

# Groton Daily Independent

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## All-State Band

A huge congratulations to Emily Thompson (percussion) and Kylie Kassube (clarinet) for being accepted into the 2017 SD All State Band!

## Apts for Rent

**1 bedroom apartment for rent. Move in by Feb. 28th and get a FREE 32" Flat Screen TV! All utilities included except A/C, for \$600. Please call or text 239-849-7674 .**

**Open:** Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

## The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **OPEN**

## Wednesday, Feb. 8

**St. John's Lutheran:** Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.

**Emmanuel Lutheran:** League at 6:30 p.m., Confirmation at 7 p.m.

**MathCounts:** NESD Chapter at NSU

**Small Group Music Contest:** at Aberdeen

**School Breakfast:** Egg sausage biscuit, fruit, juice, milk.

**School Lunch:** Lasagna hot dish, corn, fruit, romaine salad, tea buns.

**School Menu:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, broccoli, garlic toast, orange sherbet.

## Thursday, Feb. 9

**Parent-Teacher Conferences:** 1:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Great Lakes Presentation:** Grades 10-11 at GHS from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

**Grade 12 FAFSA Presentation:** Grade 12 at GHS at 7 p.m.

**School Breakfast:** Pancake on stick, fruit, juice, milk.

## PARTS COUNTER SALES

Self motivated individual needed to fill our Parts Counter Sales position. Duties include parts sales, display stocking, shipping and receiving. Sponsored training, excellent benefits package and the possibility for advancement. Contact Steve at 605-395-6421 or email resume to s.harry@harrysinc.com.

## Harry Implement Inc.

PO Box 841  
Ferne, SD  
57439



**Lifetime Warranty on all Collision Work!**

13556 400th Ave., Groton SD 57445  
Allen McKiver, Owner ~ 605/397-4404

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## Groton Legion Auxiliary

After a two months absence the February meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary was held 2-6-2017 in the legion hall with president Michelle Everson presiding. The meeting began with the chaplain's prayer and Pledge of Allegiance and Auxiliary Pledge. Five members answered roll call.

Minutes of the last meeting (December) as Jan. & Feb. were postponed, were read and approved. Treasurers report given and filed.

Thank yous were received from Groton School for the monetary gift, another from Pumpkin Fest Committee for helping with face painting, and the Groton Rescue Squad.

Correspondence received regarding the District Spring Meeting, Saturday

March 26 in Redfield, S.D. to be held at the United Methodist Church with a social and lunch to follow.

American Legions Birthday is March 16, 2017. Midwinter Conference is to be held February 10-12, 2017 in Chamberlain, S.D.

Lori Giedt reported she is in contact with the school trying to make preparations to meet with the junior girls and set up appointments for interviews.

Meri Erickson is preparing for a Poem and Essay Contest at school.

Nominations for Legionette of the year must be sent in. Members decided to send a nomination at the March meeting. Motion made and seconded to purchase a dozen new poppy containers.

Members decided it was necessary to decrease quorum attendance at meeting from ten percent of membership to a five count. Motion made and seconded. Also needs to be approved again at March meeting.

A memorial will be sent in memory of deceased auxiliary member Fern Kersting.

March meeting will include draping the charter for Hazel McKittrick and Fern.

Their families will be invited to attend. Meeting ended with the Prayer for Peace. Jan volunteered to furnish lunch in March. Meeting adjourned.

## Valentines Day – Tuesday, Feb 14th

SHOW YOUR LOVED ONES  
HOW SPECIAL THEY ARE!

Fresh Flowers  
Plants  
Jewelry  
Gourmet Coffee  
Wine  
Truffles & Gourmet Treats  
Home Decor  
Gift Certificates



Free Delivery to  
Groton Schools on  
Feb 14th when  
ordered by  
Monday, Feb 13th!

Add on extra love to any order –  
¥25 – add a teddy bear, mylar  
balloon & a small box of truffles!

Main Street, Groton  
605-397-8650  
oldebankfloral.com



Delivery – Aberdeen, Groton, & all surrounding communities

## Make the Most of Your Rewards Program Membership

By Nathaniel Sillin

I'm often intrigued and sometimes inspired by stories of people traveling the world using points and miles. There's a well-known (within certain circles, at least) man who earned over a million airline miles by purchasing more than \$3,000 worth of pudding during a special promotion in 1999. Or, you might have heard about people using coupons during a grocery store's membership-only sale to get food and household products for free.

While I might not be as enthusiastic as some world travelers, or as extreme as some couponers, I do see the benefit in a program that's free to join and offers you potentially money-saving perks. However, I also know it's important not to get so caught up that I wind up spending more money than I would otherwise. As a friend of mine loved to say, "never spend a dollar to save a nickel."

The perks of membership. There are many loyalty or rewards programs to choose from and the rules and benefits can vary. For example, a grocer's program might offer the same in-store savings and exclusive coupons to all its members. By contrast, travel rewards programs often have tiers, different levels of membership with varying benefits depending on how often you travel or how much you spend. While the basic tier may offer discounted hotel rates or free Wi-Fi, the higher tiers might come with free room upgrades (including to coveted suites) and guaranteed early check-in and late check-out.

Recognize why companies might have rewards programs. When you're a big fan of a company or product, getting rewarded for your loyalty can be great. After all, it's a free perk if you were going to make the purchase anyway. But try not to get too attached to a particular company or product based solely on the rewards program.

Buying something simply because you get a discount as a member, or making a purchase "for the points," might be a waste. You could find yourself with a pantry full of products that are slowly going bad, or paying more for a trip because you didn't comparison shop the offerings from other airlines or hotel chains.

Joining a rewards program could lead to overspending if you're not careful. Recognizing that the programs could be designed to get you to spend more, and more often, can help you refrain from overspending. Here are a few additional ways to make sure you maximize your benefits.

Don't double-count your savings. You're tricking yourself if you consider the rewards points from a retailer's program as savings when making a purchase and then consider the same points as savings (again) when you redeem them for store credit. Count the rewards once, or don't make them part of your buying decision at all.

Keep your programs organized. Points in some programs expire if you don't use them within a specified period or have recent account activity. You could use a website, app or spreadsheet to help track your accounts, how many points or miles you've earned and when they expire.

Another way to avoid overspending is to consider your net cost when comparison shopping. To do this, you'll need a list of the dollar value of each programs' rewards points. You could take a shortcut and copy the values other enthusiasts place on each program's points. Or, you could make estimates of your own based on trips or purchases you regularly make.

Now you'll know when 1,000 points are worth \$1 or \$10 and can plan your purchases accordingly. In the end, you want to be able to make as close to an apples-to-apples comparison as possible, inclusive of the value you place on the rewards.

Bottom line: Consumer rewards programs offer a wide variety of benefits, including exclusive savings and complimentary perks. While it's often free to join the programs, and you could get rewarded for doing so, keep the big picture in mind and be careful about letting your membership lead to unnecessary purchases.

Nathaniel Sillin directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Practical Money Skills on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney](http://www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney).





## South Dakota 4-H Youth Compete in Denver

Twenty South Dakota 4-H members competed at the Western National Roundup in Denver, Colorado. Now in its 97th year, Western National Roundup is held in conjunction with the National Western Stock Show each January and features contests for more than 1,100 elite 4-H and FFA members from 33 states including Alberta, Canada. This year's event was held January 5-8, 2017.

4-H members pictured here include: (back row, front to back) Kristin Gonsoir, Coach; Kathy Sperry, Coach; Hilary Rossow, SDSU Extension 4-H Animal Projects Coordinator/Coach; Dan Sharp, Brown County; Kadon Leddy, Grant County; Alex Kock, Turner County; Matthew Sperry, Brown County; Matthew Bogue, Lincoln County and Trey Wright, Brown County.

(Middle row left to right): Lori Sletten, Turner County; Jemima Sletten, Turner County; Grace Kock, Turner County; Stephanie Chambliss, SDSU Extension 4-H Youth Program Advisor - Charles Mix/coach; Travis Sharp, Brown County; Darby Knoll, Charles Mix County; Adrianne Schaunaman, Brown County; Emma Mesman, Hughes County and Marissa Woodring, Spink County.

(Front row left to right): Amanda Stade, SDSU Extension 4-H Events Management Coordinator; Taylor Eitemiller, Charles Mix County; Kristin Soukup, Charles Mix County; Molly Kroeger, Lincoln County; Sarah Vos, Pennington County; Cassandra Townsend, Brown County; Dallas Vos, Coach; Sadie Vander Wal, Spink County and Madilyn Wright, Brown County.



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**Horse Bowl: (left to right) Trey Wright, Brown County; Cassandra Townsend, Brown County; Marissa Woodring, Spink County and Adrienne Schaunaman, Brown County.**

## Gas Prices Remain Stable Despite Record Low Demand

Feb. 6, 2017 - The national average price of regular unleaded gasoline remained relatively stable over the past week, settling at today's price of \$2.27 per gallon. Although today's average remains flat compared to one week ago, drivers are paying ten cents less per gallon month-over-month, and 52 cents more per gallon year-over-year. Pump prices have been pressured higher overall due to cuts in oil production globally, but increased U.S. production and low demand has led to a leveling out of prices over the last couple of weeks. The U.S. Energy Information Administration's (EIA) latest weekly estimates of U.S. gasoline demand show that January 2017 figures are down 6 percent from January 2016 and are at their lowest standing for the first month of the year since 2012.

Current Price Averages per Gallon of Regular Gasoline

- Sioux Falls – \$2.24, down 10 cents since 1/6/17 ... up 72 cents since 2/6/16
- Rapid City – \$2.33, up 13 cents since 1/6/17 ... up 46 cents since 2/6/16
- South Dakota – \$2.32, down 2 cents since 1/6/17 ... up 59 cents since 2/6/16
- U.S. – \$2.27, down 9 cents since 1/6/17 ... up 52 cents since 2/6/16

SOURCE: [www.GasPrices.AAA.com](http://www.GasPrices.AAA.com)

### Quick Stats

The nation's top five most expensive markets are: Hawaii (3.11), California (\$2.83), Washington (\$2.73), Alaska (\$2.72) and the District of Columbia (\$2.55).

The nation's top five least expensive markets are: South Carolina (\$2.03), Alabama (\$2.06), Tennessee (\$2.06), Ohio (\$2.07) and Mississippi (\$2.07).

The top five markets with the most dramatic year-over-year increases in gas prices include: Minnesota (+71 cents), Michigan (+68 cents), New Jersey (+67 cents), Illinois (+67 cents) and Kansas (+66 cents).

### Great Lakes and Central States

As is often the case, volatility has characterized pump prices in the Great Lakes region over the past few weeks. Many states in the region reflected double-digit decreases three weeks ago, only to see gains over the past seven days, led by Indiana (+5 cents), Ohio (+5 cents), Michigan (+4 cents) and Kentucky (+3 cents).

The latest EIA report shows that Midwest gasoline stocks increased by nearly 3.5 million bbl to a total of almost 60 million bbl last week - the fifth consecutive weekly build and a clear sign of low regional demand.

### Oil Market Dynamics

Markets opened Monday morning with slightly higher oil prices following new U.S. sanctions imposed on Iran after its missile tests. Worries that tensions between the U.S. and Iran could impact crude oil supplies have been tempered by increasing U.S. oil production. Baker Hughes, an oil field services company, reported that U.S. energy companies added 17 oil rigs the week of February 3, bringing the total U.S. rig count to 583. The potential for more U.S. oil production has kept a ceiling on oil prices and diminished the impact of efforts by OPEC and non-OPEC countries to cut production and rebalance global oil supply. Traders will keep an eye of U.S.-Iran relations and any further gains in U.S. oil production. At the closing of Friday's formal trading session on the NYMEX, WTI was up 29 cents to settle at \$53.83 per barrel.

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

## Governor Signs Bills Into Law

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard signed the following bills into law today:

HB 1020 – An Act to authorize background investigations for current and potential employees of the Bureau of Information and Telecommunications and information technology contractors and subcontractors.

HB 1028 – An Act to revise certain provisions regarding the interception of certain communications.

HB 1041 – An Act to place certain substances on the controlled substance schedules and to declare an emergency.

HB 1047 – An Act to modify the application timeline for state chartered banks and trust companies.

HB 1048 – An Act to exempt natural hair braiding from the practice of cosmetology.

HB 1050 – An Act to revise and repeal certain provisions regarding the practice of barbering.

SB 37 – An Act to repeal and revise certain outdated provisions regarding liens.

SB 38 – An Act to revise certain references to the Internal Revenue Code.

SB 47 – An Act to revise and repeal certain provisions regarding dental corporations.

## Governor Signs House Bill 1069

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard has signed House Bill 1069, An Act to repeal and revise certain provisions related to campaign finance and to declare an emergency. This bill repeals Initiated Measure 22.

“The circuit court enjoined Initiated Measure 22, finding it unconstitutional ‘beyond a reasonable doubt.’ It has not been in effect, and it is extremely unlikely that it would ever come into effect,” said Gov. Daugaard. “For that reason, it makes sense to repeal this unconstitutional measure. Over the next few weeks, I will work with legislators to honor the will of the voters – by passing bills to regulate gifts from lobbyists and to strengthen ethics and campaign finance laws.”

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## Cavaliers edge past Groton in competitive game

Groton Area made this game more competitive with Roncalli, but fell short at the end as the Cavaliers posted a 49-41 win over the Lady Tigers. The game was played in Aberdeen.

The game was carried live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Groton Ford, Weber Landscaping, Ken's Food Fair of Groton, James Valley Seed with Doug Jorgensen, Harry Implement of Ferney, McKiver Collision and Hefty Seed with Justin Hanson and Kalen Kjellsen.

The game was tied five times and there were two lead games in the first quarter before the Cavaliers took a 19-13 lead at the break. Roncalli opened up a 10-point lead, but the Tigers closed to within one at halftime, 27-26. Roncalli again surged ahead in the third quarter with a 39-30 lead going into the fourth quarter.

Audrey Wanner scored 11 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Tigers in scoring with 15 points, followed by Harleigh Stange with 12, Jessica Bjerke had seven, Jennie Doeden three and Katie Koehler and Miranda Hanson each had two points.

Three players hit double figures for Roncalli with Jami Ewart having 13, Madelyn Martin and Mariah Winegar each having 12, Megan Streier and Grace Imery each having five and Hannah Huck adding two.

Groton made 30 percent of its field goals compared to 42 percent for the Cavaliers. Groton Area was nine of 12 from the line for 75 percent and Roncalli was four for four. The Tigers had 27 rebounds with Holm and Bjerke each having seven, four steals with Wanner having three, eight assists with Wanner and Harleigh Stange each having three, 12 turnovers and 11 team fouls.

Roncalli won the junior varsity game, 36-17. Scoring for the Tigers: Sam Menzia and Kaycie Hawkins with 7 each, Taylor Holm 2 and Miranda Hanson 1. Abby Hanson led Roncalli with 14 points.

