 7/13 0.538 2nd: 0/4 0.000 Game: 0.412

Technical Fouls: groto (0)
 : Ham (0)

OFFICIALS :
 ATTENDANCE : 0

SCORE BY PERIODS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	TOTAL
Groton	15	20	12	12	59
Hamlin	12	12	12	7	43

Last FG: Groton 4th-08:00, Hamlin 4th-08:00
 Largest lead: Groton by 19 4th-08:00, Hamlin by 2 1st-08:00
 Score tied: 0 times, Lead changed: 1 times



Upcoming Events

**Monday, Jan. 9, 7 p.m.
School Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, Jan. 10, 8 p.m.
Girls' Basketball at Waubay**

**Thursday, Jan. 12, 8 p.m.
Girls' Basketball at Sisseton**

**Friday, Jan. 13. 8 p.m.
Boys' Basketball hosts Sisseton:**

gdilive.com

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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries



It's déjà vu all over again

New Year's Day was filled with lots of excitement, plenty of grandchildren running around and enough food on the table to eliminate world hunger. Actually, it did eliminate my ravishing hunger, at least for the day.

Both the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and Yours Truly simultaneously signed a deep sigh. My wife sat in her chair thinking and I, reclining in my chair musing. Believe me, we both had a lot to think about and muse over.

The difference between thinking and musing is quite profound. Thinking requires a lot of hard work while musing is closely related to amusing, although I am not quite sure about the connection. All I know is it takes less energy to muse than it does to think and I'm all for saving energy.

I had just gotten into a rather delightful muse when my wife made a very startling announcement.

"Well," she said most thoughtfully, "I guess this is the start of a brand-new year."

I was too deep into my muse to do more than grunt affirmatively.

Then I began to think, which sapped me of a lot of energy at the time. Although my wife was not wrong in her observation (she is never wrong about anything) she was not exactly right. However, being the man of the house, not to mention not having enough energy to put up a good front, I did not call her on it. But I thought on it some more.

Everybody says this is a new year that has never been lived before. And I would like to challenge that kind of thinking. I have an eerie feeling that I have been here before.

I am not sure if my muse got mixed up with my thinking but at the end of the exercise, I came to several startling conclusions. The biggest conclusion is there is nothing new about the New Year.

Do not take my word for it, do some thinking on your own. Okay, it's a little too early in the year to do heavy thinking so maybe some light musing might be more in order.

If I remember correctly, and I must check last year's calendar, but wasn't it January last year at this time? In fact, I think for the past couple thousand years there has always been a January. Nothing new about January. In my lifetime, I have seen 65 Januarys. At the time, everybody said it was new. What I want to know is, when does the newness wear off? When is somebody going to stand up and honestly say, "Welcome to another old year."

Every time I have a birthday, people tell me I am a year older, but when another January comes around people try to tell me it is new. I think this year I am going to insist on my birthday that people tell me I am getting newer and not older.

Then, just as my muse was catching a second wind, I thought of some other inconsistencies about this so-called New Year hoax.

If I remember correctly, last January there were seven days in a week; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. What I find rather strange is this new January has the same old days of the week. This is rather curious to me. Somebody is trying to sell me some old horse medicine for tea.

Now, if the year 2017 is supposed to be a new year why does it carry over the same old luggage of the old year? I think I smell a conspiracy here.

For example, if you went to buy a brand-new 2017 car, you opened the door, the hood and the trunk

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and everything was from a 2016 car, wouldn't you feel a little bit cheated? I know I would.

Not only does this so-called new January have the same days of the week, and you are not going to believe this one, it also carries the same numbers of the days. And, these numbers are still in the same order as it did in January 2016.

I believe there should be a Congressional investigation into this rather serious hoax being played on the American people. After all, if someone promises something to be new, and brand-new at that, it should be downright new.

I think I go along with Solomon, the wisest man in the world, who said, "The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:9 KJV).

This so-called "New Year," is simply the "Old Year" repackaged for the unsuspecting. For some people it will take six months into the "New Year" before they realize this awesome truth.

People make New Year's resolutions, which are simply the old resolutions from the year before. Some of them go back decades. Nothing really changes. By the time February, which is the same February as last year, rolls around those new resolutions are tainted with some serious aging.

But there is a greater than Solomon that I appealed to. He said, "And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful" (Revelation 21:5 KJV).

I will leave the creation of "new," to the one who knows how to make all things new.

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

**Fill the Cooper house
this year!**

Open House

Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017

1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

208 N. 2nd St., Groton

Refreshments Served

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Today in Weather History

January 8, 1969: Winds of 30 whipped new snowfall of 3 to 5 inches on top of 10 to 20 inches of previous snow cover to 50 mph. Temperatures fell to around five below zero resulting in dangerous wind chills. This storm halted all traffic from early on the 8th to midday on the 9th, closed all schools, and stranded motorists.

January 8, 2010: Arctic high pressure combined with strong northwest winds resulting in extreme wind chills from 35 to nearly 50 degrees below zero across central and northeast South Dakota. Some of the lowest wind chills included, -40 in Aberdeen; -41 in Watertown; -42 in Highmore; -43 in Leola and Faulkton; -44 in Eagle Butte, Herreid, and Gettysburg; and -47 in Bowdle. Several record lows were also tied or broken during the morning hours of the 8th including, -22 degrees NW of Gann Valley and Victor; -23 degrees at Pierre and Sisseton; -24 degrees at Roscoe; and -34 degrees at Pollock.

1953 - A severe icestorm in the northeastern U.S. produced up to four inches of ice in Pennsylvania, and two to three inches in southeastern New York State. In southern New England the ice coated a layer of snow up to 20 inches deep. The storm resulted in 31 deaths and 2.5 million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1973 - A severe icestorm struck Atlanta GA. The storm paralyzed the city closing schools and businesses, and damage from the storm was estimated at 25 million dollars. One to four inches of ice coated northern Georgia leaving 300,000 persons without electricity for up to a week. Between 7 PM and 9 PM on the 7th, 2.27 inches (liquid content) of freezing rain, sleet and snow coated Atlanta, as the temperature hovered at 32 degrees. (7th-8th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A winter storm moving out of the Southern Rockies into the Central Plains Region produced 14 inches of snow at Red River NM, and 17 inches in the Wolf Creek ski area of Colorado. Wichita KS was blanketed with seven inches of snow. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)






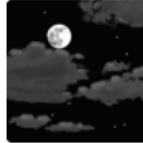

1988 - A winter storm spread heavy snow across the northeastern U.S., with up to ten inches reported in southern New Jersey. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

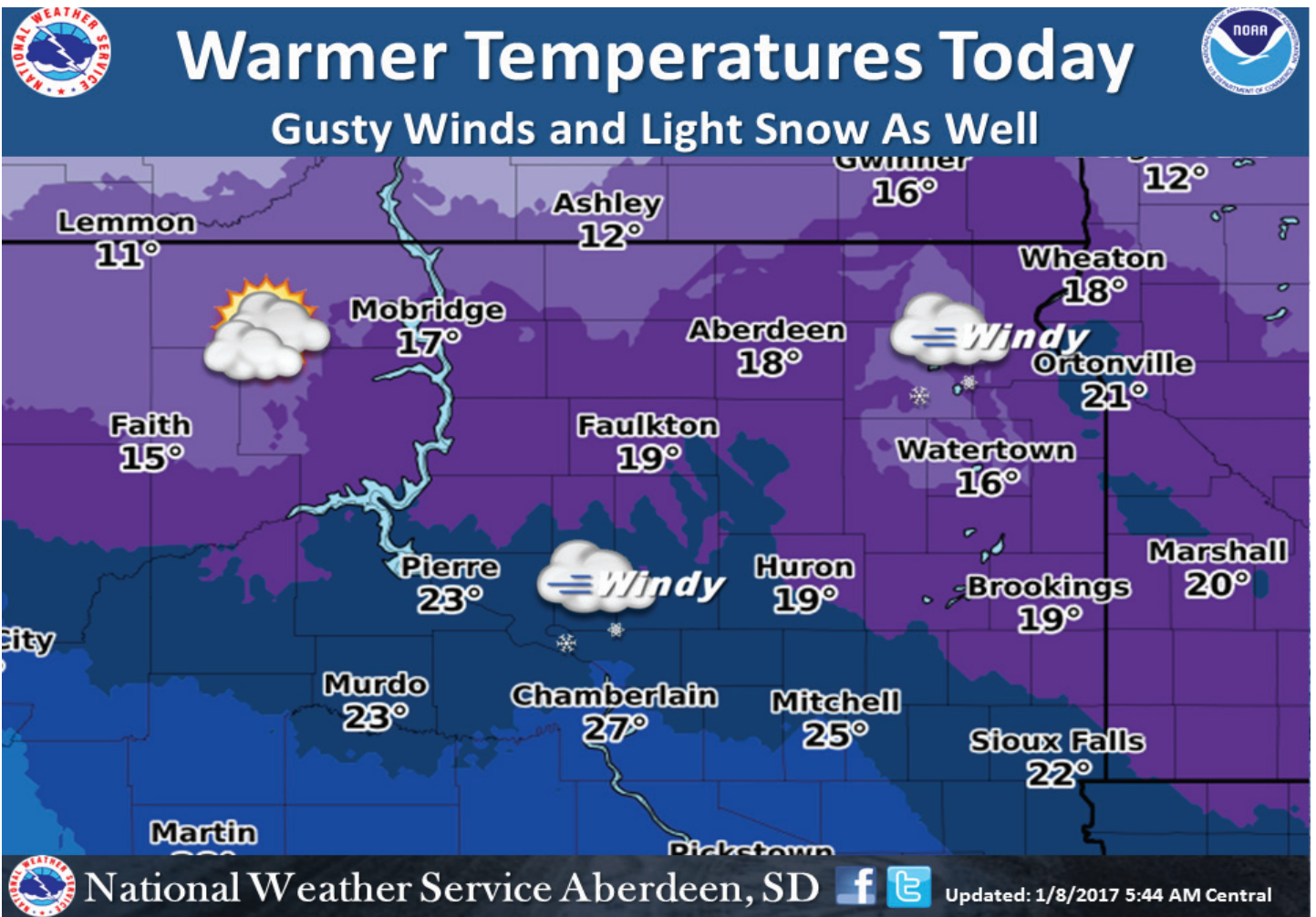
1989 - Strong northwesterly winds and bitterly cold temperatures prevailed in the north central U.S. Winds in the Great Lakes Region gusted to 58 mph at Chicago IL, and reached 63 mph at Niagara Falls NY. Squalls in western New York State produced 20 inches of snow at Barnes Corners and Lowville. Snow squalls in Upper Michigan produced 26 inches around Keweenaw. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - High winds plagued the northwestern U.S., with the state of Oregon hardest hit. Two persons were killed in Oregon, and nine others were injured, and the high winds downed fifty-five million board feet of timber, valued at more than twenty million dollars. Winds gusted to 90 mph near Pinehurst ID, and wind gusts reached 96 mph at Stevenson WA. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today	Tonight	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
						
Chance Snow and Patchy Blowing Snow then Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Snow then Slight Chance Snow	Slight Chance Snow then Chance Snow	Slight Chance Snow then Partly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny then Chance Snow
High: 17 °F	Low: -7 °F	High: 13 °F	Low: 8 °F	High: 15 °F	Low: -8 °F	High: 9 °F



Published on: 01/08/2017 at 5:49AM

Temperatures will be warmer across the region today. Although, gusty southerly winds will be felt, along with areas of light snow. The light snow will spread from south central South Dakota into east central and northeast South Dakota this morning into the early afternoon. Accumulations will remain light, and generally be around a half inch or less. The gusty southerly winds may bring some blowing and drifting snow at times. By this afternoon and evening, winds will begin switching to the northwest.