## Roncalli 49, Groton Area 41

	2-pt	3-pt	FT	Pts	Rbs	Steals	Assists	TO	Fouls
<b>Audrey Wanner</b>	<b>2-8</b>	<b>2-3</b>	<b>5-6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Katie Koehler</b>	<b>1-5</b>	<b>0-2</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Jessica Bjerke</b>	<b>0-2</b>	<b>2-6</b>	<b>1-2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Harleigh Stange</b>	<b>3-3</b>	<b>2-4</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Jennie Doeden</b>	<b>1-2</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1-2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Taylor Holm</b>	<b>0-2</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Miranda Hanson</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>2-2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>7-22</b>	<b>6-15</b>	<b>9-12</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>

## Warner 48, Groton Area 35

	2-pt	3-pt	FT	Pts	Rbs	Steals	Assists	TO	Fouls
<b>Audrey Wanner</b>	<b>3-5</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>3-4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Katie Koehler</b>	<b>1-4</b>	<b>0-1</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Jessica Bjerke</b>	<b>0-2</b>	<b>1-3</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Harleigh Stange</b>	<b>1-5</b>	<b>2-3</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Jennie Doeden</b>	<b>2-4</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>1-2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Taylor Holm</b>	<b>1-3</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Alex Stange</b>	<b>1-1</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Miranda Hanson</b>	<b>0-2</b>	<b>0-1</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>9-26</b>	<b>4-9</b>	<b>5-7</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>



## Percentage of South Dakota's Kids Overweight, Obese Unchanged

PIERRE, S.D. – Almost one-third of South Dakota's kids and teens are overweight or obese, according to a new state health report.

The 2015-2016 School Height and Weight Report found 16.1 percent of South Dakota's 5-19 year olds were obese and another 16 percent were overweight. That compares to 16.0 percent obese and 16.2 percent overweight in 2014-2015.

"It's good news that the child obesity rate is no longer rising," said Ashley Miller, chronic disease epidemiologist for the Department of Health. "But bringing the rate down won't happen overnight, just as reaching these levels didn't happen overnight. It's going to take long-term effort from schools, communities and parents."

A total of 172 schools submitted student height and weight data for this latest survey, accounting for 34.6 percent of students in the state. The survey defines obese as at or above the 95th percentile body mass index-for-age when compared to kids of the same age and gender; overweight is between the 85th and 94th percentiles.

The department's goal is to reduce the percentage of students who are obese to 14 percent by the year 2020.

Miller said the department offers a variety of resources to help encourage healthy diets and increase physical activity for kids. The Munch Code ([www.munchcode.org/](http://www.munchcode.org/)) provides healthy concessions information for schools and youth activities and Harvest of the Month ([www.sdharvestofthemonth.org/](http://www.sdharvestofthemonth.org/)) combines lessons and produce sampling to get kids eating more vegetables and fruit.

The full student height weight report is available at <http://doh.sd.gov/statistics/>.

Improving child and adolescent health through reducing obesity is a key performance measure of the Department of Health's 2015-2020 strategic plan, <http://doh.sd.gov/strategicplan>.

# They have arrived!

**GDI Living Fitness**

25 Main St., Downtown Groton

## 2 NuSteps

Call or Text Paul at 397-7460  
or Tina at 397-7285  
for membership information

The T4r provides a smooth and natural motion that delivers a low impact, inclusive, total-body cardiovascular and strengthening workout for virtually all users. Get a low impact workout with high impact results.



## Today in Weather History

February 8, 2000: A very warm airmass was over central and northeast South Dakota where record highs were set in Aberdeen, Pierre, and Sisseton. Aberdeen rose to 62 degrees, Sisseton rose to 53 degrees, and Pierre rose to a warm 69 degrees.

1835 - A severe cold wave gripped the southeastern U.S. The mercury dipped to 8 above at Jacksonville FL, and to zero at Savannah GA. Orange trees were killed to the roots. (David Ludlum)

1936 - The temperature at Denver CO plunged to a record 30 degrees below zero. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1956: From February 1-8, heavy snow fell over the Panhandle of Texas. Snowfall amounts include 43 inches in Vega, 24 inches in Hereford, and 14 inches in Amarillo. This storm caused 23 deaths and numerous injuries. It snowed continuously for 92 hours in some locations.

1968: The greatest 1-day snow at the Savannah Airport in South Carolina occurs on this date when 3.6 inches of snow fell.

1985 - Blue Canyon, CA, set a 24-hour February snowfall record by receiving 42 inches of snow from February 7th-8th.

1987 - A powerful storm produced blizzard conditions in the Great Lakes Region. Winds gusted to 86 mph at Janesville WI and Cleveland OH received 12 inches of snow. North winds of 50 to 70 mph raised the water level of southern Lake Michigan two feet, and produced waves 12 to 18 feet high, causing seven million dollars damage along the Chicago area shoreline. It was the most damage caused by shoreline flooding and erosion in the history of the city of Chicago. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989: Mammoth traffic jams in Los Angeles area as a freak snow struck California. Snow was reported from the beaches of Malibu to the desert around Palm Springs.

2013: A nor'easter produced heavy snowfall over the New England states. Total snowfall in Boston, Massachusetts, reached 24.9 inches, the fifth-highest total ever recorded in the city. New York City officially recorded 11.4 inches of snow at Central Park, and Portland, Maine, set a record of 31.9 inches. Hamden, Connecticut recorded the highest snowfall of the storm at 40 inches. Many surrounding cities picked up at least 1 foot. In addition to the significant snowfall totals, hurricane-force wind gusts were recorded, reaching 102 mph in Nova Scotia, 89 mph at Mount Desert Rock, Maine, and 84 mph off the coast of Cuttyhunk, Massachusetts. Boston experienced a storm surge of 4.2 ft. The storm affected Atlantic Canada after hitting the Northeastern United States.

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

**Upcoming Events**

**Friday at 8 p.m.**








**Girls' Basketball Ball**


**hosts Redfield-Doland**

**gdilive.com**

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Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday
						
Cold	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy then Slight Chance Rain
High: 8 °F	Low: -9 °F	High: 18 °F	Low: 18 °F	High: 45 °F	Low: 27 °F	High: 42 °F




## Warm Up Ahead!


One more well below normal day, then gradual warming through Friday

 **Today**  
5 to 15°

 **Thursday**  
warmest south central SD 17 to 37°

 **Friday**  
40s

weather.gov/Aberdeen @NWSAberdeen  
Issued: Feb. 8, 2017 4:30 am CST  
National Weather Service - Aberdeen, SD



Published on: 02/08/2017 at 4:26AM

Expect snow to diminish and come to an end this morning across south central South Dakota. Dry weather will then be the rule through at least Friday night. Ready for a warm up? After one more day of temperatures well below normal, they will be gradually warming though Friday. Highs in the 40s should be common Friday afternoon.



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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 14.4 F at 12:00 AM**

**Low Outside Temp: -1.5 F at 11:52 PM**

**High Gust: 24.0 Mph at 10:17 AM**

Rain: 0.00

## Today's Info

**Record High: 62° in 2000**

**Record Low: -37 in 1994**

**Average High: 26°F**

**Average Low: 5°F**

**Average Precip in Feb.: 0.12**

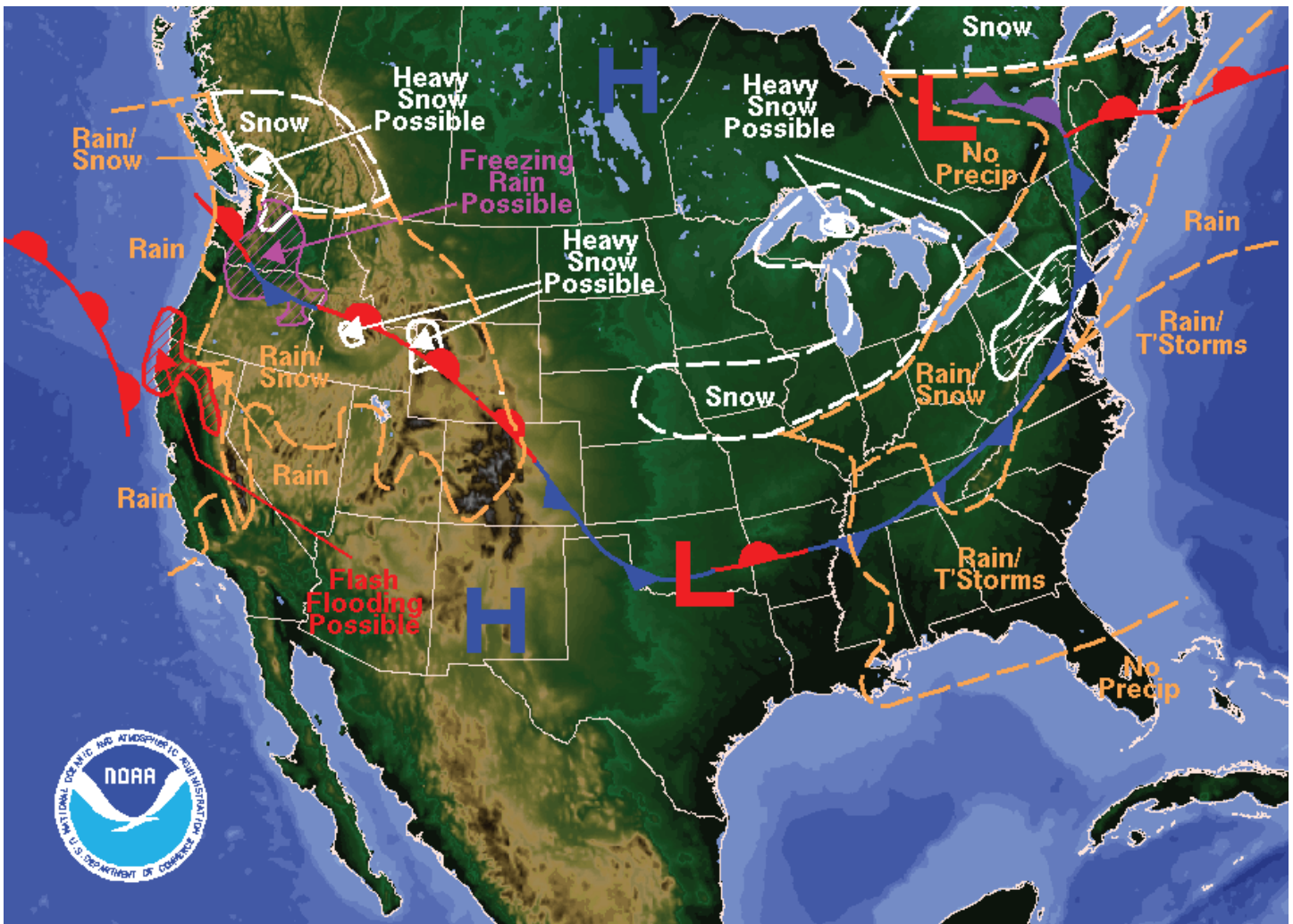
**Precip to date in Jan.: 0.00**

**Average Precip to date: 0.59**

**Precip Year to Date: 0.00**

**Sunset Tonight: 5:51 p.m.**

**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:43 a.m.**



Weather Forecast for Wed, Feb 08, 2017, issued 4:13 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McReynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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## OR FEAR?

When Mario Marini, a famous Italian painter and sculptor, was young, he fashioned a series of figures of men on horses. The first one he sculpted appeared young, strong, fierce, formidable and triumphant: expressions of extreme confidence. But as he continued his series of bronze figures, each rider and horse appear to become less confident and certain of being victorious. In fact, the last figure in the series portrays a rider and his horse frozen in terror.

When asked about the way his series changed from triumph to terror he replied, "That is because I believe that we are approaching the time of a sorry end to the world."

How different for the Christian! Rather than fear, we have faith. In place of horror, we have hope. Because of our God we know that we shall be given eternal life through Christ our Savior and Lord and we will be with Him throughout eternity.

How blest we are to have the words of the Psalmist: "Even though I will walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I do not need to be possessed by fear, for You, Creator of life, are with me to protect me!"

Our Savior will guide us and guard us and grant us victory. One day we will also say with the Psalmist, "Your goodness and unending kindness has been with me all of my life, and afterwards I will live with You in Your home – forever!"

Prayer: Grant us, Father, Your peace that passes all understanding and the assurance that You are the God of all comfort and that we do not fear the threats of life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 23 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

## News from the Associated Press

### Army nod for Dakota Access pipeline looms; Tribe vows action

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON**, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The developer of the stalled Dakota Access oil pipeline could get clearance from the Army as early as Wednesday to finish the \$3.8 billion project, though the American Indian tribe that has led the battle against the project for months has vowed to continue the fight.

The Army said Tuesday that it will allow the four-state pipeline to cross under a Missouri River reservoir in North Dakota, the last big chunk of construction. The Standing Rock Sioux promised to fight the development in court.

The Army intends to cancel further environmental study and allow the Lake Oahe crossing, according to court documents the Justice Department filed that include letters to members of Congress from Deputy Assistant Army Secretary Paul Cramer.

The 1,700-mile pipeline would carry North Dakota oil through the Dakotas and Iowa to a shipping point in Illinois. Dallas-based developer Energy Transfer Partners had hoped to have the pipeline operating by the end of 2016, but construction has been stalled while the Army Corps of Engineers and the company battled in court over the crossing.

The Standing Rock Sioux, whose reservation is just downstream from the crossing, fears a leak would pollute its drinking water. The tribe has led protests that drew hundreds and, at times, thousands of people who dubbed themselves "water protectors" to an encampment near the crossing. ETP said the pipeline will be safe.

Details of the tribe's legal challenge to the Army's decision were still being worked out, attorney Jan Hasselman said Tuesday. But tribal Chairman Dave Archambault said the tribe is "undaunted" by the Army's decision. Even if the pipeline is finished and begins operating, he said, the tribe will push to get it shut down. The tribe also is organizing a march in Washington, D.C., on March 10.

An assessment conducted last year determined the crossing would not have a significant impact on the environment. However, then-Assistant Army Secretary for Civil Works Jo-Ellen Darcy on Dec. 4 declined to issue permission for the crossing, saying a broader environmental study was warranted.

ETP called Darcy's decision politically motivated and accused then-President Barack Obama's administration of delaying the matter until he left office. The Corps launched a study of the crossing on Jan. 18, two days before Obama left office, which could have taken up to two years to complete. President Donald Trump signed an executive action Jan. 24 telling the Corps to quickly reconsider Darcy's decision.

The court documents filed Tuesday include a proposed Federal Register notice terminating the study.

"I have determined that there is no cause for completing any additional environmental analysis," Acting Assistant Army Secretary Douglas Lamont said in a memo.

The Standing Rock Sioux argues that under the Fort Laramie Treaties of 1851 and 1888, the federal government is obliged to consider a tribe's welfare when making decisions that affect the tribe.

"The Obama administration correctly found that the tribe's treaty rights needed to be respected, and that the easement should not be granted without further review and consideration of alternative crossing locations," Hasselman said. "Trump's reversal of that decision continues a historic pattern of broken promises to Indian Tribes and violation of treaty rights. They will be held accountable in court."

North Dakota's congressional delegation and its governor welcomed the Army's announcement. But environmental groups, including the Sierra Club, Greenpeace, Amnesty International USA, the Center for Biological Diversity and the Indigenous Environmental Network, issued statements saying the Trump administration is putting corporate profits ahead of the rights of Native Americans and the environment.

ETP is poised to begin drilling under Lake Oahe as soon as it has approval. Workers have drilled entry and exit holes for the crossing, and oil has been put in the pipeline leading up to the lake in anticipation of finishing the project. ETP spokeswoman Vicki Granado didn't immediately respond to a request for comment on the Army's decision, but CEO Kelcy Warren told The Associated Press in November that the



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company should be able to finish the project in a little over three months once it has the go-ahead.

Those at the protest encampment have at times clashed with police, leading to nearly 700 arrests. The camp's population thinned to fewer than 300 as harsh winter weather arrived and as Standing Rock officials pleaded for the camp to disband before the spring flooding season. The Corps has notified the remaining protesters that the government-owned land will be closed Feb. 22.

But Phyllis Young, a protest leader and member of the Standing Rock Sioux, believes the Army's decision may draw some people back. Opposition to oil pipelines "is our life struggle, and we're going to continue fighting, however we have to do it," she said without elaborating.

The area where the company will drill is about half a mile north of the protest camp, and road access is north of a highway bridge outside the camp that's been blocked by the state since October. A frozen river and snowy hills are between the drill area and the camp. The construction area is surrounded by a wall and barricades such as razor wire.

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

## Tuesday's Scores By The Associated Press

### BOYS' BASKETBALL

Baltic 56, Howard 46  
Belle Fourche 64, Newell 46  
Bon Homme 59, Burke/South Central 37  
Brandon Valley 62, Yankton 49  
Brookings 69, Mitchell 46  
Chamberlain 68, Crow Creek 44  
Chester 80, Canistota 51  
Clark/Willow Lake 68, Tiospa Zina Tribal 48  
Crofton, Neb. 58, McCook Central/Montrose 52  
Dell Rapids St. Mary 59, Centerville 44  
Faith 56, Dupree 52  
Florence/Henry 49, Arlington 39  
Gayville-Volin 51, Freeman Academy/Marion 47  
Great Plains Lutheran 70, Estelline 39  
Hamlin 72, Deubrook 38  
Highmore-Harrold 54, Hitchcock-Tulare 35  
James Valley Christian 66, Mitchell Christian 51  
Kadoka Area 57, New Underwood 26  
Kimball/White Lake 46, Lyman 45  
Lake Preston 57, Waverly-South Shore 51  
Lead-Deadwood 50, Bison 41  
Leola/Frederick 70, Edmunds Central 37  
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 69, Dell Rapids 62  
Parkston 33, Scotland 28  
Pierre 70, Aberdeen Central 64  
Potter County 71, Mobridge-Pollock 66, 2OT  
Rapid City Christian 76, Edgemont 25  
Rapid City Stevens 77, Spearfish 31  
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 65, Iroquois 39  
Sioux City, East, Iowa 64, Sioux Falls Washington 53  
Sioux Falls Lincoln 57, Watertown 51

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Sioux Valley 76, Deuel 31  
Sisseton 52, Britton-Hecla 40  
St. Francis Indian 47, Winner 46  
St. Thomas More 71, Red Cloud 46  
Sully Buttes 75, Herreid/Selby Area 45  
Tea Area 80, Flandreau Indian 48  
Timber Lake 69, Wakpala 37  
Todd County 59, Platte-Geddes 53  
Tri-Valley 65, Lennox 52  
Vermillion 57, Dakota Valley 50  
Viborg-Hurley 71, Avon 62  
Wagner 68, Tripp-Delmont/Armour 62  
Warner 81, Redfield/Doland 38  
Waubay/Summit 39, Wilmot 25  
Webster 67, Northwestern 44  
Wolsey-Wessington 68, Wessington Springs 17  
Wynot, Neb. 58, Irene-Wakonda 48  
GIRLS' BASKETBALL  
Aberdeen Central 61, Pierre 53  
Aberdeen Roncalli 49, Groton Area 41  
Avon 58, Viborg-Hurley 41  
Belle Fourche 58, Newell 12  
Bennett County 48, Rapid City Christian 38  
Brandon Valley 48, Yankton 38  
Britton-Hecla 50, Sisseton 45  
Brookings 40, Mitchell 29  
Burke/South Central 51, Bon Homme 29  
Clark/Willow Lake 62, Tiospa Zina Tribal 43  
Corsica/Stickney 62, Canistota 59, 20T  
Dell Rapids 59, Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 35  
Elkton-Lake Benton 46, Garretson 37  
Flandreau 61, DeSmet 51  
Gayville-Volin 43, Freeman Academy/Marion 36  
Great Plains Lutheran 52, Estelline 16  
Hamlin 57, Deubrook 48  
Hanson 60, Freeman 44  
Harding County 48, Dupree 29  
Howard 66, Baltic 52  
Lead-Deadwood 53, Hot Springs 46  
Lemmon 66, Bison 50  
Lennox 54, Canton 25  
Miller 41, Stanley County 24  
Mitchell Christian 32, James Valley Christian 30  
Mott-Regent, N.D. 34, McIntosh 24  
North Central, Neb. 38, Colome 23  
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 55, Hendricks, Minn. 49  
Parkston 47, Scotland 29  
Philip 56, Jones County 20  
Potter County 48, Eureka/Bowdle 21  
Rapid City Stevens 69, Sturgis Brown 43

Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 64, Iroquois 17  
Sioux Falls Lincoln 71, Sioux Falls Washington 53  
Sioux Falls O’Gorman 67, Sioux City, East, Iowa 50  
Sioux Valley 62, Deuel 33  
Sully Buttes 83, Herreid/Selby Area 50  
Timber Lake JV 47, Wakpala 37  
Tri-Valley 55, Sioux Falls Christian 41  
Tripp-Delmont/Armour 62, Wagner 56  
Vermillion 61, Dakota Valley 49  
Warner 52, Redfield/Doland 33  
Waverly-South Shore 52, Langford 33  
Webster 61, Northwestern 41  
West Central 50, Beresford 42  
White River 50, Gregory 17  
Wynot, Neb. 55, Irene-Wakonda 49

## Seattle to cut ties with Wells Fargo over oil pipeline

By PHUONG LE, Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — The Seattle City Council voted to cut ties with banking giant Wells Fargo over its role as a lender to the Dakota Access pipeline project as well as other business practices.

The crowd erupted in cheers Tuesday and chanted “water is life” when the council unanimously passed the measure, which directs officials to end the city’s contract with the San Francisco-based bank once it expires in 2018 and not to make new investments in Wells Fargo securities for three years.

“The example that we have set today can become a beacon of hope” for activists across the country, said Councilmember Kshama Sawant, who co-sponsored the legislation.

Seattle’s measure comes on the same day that the Army told Congress that it will allow the \$3.8 billion Dakota Access oil pipeline to cross under a Missouri River reservoir in North Dakota, completing the disputed four-state project. The stretch is the final big chunk of work on the 1,200-mile pipeline that would carry North Dakota oil through the Dakotas and Iowa to a shipping point in Illinois.

The Standing Rock Sioux, whose reservation is just downstream from the pipeline’s crossing, fears a leak would pollute the tribe’s drinking water. The tribe has led protests that drew hundreds and at times thousands of people who dubbed themselves “water protectors” to an encampment near the crossing.

Tribal members urged the Seattle council to send a broader message to oppose the pipeline and stand with indigenous people.

“You have been a city setting the example to the world and I look to you to do that now,” Olivia One Feather, a member of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, told the council. “When big cities such as this do the right thing, it sparks hope in the world.”

Environmental activists across the country have called on a number of banks to stop financing the construction of the oil pipeline as well as on individuals to pull their money out of those banks.

Wells Fargo has said it is one of 17 involved in financing the pipeline and that it is obligated by carry out its credit agreement. The bank is providing \$120 million of the \$2.5 billion.

“While we are disappointed that the city has decided to end our 18-year relationship, we stand ready to support Seattle with its financial services needs in the future,” said Tim Brown, Wells Fargo Middle Market Banking regional manager.

Wells Fargo manages more than \$3 billion of Seattle’s operating account, processing everything from payroll and vendor payments to revenues collected from city business taxes to city fines.

The legislation passed Tuesday calls out Wells Fargo for a number of enforcement orders issued against it in recent years. Regulators fined Wells Fargo \$185 million after employees opened millions of customer accounts fraudulently to meet sales goals.

In the wake of that scandal, California and Illinois announced they would suspend some business rela-



tionships with the bank. Also in response, Seattle city officials last October ended negotiations with Wells Fargo over a \$100-million bond deal for the city's electric utility.

Some who spoke Tuesday urged the council to look for a nonprofit bank, credit union or other financial institution that aligns with the city's social values when it seeks to replace Wells Fargo.

Associated Press writers Manuel Valdes in Seattle and Blake Nicholson in Bismarck, North Dakota, contributed to this report.

## A timeline of the Dakota Access oil pipeline

By The Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Notable events in the dispute over the four-state, \$3.8 billion Dakota Access oil pipeline.

December 2014 — Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners applies to the federal government to build the 1,200-mile Dakota Access pipeline to carry North Dakota oil through the Dakotas and Iowa to an existing pipeline in Illinois. The pipeline is projected to carry half a million barrels of oil daily. The proposed route skirts the Standing Rock Sioux tribe's reservation and crosses under Lake Oahe, a Missouri River reservoir in North Dakota that serves as the tribe's drinking water source.

March 2016 — Iowa regulators approve the pipeline, making it the fourth and final state to grant permission.

April 2016 — Opponents establish a camp at the confluence of the Cannonball and Missouri rivers in southern North Dakota for peaceful protest. Camps in the area would later swell to thousands of people.

July 2016 — The Army Corps of Engineers grants pipeline permits at more than 200 water crossings. The Standing Rock Sioux sues. The Cheyenne River Sioux later join the lawsuit as plaintiffs.

Aug. 10 — North Dakota authorities make the first arrests of protesters. The total has since surpassed 600, including actress Shailene Woodley and Green Party presidential candidate Jill Stein.

Sept. 9 — U.S. District Court Judge James Boasberg denies an attempt by the Standing Rock Sioux to halt pipeline construction. The same day, the Army, the Department of Justice and the Interior Department declare that construction bordering or under Lake Oahe won't go forward pending further review.

Nov. 20, 21 — Authorities use tear gas, rubber bullets and water sprays on protesters who they say assaulted officers with rocks and burning logs at a blockaded bridge, in one of the most violent clashes of the protest. At least 17 protesters are taken to hospitals. One officer was injured when struck in the head with a rock.

Dec. 4 — Assistant Army Secretary for Civil Works Jo-Ellen Darcy declines to allow the pipeline to be built under Lake Oahe in part because she says alternate routes need to be considered. Energy Transfer Partners calls the decision politically motivated and accuses President Barack Obama's administration of delaying the matter until he leaves office.

Jan. 18, 2017 — The Army Corps launches a full environmental study of the pipeline's disputed Lake Oahe crossing that could take up to two years to complete. Boasberg, the federal judge, rejects an ETP request to stop the study.

Jan. 24 — President Donald Trump signs executive actions to advance the construction of the Dakota Access and Keystone XL oil pipelines.

Feb. 7 — The Army tells Congress it intends to grant an easement necessary to complete the pipeline. The Army says it will do so within as soon as 24 hours. The Army also says it plans to terminate the full environmental study.

## State lawmakers to consider bill on confidential settlements

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A bill that would roll back a provision in the state's public records law that Sioux Falls used to keep secret the details of a settlement over faulty siding at the Denny Sanford Premier Center is scheduled to be considered Wednesday.

Supporters argue the measure would improve transparency across South Dakota by barring the state and local governments from entering into confidential settlements without a court order. Sioux Falls in 2015 announced it would be reimbursed \$1 million under the settlement with contractors over the bulging panels but didn't provide details, citing in part a confidentiality agreement.

Republican Rep. Greg Jamison, the bill's main sponsor, said he watched what happened with the settlement as a Sioux Falls city councilor and thought it didn't seem right. It spurred a lot of speculation about what was really happening and created a perception of wrongdoing when there might not have been any, he said.

"I saw the problems it created in our community, and coming to Pierre — this is my chance to change it," Jamison said. "Good, bad or ugly, the public has a right to know."

Argus Leader Media sued after the city declined to give access to documents related to the settlement. A lower court sided with the city, and the newspaper appealed. Arguments before the state Supreme Court were held in January. It's unclear when the court will issue a ruling.

A spokeswoman for Sioux Falls said in an email that the city wouldn't comment on the bill because it may impact pending litigation before the high court.

Jamison said his measure is intended to add trust and accountability to government. It's set to be heard in the House Judiciary Committee.

Dave Bordewyk, general manager of the South Dakota Newspaper Association, said taxpayers should always have an understanding of where their money is going. He said that such settlements "fly in the face of good government and transparency."

The South Dakota Municipal League opposes the bill. Executive director Yvonne Taylor said that not being able to offer confidentiality can force municipalities to go to trial, which costs the taxpayers money.

"If we can settle these things, we'd rather do that and not go forward with a full trial," Taylor said.

## Response program aids laid-off employees in Aberdeen

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Department of Labor has launched a program to help laid-off employees of a fiberglass supplier in Aberdeen.

Dan Thielsen, manager of the department's office in Aberdeen, organized the program after receiving notice of the company's imminent layoffs last week, the Aberdeen American News (<http://bit.ly/2kn52YN>) reported.

"They didn't know. They just showed up for work (Monday) and they found out," Thielsen said.

The company didn't disclose the number of employees let go, but said the layoffs were due to an "unexpected reduction" in orders for wind turbine blades. State and city officials said a "substantial" number of employees were fired.

The program is described as a "pro-active, business-focused" strategy to help both employers and employees. Thielsen said the department's task force will give workers additional training, resume help and other services.

"Fortunately we have a lot of businesses in town that are hiring," said Mayor Mike Levsen, who was informed in advance of the layoffs. "We're in a better position to handle it than (than) if it would've happened someplace else, but still it has to be a discouraging day for people who have been working there a while."

Levsen said while he was informed in advance that a "substantial" number of employees would be let go, he didn't discuss the reasoning behind the layoffs with Dave Giovannini, Molded Fiber Glass senior vice president.

Since October 2008, Molded Fiber Glass has made blades for wind turbines and is owned by the Aber-

deen Development Corp.

Molded Fiber Glass couldn't be reached by the newspaper for further comment on the matter.

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

## Given tight market, homebuyers must compete in Sioux Falls

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls' housing market is facing what could be the lowest supply of houses in recent history, meaning potentially higher costs and lots of competition for the few houses available.

Real estate agents say pending sales in the Sioux Falls metro area in January were up 50 percent from a year ago, but with so few houses for sale, they anticipate a difficult year ahead for homebuyers.

The Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2lkPrGI>) reports starter homes are especially scarce. The number of homes below \$200,000 is down somewhere between 25 percent and 30 percent from last year.

A report from the Realtor Association of the Sioux Empire Inc. says that a continued decline in the number of homes for sale could push buyers out of the area when they can't compete for houses selling at higher prices.

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

## Committee approves ban on powdered alcohol sales in SD

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Senate committee unanimously passed a bill Tuesday to outlaw the sale, manufacture or possession of powdered alcohol, commonly known as Palcohol, in South Dakota.

Powdered alcohol is currently not sold in South Dakota, and is banned in nearly 30 other states. But lawmakers worry that age restrictions on buying alcohol wouldn't apply to powdered alcohol if it were available and could be sold to minors.

Bill sponsor Sen. Jack Kolbeck, a Republican from Sioux Falls, says powdered alcohol is easily concealable because it comes in small pouches much like Kool-Aid and could be abused by kids in school or sporting events.

Powdered alcohol is meant to be mixed with water but can also be consumed unintentionally, used to make drinks stronger or snorted for immediate and dangerous effects.

## House panel defeats bill to remove state sales tax on food

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota legislative committee has voted down a Democrat-backed bill that would have eliminated the state sales tax on food.

The House Taxation Committee voted 11-3 Tuesday to defeat the bill. It would have increased the state's 4.5 percent sales tax rate on other goods and services to remove the tax on food for home consumption.

Long a popular idea among Democratic lawmakers, such food sales tax bills have failed in the past. Democratic Rep. Ray Ring, the bill's main sponsor, says the measure would help make South Dakota's tax structure less regressive.

Business organizations, Republican lawmakers and the executive branch opposed the bill. Mark Quasney of the Bureau of Finance and Management says that exempting food would make state revenues more volatile.

## Deputy resigns, facing drunken driving charges

PIPESTONE, Minn. (AP) — A southwestern Minnesota sheriff's deputy has resigned after he was charged the drunken driving and possessing a gun while intoxicated.