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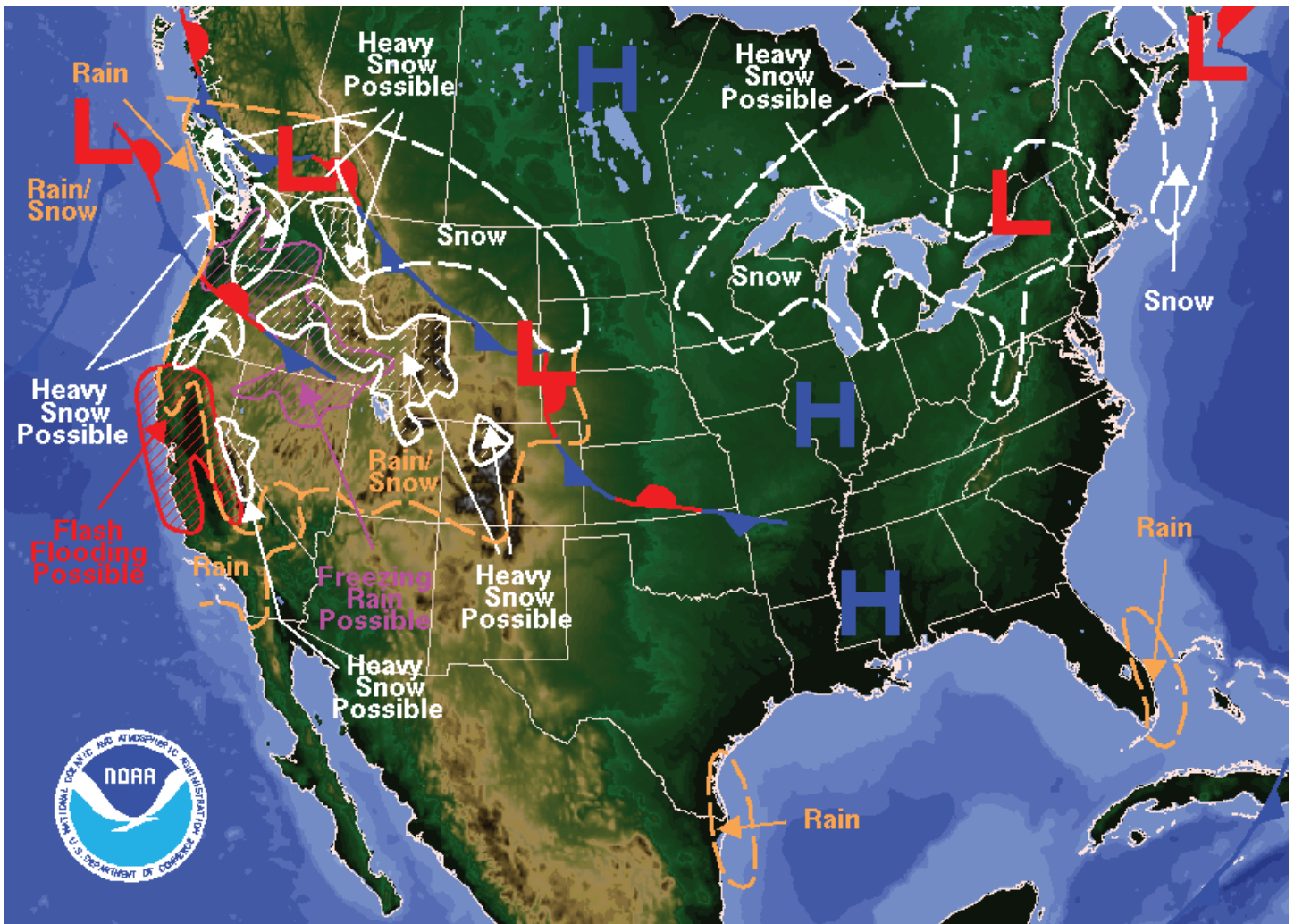
Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: -0.1 F at 3:45 PM
Low Outside Temp: -19.3 F at 7:39 AM
High Gust: 7.0 Mph at 1:27 PM

Rain: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 55° in 1963
Record Low: -33° in 1912
Average High: 22°F
Average Low: 1°F
Average Precip in Jan.: 0.14
Precip to date in Jan.: 0.00
Average Precip to date: 0.14
Precip Year to Date: 0.00
Sunset Tonight: 5:08 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:12 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Sun, Jan 08, 2017, issued 4:49 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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IN GOD'S IMAGE

Whenever pennies were made in ancient Rome, they were always stamped with the image of the emperor on them. It served as a constant reminder to those who used the coins that they were expected to honor him and obey his laws.

In the opening verses of His Word, God said, "Let us make man to be in our image, to be like us." Moses, quoting God, said that "we have the image of our God on us." And the fact that we have the image of God on us proves our unquestionable worth to God.

People frequently talk about self-worth. Often we hear of individuals who have low self-worth. Some people even describe themselves saying, "I'm really not worth very much." This seems to come from the opinions of others who they think are important – perhaps parents, friends or teachers. That is unfortunate because they seem to struggle to find something significant about themselves that would make them feel worthwhile.

However, it is never about self-worth, it is about God-worth. Whenever we are tempted to think that we have no significance or importance, we need to remind ourselves that we were created in the image of God. And even though that image was lost in the fall, the story does not end there. A few verses later God begins to reveal His plan of redemption which demanded the death of His Son on the cross. We see our true worth to God in Christ's cross.

Prayer: We admit, Father, that we cannot understand how much You love us. But we accept Your grace and ask that through Christ our Savior, we will see our worth. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Genesis 1:26-31 Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." ...

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News from the  Associated Press

Saturday's Scores By The Associated Press

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Bon Homme 70, Freeman 48
Bridgewater-Emery 61, Colman-Egan 33
Castlewood 65, Britton-Hecla 47
Clark/Willow Lake 62, Lennox 56
Corsica/Stickney 68, Wagner 33
Edina, Minn. 64, Sioux Falls Lincoln 55
Faulkton 73, Eureka/Bowdle 42
Freeman Academy/Marion 44, Mitchell Christian 27
Harding County 50, Faith 35
Kimball/White Lake 56, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 42
Langford 73, Waubay/Summit 38
Lemmon 51, McLaughlin 47
Lower Brule 81, Kadoka Area 46
Potter County 73, Strasburg-Zeeland, N.D. 53
Rapid City Christian 77, Jones County 36
Sioux County, Neb. 44, Edgemont 22
Sioux Falls Christian 66, Unity Christian, Orange City, Iowa 40
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 65, Pierre 52
Spearfish 66, Douglas 61
St. Thomas More 38, Alliance, Neb. 33
Stanley County 56, New Underwood 27
Sturgis Brown 77, Custer 42
Sully Buttes 54, James Valley Christian 45
Timber Lake 57, Philip 51
Viborg-Hurley 41, Great Plains Lutheran 37
Wall 52, Bennett County 38
Webster 71, Ipswich 52
West Central 62, Milbank Area 58
Winner 56, Gregory 50
Yankton 58, Aberdeen Central 47
CNOS Classic
Bishop Heelan Catholic, Sioux City, Iowa 73, Dakota Valley 52

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Central 54, Yankton 48
Avon 60, Marty Indian 26
Brookings 72, Huron 64, 2OT
Burke/South Central 50, Kimball/White Lake 45
Deubrook 59, Lake Preston 51

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Edina, Minn. 50, Sioux Falls Lincoln 38
Faith 60, Harding County 46
Faulkton 63, Eureka/Bowdle 23
Florence/Henry 57, Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 35
Freeman 73, Irene-Wakonda 53
Harrisburg 65, Brandon Valley 56
Hopkins, Minn. 74, Sioux Falls Roosevelt 34
Jones County 50, Rapid City Christian 19
Lennox 55, Clark/Willow Lake 42
Lower Brule 58, Kadoka Area 44
Milbank Area 38, West Central 28
New Underwood 45, Stanley County 16
Potter County 50, Strasburg-Zeeland, N.D. 24
Potter County 50, Strasburg-Zeeland, N.D. 24
Sioux County, Neb. 60, Edgemont 39
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 52, Pierre 38
Spearfish 38, Douglas 34
St. Thomas More 62, Elk Point-Jefferson 43
Sturgis Brown 58, Custer 49
Sully Buttes 80, James Valley Christian 17
Timber Lake 46, Philip 39
Todd County 69, Colome 47
Unity Christian, Orange City, Iowa 63, Sioux Falls Christian 46
Viborg-Hurley 40, Great Plains Lutheran 35
Wagner 46, Corsica/Stickney 24
Wall 61, Bennett County 18
Webster 60, Ipswich 47
Winner 70, Gregory 38

Redfield Classic
Groton Area 53, St. Francis Indian 45
Leola/Frederick 49, Hitchcock-Tulare 31
Little Wound 73, Northwestern 51
Redfield/Doland 52, Langford 23
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 55, Warner 43

Omaha hangs on for 101-93 win over South Dakota State

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Marcus Tyus scored 34 points as Omaha picked up its first conference win with a 101-93 victory over South Dakota State on Saturday.

Tyus was 10 of 16 from the field, including eight 3-pointers, for the Mavericks (8-9, 1-3 Summit League). Mitchell Hahn added 15 points and JT Gibson had 14. The team averaged 47 percent shooting from the field and 89.3 percent from the free throw line.

Tyus sank his eighth 3-pointer late in the second to give the Mavericks their biggest lead, 82-58, with 6:42 to play. The Jackrabbits (8-11, 1-3) came back and cut it to nine, 89-80, on a three-point play by Michael Orris with 2:45 left then pulled to within two, 95-93, with 22 seconds remaining. Tyus, Zach

Jackson and KJ Robinson combined for six free throws after that to keep the Mavericks out of reach. Mike Daum led the Jackrabbits with 28 points and 10 rebounds.

Late run lifts South Dakota over IUPUI 85-74

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Carlton Hurst scored a career-high 19 points, Trey Burch-Manning added 16, and South Dakota used a late rally to beat IUPUI 85-74 on Saturday to win their second straight.

Matt Mooney also scored 16 points, Triston Simpson had 12, and Trey Dickerson had 11 for the Coyotes (12-7, 3-1 Summit League), who shot 30 of 53 (56.6 percent) from the field.

Trailing 39-37 at halftime, IUPUI opened the second half with an 11-2 run in which Matt O'Leary hit a 3-pointer and the Jaguars led 48-41 with 17:54 left. Dickerson tied it at 60 with two free throws and the Coyotes led 73-70 with 3:13 left after a 10-0 run capped by Mooney's 3-pointer and free throw.

South Dakota scored six quick points and led by seven with 1:16 left, then iced it with four free throws in the final 43 seconds.

Darell Combs led the Jaguars (7-10, 1-2) with 27 points on 10-of-19 shooting.