Pipestone County Deputy Jeff Sanow reached an agreement with the county that ends an internal investigation into his possible involvement in two hit-and-run accidents in Jasper last August.

County administrator Sharon Hanson tells KSFY (<http://bit.ly/2kISagv>) the agreement benefits both Sanow



as well as Pipestone County. It was negotiated by a labor attorney and Sanow's union representative. It pays some benefits, including health insurance for a limited amount of time, his remaining 206 hours of unused vacation time and nearly \$4,800 in severance pay.

Sanow has not been convicted of the charges against him. He was an 11-year veteran of the Pipestone County Sheriff's Office.

## Travel ban decision in hands of federal appeals court judges

By SUDHIN THANAWALA, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A federal appeals court will decide whether to reinstate President Donald Trump's travel ban after a contentious hearing in which the judges hammered away at the administration's motivations for the ban, but also directed pointed questions to an attorney for two states trying to overturn it.

It was unclear which way the three judges of the San Francisco-based 9th Circuit Court of Appeals would rule, though legal experts said the states appeared to have the edge.

"I'm not sure if either side presented a compelling case, but I certainly thought the government's case came across as weaker," said Stephen Vladeck, a professor at the University of Texas School of Law.

A ruling could come as early as Wednesday and could be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Trump tweeted early Wednesday that if he loses the case, the country "can never have the security and safety to which we are entitled."

Trump tweeted: "If the U.S. does not win this case as it so obviously should, we can never have the security and safety to which we are entitled. Politics!"

The appeals court challenged the administration's claim that the ban was motivated by terrorism fears, but it also questioned the argument of an attorney challenging the executive order on grounds that it unconstitutionally targeted Muslims.

The contentious hearing before three judges on the San Francisco-based 9th Circuit Court of Appeals focused narrowly on whether a restraining order issued by a lower court should remain in effect while a challenge to the ban proceeds. But the judges jumped into the larger constitutional questions surrounding Trump's order, which temporarily suspended the nation's refugee program and immigration from seven mostly Muslim countries that have raised terrorism concerns.

The hearing Tuesday was conducted by phone — an unusual step — and broadcast live on cable networks, newspaper websites and various social media outlets. It attracted a huge audience, with more than 130,000 alone tuned in to the court's YouTube site to hear audio.

Judge Richard Clifton, a George W. Bush nominee, asked an attorney representing Washington state and Minnesota what evidence he had that the ban was motivated by religion. The two states are suing to invalidate the ban.

"I have trouble understanding why we're supposed to infer religious animus when in fact the vast majority of Muslims would not be affected."

Only 15 percent of the world's Muslims are affected, the judge said, citing his own calculations. He added that the "concern for terrorism from those connected to radical Islamic sects is hard to deny."

Noah Purcell, Washington state's solicitor general, cited public statements by Trump calling for a ban on the entry of Muslims to the U.S. He said the states did not have to show every Muslim is harmed, only that the ban was motivated by religious discrimination.

Clifton also went after the government's attorney, asking whether he denied statements by Trump and former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who said recently that Trump asked him to create a plan for a Muslim ban. Judge Michelle T. Friedland, who was appointed by President Barack Obama, asked why the case should not move forward to determine what motivated the ban.

"We're not saying the case shouldn't proceed, but we are saying that it is extraordinary for a court to enjoin the president's national security decision based on some newspaper articles," said August Flentje, who argued the case for the Justice Department.

Under questioning from Clifton, Flentje did not dispute that Trump and Giuliani made the statements.

Clifton said he understood if the government argued that statements by Trump and his advisers should not be given much weight, but he said they are potentially evidence in the case.

Friedland also asked whether the government has any evidence connecting the seven nations to terrorism. Flentje told the judges that the case was moving fast and the government had not yet included evidence to support the ban. Flentje cited a number of Somalis in the U.S. who, he said, had been connected to the al-Shabab terrorist group.

The ban has upended travel to the U.S. for more than a week and tested the new administration's use of executive power.

Whatever the court eventually decides, either side could ask the Supreme Court to intervene.

The government asked the appeals court to restore Trump's order, saying that the president alone has the power to decide who can enter or stay in the United States. Several states insist that it is unconstitutional.

Flentje offered the 9th Circuit a third option, saying the court could exempt from the ban people who have previously been admitted to the U.S., but keep it in place for people who have never been to the country.

The judges repeatedly questioned Flentje on why the states should not be able to sue on behalf of their residents or on behalf of their universities, which have complained about students and faculty getting stranded overseas.

Purcell said that restraining order has not harmed the U.S. government. Instead, he told the panel, Trump's order had harmed Washington state residents by splitting up families, holding up students trying to travel for their studies and preventing people from visiting family abroad.

A decision by the 9th Circuit was likely to come later this week, Madden said.

If the case does end up before the Supreme Court, it could prove difficult to find the necessary five votes to undo a lower court order. The Supreme Court has been at less than full strength since Justice Antonin Scalia's death a year ago. The last immigration case that reached the justices ended in a 4-4 tie.

How and when a case might get to the Supreme Court is unclear. The travel ban itself is to expire in 90 days, meaning it could run its course before a higher court takes up the issue. Or the administration could change it in any number of ways that would keep the issue alive.

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Associated Press writers Brian Melley in Los Angeles and Eugene Johnson in Seattle contributed to this report.

## Court upholds guilty verdict for Russian opposition leader

By NATALIYA VASILYEVA, Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — A Russian court on Wednesday found opposition leader Alexei Navalny guilty in the retrial of a 2013 fraud case, which disqualifies him as a candidate for president next year.

However, an associate said Navalny will carry on with the campaign he announced he December.

In a webcast hearing, Judge Alexei Vtyurin found Navalny guilty of embezzling timber worth about \$500,000. The previous guilty verdict was overturned by the European Court of Human Rights which ruled that Russia violated Navalny's right to a fair trial.

The judge has yet to pronounce sentence in the trial held in Kirov, a city nearly 800 kilometers (500 miles) east of Moscow.

During a break in the proceedings, Navalny told reporters that he and his lawyers were comparing this verdict with the text of the 2013 verdict and found them to be identical.

"You can come over and see that the judge is reading exactly the same text, which says a lot about the whole trial," Navalny told reporters, adding that even the typos in the names of companies were identical in both rulings.

Navalny, the driving force behind massive anti-government protests in 2011 and 2012, had announced plans to run for office in December and had begun to raise funds.

Navalny's campaign manager, Leonid Volkov, insisted that the campaign goes on even though the guilty verdict formally bars Navalny from running.

In a post on Facebook, Volkov said that the Kremlin will ultimately decide whether Navalny will be confirmed as a presidential candidate.

"This is the political decision we need to win by campaigning," he said.

Navalny's plans to run in the 2013 Moscow mayoral election were shattered when the Kirov court found him guilty and sent him to prison. But after he spent a night in jail, the court held an emergency hearing and released Navalny on a suspended sentence.

The unusual move was seen by observers as the Kremlin's decision to allow him to run against its candidate in the mayoral race in order to make it look more legitimate. Navalny came in second, garnering about a third of the vote.

## 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

### 1. TRUMP TRAVEL BAN COURT DECISION EXPECTED THIS WEEK

It is unclear which way the three judges of the San Francisco-based 9th Circuit Court of Appeals will rule, though legal experts say the states appear to have the edge.

### 2. WHO WAS REBUKED AND SILENCED IN THE SENATE

Sen. Elizabeth Warren is forbidden from speaking again on Sen. Sessions' nomination as attorney general after running afoul of the chamber's arcane rules by reading a three-decade-old letter from Dr. Martin Luther King's widow.

### 3. CALL FOR ACTION AGAINST CORRUPTION IN VENEZUELA

In a letter partly prompted by an AP investigation, a group of U.S. lawmakers urges Trump to step up pressure on Venezuela's government for corruption and human rights abuses.

### 4. ARMY NOD FOR DAKOTA ACCESS PROJECT LOOMS

The Standing Rock Sioux, who fear a leak from the pipeline would pollute tribal water supplies, are vowing to fight the development in court.

### 5. "THE PLACE STARTED SHAKING, KIND OF TWISTING"

Storm injures about 40 people and causes heavy damage in southeastern Louisiana.

### 6. "SHE GAVE ME A DEATH SENTENCE"

Dozens of patients from a now-closed clinic in Ohio say its director lied and tricked them into thinking they had Alzheimer's disease when they really didn't.

### 7. AN ELECTION THREATENED BY VIOLENCE, CORRUPTION

Somalia's historic presidential election comes after years of warlord-led conflict and al-Shabab attacks, along with famine, that have left this country of about 12 million people largely shattered.

### 8. WHAT'S DETRACTING FROM SOUTH KOREA'S WINTER GAMES

One year before the Olympics, the country is in political disarray, and winter sports are the last thing on many people's minds.

### 9. WHO CAN'T RUN FOR PRESIDENT OF RUSSIA

Opposition leader Alexei Navalny is found guilty in the retrial of a 2013 fraud case and now cannot compete for presidency next year.

### 10. WHY MEDIA "FACT-CHECKING" IS SPREADING

These days of alternative facts, phantom terror attacks and fake news are changing how news organizations see their role as truth-seekers.

## Voting starts in Somalia's presidential election

By ABDI GULED, Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — Voting started Wednesday in Somalia's groundbreaking presidential election amid a security lockdown that has closed the capital's international airport and cleared major streets.

Members of the upper and lower houses of the legislature dropped their ballots into clear boxes in the first round with 21 candidates for president.

Fears of attacks by Islamic extremist group al-Shabab have limited the election to the country's legisla-



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tors, who are voting at a heavily guarded former air force base in the capital, Mogadishu. The voting is being streamed online. Rounds of voting are expected to narrow down the large field of candidates to a winner. One candidate dropped out Wednesday before the voting started.

Across Mogadishu, Somalis gathered around TV screens at cafes and homes, eagerly watching the ongoing presidential vote.

"I hope they will not choose bribes over the interest of the people," said Ahmed Hassan, a 26-year-old university student, of the legislators voting. Sitting among dozens of men in front of a large television screen, he said: "We need an honest leader who can help us move forward."

Alinur Muhummed, 36, a laborer, criticized the legislators. "They don't have any sense of patriotism or nationalism. I don't believe they will elect a president ... according to his national plan but rather the bribes he paid them ... It'll take time for Somalia to stand on its feet again."

This Horn of Africa nation is trying to put together its first fully functioning central government in a quarter-century. Years of warlord-led conflict and al-Shabab attacks, along with famine, have left this country of about 12 million people largely shattered.

Somalia's instability landed it among the seven Muslim-majority countries affected by President Donald Trump's executive order on immigration, even though its government has been an increasingly important partner for the U.S. military on counterterrorism efforts.

In a sign of the dangers that remain in the capital, Mogadishu, two mortar rounds fired by suspected extremists late Tuesday hit near the election venue.

While the international community has pushed Somalia to hold this election as a symbol of strength, including the U.S. pouring in hundreds of millions of dollars in recent years for political and economic recovery, the vote has been marred by reports of widespread corruption.

The legislators voting — 275 members of the lower legislative house and 54 senators — were selected by the country's powerful, intricate network of clans. Weeks ago, a joint statement by the United Nations, the U.S., European Union and others warned of "egregious cases of abuse of the electoral process."

Examples included violence, intimidation and men taking seats that had been reserved for female candidates, the joint statement said.

With reports of votes being sold for up to \$30,000 apiece, "This is probably the most expensive election, per vote, in history," the Mogadishu-based anti-corruption group Marqaati said in a report released Tuesday.

Among the candidates, many who also hold foreign passports, incumbent President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud is seeking re-election and may have an edge to win a second five-year term.

But rival candidate and Prime Minister Omar Abdirashid Sharmarke has accused regional countries of interfering in the electoral process by pushing for certain candidates. "Those neighboring countries should respect our sovereignty and stop meddling in our affairs," he said, without naming the states. Various Muslim-majority countries seek a friendly Somali government, including Turkey, which has invested heavily in the country. The United Arab Emirates and Qatar are backing different candidates.

Online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGNi0Hh92gY>

## Warren violates arcane rule, sparking Senate dustup

By **ANDREW TAYLOR, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republicans silenced Democratic Sen. Elizabeth Warren for criticizing colleague and attorney general nominee Jeff Sessions with the words of Coretta Scott King from three decades ago.

The Massachusetts lawmaker, whose name has been prominent in speculation about the 2020 presidential race, was given a rare Senate rebuke for impugning a fellow senator late Tuesday and barred from saying anything more on the Senate floor about the nominee.

The chamber is debating the Alabama Republican's nomination for attorney general, with Democrats dropping senatorial niceties to oppose Sessions and Republicans sticking up for him.

Warren produced a three-decade-old letter in which the civil rights leader wrote that Sessions as an acting federal prosecutor in Alabama used his power to "chill the free exercise of the vote by black citizens."

Quoting King technically put Warren in violation of an arcane Senate rule for "impugning the motives" of Sessions, though senators have said far worse. And Warren was reading from a letter that was written 10 years before Sessions was even elected to the Senate.

Still, top Senate Republican Mitch McConnell invoked the rule. After a few parliamentary moves, the GOP-controlled Senate voted to back him up.

Now, Warren is forbidden from speaking again on Sessions' nomination. A vote on Sessions is expected Wednesday evening.

Democrats seized on the flap to charge that Republicans were muzzling Warren, sparking liberals to take to Twitter to post the King letter in its entirety.

Warren argued: "I'm reading a letter from Coretta Scott King to the Judiciary Committee from 1986 that was admitted into the record. I'm simply reading what she wrote about what the nomination of Jeff Sessions to be a federal court judge meant and what it would mean in history for her."

Warren was originally warned after reading from a statement by former Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., that labeled Sessions a disgrace.

Democrats pointed out that McConnell didn't object when Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, called him a liar in a 2015 dustup.

The episode was followed by lamentations by Senate veterans, including its most senior Republican, Orrin Hatch of Utah, about how the Senate is too partisan.

## Tornadoes slam southeast Louisiana, injuring dozens

By KEVIN MCGILL, Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Brittany Ross remembers she was savoring the smell of her aunt's simmering white beans when the storm that injured about 40 people in southeastern Louisiana hit.

"The place started shaking, kind of twisting," she said Tuesday as she stood amid the wreckage at a small trailer park in eastern New Orleans.

The tornado, she said, lifted the trailer off the ground and slammed it down.

Ross, 26, her aunt and two others crawled out of the wreckage amid flying debris — uninjured, but suddenly homeless.

The tornadoes that struck Ross' home and other parts of southeastern Louisiana destroyed homes and businesses, flipped cars and trucks, and left thousands without power, but no deaths were reported, Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards said.

The governor took an aerial tour and made a disaster declaration before meeting with officials in New Orleans. The worst damage was in the same 9th Ward that was so heavily flooded in 2005's Hurricane Katrina.

Edwards, a Democrat, said he was heartbroken to see some of the same people suffering again, and promised that the state will provide the affected residents with the resources they need as quickly as possible.

He said seven parishes were hit by tornadoes in an afternoon of tumultuous weather across southeastern Louisiana.

The storm ripped apart homes, toppled a gas station canopy, snapped tall power poles and flipped a food truck upside-down. It left shards of metal hanging from trees, and trapped a truck driver as power lines wrapped around his cab.

The wall of severe weather also delivered heavy rain and hail to Mississippi and Alabama.

Artie Chaney said her granddaughter had just pulled up to the house from school.

"(Hail) rocks were falling on the car, and I was looking out the side door and saw the clouds moving fast. I heard this sound. We looked up in the air and we could see debris in the distance and before we

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knew it, it was just barreling down on us," Chaney recalled.

"We ran in the house; the lights went out. We ran down the hallway to the middle bedroom and then we just heard glass shattering. We thought we weren't gonna make it. It seemed like it lasted a long time. It was a horrible experience. We were just so grateful to God that nobody was hurt."

Chaney said, her voice breaking as she looked at the damage, "We went through all of Katrina, with no damage. I didn't think I'd be starting over again."

The Baton Rouge area also got hit. Ascension Parish Sheriff's spokeswoman Allison Hudson said three people suffered minor injuries and several homes and buildings were damaged in the historic part of Donaldsonville, about 20 miles southwest of the capital.

In Killian, just east of Baton Rouge, the mayor said several houses were destroyed and several others damaged, but an elderly couple suffered the only injuries he knew of: one, a broken leg; the other, a broken arm.

"How you manage to get blown completely across the street with cinderblocks flying and no worse than a couple broken limbs — apparently the good Lord was looking after them," Mayor Craig McGehee said.

An official at NASA's Michoud facility in New Orleans said it suffered some structural damage but the deep-space equipment being built there does not appear to have been harmed.

Steve Doering said the hardware and tooling used in the Orion and Space Launch System projects were not damaged, but Michoud will have to make a "significant effort" to cover everything up so any subsequent bad weather doesn't affect it while the building's roof and walls are repaired.

Two Mississippi counties reported wind damage, but no injuries, from suspected tornadoes. Other areas of Mississippi saw heavy rain and hail from the storm system that spawned multiple tornadoes in Louisiana.

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Associated Press writers Jeff Martin in Atlanta and Janet McConnaughey, Chevel Johnson, Rebecca Santana and Gerald Herbert in New Orleans contributed to this report.

## Political scandal overshadows South Korea 2018 Olympic prep

By HYUNG-JIN KIM, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — When Pyeongchang was awarded the 2018 Olympics six years ago, many South Koreans felt that the first Winter Games on home snow would herald their entry into the top tier of rich nations.

One year before the Olympics, however, the country is in political disarray, and winter sports are the last thing on many people's minds. To say that South Koreans are distracted from what had been billed as a crowning sports achievement is an understatement.

After protests that saw millions take to the streets, South Korea's president, toppled from power, languishes in her mountainside palace as a court ponders whether to approve her impeachment and trigger early elections. A toothless prime minister, thrust into leadership by the country's biggest corruption scandal in recent memory, struggles with huge economic, social and diplomatic tensions.

And then there's rival North Korea, which relishes the chance to insert itself into the picture — often with missile tests and threats of annihilation — whenever global attention turns to its southern rival.

This is not the atmosphere jubilant organizers thought they'd face when Pyeongchang, an alpine ski resort town of 43,000 people about 180 kilometers (110 miles) east of Seoul, closed in on its moment of glory.

Despite the political turmoil, the Pyeongchang Olympics will likely be well-organized and ready to go, especially when compared with the recent games in Rio de Janeiro and Sochi, Russia, which saw swirling human rights, environmental and political crises.

Still, the upheaval in government will likely dominate headlines throughout the year and add to worries about Pyeongchang's preparations, enormous costs and a lack of public buzz.

A look at some of the major issues facing the country, and the state of its Olympic dreams, a year ahead of the Pyeongchang Games, which are set for Feb. 9-25, 2018:

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## "AN ADVANCED NATION"

Even with the political mess, there are still high hopes for the second Olympics to be held in South Korea, whose capital, Seoul, hosted the 1988 Summer Games.

South Korea used the Seoul Olympics to highlight its economic rise from the rubble of the 1950-53 Korean War. The country has since staged two Asian Games, co-hosted the soccer World Cup in 2002 with Japan and held other high-profile international events, including the 2010 Group of 20 economic summit.

"The Winter Olympics will let us show that we have reached the level of an advanced nation," said Choi Kwang-shik, a former minister of culture, sports and tourism who teaches at Korea University.

Pyeongchang supporters say the 2018 Games will boost South Korea's image because only advanced, rich countries usually host Winter Olympics.

Critics, however, question the need to host costly international events and waste taxpayers' money when many South Koreans are struggling economically.

## SCANDAL

The Pyeongchang Olympics, like much else in South Korea, have been drawn into the country's biggest political scandal in decades.

Prosecutors say President Park Geun-hye and her longtime friend Choi Soon-sil plotted to pressure businesses to donate tens of millions of dollars to two nonprofit foundations controlled by Choi, one of them sports-related.

As investigations widened over the scandal, officials arrested and indicted several top sports and culture ministry officials, including Cho Yoon-sun, who resigned as minister after her arrest. Media have speculated that a jailed senior sports official aided Choi — who is jailed and currently on trial — in alleged attempts to land Olympic construction deals.

Lee Hee-beom, head of the Pyeongchang organizing committee, told reporters recently that comprehensive reviews of all Olympic-related contracts found that none has been found "contaminated."

Some of the companies implicated in the political scandal were reluctant to sponsor the Olympics, according to local media reports. Still, organizers say they collected about 90 percent of their domestic sponsorship target of 940 billion won (\$826 million) by the end of last year.

## COSTS, VENUE CONSTRUCTION

Spending for the Pyeongchang Games will likely be about 14.2 trillion won (\$12.4 billion), with 11.4 trillion (\$10 billion) of that for building competition venues, roads and a new high-speed rail line designed to link the country's main gateway of Incheon International Airport with Pyeongchang in about 90 minutes.

Organizers say the infrastructure will help promote Gangwon province, which governs Pyeongchang and shares a border with North Korea. The goal is to use the Olympics to turn the region into a new Asian hub for winter sports.

There have been worries about construction delays. Organizers say the main Olympic stadium, where the opening and closing ceremonies will be held, is about 40 percent complete. They promise completion by September.

They also say the construction of the 12 competition venues is about 96 percent complete on average.

## BUZZ

The winter sports industry in South Korea is relatively young and searching for star athletes after the retirement of beloved Olympic figure skating champion Yuna Kim.

About 6,500 athletes, coaches and sports officials from about 95 countries are expected to attend the Pyeongchang Games. Foreigners will also be streaming in to watch, but organizers hope that 70 percent of ticket sales will be local. That means creating buzz at home is crucial.

But there's worry about low ticket sales, which are set to start in South Korea on Thursday.

To attract locals, popular South Korean athletes are needed. "But many people don't know any local athletes, so they won't go" to Pyeongchang, said Jung Moon-hyun, a sports science professor at Chungnam National University in South Korea.

A series of test events that began in November will continue until April. Among them are the Four Continents Figure Skating Championships and the Ski Jumping World Cup, both this month.

## NORTH KOREA

North Korea's participation in the 2018 Games would certainly bring attention. Pyeongchang was partially sold to the world as a way to perhaps prod North Korea into reaching out more to the international community.

But nothing is ever easy between the rival Koreas.

The North boycotted the 1986 Asian Games and the 1988 Olympics, both held in Seoul. Then it attended South Korea-hosted events in recent years, including the 2014 Asian Games in Incheon. Athletes from the two Koreas also marched together in the opening ceremonies of several major international sports events, including the 2000 and 2004 Olympics.

Current ties between the Koreas are extremely bad after Pyongyang conducted two nuclear weapons tests last year. Analysts say the North's participation at Pyeongchang will likely hinge on what kind of overture Seoul might offer the North.

But with the presidency in limbo, that, like much else in South Korea, is up in the air.

## A FRESH START?

President Park, whose single five-year term was to last until Feb. 24, 2018, was originally supposed to oversee the Olympics' opening ceremony. Her successor was to then attend the Feb. 25 closing ceremony.

If the country's Constitutional Court approves Park's parliamentary impeachment — a ruling that could come by March — she'd be permanently driven from office. A presidential by-election would then follow within two months. Even if Park stays in office, presidential elections will happen in December.

Come February 2018, regardless of who's in charge, many here will look to the Olympics for a fresh start.

Follow Hyung-jin Kim at [www.twitter.com/hyungjin1972](http://www.twitter.com/hyungjin1972)

## Sen. Sessions on track for confirmation as attorney general

By ANDREW TAYLOR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate is working overtime toward confirming President Donald Trump's close ally, Sen. Jeff Sessions, to become the nation's top law enforcement officer as attorney general.

The Alabama Republican appears headed toward confirmation on Wednesday evening by a nearly party-line vote. Democrats harshly criticized Sessions for being too close to Trump, too harsh on immigrants, and too weak on civil rights.

"There is simply nothing in Senator Sessions' testimony before the Judiciary Committee that gives me confidence that he would be willing to stand up to the president," said Sen. Pat Leahy, D-Vt. "He has instead demonstrated only blind allegiance."

Republicans say Sessions has demonstrated over a long career in public service — and two decades in the Senate — that he possesses integrity, honesty, and is committed to justice and the rule of law.

"We all know him to be a man of deep integrity, a man of his word, and a man committed to fairness," said Judiciary Committee Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa.

Sessions enjoys unanimous backing from fellow Republicans and cleared a procedural vote Tuesday afternoon by a 52-47 margin, with West Virginia Democrat Joe Manchin crossing over to back him.

Sessions would be the fourth Cabinet nominee approved by the Senate, where Democratic delaying tactics mean far fewer of Trump's picks are in place than were President Barack Obama's eight years ago.

Wednesday's vote comes amid rising tension between Republicans controlling the chamber and minority Democrats largely opposed to Trump Cabinet picks like Betsy DeVos at Education — who cleared the Senate by a 51-50 vote on Tuesday with Vice President Mike Pence casting a historic vote to break a tie.

Democrats asserted that Session wouldn't do enough to protect voting rights of minorities, protections

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for gay people, the right of women to procure abortions, and immigrants in the country illegally to receive due process. Their opposition invariably returned to skepticism that Sessions would weigh the interests of Trump along with the rights of the public.

"Sen. Sessions views this appointment as an opportunity to participate in a movement to advance the president's agenda," said Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California, top Democrat on the Judiciary panel. "This is not the role of the attorney general of the United States.... Can we really expect him to be an attorney general who is independent from President Trump?"

This week has featured overnight Senate sessions as GOP leaders are grinding through a thicket of controversial picks. After Wednesday's vote on Sessions comes Health and Human Services Department nominee Rep. Tom Price, R-Ga.

Epitomizing the sharp-edged partisanship surrounding confirmation of Cabinet nominees, Sen. Elizabeth Warren was given a rare rebuke Tuesday evening for quoting Coretta Scott King, widow of the late civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., on the Senate floor.

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell held that the Massachusetts Democrat had run afoul of the chamber's arcane rules by reading a three-decade-old letter from Mrs. King that dated to Sessions' failed judicial nomination three decades ago. McConnell's fellow GOP senators backed his position and Warren, who is very popular with her party's liberal wing, was construed as violating Senate rules for "impugning the motives" of Sessions, even though senators have said far worse in fiery floor debates. Republican Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas called McConnell a liar in a 2015 dustup in the chamber.

Sessions was a prominent early backer of Trump and was a big supporter of his hard line on illegal immigration and an joined Trump's advocacy of a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

His confirmation vote comes as Trump has upended Washington, most notably with his ban on travel from seven majority Muslim nations and his criticism of a federal judge who issued a stay halting it.

Sessions' nomination to a federal judgeship was rejected three decades ago by the Senate Judiciary Committee after it was alleged that as a federal prosecutor he had called a black attorney "boy" and had said organizations like the NAACP and the American Civil Liberties Union were un-American.

At his hearing last month, Sessions said he had never harbored racial animus, saying he had been falsely caricatured.

Sessions has described a conservative vision for the Justice Department, pledging to crack down on illegal immigration, gun violence and the "scourge of radical Islamic terrorism" and to keep open the Guantanamo Bay prison in Cuba.

But he has also called waterboarding, a now-banned harsh interrogation technique that Trump has at times expressed support for, was "absolutely improper and illegal."

Though he said he would prosecute immigrants who repeatedly enter the country illegally and criticized as constitutionally "questionable" an executive action by Obama that shielded certain immigrants from deportation, he said he did "not support the idea that Muslims, as a religious group, should be denied admission to the United States."

## Democratic pressure to oppose Trump roils Capitol Hill

By ERICA WERNER, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional Democrats are under intense pressure from the liberal base to oppose President Donald Trump at every turn, a dynamic that will color nearly every debate on Capitol Hill this year and complicate prospects for action on all issues.

It's sure to be a topic of debate as House Democrats gather for a policy retreat in Baltimore on Wednesday, but the 10 Senate Democrats up for re-election in states Trump won are under particular pressure. They must balance demands from their base to stand up to Trump with the need to appeal to independent and swing voters statewide. If these Democrats mishandle the moment, Republicans could potentially win a filibuster-proof 60-vote Senate majority in next year's elections.

That would give Trump and the GOP the ability to usher in major changes on a partisan basis, like



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President Barack Obama and Democrats did in passing "Obamacare," a terrifying prospect for Democrats.

"I would have to go live in another galaxy far, far away," said Rep. Emanuel Cleaver, D-Mo., who's concerned about the re-election prospects of Missouri Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill. "We can't afford to lose McCaskill, we can't afford to lose her, but I don't know."

Democrats' stance toward Trump has hardened notably in recent weeks after Democratic senators took heat for their early votes in favor of some of Trump's first Cabinet picks.

In one much-noticed incident, reliably liberal Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse of Rhode Island was booed by voters while trying to explain why he voted to confirm GOP Rep. Mike Pompeo to head the Central Intelligence Agency.

Liberal stalwart Sens. Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and Sherrod Brown of Ohio both had to defend their committee votes to approve Ben Carson to lead the Housing and Urban Development Department. Thousands showed up outside Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer's home in Brooklyn to demand he stiffen his spine against Trump.

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York, by contrast, one of a handful of Senate Democrats seen as potential candidates for president in 2020, has won praise from liberal bloggers for voting against nearly all of Trump's picks. Her stance highlights a division between those Democratic lawmakers eyeing a White House run in 2020, and increasingly embracing purely oppositional stances toward Trump, and the senators who will face voters in red states next year and who in several cases are still talking about their desire to find common ground with the president.

"My job is to do what Hoosiers want me to do," said Sen. Joe Donnelly of Indiana, who is up for re-election in a state Trump won big. "And so where there are chances to work together with President Trump such as keeping jobs in the United States," Donnelly said he'd be grateful for Trump's help.

By contrast Sen. Cory Booker of New Jersey, also seen as a potential presidential candidate, views his role as opposing Trump. Booker said his hopes for potential areas of Democratic compromise with Trump have been dashed by the president's actions.

"He's got a scorched earth policy, not a common ground policy, so I have no more illusions," Booker said. "When it comes to Trump I'm in a posture of fighting him, resisting him and trying to stop him from hurting people."

Such views have ground action in the Senate to a crawl on Trump's Cabinet picks, as Democrats respond to voter anger by dragging out debate as long as possible, holding all-night sessions this week after boycotting committee votes last week.

How it will play when Congress confronts must-do votes on spending bills later this year to keep the lights on in government remains to be seen. Lawmakers also will confront a deadline later this year to raise the government's borrowing limit or send the nation into unprecedented default. That's apart from the lengthy legislative agenda Trump is hoping to get through Congress, including repealing and replacing the health care law and overhauling the tax code.

Some Democrats may look for chances to extract concessions or compromise, but for now the loudest voices are coming from the left which is counseling against making any deals with Trump. Donations are pouring in to Democratic lawmakers and groups, and some Democrats point out that a strategy of pure opposition to Obama worked for Republicans who went from being in the minority on Capitol Hill to now controlling the House, Senate and White House.

"If you think you're going to be able to win in a red state that Trump won by being closely aligned to Trump, you're going to be shown to be quite in error," said Rep. Ruben Gallego, D-Ariz., criticizing Senate Democrats he says have not been firm enough against Trump. "Your best bet you could do is make sure that Donald Trump and his policies are known to be unpopular and you're running against that."