Sioux Falls police: Resident was victim of apparent homicide

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls police are investigating a homicide.

The body was discovered Saturday night when police responded to a call for a welfare check. Police identified the victim as 28-year-old Jamie Lee WoundedArrow, of Sioux Falls.

No further details have been released.

Lawmakers set to tackle tight budget, ethics initiative

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota lawmakers start their legislative session Tuesday constrained by weak state tax collections, a trend that's expected to mean no major new public spending and could worsen as the session proceeds.

Republican Gov. Dennis Daugaard in December proposed modest increases for the upcoming fiscal year to key budget areas including education, Medicaid providers and state workers. But he's warned since then that even those might be too much.

Beyond tending to the state's fiscal house, the GOP-held Legislature is expected to repeal a government ethics initiative that voters approved in November. Daugaard has said voters were deceived by campaign advertising that implied lobbyists were bribing legislators while ignoring public campaign finance provisions in the initiative.

"I just feel it was very misleading," said Daugaard, who has suggested studying the issues covered by the initiative to find other solutions.

The beleaguered ballot measure — a state judge put it on hold while a legal challenge from Republican lawmakers and others moves forward — doesn't appear to have many legislative allies. The incoming House and Senate Republican leaders, Rep. Lee Qualm and Sen. Blake Curd, are among those challenging it.

Measure supporters hired a lobbyist and have said they're prepared to fight for it at the Capitol, which likely won't offer many friendly faces. Democrats' ranks are even thinner this year, with Republicans controlling about 85 percent of the legislative seats after November's election.

Incoming Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Lance Russell, a Republican, said he has concerns about the constitutionality of provisions in the ethics law. But he said the Legislature should wait for

resolution in court before touching it.

"For us to simply negate the will of the voters, I think, is somewhat arrogant on our part," he said.

Concerns over ballot measures extend beyond the anti-corruption initiative. A campaign season that brought in millions of dollars from out-of-state groups has some Republican lawmakers considering changes to make it more difficult to get measures on the ballot. Daugaard has said he's open to altering the initiative system.

The governor has signaled little appetite for a rehash of last session's fight over limiting the bathrooms that transgender students can use at school. Daugaard said the same bill would face his same objections, though he said he'd need to examine alternate proposals if they materialize.

The governor's office is reviewing proposals by Attorney General Marty Jackley, including a bill to crack down on criminal conflicts of interests among public officials. Jackley's plan would treat the offense as theft, which is a felony when the value exceeds \$1,000, from the current misdemeanor self-dealing penalty.

"This, depending upon the circumstances, could be used by prosecutors to hold individuals responsible that misuse taxpayer dollars," he said.

Uber, Lyft services not in the cards yet for Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Conflicting insurance and business regulations passed by the South Dakota Legislature last year mean Sioux Falls won't get Uber, Lyft or other ride-hailing services anytime soon, according to a state lawmaker.

Rep. Greg Jamison told fellow lawmakers and Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce members this week that it will be a while before either company enters the city's market. That's because of city and state insurance regulations that require companies to collect and submit sales taxes, which he called a potential deal breaker, according to the Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2j60x1e>).

"The city of Sioux Falls isn't going to look the other way," said Jamison, a Republican and former Sioux Falls City councilmember. "Until that's figured out, don't look out for Uber any time soon."

Neither company responded to an Associated Press email requesting comment on Friday.

While South Dakota's Legislature approved a law last year that set down insurance regulations and other requirements for transportation companies like Uber and Lyft, lawmakers also passed a law requiring online businesses without an in-state presence to collect and submit sales taxes. That law is meant to put online retailers on par with brick-and-mortar stores.

South Dakota sued a set of online retailers outside of the state that have kept up their business without sending in sales tax collections. Gov. Dennis Daugaard has said he hopes to take the case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

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

\$150K in security upgrades on tap for county courthouse

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — The Lawrence County Commission took the first steps this week to plan up to \$200,000 in security upgrades to the county courthouse.

The commission approved nearly \$22,000 in architectural fees during its Tuesday meeting. Possible security improvements include impact-resistant windows and doors, new walls and installing electronic-access doors. The commission hasn't yet signed off on the full project, but it could cost between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

Steve Williams of Williams and Associates Architecture worked with law enforcement to map out

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the potential security upgrades on three floors of the courthouse, the Black Hills Pioneer (<http://bit.ly/2hZ8VPk>) reported. He's envisioning safety upgrades for 16 doors, 14 windows and installing a new window wall on the Deadwood building's third floor that would include seven shatterproof windows.

"We would be taking existing doors with windows and hardening them," Williams explained. "We would put laminated glass behind the existing glass that is one-quarter-inch thick. This doesn't require buying new doors, which would be enormously expensive, if you think about maintaining the historic integrity."

The commission also considered two preliminary estimates on improving door security: a \$114,000 estimate for an electronic door hardware system similar to what a hotel uses, and a "live" monitored system that was estimated at roughly \$174,000.

The commission will make a final decision on how to proceed with the project in the near future.

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

Evaluation ordered for South Dakota man sentenced to death

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota circuit judge is asking the attorney for convicted prison guard killer Rodney Berget to submit a report about whether his client is mentally disabled.

State Attorney General Marty Jackley says the judge wants to review the findings before ruling on a motion by prosecutors to dismiss Berget's death penalty appeal. Berget told Judge Doug Hoffman in September that he wanted to drop the appeal.

Berget and another inmate, Eric Robert, were convicted of killing guard Ronald Johnson in 2011. Robert was executed in 2012.

Jackley says that testing throughout Berget's life has shown him to be a person of "at least ordinary intelligence" and there's no evidence to suggest that he isn't competent.

Berget's attorney, Eric Schulte, was not immediately available for comment.

Friday's Scores By The Associated Press

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Christian 71, Edmunds Central 43

Aberdeen Roncalli 79, Redfield/Doland 43

Alcester-Hudson 42, Menno 38

Arlington 60, Estelline 25

Bon Homme 57, Wagner 24

Brandon Valley 63, Harrisburg 51

Bridgewater-Emery 79, Freeman 45

Castlewood 59, Wilmot 37

Colman-Egan 53, DeSmet 44

Dell Rapids 78, Chamberlain 69

Dell Rapids St. Mary 61, Deubrook 48

Edina, Minn. 76, Sioux Falls Roosevelt 41

Elk Point-Jefferson 66, Viborg-Hurley 55

Groton Area 59, Hamlin 43

Hill City 75, Edgemont 11

Hot Springs 48, Spearfish 40

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Irene-Wakonda 61, Gayville-Volin 59
Langford 68, Hitchcock-Tulare 41
Little Wound 76, Todd County 58
Madison 56, Tea Area 48
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 45, Elkton-Lake Benton 31
Rapid City Stevens 64, Sioux Falls O'Gorman 54
Scotland 53, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 40
Sisseton 60, Morris Area/Chokia-Alberta, Minn. 40
Tiospa Zina Tribal 56, Britton-Hecla 51
Vermillion 67, Parkston 43
Warner 67, Eureka/Bowdle 30
Watertown 56, Mitchell 39
White River 79, St. Francis Indian 51
Winner 56, Bennett County 24
Yankton 59, Pierre 48

Big East Conference Tournament

Consolation Semifinal
Garretson 74, Howard 48
Parker 60, Baltic 46

Semifinal

Flandreau 57, McCook Central/Montrose 42
Sioux Valley 76, Chester 56

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Alcester-Hudson 39, Menno 29
Britton-Hecla 55, Tiospa Zina Tribal 38
Douglas 55, Sturgis Brown 51
Edina, Minn. 56, Sioux Falls Roosevelt 30
Edmunds Central 38, Aberdeen Christian 35
Ethan 71, Wessington Springs 13
Hamlin 56, Groton Area 33
Hanson 62, Canistota 50
Hill City 53, Edgemont 28
Hopkins, Minn. 75, Sioux Falls Lincoln 54
Irene-Wakonda 42, Gayville-Volin 28
Lennox 64, Platte-Geddes 36
Mitchell 40, Watertown 37
Newell 64, Lemmon 56
Pierre 60, Yankton 49

Rapid City Stevens 49, Sioux Falls O’Gorman 35
St. Thomas More 57, Tea Area 24
Sunshine Bible Academy 55, Iroquois 25
Vermillion 50, Parkston 26
Wagner 64, Bon Homme 4
Waubay/Summit 61, Great Plains Lutheran 38
Webster 65, Deuel 21

Israel police: Palestinian truck attack kills 4 in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM (AP) — A Palestinian rammed his truck into a group of Israeli soldiers in Jerusalem on Sunday, killing four people and wounding 15 others, Israeli police and rescue services said, in one of the deadliest attacks of a more than yearlong campaign of violence.

Security camera footage shown on Israeli Channel 2 TV showed the truck barreling at a high speed off the road and into the crowd of people in the Armon Hanatziv neighborhood. The truck is seen backing up quickly, apparently trying to crush more people, before the driver was shot dead.

“There was no sense in that reverse,” Leah Schreiber, a witness, told reporters. “He drove backward to crush more people. That was really clear.”

Israel’s police chief Roni Alsheich told reporters the attacker was from an Arab neighborhood in east Jerusalem and forces had no advance warning. He refused to elaborate, and a gag order was placed on further details pending an investigation.

Israel’s rescue service MDA said the dead included three women and a man, all in their 20s. Of the 15 wounded, one was in serious condition.

The attack matched the deadliest in a more than yearlong wave of Palestinian shooting, stabbing and vehicular attacks against Israelis that had slowed of late. Last June, a pair of gunmen killed four people at a popular Tel Aviv tourist site.

Since September 2015, Palestinian attackers have killed 40 Israelis and two visiting Americans. During that time, 230 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli fire.

Israel says most of the Palestinians killed were attackers while the rest died in clashes. The Palestinians and rights groups have accused Israel of using excessive force in some confrontations. Sunday’s incident marks the first Israeli deaths in three months.

Israel says the violence is driven by a Palestinian campaign of incitement, while Palestinians say it’s the result of nearly 50 years of Israeli occupation and dwindling hopes for an independent state.

The Palestinian Hamas movement, an Islamic militant group that rules Gaza and has killed hundreds of Israelis in attacks over the years, praised the assault but stopped short of taking responsibility.

Hamas spokesman Abdul-Latif Qanou called it a “heroic” act and encouraged other Palestinians to do the same and “escalate the resistance.”

He said the attack proves the wave of Palestinian violence has not ended, despite a recent lull. “It may be quiet, it may linger, but it will never end,” he said.

Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat called on residents to be wary but carry on with their everyday life.

“Unfortunately, there is no limit to the cruelty of terrorists who spare no means in killing Jews and disrupting their way of life,” he said. “Those who incite and support terror must pay a heavy price.”

Trump defends Russia outreach amid US intel criticism

By JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. intelligence officials are convinced that Russia meddled in the presidential race. But that hasn't changed President-elect Donald Trump's call for warmer relations with Moscow.

Trump declared in a series of tweets on Saturday that "only 'stupid' people or fools" would come to a different conclusion.

"Having a good relationship with Russia is a good thing, not a bad thing," he stated from Trump Tower, adding: "We have enough problems without yet another one."

American intelligence officials on Friday briefed the president-elect on their conclusions that the Kremlin interfered in the 2016 election in order to help him win the White House. An unclassified version of the report explicitly tied Russian President Vladimir Putin to election meddling and said that Moscow had a "clear preference" for Trump in his race against Hillary Clinton.