Such sentiments drew an angry retort from Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, a conservative Democrat up for re-election in a red state. He said the liberal base, with its threats to mount primaries against Democrats who don't vote against Trump at every step, risks endangering Democratic senators' re-election chances and driving them into a powerless minority.

"If that's what you want, God bless you then go out and earn it. Start basically primary-ing everybody,"

Manchin said. "That beats them up so bad that they can't get through a general election when they should be able to get through a general election."

## Trump's list of underreported terror doesn't back up claim

By VIVIAN SALAMA and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A White House list of what it calls underreported terrorist attacks did not support President Donald Trump's claim that the media are downplaying a "genocide" carried out by the Islamic State group. But it did shine new light on the difficulty in defining the scope, source and motives behind the violence carried out in the name of radical Islam.

A close review of the 78 attacks listed by the White House shows almost all the attacks were reported by the news media and that many were widely covered by local and international outlets. The review, carried out by Associated Press reporters on four continents, found that more than half of the attacks, including most of those in the Middle East, were linked to the Islamic State group, as the White House suggested. Others were ruled IS-inspired, but carried out by lone wolf attackers. But in some cases, the motive was unclear, and investigations as to possible extremist links were inconclusive.

The examples range from knife-wielding assailants in Texas to hostage-takers in Australia to the gunman who killed at least 129 people across Paris in 2015. The magnitude of the attacks on the document circulated by the White House — which appeared to be hastily compiled and included several typos — ranges from several dozen dead to one or two people injured.

It has some notable omissions. It did not include any attacks by Boko Haram, an Islamist insurgent group operating in West Africa that is responsible for far more deaths than the Islamic State. The group, which has pledged allegiance to the Islamic State, has led an uprising that has killed more than 20,000 people and left 2.6 million homeless this decade in Nigeria and neighboring countries.

It also pays little heed to the scores of terror acts that have plagued nations like Syria and Iraq that are close to the Islamic State's caliphate and under near-daily siege.

The list itself was created to bolster the case for Trump's executive order restricting immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries and suspending the U.S. refugee program. But that ban would not have prevented any of the terrorist attacks on the list that occurred in the United States.

Here's a closer look at some of the attacks on the list:

### UNITED STATES

The inclusion of some of the attacks in the United States defies credulity.

Among those on the White House's list are a deadly rampage in San Bernardino, California, in 2015 in which 14 people were killed and 21 injured, and the June 2016 nightclub shooting in Orlando, Florida, which left 49 dead, the biggest mass shooting in the nation's history. Both of those attacks received blanket news coverage for days, and all of the attacks in the U.S. received at least some attention by the American media.

A 2015 attack in Garland, Texas, took place outside a venue hosting a provocative contest for Prophet Muhammad cartoons. According to trial testimony, the suspect, Elton Simpson, was an American Muslim who became the subject of a criminal investigation in 2006 because of his association "with an individual whom the FBI believed was attempting to set up a terrorist cell in Arizona." He was never found to have links to the Islamic State group or any other established radical groups.

Non-fatal knife attacks on police officers in Boston and New York, a knife attack at a Minnesota mall and the shooting of a police officer in Philadelphia were also reported.

"The notion that terrorism is an under-covered subject is preposterous," said David H. Schanzer, director of Duke University's Triangle Center on Terrorism and Homeland Security. "It's highly over-covered compared to the amount of violence that we face in society."

Citing a study his department recently published, Schanzer said, "one out of every 2,000 homicides since 9/11 have been linked to al-Qaida or ISIS-inspiration or control."

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## CANADA

Two October 2014 attacks in Canada — one in Quebec and one in Ottawa — received media coverage in Canada, where attacks of this nature are rare. In Quebec, soldier Patrice Vincent was killed in an apparent act of homegrown terrorism. The suspect was known to police and had his passport seized to stop him from traveling to Syria. It was never determined whether the suspect had any ties to Islamic militant groups, though former Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper described the suspect as an “ISIL-inspired terrorist,” referring to the Islamic State group by an acronym.

In the Canadian capital, one soldier was killed at a war memorial and two were wounded in shootings at the Parliament building.

Meanwhile, in Quebec last week, a gunman who reportedly held anti-immigrant views killed six men at a local mosque in an incident described by Canada’s Prime Minister Justin Trudeau as a “terrorist attack.” Trump has yet to personally comment on the attacks, although the White House did offer assistance to Trudeau. That attack wasn’t listed.

## EUROPE

Across Europe, attacks are increasingly being attributed to the flow of refugees across the continent — and it’s hard to find a single attack, large or small, that didn’t generate global coverage.

Trump himself used a non-fatal knife attack outside the Louvre in Paris last week to underscore his efforts to ban migrants from entering the U.S., writing on Twitter, “A new radical Islamic terrorist has just attacked in Louvre Museum in Paris. Tourists were locked down. France on edge again. GET SMART U.S.”

All of the attacks cited on the list in Europe were widely reported both by international and local media — some in real time. A 2015 attack at a Paris supermarket was covered live as it was happening. When the attacker, Amedy Coulibaly, pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group, it was urgently reported by The Associated Press and others.

Links between the attackers and terror groups were also reported, although at times that did not happen until they were unearthed by investigators days later.

In London, a 2015 knife attack by a man shouting “this is for Syria” at an underground rail station made headlines in newspapers around the world. Police said they treated it as a terrorist incident, although a link was never drawn between the attacker and any particular group.

A 2014 attack on a police station by a Muslim convert in Joue-les-Tours, France, was reported by The Associated Press at the time and followed up with his brother’s arrest in Burundi. AP did not report on any links to the Islamic State group, although British media later said he posted a black Islamic State flag on his Facebook page.

## MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

The Muslim world is the front line in the battle against the Islamic State group, and civilians across the region have not been spared the group’s deadly campaign.

A number of attacks cited on the White House list occurred in Egypt. A 2015 attack on a camp used by a multinational peacekeeping force was reported by several news outlets, as was the Islamic State group claim. Other attacks occurred in Cairo in 2015, including one that resulted in the kidnapping and beheading of a Croatian national, and a car bomb at the Italian Consulate that left one dead. Both were claimed by the Islamic State group and reported worldwide.

Additional attacks in Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Tunisia and Turkey were also reported by various news outlets, citing officials who linked the attacks to the Islamic State group — a common claim by governments across the Middle East, even when dealing with lone wolf attackers.

The White House list did not include any attacks in Iraq, Syria or Yemen, where civilians are targeted almost daily by militant attacks. Many of those attacks are covered by the media, despite the often-perilous conditions involved in reporting those stories.

## AUSTRALIA

Included on Trump's list is a standoff at a Sydney chocolatier in 2014. The incident drew round-the-clock coverage by the world's news outlets. A request by attacker Man Haron Monis for an Islamic State group flag during the faceoff fueled anxiety about the group's expanding influence across the globe.

Monis himself was never determined to have had contact with the group.

An incident shortly before that in Melbourne also made headlines when Numan Haider was shot dead by police in connection with the stabbing of two police officers. Photographs on Haider's Facebook site included images of what appeared to be members of the Islamic State group.

Lemire reported from New York. Geir Moulson in Berlin; Jan Olsen in Copenhagen; Jill Lawless in London; Vladimir Isachenkov in Moscow; Dominique Soguel in Basel, Switzerland; Adam Schreck in Dubai, United Arab Emirates; Rob Gillies in Toronto; Lori Hinnant in Paris; Andrew Meldrum in Johannesburg, South Africa; Rahim Faiez in Kabul, Afghanistan; and Leon Keith in Bangkok, Thailand, contributed to this report.

## With golf and gifts, Japan's Abe cuts own path with Trump

By KEN MORITSUGU, Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Japan is charting its own course to deal with a radically different U.S. president, an approach that will be tested at the end of this week when Prime Minister Shinzo Abe meets Donald Trump in the White House and on the golf course in Florida.

Some other leaders of America's closest neighbors and allies, from Mexico to the United Kingdom, have been singed by their encounters with Trump. Japanese officials are optimistic the invitation to visit Trump's "Winter White House," an exclusive club he owns in Palm Beach, signals a more positive outcome.

"We hope that the two leaders can deepen relations and trust in Florida," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told reporters in announcing the trip.

Abe, who departs Thursday, has moved quickly since the U.S. election to try to win Trump over. He was the only world leader to meet him before the inauguration, and will be the second to do so since Trump took office, after British Prime Minister Theresa May. Abe and Trump hold talks in Washington, D.C., on Friday before flying to the president's Mar-a-Lago Club in Florida.

"We're going to have a round of golf, which is a great thing," Trump told a sports radio interviewer, according to a transcript released Sunday by the White House. "That's the one thing about golf. You get to know somebody better on a golf course than you will over lunch."

In a culture where gift-giving is often obligatory, Japan also may come bearing presents. Abe gave the president-elect a high-end golf driver at their November meeting in New York. This time, according to media reports, the government is trying to put together a package of investments and loans that would create jobs in America.

"They think that they have to bring something to please Mr. Trump, because his pledge is America first, and bring all the employment to the United States, as well as business investment to the United States," said Mieko Nakabayashi, a former lawmaker who teaches at Waseda University in Tokyo.

The strategy seems to be an update of Japan's playbook from the U.S.-Japan trade wars in the 1980s and 1990s, said Aurelia George Mulgan, a Japan expert at the Canberra campus of the University of New South Wales in Australia.

"Japanese prime ministers and ministers often went to the United States ... bearing a package of such offerings," she wrote in a commentary posted online Wednesday. "Gift diplomacy could also be twinned with the tactic of substitution compensation, where Japan would not agree with a particular U.S. demand but would offer some other kind of concession instead."

She added in an email exchange that the golf outing may help Abe replicate another element of the 1980s: the close "Ron-Yasu" relationship that then-Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone built with President Ronald Reagan.



The outreach to Trump carries risks.

"Frankly, I have doubts about the idea of him playing golf," Makoto Koga, a retired lawmaker from Abe's party, said on a weekly TV political talk show last weekend. "It may not be necessarily a good idea to get too close or friendly with someone like Mr. Trump, who seems to be impulsive or simple-minded."

Britain's May was criticized at home for inviting Trump to visit, shortly before Trump announced a travel ban on people from seven predominantly Muslim countries. Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto and Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull are smarting from phone calls with Trump. Nieto canceled his planned visit over a disagreement about the wall Trump has pledged to build along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Trump has attacked Japan's trade and exchange rate policies, and during the campaign, demanded that Japan and other allies pay more of the cost of stationing U.S. troops in their countries.

Japan's has responded firmly but politely, taking issue with Trump's assertions when it disagrees, but avoiding comment on issues such as the travel ban.

As the meeting with Trump approaches, it is the unpredictability of America's new leader that worries government officials and analysts the most.

"We never know whether Mr. Trump would do some kind of a surprise," Nakabayashi said. "And we're not sure whether Mr. Abe is prepared for that."

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Associated Press writer Mari Yamaguchi contributed to this story.

Online: <http://www.eastasiaforum.org/2017/02/08/back-to-the-future-for-us-japan-relations/>

## Police face complaints about 'third-shift terror squad'

By MATT O'BRIEN, Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — A lawyer calls it the "third-shift terror squad": a band of white officers who patrol the South Side of Providence at night and, residents say, strike fear into blacks and Latinos by harassing and in some cases beating them.

"They're terrorizing the city," said Charm Howie, a black former police cadet who was arrested by the crew. "I told them, 'I'm a father. My kids are up there in the window. Please don't disrespect me in front of my children.'"

A drive through the neighborhood for pizza in July 2015 ended with Howie splayed against a car and charged with disorderly conduct, assault and resisting arrest by the white rookie officers who stopped him for a broken headlight. A judge later acquitted Howie, citing among other things doubts about the officers' credibility.

In interviews, Providence's top police officials defended the department's record and said they have worked to improve relations and discipline and retrain officers. More than 75 percent of the nearly 400-member force is white, while just 36 percent of the city's 179,000 residents are white.

"We're not perfect, but we've had a tremendous record of our use of restraint as a police department," Police Chief Hugh Clements Jr. said last month after welcoming the city's most diverse class of cadets to the academy. "We're proud of our record, we're proud of what we've done, and we anticipate we're about to get better."

Cellphone videos that surfaced last year showing questionable use of force against South Side residents have spurred calls for reform and a push for an ordinance banning racial profiling by police.

"Community members are telling us that police are following them, taking photos of youth when they get out of school, putting them in gang databases," said activist Vanessa Flores-Maldonado. "The further you go down Broad Street, the more and more police officers you see. That's no coincidence. The further you go down Broad Street, the more black and people of color there are."

The head of Providence's police union, Sgt. Robert Boehm, said the poor and heavily black and Hispanic neighborhood generates a lot of police calls, and that tends to translate into more citizen complaints against police. He said the area has had loud parties and "large crowds not cooperating with the police."

Howie, a 35-year-old barber and personal trainer who has a criminal justice degree, knew the men who

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arrested him: They were his former classmates at the police academy, which he was dismissed from in 2014 after what he said was bullying by instructors and fellow trainees.

Steven Nelson, the city lawyer who prosecuted Howie after his arrest, argued during the non-jury trial that Howie "was obstinate, he was defiant and he was bitter" when he saw his former classmates, because "they made it and he did not."

Howie contended that the officers disliked him from their days in the academy and that one of them telephoned another ex-classmate during the arrest to laugh at what was happening to Howie.

Judge Madeline Quirk acquitted Howie in November and admonished the officers for "huge" inconsistencies in their testimony.

Among the red flags, she said, was the cellphone call one of Howie's former classmates, Patrolman Matthew Sheridan, made to another, Patrolman Christopher Benoit. Sheridan testified it was accidental — a pocket dial. Another former classmate, Patrolman Michael Place, was also involved in the arrest.

Advocates demanding reforms and firings hoped the ruling would have repercussions. So far, none of the officers have been disciplined for the encounter with Howie. But some have been punished for other encounters that happened just a few blocks away, always at night.

After video surfaced showing Sheridan beating a disabled Latino nightclub employee in 2015, the city said it gave him six months of departmental probation and retrained him in the use of force. Prosecutors also agreed to effectively drop their case against the club employee who had been charged with assault and resisting arrest, allowing him to maintain his innocence.

Sheridan attracted attention again in May when he arrested black writer and performance artist Christopher Johnson, at the time a candidate to be the state's poet laureate, on charges of disorderly conduct, assault and resisting arrest. Johnson later wrote an essay titled "walking while black" that alleged Sheridan grabbed him and threw him against a cruiser.

Johnson's lawyer said he hasn't filed a complaint because the charges against him haven't been resolved.

A few days later that May, cellphone video captured officers from the same South Side shift grabbing a Latina woman by the hair and throwing a man to the ground.

The city said Place, who pulled the woman's hair, received a written reprimand, retraining and a one-day suspension. Benoit received an oral reprimand and was retrained. Another officer was also reprimanded and retrained.

Howie's lawyer Shannah Kurland, who also represents Johnson and other South Side defendants, called the officers the "third-shift terror squad" and said the incidents "show a pattern of behavior that is completely unacceptable for any person, let alone one who is paid with our tax dollars to carry a gun."

Providence Public Safety Commissioner Steven Pare wouldn't address whether officers would face further discipline but said the department responds thoroughly to complaints.

He said he hopes the city expands the use of police body cameras so that "we can see the entire story and not just snippets" on the internet.

## DeVos ekes out confirmation win as Pence casts historic vote

By MARIA DANILOVA, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Charter school advocate Betsy DeVos won confirmation as education secretary Tuesday by the slimmest of margins, pushed to approval only by the historic tie-breaking vote of Vice President Mike Pence.