Trump has repeatedly sought to downplay the allegations, alarming some who see a pattern of skepticism directed at U.S. intelligence agencies and a willingness to embrace Putin.

There has been no official comment from Moscow on the report, which was released as Russia observed Orthodox Christmas.

But Alexei Pushkov, an influential member of the upper house of parliament, said on Twitter that "all the accusations against Russia are based on 'confidence' and suppositions. The USA in the same way was confident about (Iraqi leader Saddam) Hussein having weapons of mass destruction."

Margarita Simonyan, the editor of government-funded satellite TV channel RT who is frequently mentioned in the U.S. report, said in a blog post: "Dear CIA: what you have written here is a complete fail."

During the election, Trump praised the Russian strongman as a decisive leader, and argued that the two countries would benefit from a better working relationship — though attempts by the Obama administration at a "Russian reset" have proved unsuccessful.

At the same time, intelligence officials believe that Russia isn't done intruding in U.S. politics and policymaking.

Immediately after the Nov. 8 election, Russia began a "spear-phishing" campaign to try to trick people into revealing their email passwords, targeting U.S. government employees and think tanks that specialize in national security, defense and foreign policy, the unclassified version of the report said.

The report said Russian government provided hacked emails from the Democratic National Committee and Clinton's campaign chairman, John Podesta, to the anti-secrecy group WikiLeaks. The website's founder, Julian Assange, has denied that it got the emails it released from the Russian government. The report noted that the emails could have been passed through middlemen.

Russia also used state-funded propaganda and paid "trolls" to make nasty comments on social media services, the report said. Moreover, intelligence officials believe that Moscow will apply lessons learned from its activities in the election to put its thumbprint on future elections in the United States and allied nations.

The public report was minus classified details that intelligence officials shared with President Barack Obama on Thursday.

In an interview with The Associated Press after the briefing, Trump said he "learned a lot" from his discussions with intelligence officials, but he declined to say whether he accepted their assertion that Russia had intruded in the election on his behalf.

Trump released a one-page statement that did not address whether Russia sought to meddle. Instead, he said, "there was absolutely no effect on the outcome of the election" and that there "was no tampering whatsoever with voting machines."

Intelligence officials have never made that claim. And the report stated that the Department of Home-

land Security did not think that the systems that were targeted or compromised by Russian actors were "involved in vote tallying."

Trump has said he will appoint a team within three months of taking office to develop a plan to "aggressively combat and stop cyberattacks."

On Saturday, he said he wanted retired Sen. Dan Coats to be national intelligence director, describing the former member of the Senate Intelligence Committee as the right person to lead the new administration's "ceaseless vigilance against those who seek to do us harm."

Coats, in a statement released by Trump's transition team, said: "There is no higher priority than keeping America safe, and I will utilize every tool at my disposal to make that happen."

Jim Heintz contributed to this report from Moscow.

Trump son-in-law moves to distance self from business ties

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and JULIE PACE, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Jared Kushner, President-elect Donald Trump's son-in-law and one of his closest advisers, is taking steps to distance himself from his sprawling New York real estate business in what is the clearest sign yet he is planning to take a position in the new administration.

Kushner, who is married to Trump's daughter Ivanka, must clear a series of hurdles before he takes any post in Washington. He will need to argue that a federal anti-nepotism law that bars officials from appointing relatives to government positions does not apply to him as well as eliminate potential conflicts of interest between his family's multi-billion dollar real estate empire and his government duties.

Kushner, who often has the last word with the president-elect before a major decision is made, has explored stepping away from his role as CEO of the real estate business and has consulted with federal officials about resolving potential conflicts, according to his lawyer.

"Mr. Kushner is committed to complying with federal ethics laws and we have been consulting with the Office of Government Ethics regarding the steps he would take," said Jamie Gorelick, a partner at the law firm of WilmerHale, in a statement. "Although plans are not finalized, Mr. Kushner would resign from his position at Kushner Companies and divest substantial assets in accordance with federal guidelines."

Gorelick said that Kushner "would recuse from particular matters that would have a direct and predictable effect on his remaining financial interests. He would also abide by federal rules requiring impartiality in particular matters involving specific parties."

Kushner's challenges highlight a notable pattern of the incoming administration. While some government officials will be forced to divest and rearrange their financial portfolios to comply with federal ethics laws, their boss will not be required to do the same. As president, Trump is exempt from laws aimed at ensuring federal employees' personal financial interests do not influence their decisions. The president-elect has said he intends to distance himself from his own international real estate business, but he has suggested he intends to break from precedent by retaining a stake in the company.

Trump is expected to announce some plans for his business during a Wednesday news conference.

The Kushner Companies is a major real estate investor in New York and elsewhere and participated in roughly \$7 billion in acquisitions in the last decade. If Kushner joined the administration, he would divest some of business interests, including his stake in a major Fifth Avenue skyscraper, according to his spokeswoman Risa Heller. Kushner has spent months negotiating a redevelopment of that building with Anbang Insurance Group, a real estate giant with close ties to the Chinese government, The New

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York Times reported on Saturday.

In addition to working through that nest of potential conflicts, Kushner has also been consulting lawyers about a federal anti-nepotism law that bars officials from appointing relatives to government positions. The 1967 law, which was seen as a response to President John Kennedy selecting his brother Robert Kennedy as attorney general, would also be a potential obstacle for Ivanka Trump, who is also expected to have a role in her father's White House.

Some Trump advisers have argued that the law does not apply to the White House, only Cabinet agencies.

"The anti-nepotism law apparently has an exception if you want to work in the West Wing, because the president is able to appoint his own staff," Trump adviser Kellyanne Conway said in December. "The president does have discretion to choose a staff of his liking."

As precedent, some Trump backers have pointed to the woman the president-elect defeated in last year's bitter White House race: Hillary Clinton. President Bill Clinton's decision to put his wife in charge of his health care reform efforts was challenged in court, but two federal appeals judges said the anti-nepotism law did not appear to cover White House staff appointments.

But if Trump finds White House roles for his daughter and son-in-law, he's walking an ethical tight-rope that could set a precedent for future presidents, said Norm Eisen, who served as President Barack Obama's chief ethics counselor.

For example, if the first lady's office essentially becomes the first family's office, "it will be like institutionalizing nepotism," he said. "And I think it could be politically perilous." At the least, Eisen said, Trump should ensure the couple is categorized as regular government employees who must routinely publicly file disclosures about their business ties and investments.

In the campaign's stretch, Kushner was a constant presence at his father-in-law's side. He has acted as a gatekeeper to Trump in the transition and has sat in on scores of high-level meetings, including Cabinet interviews.

If he takes a government post, his presence in the West Wing would add another power center in a White House that is shaping up to be top heavy. Incoming chief of staff Reince Priebus and senior adviser Steve Bannon were announced as "equals." Conway, who will serve as counselor to the president, is also likely to have autonomy and direct access to Trump.

Ivanka Trump has taken steps to leave her role at the Trump Organization, which the president-elect said would be run by company executives and his two adult sons, Don Jr. and Eric.

In a brief interview Friday with The Associated Press, Trump said he has a "very simple solution" for addressing his business ties, but would not detail the plans. He also suggested the matter was not important to Americans.

"When I won, everybody knew that I had a very big business and a very successful business," he said. "The voters knew that."

Pace reported from Washington. Julie Bykowicz contributed reporting from Washington.

Reach Lemire on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire> and Pace at <http://twitter.com/@JPaceDC>

Even with increased airport security vulnerabilities remain

By LISA MARIE PANE, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — In a post-9/11 world, American airports have taken all sorts of steps to keep travelers safe. But significant vulnerabilities remain.

The attack that killed five people Friday at the Fort Lauderdale airport raised concerns about how to further protect travelers and what place firearms have in U.S. airports.

Authorities say Iraq war veteran Esteban Santiago flew in from Alaska, retrieved a handgun from his checked luggage, went to a bathroom to load it and then returned to the baggage claim area to open fire.

"There's no question we need to review not only the question of whether people should be able to travel with their firearms even if they're in checked baggage, but I think we need to take a hard look at the security around baggage claim areas, and not just leave it at that," said U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, whose district includes the airport.

Transportation security and law enforcement experts say the baggage claim area remains one of the most vulnerable parts of the airport. Security is lighter and large numbers of people move in and out quickly.

"What went wrong yesterday ... is that baggage claim is the softest of soft targets. I mean an elementary school is harder to get into than a baggage claim at an airport," said Chris Grollnek, a former law enforcement officer who specializes in security issues, especially involving active shooter situations.

Indeed, he notes, it's more difficult to get out of the baggage claim area where at least a minimal security presence screens people leaving to make sure they haven't taken someone else's luggage than it is to enter the area.

After virtually every terror attack or attempted attack, authorities have issued new restrictions: requiring passengers to remove their shoes to expose any explosive material and limiting the amount of liquid in carry-on bags. But experts say the public areas of an airport remain vulnerable, because the focus of security is devoted to screening passengers to keep their flights safe.

Just in the past year suicide bombers targeted ticket and terminal areas in Brussels and Istanbul, Turkey.

The only way to prevent such attacks, Grollnek and other experts said, is to ensure the wrong people don't get guns and to encourage the general public to alert authorities if they believe a friend or family member is acting erratically. He likened it to farmers who were enlisted in the Civil Air Patrol to spot potential illegal activity while they were in the air in crop dusters.

Florida is one of six states that restrict firearms at the airport, declaring it a "gun-free" zone, along with schools and government meetings. Before the shooting, state legislators sought to relax those restrictions, arguing they prevent people from protecting themselves from attack. Opponents of those efforts, said having guns there would make them more dangerous. Gun-free zones at airports still allow for travelers to bring their firearms to the airport to be checked, and then retrieve it once they land.

"Yesterday should serve as a reminder that guns have no place in such areas in our communities," said Michelle Gajda, with Florida Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America.

But Kevin Michalowski, executive editor of Concealed Carry magazine, said gun-free zones give a false sense of security. "What they do is provide a safe space for someone who decides to commit mass murder to go ahead and do it without anyone getting in his or her way," he said.

Mark Lea, 53, had just flown in from Minnesota and was in the baggage claim area when the shooting began. He helped evacuate people and saw the shooter. Lea said he has a concealed carry permit but

did not have his weapon with him because he was going on a cruise. He said he would have shot the man had he had his own weapon.

"Yes, by all means," said Lea. "I would've shot him and not even thought twice about it."

Transportation security experts say the safe transport of firearms and gun-free zones present a balancing act between ensuring the public's safety without trampling on constitutional rights.

An easy solution might be to require travelers to ship their firearms ahead of time, said Mary Schiavo, former Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Transportation. But then you would run afoul of constitutional issues involving the right to interstate travel and the firearm owners protection act. Another option might be to restrict ammunition from being transported on planes, but that is not without its own constitutional concerns, she said.

"It's a knotty problem," Schiavo said.

Associated Press reporters Tamara Lush and Curt Anderson contributed to this report.

Lisa Marie Pane can be followed on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/lisamariepane> .

US seeks death penalty in Florida airport shooting case

By KELLI KENNEDY, Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — While investigators try to figure out the motive of an Iraq war veteran accused of killing five travelers and wounding six others at a busy international airport in Florida, the suspected gunman was charged and could face the death penalty if convicted.

Esteban Santiago, 26, was charged with an act of violence at an international airport resulting in death — which carries a maximum punishment of execution — and weapons charges.

Santiago told investigators that he planned the attack, buying a one-way ticket to the Fort Lauderdale airport, a federal complaint said. Authorities don't know why he chose his target and have not ruled out terrorism.

"Today's charges represent the gravity of the situation and reflect the commitment of federal, state and local law enforcement personnel to continually protect the community and prosecute those who target our residents and visitors," U.S. Attorney Wifredo Ferrer said.

Authorities said during a news conference that they had interviewed roughly 175 people, including a lengthy interrogation with a cooperative Santiago, who is a former National Guard soldier from Alaska. Flights had resumed at the Fort Lauderdale airport after the bloodshed, though the terminal where the shooting happened remained closed.

FBI Agent George Piro said Santiago spoke to investigators for several hours after he opened fire with a 9mm semi-automatic handgun that he appears to have legally checked on a flight from Alaska.

"Indications are that he came here to carry out this horrific attack," Piro said. "We have not identified any triggers that would have caused this attack. We're pursuing all angles on what prompted him to carry out this horrific attack."

Investigators are combing through social media and other information to determine Santiago's motive, and it's too early to say whether terrorism played a role, Piro said. In November, Santiago had walked into an FBI field office in Alaska saying the U.S. government was controlling his mind and forcing him to watch Islamic State group videos, authorities said.

"He was a walk-in complaint. This is something that happens at FBI offices around the country every day," FBI agent Marlin Ritzman said.

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Santiago had a loaded magazine on him, but had left a gun in his vehicle, along with his newborn child, authorities said. Officers seized the weapon and local officers took him to get a mental health evaluation. His girlfriend picked up the child.

On Dec. 8, the gun was returned to Santiago. Authorities wouldn't say if it was the same gun used in the airport attack.

U.S. Attorney Karen Loeffler said Santiago would have been able to legally possess a gun because he had not been judged mentally ill, which is a higher standard than having an evaluation.

Santiago had not been placed on the U.S. no-fly list and appears to have acted alone, authorities said.

The attack sent panicked witnesses running out of the terminal and spilling onto the tarmac, baggage in hand. Others hid in bathroom stalls or crouched behind cars or anything else they could find as police and paramedics rushed in to help the wounded and establish whether there were any other gunmen.

Mark Lea, 53, had just flown in from Minnesota with his wife for a cruise when he heard three quick cracks, like a firecracker. Then came more cracks, and "I knew it was more than just a firecracker," he said.

Making sure his wife was outside, Lea helped evacuate some older women who had fallen, he said. Then he saw the shooter.

"He was just kind of randomly shooting people," he said. "If you were in his path, you were going to get shot. He was walking and shooting."

Over the course of about 45 seconds, the shooter reloaded twice, he said. When he was out of bullets, he walked away, dropped the gun and lay face down, spread eagle on the floor, Lea said.

By that time, a deputy had arrived and grabbed the shooter. Lea put his foot on the gun to secure it.

Lea went to help the injured and a woman from Iowa asked about her husband, who she described. Lea saw a man who fit his description behind a row of chairs, motionless, shot in the head and lying in a pool of blood, he said. The man, Michael Oehme, was identified as one of the dead victims on Saturday.

Santiago had been discharged from the National Guard last year after being demoted for unsatisfactory performance. Bryan Santiago said Saturday that his brother had requested psychological help but received little assistance. Esteban Santiago said in August that he was hearing voices.

"How is it possible that the federal government knows, they hospitalize him for only four days, and then give him his weapon back?" Bryan Santiago said.

His mother declined to comment as she stood inside the screen door of the family home in Puerto Rico, wiping tears from her eyes. The only thing she said was that Esteban Santiago had been tremendously affected by seeing a bomb explode next to two of his friends when he was around 18 years old while serving in Iraq.

Santiago, who is in federal custody with no bail, will face federal charges and is expected to appear in court Monday, Piro said.

It is legal for airline passengers to travel with guns and ammunition as long as the firearms are put in a checked bag — not a carry-on — and are unloaded and locked in a hard-sided container. Guns must be declared to the airline at check-in.

Santiago arrived in Fort Lauderdale after taking off from Anchorage aboard a Delta flight Thursday night, checking only one piece of luggage — his gun, said Jesse Davis, police chief at the Anchorage airport.

Associated Press writers Curt Anderson in Miami; Tamara Lush in Pembroke Pines, Florida; Lolita C. Baldor and Eric Tucker in Washington; Becky Bohrer in Juneau, Alaska; David Koenig in Dallas; and Danica Coto in San Juan, Puerto Rico, contributed to this report.

Just another Sunday? North Korea low key on Kim's birthday

By ERIC TALMADGE, Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — North Korea marked Kim Jong Un's birthday on Sunday in a decidedly low-key manner.

Though the young leader's birthday is well-known throughout the country, it has yet to be celebrated with the kind of adulatory festivities that accompany the birthdays of his late grandfather and father. Pyongyang residents did what they do every second Sunday of the new year — joined in sports events.

Kim Jong Un, who is believed to be 33 or 34 and the world's youngest head of state, assumed power after the death of his father, Kim Jong Il, in late 2011.

With the official period of mourning his father's death over and his own powerbase apparently solid, Kim presided over a once-in-a-generation party congress last May that was seen by many as something of a coronation and the beginning of the Kim Jong Un era.

But he has continued to keep a step or two behind his predecessors in the country's intense cult of personality. Kim's grandfather, "eternal president" Kim Il Sung, and Kim Jong Il statues and portraits are found in virtually every public space or home. Their pins are worn over the hearts of every adult man and woman.

Rumors were rife that a new pin featuring Kim Jong Un would be issued during the May party congress, but they proved to be unfounded. Calendars for this year don't denote Jan. 8 as anything other than a normal Sunday, and there was no mention of the birthday in Rodong Sinmun, the ruling party newspaper.

The only time Kim has been honored in public on his birthday was in 2014, when former NBA star Dennis Rodman sang "Happy Birthday" to him before an exhibition basketball game in Pyongyang.

North Korean officials say the low-key approach — and the very little information made public about his wife and family — reflects Kim's "humble" nature and respect for his forbearers. Kim seemed to amplify that image in his annual New Year's address, when he closed with remarks about his desire to be a better leader.

Even so, 2017 could turn out to be a bigger than normal year in North Korea for Kim-related events.

State media have suggested Kim Jong Il's birthday in February and especially Kim Il Sung's birthday in April will be celebrated in a more lavish than usual manner, though exactly what's in store is not known. And Kim Jong Un has already had something of a big New Year's event — days after his address, tens of thousands of North Koreans rallied in Pyongyang in the customary show of support for their leader.

Columnist Nat Hentoff dies at 91

By HILLEL ITALIE, AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Nat Hentoff, an eclectic columnist, critic, novelist and agitator dedicated to music, free expression and defying the party line, died Saturday at age 91.

His son, Tom Hentoff, said his father died from natural causes at his Manhattan apartment.

Schooled in the classics and the stories he heard from Duke Ellington and other jazz greats, Nat Hentoff enjoyed a diverse and iconoclastic career, basking in "the freedom to be infuriating on a myriad of subjects."

He was a bearded, scholarly figure, a kind of secular rabbi, as likely to write a column about fiddler Bob Wills as a dissection of the Patriot Act, to have his name appear in the liberal Village Voice as the far-right WorldNetDaily.com, where his column last appeared in August 2016.

Ellington, Charlie Parker, Malcolm X and I.F. Stone were among his friends and acquaintances. He

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wrote liner notes for records by Aretha Franklin, Max Roach and Ray Charles and was the first non-musician named a Jazz Master by the National Endowment of the Arts. He also received honors from the American Bar Association, the National Press Foundation, and, because of his opposition to abortion, the Human Life Foundation.

Hentoff's steadiest job was with the Voice, where he worked for 50 years and wrote a popular column. He wrote for years about jazz for DownBeat and had a music column for the Wall Street Journal. His more than 25 books included works on jazz and the First Amendment, the novels "Call the Keeper" and "Blues for Charles Darwin" and the memoirs "Boston Boy" and "Speaking Freely."

The documentary "The Pleasures of Being Out of Step: Notes on the Life of Nat Hentoff" was released in 2014.

Jazz was his first love, but Hentoff was an early admirer of Bob Dylan, first hearing the then-unknown singer at a Greenwich Village club in 1961 and getting on well enough with him to write liner notes two years later for Dylan's landmark second album, "The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan."

"The irrepressible reality of Bob Dylan is a compound of spontaneity, candor, slicing wit and an uncommonly perceptive eye and ear for the way many of us constrict our capacity for living while a few of us don't," Hentoff wrote.

At a time when the media alternately treated Dylan like a prophet or the latest teen fad, Hentoff asked well-informed questions that were (usually) answered in kind by the cryptic star. Hentoff also was willing to be Dylan's partner in improvisation. A 1966 Playboy interview, he later revealed, had been made up from scratch after Dylan rejected the first conversation that was supposed to be published by the magazine.

As a columnist, Hentoff focused tirelessly on the Constitution and what he saw as a bipartisan mission to undermine it. He tallied the crimes of Richard Nixon and labeled President Clinton's anti-terrorism legislation "an all-out assault on the Bill of Rights." He even parted from other First Amendment advocates, quitting the American Civil Liberties Union because of the ACLU's support for speech codes in schools and workplaces.

Left-wing enough to merit an FBI file, an activist from age 15 when he organized a union at a Boston candy chain, Hentoff was deeply opposed to abortion, angering many of his colleagues at the Village Voice and elsewhere. In 2008, he turned against the campaign of Barack Obama over what he regarded as the candidate's extreme views, including rejection of legislation that would have banned partial birth abortions.

Hentoff was born in 1925, the son of a Russian-Jewish haberdasher. Thrown out of Hebrew school, he flaunted his unbelief, even eating a salami sandwich in front of his house on Yom Kippur, the Jewish day of fasting and atonement. In 1982, his opposition to Israel's invasion of Lebanon led to a trio of rabbis declaring he had been excommunicated.

"I only wished the three rabbis really had the authority to hold that court," Hentoff later wrote. "I would have told them about my life as a heretic, a tradition I keep precisely because I am a Jew."

He was educated as a boy at Boston's Latin School, alma mater to Ralph Waldo Emerson among others. But his best lessons were received at a local jazz joint, where Ben Webster and Rex Stewart were among those who took a liking to the teenage fan and became, Hentoff recalled, "my itinerant foster fathers." Back in the classroom, Hentoff would hide jazz magazines inside his textbooks.

In college, Northeastern University, Hentoff found a home at the Savoy Cafe and befriended Ellington, drummer Jo Jones and others. Ellington not only lectured him on music, but enlightened young Hentoff (who eventually married three times) on the loopholes in monogamy. "Nobody likes to be owned," Ellington told him.

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After graduating, Hentoff worked as a disc jockey and moved to New York to edit DownBeat, from which he was fired in 1957, because, he alleged, he had attempted to employ an African-American writer. A year later, he joined the Village Voice and remained until he was laid off in December 2008.