Two Republicans, Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, joined Democrats in a marathon effort to derail the nomination of the wealthy Republican donor. The Senate historian said Pence's vote was the first by a vice president to break a 50-50 tie on a Cabinet nomination.

Despite the win, DeVos emerged bruised from the highly divisive nomination fight. Opposed by half the Senate, she faced criticism, even ridicule for lack of experience and confusion during her confirmation hearing. At one point, she said some schools should have guns because of the threat of grizzly bears.

And there has been scathing opposition from teachers unions and civil rights activists over her support

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of charter schools and her conservative religious ideology.

President Donald Trump accused Democrats of seeking to torpedo education progress. In a tweet before the vote, he wrote, "Betsy DeVos is a reformer, and she is going to be a great Education Sec. for our kids!"

DeVos was sworn in hours after the Senate vote by Pence, who told the new Cabinet member: "I wasn't just voting for you. Having seen your devotion to improving the quality of education for some of our most vulnerable children across the nation for so many years, I was also casting a vote for America's children."

"I can tell you, my vote for Betsy DeVos was the easiest vote I ever cast," Pence said.

DeVos released a statement promising to be "a tireless advocate for all students."

"Partnering with students, parents, educators, state and local leaders, Congress and all stakeholders, we will improve education options and outcomes across America," she said.

She now takes the helm of a department charged with implementing laws affecting the nation's public schools with no direct experience with traditional public schools. Her opponents noted that she has no experience running public schools, nor has she attended one or sent her children to one.

She also will have to address several hot-button issues in higher education, such as rising tuition costs, growing student debt and the troubled for-profit colleges, many of which have closed down, leaving students with huge loans and without a good education or job prospects.

Close attention also will be paid to how DeVos deals with sexual assault and freedom of speech on campuses.

Ahead of Tuesday's vote, emotions ran high as constituents jammed senators' phone lines. Protesters gathered outside the Capitol, including one person in a grizzly bear costume to ridicule DeVos.

Democrats and labor unions vigorously fought the nomination, suggesting that DeVos would defund traditional public schools by diverting taxpayers' money to charter and private institutions. They cited her financial interest in organizations pushing for charter schools, though she has said she will divest those interests.

Collins and Murkowski said they feared her focus on charter schools will undermine remote public schools in their states.

"President Trump's swamp got a new billionaire today," the Democratic National Committee said in a statement. "Millions of teachers, parents and students could not have made their opposition to Betsy DeVos' confirmation any clearer — they do not want someone whose only education experience is dismantling public schools."

DeVos supporters, however, saw her confirmation as an occasion to breathe new life into a troubled American school system and a chance to shift power from Washington to the local level.

"She has been a leader in the movement for public charter schools — the most successful reform of public education during the last 30 years," said Sen. Lamar Alexander, the chairman of the Education Committee. "And she has worked tirelessly to help low-income children have more choices of better schools."

DeVos has her work cut out.

"She will have to make it a priority to reach out to educators and education policy makers to reassure them that she is committed to working to improve education for all students including the vast majority who attend and will continue to attend traditional public schools," said Martin West, associate professor of education at Harvard University. "My view is that she is committed to doing that."

In addition to DeVos, Republicans hope to confirm a series of other divisive nominees this week: Alabama Republican Sen. Jeff Sessions as attorney general, GOP Rep. Tom Price of Georgia as health secretary and financier Steven Mnuchin as treasury secretary.

## Analysis: Trump paints dark picture in defense of travel ban

By JULIE PACE, AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The more Donald Trump tries to build support for his refugee and immigration ban, the darker the world seems to get.

In defending his policies barring refugees and curbing immigration, the president is painting an increas-

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ingly ominous picture of the danger posed by Islamic extremists. In his speeches, tweets and an imposing new tally of what Trump calls an unreported "genocide" by the Islamic State group, he has raised the prospect of imminent attacks on the United States and cast the debate over safety as a clash between radical Islam and the West.

Early Wednesday, Trump took to Twitter to say that if the U.S. doesn't win the court case over his travel ban, the country "can never have the security and safety to which we are entitled."

To Trump's supporters, the president's dark warnings show that he has a clear-eyed view of the terror threat facing the U.S. — a threat they believe Barack Obama downplayed. Trump's critics fear he is hyping one threat at the expense of others.

Islamic extremism is "an enemy that celebrates death and totally worships destruction," Trump said Monday while visiting the headquarters of the military's Central Command.

The list his administration is circulating highlights the debate. The White House points to the 78 incidents as evidence that the news media are intentionally downplaying the dangers of the Islamic State group. "Most" incidents on the list haven't received sufficient attention, the White House says.

Trump's terror list, however, focuses only on attacks the White House says were "executed or inspired by" the Islamic State. Terrorism carried out in the name of other causes didn't make the list.

For example, Trump's list does not include violence by Boko Haram, an Islamist insurgent group operating in West Africa that pledged allegiance to the Islamic State in 2015. It is responsible for far more deaths than IS, including suicide bombings, mass shootings and massacres of civilians in Nigeria and neighboring countries.

The White House list also leaves off last month's attack on a mosque in Quebec, where six Muslim men were shot and killed. A French Canadian man known for far-right, nationalist views has been charged and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has called it an act of terrorism against Muslims.

The White House says Trump did call Trudeau to express condolences. But his failing to mention it now appears to reflect his narrow focus on the Islamic State.

Although he has been vague about his plans for countering the Islamic State in its strongholds in Iraq and Syria, he has moved swiftly to try to keep the group's followers out of the United States, signing an executive order in his first week in office that banned all entries from seven Muslim-majority countries with terror ties. Trump's directive also halted the entire U.S. refugee program for four months and banned Syrians from the U.S. indefinitely.

The ban is now held up in the courts, prompting a fierce response from the president.

In a strikingly personal attack on the judiciary, Trump said the judge should bear the blame if an attack occurs while his ban is paused. He's warned that the court order has allowed people to start "pouring in" to the United States, despite the fact that those who do not currently hold legal visas must go through lengthy vetting procedures before entering the country.

"ISIS said we are going to infiltrate the United States and other countries through the migration," Trump said during a White House meeting with sheriffs Tuesday. "And then we're not allowed to be tough on the people coming in? Explain that one."

Evelyn Farkas, who served as deputy assistant defense secretary during the Obama administration, argues that the president's warnings are creating "a level of concern that probably isn't warranted by the threats assessment."

In recent years, federal law enforcement agencies have focused more on the threat posed by homegrown extremists — people, usually men, who are already in the U.S. and who find themselves attracted to Islamic State propaganda of violence and mayhem. Still, officials concede that it's impossible to guarantee a mistake-free screening process for people seeking to come to the U.S., particularly given the paucity of information sometimes available on people entering from Syria.

White House spokesman Sean Spicer says the president isn't trying to scare Americans. Still, he said forebodingly on Tuesday, "The earth is a very dangerous place."

The president's intense focus on Islamic terrorism is shared by some of his top aides, including National Security Adviser Michael Flynn and chief strategist Steve Bannon, who was one of the architects of the refugee ban. Flynn has called Islam a "political ideology" and said it "hides behind being a religion."



Trump's rhetoric marks a sharp shift from his most recent predecessors. In the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, President George W. Bush emphasized that the U.S. was not at war with Muslims. Obama refused to use the term "radical Islamic extremism," arguing that it validated terrorists who claimed they were acting on behalf of their faith.

The contrast between Trump and Obama is particularly striking.

While Obama insisted the Islamic State did not pose an existential threat to the U.S., Trump says the group is "on a campaign of genocide" and is "determined to strike our homeland." Obama warned about overstating the Islamic State's capabilities, while Trump says the group's scope has not been reported widely enough.

Beyond the refugee ban, Trump officials are looking at whether to revamp a U.S. program aimed at countering violent extremism to target only Islamic-inspired terrorists, not white supremacists or other groups. They've also discussed an executive order that would label the Muslim Brotherhood, an Egyptian-based group, a terrorist organization.

The White House has also discussed dropping sanctions on Russia that were levied in retaliation for provocations in Ukraine if Moscow would work alongside the U.S. in fighting the Islamic State. Vice President Mike Pence appeared to raise that prospect over the weekend, saying the continuation of the sanctions depends on "the opportunity perhaps to work on common interests."

"The president's made it clear the top priority of this administration is to hunt down and destroy ISIS at its source," Pence said on ABC's "This Week."

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Associated Press writer Eric Tucker contributed to this report.

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

## **Tom Brady doesn't want to talk about "Deflategate."**

**By KYLE HIGHTOWER, AP Sports Writer**

HOUSTON (AP) — Tom Brady doesn't want to talk about "Deflategate." He'd rather reflect on a night he will never forget and how much it meant to his mother.

The New England quarterback spoke Monday hours after he won his fifth Super Bowl ring and fourth MVP trophy. He called the 34-28 overtime victory over the Atlanta Falcons a "hell of a game" for his mother, who has been dealing with an undisclosed health issue and was not able to attend any other games this season.

"It was great. She's been through a lot," Brady said. "Way harder than I went through last night. Way harder than everyone on our team went through last night. My dad's been there every step of the way. They set such a great example for me.

"All families go through challenging times personally. But she has a lot of support and a lot of love. I'm just happy last night to be able to celebrate with her."

What was missing from the celebration was Brady's game jersey, which he said disappeared from the locker room. Texas' lieutenant governor asked the Texas Rangers to help Houston police look for the jersey.

Brady joked that he expects to spot it soon in an online auction.

He would not say whether his fifth championship meant more to him than the others because of his four-game suspension stemming from the Deflategate scandal.

Coach Bill Belichick said it would be "inappropriate" to suggest that Brady put in more effort this season for any reason.

"To insinuate that this season was somehow different, that this year he competed harder or did anything to a higher degree than anything he has in the past I think is insulting to the tremendous effort and leadership and competitiveness that he's shown for the 17 years that I've coached him," Belichick said.

Brady had another uneventful interaction with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell during a photo with the MVP trophy.

He said teammate James White was more deserving of the award because of his three touchdowns in Sunday's victory, including the winning 2-yard run.

Two years ago, Brady gave the truck he received for winning MVP honors to Malcolm Butler for the rookie cornerback's game-saving interception in the Patriots' Super Bowl win over the Seahawks.

He hinted Monday that he may not keep the next vehicle either.

"I think James White deserves it. It would be nice for him," Brady said. "It took a real team effort. ... We faced a lot of adversity this year and overcame it with a lot of mental toughness."

That said, he is definitely keeping the trophy.

When the news conference concluded, Brady looked down and grasped the silver football and cradled it under his arm as he walked off the stage.

"I'm taking it home," Brady said.

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For more NFL coverage: <http://www.pro32.ap.org> and [http://www.twitter.com/AP\\_NFL](http://www.twitter.com/AP_NFL)

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

## Messages about America, inclusiveness \_ and, yes, even "four years of awful hair" \_ kept bubbling up in Super Bowl 51 ads

By MAE ANDERSON, AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Messages about America, inclusiveness — and, yes, even "four years of awful hair" — kept bubbling up in Super Bowl 51 ads from Airbnb, the NFL and a line of personal care products. But there was still plenty of escapism and light humor for those who weren't into the politics.

As the New England Patriots edged out the Atlanta Falcons on the field in Houston, Airbnb touted inclusiveness with an ad showing faces of different ethnicities and the copy: "We all belong. The world is more beautiful the more you accept."

Coca-Cola aired a previously run ad during the pregame show in which people sing "America the Beautiful" in different languages. And Budweiser ran a 60-second spot chronicling co-founder Adolphus Busch's migration from Germany to St. Louis in 1857, prompting some critics to start a boycott campaign on Twitter.

Even a hair care brand dipped into politics: The "It's a 10" hair brand indirectly referenced President Donald Trump's famously unruly do in its Super Bowl spot.

It's tough to be a Super Bowl advertiser, period. But this year, a divisive political climate has roiled the nation since Trump took office in January, making it even tougher for advertisers. Advertisers who paid \$5 million for 30 seconds had to walk the line with ads that appealed to everyone and didn't offend. Some were more successful than others.

"Anxiety and politics just loom over this game, so anybody who gives us the blessed relief of entertaining with a real Super Bowl commercial wins," said Mark DiMassimo, CEO of the ad agency DiMassimo Goldstein.

Several ads aimed for just that. Tide, for instance, offered a humorous ad showing announcer Terry Bradshaw trying frantically to remedy a stain while his antics go "viral" online, with the help of New England Patriot Rob Gronkowski and actor Jeffrey Tambor.

### WALKING THE POLITICAL LINE

"Brands used to worry about whether their ad could be interpreted as right or wrong," said Kelly O'Keefe, a marketing professor at Virginia Commonwealth University. "Now they have to worry about whether it will be interpreted as right or left."

Plenty of ads walked that line.

An NFL spot conveyed what all advertisers hope the Super Bowl becomes: a place where Americans can come together. "Inside these lines, we may have our differences, but recognize there's more that unites us," Forest Whitaker intoned in a voiceover as workers prepped a football field and gridiron scenes played.

"The Super Bowl is shaping up as a counterpoint to the divisiveness in the United States," said Tim Calkins, a marketing professor at Northwestern University.

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Airbnb's ad was one of the more overtly political, showing a variety of different faces with the tagline "We accept."

Some thought the ad was a hit. "Kudos to them for making a strong statement," said O'Keefe. But others, such as Villanova University marketing professor Charles Taylor, thought it didn't have a clear enough link to the brand and risked coming off as a "purely political statement."

Budweiser drew some criticism for the immigration theme of its ad, including calls on Twitter to boycott the brewer. That fostered debate — and banter — online, particularly over one hashtag that misspelled the company's name, #boycottbudwiser.

Other advertisers took the safest route possible by re-airing ads they've used before — an unusual, though not unprecedented, move. Coca-Cola, Google and Fiji water all aired rerun ads.

During the pre-game show, Coca-Cola ran "It's Beautiful," an ad featuring people around the country drinking the fizzy beverage and singing "America the Beautiful" in different languages.

## SURPRISES

A debut Super Bowl spot by the "It's a 10" hair care brand introduced its line of men's products by joking about Donald Trump's hair.

"America, we're in for four years of awful hair, so it's up to you to do your part by making up for it with great hair," went a voiceover state as black-and-white photos of people with a wide array of hairstyles flashed by. "Do your part. ... Let's make sure these next four years are 'It's a 10.'"

Snickers got press by airing a live ad in the third quarter. On a Wild West set, actor Adam Driver seemed not to know the ad was live — and then the set fell apart (on purpose). "You ruin live Super Bowl commercials when you're hungry," the ad's tagline read.

"It went by so fast, I almost missed it," DiMassimo said. "Not sure it was worth the trouble of doing it live."

## LIGHT HUMOR PLUS CELEBS

Ads with light humor and stuffed with celebrities were popular. Honda's ad made a splash by animating the yearbook photos of nine celebrities ranging from Tina Fey to Viola Davis. They make fun of their photos — Jimmy Kimmel is dressed in a blue tux and holding a clarinet, for example — and talk about "The Power of Dreams," Honda's ad slogan.

"It was a really good message and it was entertaining," said Mirta Desir, a New Orleans native who works in education and was watching the game on Long Island.

The Tide ad with Terry Bradshaw was a hit with some viewers because of the way it tricked viewers into thinking it was part of the broadcast. "It made you think twice," said Pablo Roach, watching in Atlanta. "There was funny dialogue and good storytelling."

T-Mobile's spots — which featured Justin Bieber and Rob Gronkowski dancing, Kristen Schaal in a "50 Shades of Grey" parody and Martha Stewart and Snoop Dogg mixing talk about T-Mobile's unlimited data plan with innuendo about Snoop's marijuana habit, won raves from some — as did an ad from antioxidant drink maker Bai featuring Justin Timberlake and Christopher Walken.