"I came here in 1958 because I wanted a place where I could write freely on anything I cared about," Hentoff wrote in his final Voice column, published in January 2009. "Over the years, my advice to new and aspiring reporters is to remember what Tom Wicker, a first-class professional spelunker, then at The New York Times, said in a tribute to Izzy Stone: 'He never lost his sense of rage.' Neither have I."

Snow pounds parts of East Coast, spares several big cities

By JONATHAN DREW and BEN FINLEY, Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Snow and sleet pounded a large swath of the U.S. East Coast on Saturday, coating roads with ice and causing hundreds of crashes. Thousands of people lost power and forecasters warned of blizzard-like conditions from Virginia to parts of the Northeast.

Police investigated several fatal crashes as potentially storm-related, but some of the South's biggest cities — Atlanta, Charlotte and Raleigh — appeared to avoid the worst of the storm. Authorities praised residents for learning the lessons of past storms that resulted in icy gridlock, where thousands of people were stranded along the interstates. But officials warned that bitter cold would keep roads treacherous well after the snow and sleet stopped.

"If I tell you anything it would be stay home," North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper said. "Do not go out and drive on the roads unless you absolutely have to."

The storm lingered in northeastern North Carolina and southeastern Virginia, where blizzard conditions were reported. The weather was believed to be responsible for a 20-vehicle pileup on a Connecticut highway, although initial reports indicated there were no serious injuries.

A National Weather Service map showed the snowfall seemed to follow the Interstate 85 corridor through the state, with locations along and north of the highway receiving snow, and areas to the south getting rain and sleet.

Snowfall totals reached up to 10 inches in at least seven North Carolina locations, including Greensboro and High Point, Lewisville in Forsyth County, and Lenoir and Rhodhiss in Caldwell County, according to preliminary figures from the National Weather Service.

A foot of snow fell in parts of eastern Virginia, according to the National Weather Service, and a blizzard warning was issued for the cities along the coast.

North Carolina reported more than 700 crashes, while Virginia State Police said they responded to 500 crashes. Parts of three interstates in Mississippi were gridlocked by icy conditions. Hundreds of flights were canceled, from Atlanta to airports farther north.

At least three deaths are being blamed on the weather. In Kentucky, a man was killed when his pickup truck went off a snow-slickened Kentucky road Thursday. In Georgia, a 20-year-old Georgia State University student was killed after his SUV crashed on Interstate 75 in Monroe County. Virginia State Police say slick roads caused a man's SUV to run off the road and overturn in a creek, killing him. Motorist deaths in North Carolina and Maryland as the storm blew in were also being investigated to see if they were caused by the weather.

North Carolina power outages peaked around 25,000, according to the governor, but power company figures indicate the number had dropped to several thousand by late Saturday.

In Cornelius, north of Charlotte, Matt Thomas said he used a ruler to measure nearly 6 inches of snow and sleet that had piled up on the back of his pickup truck. He planned to spend the weekend enjoying the snow and watching television. A plow passed through his neighborhood, but the road still looked

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slippery.

"The sleet started first, so there's definitely a layer of ice under the snow," he said by phone. "I'm staying home."

The unpredictable storm left some areas with much different outcomes than neighboring counties. Unofficial totals from the National Weather Service showed that much of Raleigh and Charlotte had 2 inches or less of precipitation — much of it sleet — while areas to the north of both cities got several inches of snow.

In Atlanta and parts of Georgia, people who were expecting a couple of inches of snow instead woke up to a thin coat of ice. The National Weather Service was issuing an advisory warning northern Georgia to brace for bitterly cold air and strong wind.

Along the Outer Banks in North Carolina, snow wasn't a problem, but high winds including 60 mph gusts forced the cancellation of ferry service.

"There are quite a few disappointed residents here who were hoping to see a few inches of snow on the sand, maybe take a ride on their bodyboards down Jockey's Ridge," said Sam Walker III, news director for Max Radio and the Outer Banks Voice. "Instead, it's just been another typical, windy, wet and cold nor'easter on the Outer Banks."

Some took to social media to complain that they didn't have anything to sled in, prompting an apologetic Tweet from one well-known Raleigh weatherman.

"To all my detractors, more than 24 hours ago I began talking about how this snow event could go up in smoke. I try to be honest-all I can do," WRAL-TV chief meteorologist Greg Fishel said early Saturday.

The men's basketball game between the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and N.C. State University was postponed until Sunday because of concerns about hazardous driving conditions. In Portland, Oregon, an NBA game between the Trail Blazers and the Detroit Pistons scheduled for Saturday was postponed until Sunday because of the potential for severe winter weather.

Even with snow coating Virginia Beach roads, diners and staff made it to the popular breakfast spot Citrus.

"When there's bad weather, people come out," manager Tara Junke said. "I've worked in restaurants for 20 years in Hampton Roads and we've never shut down for snow."

Chris Turner, 58, a health care analyst sitting at the counter with a mug of tea, said he drove 7 miles to his usual breakfast spot, aided by four-wheel drive.

"I'd rather be out," he said. "I can't stay at home."

Out west, rain on top of heavy snowpack led to flooding in Nevada. Rains in California raised the prospect of mudslides, while snow, freezing rain and strong winds plagued Utah.

Finley reported from Virginia Beach, Virginia. Tom Foreman Jr. reported from Winston-Salem.

Brother of airport shooting suspect says US gov't failed him

By DANICA COTO, Associated Press

PENUELAS, Puerto Rico (AP) — The brother of a man accused of killing five people at a Florida airport questioned Saturday why his brother was allowed to keep his gun after U.S. authorities knew he'd become increasingly paranoid and was hearing voices.

Esteban Santiago, 26, had trouble controlling his anger after serving in Iraq and told his brother that he felt he was being chased and controlled by the CIA through secret online messages. When he told agents at an FBI field office his paranoid thoughts in November, he was evaluated for four days, then released without any follow-up medication or therapy.

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"The FBI failed there," Bryan Santiago told The Associated Press. "We're not talking about someone who emerged from anonymity to do something like this."

Speaking in Spanish outside his family's house in Penuelas, the brother said: "The federal government already knew about this for months, they had been evaluating him for a while, but they didn't do anything."

Bryan Santiago said he noted that his brother was behaving differently when he returned from Iraq. "He sometimes couldn't control his anger," he said. "You could tell something had changed."

Bryan Santiago said that when he went to visit his brother in Alaska last August, he said Santiago told him he was hearing voices and felt he was being chased.

Authorities in Alaska on Saturday defended their interactions with Esteban Santiago. FBI Special Agent in Charge Marlin Ritzman told a news conference that Santiago broke no laws when he walked into the Anchorage FBI office "making disjointed comments about mind control." He characterized Santiago as a "walk-in complaint," which he said offices around the country receive daily.

Anchorage police were called to the office by the agency, told Santiago he was having "terroristic thoughts" and believed he was being influenced by the so-called Islamic State group and was taken to a mental health facility, city Police Chief Chris Tolley said. Santiago had left a gun and his newborn child in his vehicle when he went to the FBI office. Police held the gun until Santiago was released and contacted him about picking up the weapon, which he did on Dec. 8, Tolley said.

Authorities would not confirm whether he used the same gun Friday. "There is speculation that it is the same gun. I have not received confirmation that it, in fact, is that gun," Tolley said.

In recent years, Esteban Santiago — a new dad — had been living in Anchorage. But there were signs of trouble.

He was charged in a domestic violence case in January 2016, damaging a door when he forced his way into a bathroom at his girlfriend's Anchorage home. The woman told officers he yelled at her to leave, choked her and smacked her on the side of the head, according to charging documents.

A month later, municipal prosecutors said he violated the conditions of his release when officers found him at her home during a routine check. He told police he had lived there since he was released from custody the previous month. His Anchorage attorney, Max Holmquist, declined to discuss his client.

Tolley detailed other complaints of physical disturbances last year involving Santiago but said officers either found no probable cause for arrest or were told by the city prosecutor not to arrest him.

Bryan Santiago said his brother had requested psychological help but barely received any.

"I told him to go to church or to seek professional help," he said.

Family members have said Esteban Santiago changed after serving a yearlong tour in Iraq. He was born in New Jersey but moved to Puerto Rico when he was 2, his brother said. He grew up in Penuelas before joining the Guard in 2007.

He deployed in 2010 as part of the Puerto Rico National Guard, spending a year with an engineering battalion, according to Guard spokesman Maj. Paul Dahlen.

Esteban Santiago's mother wiped tears from her eyes as she stood inside a screen door Saturday. She said her son had been tremendously affected by seeing a bomb explode near two friends while serving in Iraq.

Alaska National Guard spokeswoman Lt. Col. Candis Olmstead told The New York Times that two soldiers in Santiago's company had died during his stint in Iraq.

Former neighbor Ursula Candelario in Penuelas recalled seeing Esteban Santiago grow up and said people used to salute him after he joined the Guard. "He was very peaceful, very educated, very serious," she said. "We're in shock. I couldn't believe it."

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Since returning from Iraq, Santiago served in the Army Reserves and the Alaska National Guard in Anchorage, Olmstead told AP. He was serving as a combat engineer in the Guard before his discharge for "unsatisfactory performance." His military rank upon discharge was E3, private 1st class, and he worked one weekend a month with an additional 15 days of training yearly, Olmstead said.

She would not elaborate on his discharge. The Pentagon said he went AWOL several times and was demoted and discharged.

While it is unclear if Esteban Santiago had been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, as many as one in five veterans who served in Iraq or Afghanistan develop the affliction each year, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. A 2014 Veterans Affairs study found that almost 30 percent of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan who sought treatment at VA hospitals were diagnosed with PTSD symptoms.

His uncle and aunt in New Jersey were trying to make sense of what they were hearing about Santiago. FBI agents arrived at their house to question them on Friday.

Maria Ruiz told The Record newspaper that her nephew had recently become a father to a son and was struggling.

"It was like he lost his mind," she said in Spanish of his return from Iraq. "He said he saw things."

Santiago was flying from Anchorage on a Delta flight and had checked only one piece of luggage, which contained the gun.

Puerto Rico Sen. Nelson Cruz, who knew the family and represents the town where they live, said he had been talking regularly with Bryan Santiago since the shooting.

"They're very humble and very Christian people," Cruz said. "They want to tell the families of the victims that they're extremely saddened and extremely upset by what happened."

Becky Bohrer in Juneau, Alaska; Rachel D'Oro and Mark Thiessen in Anchorage, Alaska; Jason Dearen in Gainesville, Florida and Lolita C. Baldor and Eric Tucker in Washington contributed to this report.

Public areas of airports seen as most vulnerable to attack

By LISA MARIE PANE, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — In a post-9/11 world, American airports have taken all sorts of steps to keep travelers safe. But significant vulnerabilities remain.

The attack that killed five people Friday at the Fort Lauderdale airport raised concerns about how to further protect travelers and what place firearms have in U.S. airports.

Authorities say Iraq war veteran Esteban Santiago flew in from Alaska, retrieved a handgun from his checked luggage, went to a bathroom to load it and then returned to the baggage claim area to open fire.

"There's no question we need to review not only the question of whether people should be able to travel with their firearms even if they're in checked baggage, but I think we need to take a hard look at the security around baggage claim areas, and not just leave it at that," said U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, whose district includes the airport.

Transportation security and law enforcement experts say the baggage claim area remains one of the most vulnerable parts of the airport. Security is lighter and large numbers of people move in and out quickly.

"What went wrong yesterday ... is that baggage claim is the softest of soft targets. I mean an elementary school is harder to get into than a baggage claim at an airport," said Chris Grollnek, a former law

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enforcement officer who specializes in security issues, especially involving active shooter situations.

Indeed, he notes, it's more difficult to get out of the baggage claim area where at least a minimal security presence screens people leaving to make sure they haven't taken someone else's luggage than it is to enter the area.

After virtually every terror attack or attempted attack, authorities have issued new restrictions: requiring passengers to remove their shoes to expose any explosive material and limiting the amount of liquid in carry-on bags. But experts say the public areas of an airport remain vulnerable, because the focus of security is devoted to screening passengers to keep their flights safe.

Just in the past year suicide bombers targeted ticket and terminal areas in Brussels and Istanbul, Turkey.

The only way to prevent such attacks, Grollnek and other experts said, is to ensure the wrong people don't get guns and to encourage the general public to alert authorities if they believe a friend or family member is acting erratically. He likened it to farmers who were enlisted in the Civil Air Patrol to spot potential illegal activity while they were in the air in crop dusters.

Florida is one of six states that restrict firearms at the airport, declaring it a "gun-free" zone, along with schools and government meetings. Before the shooting, state legislators sought to relax those restrictions, arguing they prevent people from protecting themselves from attack. Opponents of those efforts, said having guns there would make them more dangerous. Gun-free zones at airports still allow for travelers to bring their firearms to the airport to be checked, and then retrieve it once they land.

"Yesterday should serve as a reminder that guns have no place in such areas in our communities," said Michelle Gajda, with Florida Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America.

But Kevin Michalowski, executive editor of Concealed Carry magazine, said gun-free zones give a false sense of security. "What they do is provide a safe space for someone who decides to commit mass murder to go ahead and do it without anyone getting in his or her way," he said.

Mark Lea, 53, had just flown in from Minnesota and was in the baggage claim area when the shooting began. He helped evacuate people and saw the shooter. Lea said he has a concealed carry permit but did not have his weapon with him because he was going on a cruise. He said he would have shot the man had he had his own weapon.

"Yes, by all means," said Lea. "I would've shot him and not even thought twice about it."

Transportation security experts say the safe transport of firearms and gun-free zones present a balancing act between ensuring the public's safety without trampling on constitutional rights.

An easy solution might be to require travelers to ship their firearms ahead of time, said Mary Schiavo, former Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Transportation. But then you would run afoul of constitutional issues involving the right to interstate travel and the firearm owners protection act. Another option might be to restrict ammunition from being transported on planes, but that is not without its own constitutional concerns, she said.

"It's a knotty problem," Schiavo said.

Associated Press reporters Tamara Lush and Curt Anderson contributed to this report.

Lisa Marie Pane can be followed on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/lisamariepane> .

SeaWorld San Diego ending killer whale show

SAN DIEGO (AP) — SeaWorld San Diego is ending its long-running killer whale show after years of outcry and falling attendance prompted it to renounce theatrical orca displays.

The show that featured killer whales cavorting with trainers and leaping high out of the Shamu Stadium pool will have its final performances on Sunday.

This summer, the park will unveil a new attraction in the revamped pool. Orca Encounter is being billed as an educational experience that will show how killer whales eat, communicate and navigate.

The animals will still receive cues from trainers, however.

"You will still see a whale leaping out of the water," Al Garver, a former orca trainer and vice president of zoological operations, told the San Diego Union-Tribune (<http://bit.ly/2i2Mxo4>). "We want to be able to demonstrate behaviors people would see in the wild with the killer whales and their abilities as a top predator in the sea. The vast majority of behaviors people have seen in our shows will be very suitable for demonstrating that."

The park has 11 orcas, ranging in age from 2 to 52 years old.

Under pressure from activists and faced with declining ticket sales, SeaWorld Entertainment Inc. announced last year it was ending its theatrical orca shows and breeding program.

Parks in Orlando and San Antonio will end their shows by 2019.

SeaWorld has seen attendance fall since the 2013 documentary "Blackfish" criticized conditions of captive orcas, implying that confinement made them more aggressive.

"Blackfish" chronicled the life of Tilikum, an orca that killed a SeaWorld trainer during a performance in Orlando in 2010.

The movie's director has told CBS that the new show was designed to make the audience feel better, not the animals.

"The trainers aren't safe, and the whales aren't happy," Gabriela Cowperthwaite said. "They're still just doing manic circles around concrete swimming pools."

SeaWorld reported Friday that Tilikum, who was believed to be about 36 years old and in poor health, had died in Orlando.

SeaWorld Entertainment Inc. announced last month that it was eliminating 320 jobs across its 12-park company. The company also announced that it would help develop its first SeaWorld park without orcas, in Abu Dhabi.

Blast in Syrian town on Turkish border kills nearly 50

By SARAH EL DEEB, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — A car bomb ripped through a busy commercial district in a rebel-held Syrian town along the Turkish border Saturday, killing nearly 50 in a huge explosion that damaged buildings and left rescuers scrambling to find survivors amid the wreckage, opposition activists said.

Rescuers and doctors said the explosion was so large there were nearly 100 wounded and burned. Over 50 wounded were transported to the Turkish border town of Kilis for treatment, as local hospitals couldn't cope.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility. Locals said a rigged tanker caused the explosion and blamed Islamic State militants, who have carried out attacks in the town before. The militant group has been increasingly pressed in Syria and Iraq, and has escalated its attacks against Turkey — which backs Syrian opposition fighters in a campaign against the group in northern Syria.

Azaz, only a couple of miles from the Turkish border, is a key town on a route used by opposition

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fighters moving between Syria and Turkey, and is a hub for anti-government activists as well as many displaced from the recent fighting in Aleppo city. Activists say its pre-war population of 30,000 has swelled.

It is also sandwiched between rival groups, including Kurdish fighters to the west and Turkey-backed opposition groups to the east. Islamic State militants, who have tried to advance on the key border town before have been pushed back farther east in recent months in the Turkey-backed offensive.

The bomb went off early Saturday afternoon outside a local courthouse and security headquarters operated by the opposition fighters who control the town, resident and activist Saif Alnajdi told The Associated Press from Azaz.

"It hit the busiest part of the town," Alnajdi said, referring to the administrative part of town.

A medical worker speaking to a local media outfit, al-Jisr, said many charred bodies, and body parts mixed with bones and mud, were piled up in local hospitals.

Rami Abdurrahman, the head of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group, said at least 48 people were killed, including 14 fighters and guards to the local courthouse. He said the explosion was caused by a rigged water or fuel tanker, which explained the large blast and high death toll. The activist-operated local Azaz Media center and Shabha Press put the death toll at 60, adding that search and rescue operations continued for hours after the explosion.

Alnajdi said rescue workers were still working to identify and remove the bodies from the area, suggesting that the death toll was not final. He said some of the severely wounded were transported across the border into the Turkish town of Kilis for treatment. The Turkish state-run Anadolu news agency said 53 wounded Syrians were brought to Kilis' local hospital for treatment, including five in critical condition, transferred to Gaziantep. The agency said one later died.

Media activist Baha al-Halabi, based in Aleppo province and who gathered information from Azaz residents, said witnesses reported many unidentified bodies. Footage shared online showed a large plume of black smoke rising above the chaotic street with the sound of gunfire in the background as onlookers gathered around the site. In one instance, a father ran away from the scene, carrying his child to safety.

The court house and the security headquarters were damaged, as well as the Red Crescent and municipality offices, according to activists in the area.

Many rebels and civilians who were pushed out of Aleppo city during a massive government offensive late last year have resettled in Azaz. Syrian Kurdish forces control territory to the west of Azaz, and have often tried advancing toward the town, causing friction with Turkish troops and allied Syrian opposition fighters. To the east, opposition fighters backed by Turkey have been pushing back Islamic State extremists, gaining territory and advancing on the IS-stronghold town of al-Bab, further east. Turkey considers Syria Kurdish factions there terrorists, linked to a local group it is battling at home.

A nationwide week-long cease-fire has mostly held across most of Syria after Russia and Turkey, who support opposite sides of the conflict, reached an agreement late December. It is set to pave the way for peace talks between Assad's government and the opposition in Kazakhstan later this month. The Islamic State group and al-Qaida-linked group Fatah al-Sham Front are not included in the deal, according to the Syrian government.

Associated press writer Zeynep Bilginsoy in Istanbul contributed to this report.

Trump: Only 'stupid' people, fools oppose better Russia ties

By JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — President-elect Donald Trump said Saturday that “only ‘stupid’ people or fools” would dismiss closer ties with Russia, and he seemed unswayed after his classified briefing on an intelligence report that accused Moscow of meddling on his behalf in the election that catapulted him to power.

“Having a good relationship with Russia is a good thing, not a bad thing,” Trump said in a series of tweets.

He added, “We have enough problems without yet another one,” and said Russians would respect “us far more” under his administration than they do with Barack Obama in the White House.

Trump repeatedly has questioned the assessment by American intelligence agencies that the Kremlin interfered in the 2016 election, and a classified report presented to him Friday seemed to have little changed his thinking.

The report explicitly tied Russian President Vladimir Putin to election meddling and said that Moscow had a “clear preference” for Republican Trump in his race against Democrat Hillary Clinton.

But Trump tweeted that with the many global issues confronting the United States, it doesn’t need testy ties with Russia on the list. “Only ‘stupid’ people, or fools, would think that it is bad” to have a good relationship, he said, and suggested his approach might allow the adversaries to work together to solve “some of the many great and pressing problems and issues of the WORLD!”

Even as intelligence officials looked back in their reports on the election, they also made a troublesome prediction: Russia isn’t done intruding in U.S. politics and policymaking.

Immediately after the Nov. 8 election, Russia began a “spear-phishing” campaign to try to trick people into revealing their email passwords, targeting U.S. government employees and think tanks that specialize in national security, defense and foreign policy, the report said.

The report was the most detailed public account to date of Russian efforts to hack the email accounts of the Democratic National Committee and individual Democrats, among them Clinton’s campaign chairman, John Podesta.

The unclassified version said Russian government provided emails to the anti-secrecy group WikiLeaks even though the website’s founder, Julian Assange, has denied that it got the emails it released from the Russian government. The report noted that the emails could have been passed through middlemen.

Russia also used state-funded propaganda and paid “trolls” to make nasty comments on social media services, the report said. Moreover, intelligence officials believe that Moscow will apply lessons learned from its activities in the election to put its thumbprint on future elections in the United States and allied nations.

The public report was minus classified details that intelligence officials shared with President Barack Obama on Thursday.

In a brief interview with The Associated Press on Friday, Trump said he “learned a lot” from his discussions with intelligence officials, but he declined to say whether he accepted their assertion that Russia had intruded in the election on his behalf.

After finally seeing the intelligence behind the claims of the outgoing Obama administration, Trump released a one-page statement that did not address whether Russia sought to meddle. Instead, he said, “there was absolutely no effect on the outcome of the election” and that there “was no tampering whatsoever with voting machines.”

Intelligence officials have never made that claim. And the report stated that the Department of Home-

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land Security did not think that the systems that were targeted or compromised by Russian actors were "involved in vote tallying."

The report released publicly lacked details about how the U.S. learned what it said it knows, such as any intercepted conversations or electronic messages among Russian leaders, including Putin, or about specific hacker techniques or digital tools the U.S. may have traced back to Russia in its investigations. Exactly how the U.S. monitors its adversaries in cyberspace is a closely guarded secret. Revealing such details could help foreign governments further obscure their activities.

The unclassified version included footnotes acknowledging that it "does not include the full supporting information on key elements of the influence campaign." It said its conclusions were identical to the classified version, which was more detailed.

The unclassified report said the Russian effort was both political and personal.

"Russia's goals were to undermine public faith in the U.S. democratic process, denigrate Secretary Clinton and harm her electability and potential presidency," it said. "We further assess Putin and the Russian government developed a clear preference for President-elect Trump."

Putin most likely wanted to discredit Clinton because he blames her for inciting mass protests against his regime in late 2011 and early 2012, and because he resents her for disparaging comments she has made about him, the report said.

Before the intelligence agencies completed their assessment, Obama announced sanctions against Russia. Trump has not said whether he will undo them once he takes office, but lawmakers are calling for more punitive measures against Russia and have little to no appetite to roll back any current sanctions.

Trump said he would appoint a team within three months of taking office to develop a plan to "aggressively combat and stop cyberattacks."

On Saturday, he said he wanted retired Sen. Dan Coats to be national intelligence director, describing the former member of the Senate Intelligence Committee as the right person to lead the new administration's "ceaseless vigilance against those who seek to do us harm."

Coats, in a statement released by Trump's transition team, said: "There is no higher priority than keeping America safe, and I will utilize every tool at my disposal to make that happen."

Associated Press writers Deb Riechmann, Eileen Sullivan, Julie Pace, Eric Tucker, Chad Day and Jack Gillum contributed to this report.

Trump wants former Sen. Dan Coats to be intelligence chief

WASHINGTON (AP) — President-elect Donald Trump on Saturday said he wanted retired Sen. Dan Coats to be national intelligence director, describing the former member of the Senate Intelligence Committee as the right person to lead the new administration's "ceaseless vigilance against those who seek to do us harm."

Trump's announcement came one day after release of a declassified government report on Russian efforts to influence the presidential election. The report predicts Russia isn't done intruding in U.S. politics and policymaking.

Trump wants to improve relations with Russia and repeatedly has denounced intelligence agencies' assessment that the Kremlin interfered in the election, when he defeated Democrat Hillary Clinton. But the report released Friday explicitly ties Russian President Vladimir Putin to the meddling and says Russia had a "clear preference" for Trump over Clinton.

Coats, an Indiana Republican, will await Senate confirmation to head the office, which was created after the Sept. 11 attacks to improve coordination among U.S. spy and law enforcement agencies.

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Coats now finds himself in line to be at the center of an intelligence apparatus that the president-elect has publicly challenged.

Trump said in an early morning statement that Coats "has clearly demonstrated the deep subject matter expertise and sound judgment required to lead our intelligence community." He said Coats "will provide unwavering leadership that the entire intelligence community can respect, and will spearhead my administration's ceaseless vigilance against those who seek to do us harm."

Coats, in a statement released by Trump's transition team, said: "There is no higher priority than keeping America safe, and I will utilize every tool at my disposal to make that happen."

Trump's team has been examining ways to restructure intelligence agencies as part of an effort to streamline operations and improve efficiency, but Coats' nomination could ease fears that Trump would push for a significant overhaul.

Coats, 73, is a Capitol Hill veteran who served eight years in the House before moving to the Senate in 1989 to take Dan Quayle's place when Quayle became President George H.W. Bush's vice president. Coats stayed in the Senate until 1998, then left to become a lobbyist.

After serving as U.S. ambassador to Germany under President George W. Bush, Coats joined the international law firm of King & Spalding, helping lead the government affairs division and lobbying for pharmaceutical, defense and energy companies.

Coats, who earned \$600,000 in his final 13 months at King & Spalding, downplayed his lobbying work when he returned to Indiana for a successful Senate comeback bid in 2010. He served one term and did not seek re-election last year.

Coats was a vocal critic of Russia and pushed the Obama administration to harshly punish Moscow for its annexation of Crimea in 2014. When the White House levied sanctions, the Kremlin responded by banning several lawmakers, including Coats, from traveling to Russia.

Trump received a briefing Friday from intelligence officials on the classified report about Russian interference in the 2016 election, and he later told The Associated Press that he "learned a lot" from the discussions. But the president-elect declined to say whether he accepted the officials' assertion that Russia had intruded in the election on his behalf.

Reynolds, Fisher laid to rest at Hollywood Hills cemetery

By **ANDREW DALTON, Associated Press**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Carrie Fisher, who has been laid to rest alongside her mother Debbie Reynolds, was adored by family, friends and fans for her gallows humor and frank talk about her struggles with mental illness.

What better home for her ashes then, her brother Todd Fisher and daughter Billie Lourd decided, than a porcelain urn in the shape of an outsized anti-depressant?

"Carrie's favorite possession was a giant Prozac pill that she bought many years ago," Todd Fisher said Friday as he left the private joint funeral at Forest Lawn - Hollywood Hills for his mother and sister. "She loved it, and it was in her house, and Billie and I felt it was where she'd want to be," he said.

Other than Carrie Fisher's cremation and unique urn, nearly no details were revealed about the ceremony, or about what form the two women's graves took.

They'll have plenty of celebrity company at the sprawling, hillside cemetery just across the Los Angeles River from Warner Bros. and Disney studios, including Bette Davis, Lucille Ball, Dick Van Patten, Liberace and Florence Henderson.

The funeral came a day after the two actresses were eulogized by family and close friends at a private memorial service at their neighboring homes in Coldwater Canyon, about 10 miles west.

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Fisher, who played Princess Leia in four "Star Wars" films, died at age 60 on Dec. 27. Reynolds, star of "Singin' in the Rain" and many other classic musicals, died a day later at age 84.

Todd Fisher said Friday he'll remember his mother and sister most for their resilience, and said both reminded him of Reynold's role in 1964's "The Unsinkable Molly Brown."

"They were both Molly Browns of sorts," Todd Fisher said. "It's about a very strong woman. They were very, very strong women."

He added, "we have so much of them that was left behind, all my sister's words, and all the movies and all the things they created, and that's what we need to remember."

Now, the family plans a public memorial.

"We'll have a bigger service down the road for the public and all the family friends, but this was a private family service," Todd Fisher said. "It was fitting and it was beautiful."

Videographer Scott Fain contributed to this report.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Jan. 8, the eighth day of 2017. There are 357 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 8, 1867, the U.S. House of Representatives joined the Senate in overriding President Andrew Johnson's veto of the District of Columbia Suffrage Bill, giving black men in the nation's capital the right to vote.

On this date:

In 1642, astronomer Galileo Galilei died in Arcetri, Italy.

In 1790, President George Washington delivered his first State of the Union address to Congress in New York.

In 1815, the last major engagement of the War of 1812 came to an end as U.S. forces defeated the British in the Battle of New Orleans, not having gotten word of the signing of a peace treaty.

In 1918, President Woodrow Wilson outlined his Fourteen Points for lasting peace after World War I. Mississippi became the first state to ratify the 18th Amendment to the Constitution, which established Prohibition.

In 1935, rock-and-roll legend Elvis Presley was born in Tupelo, Mississippi.

In 1959, Charles de Gaulle was inaugurated as president of France's Fifth Republic.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson, in his State of the Union address, declared an "unconditional war on poverty in America."

In 1976, Chinese premier Zhou Enlai, 77, died in Beijing.

In 1982, American Telephone and Telegraph settled the Justice Department's antitrust lawsuit against it by agreeing to divest itself of the 22 Bell System companies.

In 1987, for the first time, the Dow Jones industrial average closed above 2,000, ending the day at 2,002.25.

In 1997, the state of Arkansas put three men to death in the second triple execution since capital punishment was reinstated in 1976. (The first also occurred in Arkansas, in 1994.)

In 2011, U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., was shot and critically wounded when a gunman opened fire as the congresswoman met with constituents in Tucson; six people were killed, 12 others also wounded. (Gunman Jared Lee Loughner (LAWF'-nur) was sentenced in Nov. 2012 to seven consecutive

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life sentences, plus 140 years.)

Ten years ago: A Moroccan (Mounir el-Motassadeq) convicted of aiding three of the four suicide pilots who had committed the Sept. 11 attacks was sentenced by a German court to the maximum of 15 years in prison for his role in the terror plot. The Florida Gators won college football's national championship by defeating the Ohio State Buckeyes 41-14. Actress Yvonne De Carlo died in Woodland Hills, California, at age 84.

Five years ago: Bells rang in Tucson, Arizona, as residents paused to remember the six people killed in the shooting rampage a year earlier that left Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords severely wounded; Giffords led a crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance during an evening vigil. Mitt Romney's Republican presidential rivals piled on the criticism during a morning debate, two days before the New Hampshire primary. The New York Giants ran all over Atlanta in a 24-2 rout of the Falcons in an NFC wild-card game. The Denver Broncos stunned the Pittsburgh Steelers 29-23 in overtime in the AFC wild-card game.

One year ago: Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, the world's most-wanted drug lord, was captured for a third time in a daring raid by Mexican marines, six months after walking through a tunnel to freedom from a maximum security prison in a made-for-Hollywood escape that deeply embarrassed the government and strained ties with the United States. Oakland Raiders defensive end and outside linebacker Khalil Mack made history, earning a selection at two positions on the 2015 Associated Press All-Pro Team, an NFL first. Hall of Fame rhythm and blues artist Otis Clay, 73, died in Chicago.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-comedian Larry Storch is 94. Broadcast journalist Sander Vanocur is 89. CBS newsman Charles Osgood is 84. Singer Shirley Bassey is 80. Game show host Bob Eubanks is 79. Country-gospel singer Cristy Lane is 77. Rhythm-and-blues singer Anthony Gourdin (Little Anthony and the Imperials) is 76. Actress Yvette Mimieux is 75. Physicist Stephen Hawking is 75. Singer Juanita Cowart Motley (The Marvelettes) is 73. Actress Kathleen Noone is 72. Rock musician Robby Krieger (The Doors) is 71. Movie director John McTiernan is 66. Actress Harriet Sansom Harris is 62. Singer-songwriter Ron Sexsmith is 53. Actress Maria Pitillo (pih-TIHL'-loh) is 52. Actress Michelle Forbes is 52. Singer R. Kelly is 50. Rock musician Jeff Abercrombie (Fuel) is 48. Actress Ami Dolenz is 48. Reggae singer Sean Paul is 44. Country singer Tift Merritt is 42. Actress-rock singer Jenny Lewis is 41. Actress Amber Benson is 40. Actor Scott Whyte is 39. Singer-songwriter Erin McCarley is 38. Actress Sarah Polley is 38. Actress Rachel Nichols is 37. Actress Gaby Hoffman is 35. Rock musician Disashi Lumumbo-Kasongo (dih-SAH'-shee LUHM'-uhm-boh kuh-SAHN'-goh) (Gym Class Heroes) is 34. Actor Freddie Stroma is 30.

Thought for Today: "No written law has ever been more binding than unwritten custom supported by popular opinion." — Carrie Chapman Catt, American suffrage leader (1859-1947).