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This story has been corrected to note that a T-Mobile spot featured Justin Bieber, not Justin Timberlake.

## KatyCats rejoice! Katy Perry returns to Grammys

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Katy Perry is returning to the Grammy Awards to the delight of fans who have been waiting to hear new music from the pop singer whose last album, "Prism," came out in 2013.

The Recording Academy also announced Tuesday that Grammy nominees Kelsea Ballerini and Lukas Graham will perform Sunday at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. The show will air on CBS at 8 p.m. Eastern.

Grammy nominee Demi Lovato, Andra Day, Tori Kelly and country group Little Big Town will collaborate on a performance honoring the music of the Bee Gees and the 40th anniversary of "Saturday Night Fever."

Previously announced performers include Adele, Bruno Mars, the Weeknd, Daft Punk, A Tribe Called Quest and Alicia Keys.

## CNN's 'History of Comedy' is a laughing, learning matter

By FRAZIER MOORE, AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — One of the great things about comedy is, it demands so little effort to enjoy. Grins and guffaws can seem to issue directly from a tickled funny bone.

On the other hand, prolonged analysis of humor can kill the joke.

But not always, as CNN demonstrates with "The History of Comedy," a docuseries that keeps the funny in the fundamentals of the comedy it probes.

Including among its executive producers Sean Hayes (who boasts such comedy credits as the hit sitcom "Will & Grace"), the series' eight weekly hours burst with information as well as laughter. It's like a college course, if college weren't just smart but also really funny.

The series starts with a bang Thursday at 10 p.m. EST with "F---ing Funny" (it's CNN blanking out those three letters), an episode that gets a little naughty.

Yes, George Carlin and Lenny Bruce get much-deserved credit as the episode traces the evolution of risqué humor and recalls the risks and retribution that plagued the groundbreaking humorists who flouted social standards in the name of free speech.

They were going for more than giggles.

"I'm searching for an answer," says Bruce, the oft-oppressed, oft-jailed shock comic — "as Billy Graham is."

Much of Bruce's act a half-century ago was thought to break the rules. But on the contrary, his mission was to change them.

"Off limits' is not a permanent address," notes comic Patton Oswalt. "It's just a marker. It keeps getting moved."

Living up to its billing as history, this hour reaches all the way back to the early 1900s to recall the parallel emergence of vaudeville and burlesque— and explain the difference. (Among its store of fun facts is the origin of the term "blue" as a synonym for vulgar or racy. Watch and learn.)

Future episodes look at political humor, topical comedy, comedy in race and culture, and comedy gleaned from everyday life.

Yet another episode shines a light on the dark side of comedy, citing examples of the personal cost of being funny that include Robin Williams and Andy Kaufman.

The episode on women in comedy celebrates the distaff drollery of Phyllis Diller, Moms Mabley and Joan Rivers. But it also remembers their largely forgotten sister pioneer Jean Carroll, who enjoyed fame as a standup in the 1950s.

Yet another episode focuses on parody and satire, and explores the often overlooked difference.

"Satire is making fun of the powerful," explains Harry Shearer.

"There's only one way to get even," adds Mel Brooks, one of whose career-long targets has been Adolf Hitler. "You have to bring them down with ridicule."

The series hears from legions of such reliable sources also including Judd Apatow, Sarah Silverman, Sen. Al Franken (a former "Saturday Night Live" regular), the legendary Carl Reiner, Samantha Bee, Jimmy Kimmel, George Lopez, Keegan-Michael Key, Conan O'Brien and Dick Cavett.

These voices propel each themed episode, helping give each an instructive heft.

Meanwhile, the fun and the funny are served up in a feast of clips, some delightfully familiar, others wonderfully obscure.

Moments from "I Love Lucy" and "Airplane!" are included; you wouldn't have it any other way. But equally valuable is fuzzy studio footage from a long-ago broadcast of "The National Lampoon Radio Hour" with such baby-faced stars-to-be as Gilda Radner, Bill Murray and John Belushi. "The History of Comedy" has clearly raided some rich comedy archives.

According to Hayes, the mission for the series is to explore "where comedy comes from and why, and raise questions about comedy you may not realize you have. But it was also very important to be funny."

Comedy — easily dismissed as a monolithic force — is actually vast in its scope: "It was an overwhelming net to cast," said Hayes, who, daring to look ahead, added hopefully, "We could see doing many more seasons."



Hayes will get back to being funny on NBC next season in 10 reunion episodes of "Will & Grace," which originally aired on that network from 1998 to 2006.

He had no details to share about this eagerly awaited revival. But, indulging in some comic history of his own, he recounted his high school days in Chicago when he hit upon a very useful skill.

"I used to open my backpack and then trip on purpose, and my books would go flying down the hall. That would make half the kids laugh. It would also make half the kids hate me, cause THEY didn't think it was funny.

"I still find myself in that position today," he cracked.

**EDITOR'S NOTE** — Frazier Moore is a national television columnist for The Associated Press. He can be reached at [fmoore@ap.org](mailto:fmoore@ap.org) and at <http://www.twitter.com/tvfrazier>. Past stories are available at <http://bigstory.ap.org/content/frazier-moore>

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<http://www.cnn.com/shows/history-of-comedy>

## Irwin Corey, the king of comedic confusion, dies at 102

By **MARK KENNEDY, AP Entertainment Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — Irwin Corey, the wild-haired comedian and actor known for his improvisational riffs and nonsensical style who billed himself as "The World's Foremost Authority," died Monday at his home in Manhattan, according to his son, Richard. He was 102.

Corey's dizzying mix of mock-intellectual circumlocutions, earnest political tirades and slapstick one-liners made Corey the king of comedic confusion and earned him the nickname "professor."

"Did you hear about the guy who went to the druggist and wanted to get some cyanide?" one of his jokes went. "The guy takes a picture of his wife out of his wallet, and the druggist says, 'I'm sorry, I didn't know you had a prescription!'"

Corey became a staple on television talk shows and in comedy clubs, and his film career included working with Jackie Gleason and Woody Allen. He often wore sneakers, a skinny black tie, black tails and his hair was disheveled.

It was never clear exactly what he was an authority on. Often he would begin his act with long-winded gobbledygook filled with sentences that followed their own logic before pausing and then saying, "What was the question again?"

His son, Richard, on Tuesday called his father "original and one-of-a-kind, iconic." Even in his grief he channeled his father by telling obituary writers that his father "died peacefully at his home, surrounded by his son."

Corey was among a generation of comics who emerged in the 1950s and '60s who used their humor to question the status quo, a group that included Dick Gregory, who mocked racial attitudes, and Jerry Stiller and his wife, Anne Meara, who satirized assumptions about marriage. Corey punctured academic pretense, and his jokes also took on a political and social bite.

Born in the Brooklyn borough of New York, Corey lived in an orphanage until age 13. He said he got his start when he auditioned for a play in the 1930s with the soliloquy from "Hamlet." The casting director laughed so hard, he eventually told him, "You should be a comedian." He took his advice.

He got his first regular gig at the Village Vanguard, where he earned his nickname after an opening act that began with five minutes of nervous pantomime. The first word out of his mouth was, "However."

After that, he had a whirlwind career that spanned several stints on Broadway (from "New Faces of 1943" to "Thieves" in 1974); in film (from "How to Commit Marriage" in 1969 to "Curse of the Jade Scorpion" in 2001); and on late-night television and in comedy clubs. He was last on Broadway in "Sly Fox" in 2004 opposite Eric Stoltz, Richard Dreyfuss and Elizabeth Berkley.

Corey joked that he tried to join the Communist Party back when doing so could mean an appearance

before the House Un-American Activities Committee. But it was the Communist Party — not the government — that blacklisted him.

"I wanted to join the party, but they wouldn't let me," he told The Associated Press in 2004. "They said I was an anarchist." Was he? "I think so," he replied.

During the Democratic National Convention of 1956 he rode a float down Michigan Boulevard carrying a sign that read, "Professor Corey will run for any party, and he will bring his own bottle." When Thomas Pynchon won the National Book Award for "Gravity's Rainbow," Corey accepted for the press-shy author in a bizarre, rambling speech that thanked "Richard Python."

"His style is a deep philosophical statement: No one in fact is any more important than another," his son told The New York Times in 2008. "He is constantly digressing from his own tangent, so he's digressing from a digression."

Corey stayed busy deep into the '90s, making appearances at comedy clubs and Friar's club roasts. He denounced the war in Iraq and attended rallies supporting legalization of marijuana.

He also could be spotted pushing a walker in midtown Manhattan traffic, panhandling or selling free newspapers to motorists, with all the money raised going to charity.

Corey's wife of 70 years, Fran, died in May 2011 at age 95.

A few months shy of his 90th birthday, Corey told the AP that he had no intention of hanging up his trademark ruffled suits and string tie any time soon. He called life, at any age, the "one miracle that happened in this galaxy."

"Walking on water is a trick," he said. "But life is a miracle."

Online: <http://www.irwincorey.org/home.html>

## Clinic falsely told dozens they had Alzheimer's, suits say

By JOHN SEEWER, Associated Press

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — Shawn Blazsek knew a string of concussions from high school football and boxing was catching up with him. He would go days without sleeping and was forgetting how to tie his shoes. Still, at age 33, he was stunned after being told he had Alzheimer's disease.

He started planning out who would take care of his four kids if something happened to his wife, and thought about how hard it would be for them when he could no longer recognize his family. So he stuffed fistfuls of sleeping pills into a bottle and wrote himself a note, vowing to swallow all of them when he wasn't able to remember the names of his children.

That day never came. Nine months later, he learned that the memory-loss center director who diagnosed him didn't have a medical or psychology license needed to do so. Then another test confirmed he did not have Alzheimer's.

He is one of more than 50 people suing the now-closed clinic's former director and its owner, saying they, too, were told they had Alzheimer's or another form of dementia. Most now know it's not true, while a few are awaiting confirmation.

Some say they spent months undergoing treatment while planning out their final years. Some quit their jobs, sold possessions or took one last special trip. One killed himself.

Blazsek crammed years of fatherly advice into a matter of months, showing his son how to check the oil on a car and teaching his wife about the household finances.

"I was preparing her to be a single mom," he said.

The couple figured he had no more than 10 years to live and even less time before his memory was gone.

"Here I am, thinking I'm going to be a widow at 43. What am I going to do?" said his wife, Jennifer. "Who's going to teach my boys how to shave? Who's going to play ball with them?"

So far, the case has yet to result in any charges against Sherry-Ann Jenkins, who opened the Toledo Clinic Cognitive Center in early 2015 through the Toledo Clinic, a multi-specialty medical center with more

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than 150 doctors.

Attorneys on both sides would not say whether there is a criminal investigation, although court records indicate the Ohio Medical Board has talked with some of the patients.

The lawsuits say that Jenkins, who has a doctorate degree in physiological science, wasn't authorized to order medical tests and that her husband, a licensed doctor who is a partner in the Toledo Clinic, signed off on the tests and was sometimes listed as the referring physician on billing even though he did not see any of the patients.

An attorney for the couple would not answer questions about the cognitive clinic, which abruptly shut down after about a year in early 2016. Jenkins and her husband did not respond to messages seeking comment.

In court filings responding to the lawsuits, each of which seeks more than \$1 million in damages, their attorney did not dispute that Jenkins was unlicensed but denied most of the other allegations.

The former patients have sued the Toledo Clinic, as well, saying it should have known Jenkins lacked the training and credentials to treat and diagnose patients. Michael D'Eramo, chief administrative officer of the Toledo Clinic, said he could not comment.

Some describe her as compassionate and easy to talk with, saying she ended therapy sessions by telling them to give her a hug. At her suggestion, a few patients appeared in articles touting the benefits of her holistic treatments, which included memory games and daily doses of coconut oil. But they also say she fought hard against medication and getting a second opinion.

Nearly all of those diagnosed by Jenkins began seeing her after suffering traumatic brain injuries or worsening cognitive issue. Some, like Blazsek, are continuing treatment with other doctors.

Attorney David Zoll, who is representing those suing Jenkins, said that it's not clear how many patients she saw and that others might not know they were misdiagnosed with Alzheimer's. More than 30 people added their names to the lawsuits late last month.

He said he believes she was motivated by greed, saying several patients were overbilled. The cognitive clinic grew rapidly, he noted.

"Many times she would see the first person and have them bring in their whole family," Zoll said. "And many times she would diagnose the whole family."

Kay Taynor was diagnosed with Alzheimer's on her second visit to Jenkins and then referred five or six friends and family members to her office, including her husband of 48 years. All were told they had the disease, she said, but her husband, Gary, took it hardest.

"He's got a smile that just lights up the room, and I never saw it again," she said. "He just sunk in his chair. To me, he never stood up again. He was never tall again. He gave up."

Gary fell into depression, spending his final weeks sitting in a chair with his hands in his lap until he went into their garage and shot himself in the head, she said. An autopsy did not show any signs of Alzheimer's, she said.

Don Tanner said he, too, felt like taking his own life.

He was sent to the clinic for therapy in February 2015 after suffering a severe brain injury in a fall. The trauma of healing while dealing with the devastating diagnosis of Alzheimer's became unbearable.

"She gave me a death sentence," said Tanner, who told his wife he wanted to jump off a bridge and then thought about wandering off into the marsh behind their home with his gun.

He had seen firsthand how Alzheimer's gradually erodes someone while caring for his dad. He spent many days shaving and dressing his father, who died only months before Tanner's own diagnosis.

"It was just cemented in my mind that I wasn't going to put my family through that," he said.

His wife enlisted their daughters and friends to stay with him while she was at work, fearing what she'd find when she returned. "If he had a bad day, I didn't know where that would send him," said his wife, Monica.

It wasn't until last summer — after the clinic had closed — that a new doctor told him there was no way he had Alzheimer's.

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"God must have been on my side, because I didn't go out there and get that damn gun," Tanner said. "But man I thought of it. Something kept telling me it's not there yet."

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 8, the 39th day of 2017. There are 326 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 8, 1942, during World War II, Japanese forces began invading Singapore, which fell a week later.

On this date:

In 1587, Mary, Queen of Scots was beheaded at Fotheringhay Castle in England after she was implicated in a plot to murder her cousin, Queen Elizabeth I.

In 1862, the Civil War Battle of Roanoke Island, North Carolina, ended in victory for Union forces led by Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside.

In 1910, the Boy Scouts of America was incorporated.

In 1915, D.W. Griffith's groundbreaking as well as controversial silent movie epic about the Civil War, "The Birth of a Nation," premiered in Los Angeles under its original title, "The Clansman."

In 1922, President Warren G. Harding had a radio installed in the White House.

In 1937, during the Spanish Civil War, Malaga fell to Nationalist and Italian forces.

In 1952, Queen Elizabeth II proclaimed her accession to the British throne following the death of her father, King George VI.

In 1968, three college students were killed in a confrontation with highway patrolmen in Orangeburg, South Carolina, during a civil rights protest against a whites-only bowling alley.

In 1973, Senate leaders named seven members of a select committee to investigate the Watergate scandal, including its chairman, Sen. Sam J. Ervin, D-N.C.

In 1989, 144 people were killed when an American-chartered Boeing 707 filled with Italian tourists slammed into a fog-covered mountain in the Azores.

In 1992, the XVI Olympic Winter Games opened in Albertville, France.

In 1996, in a ceremony at the Library of Congress, President Bill Clinton signed legislation revamping the telecommunications industry, saying it would "bring the future to our doorstep."

Ten years ago: Model, actress and tabloid sensation Anna Nicole Smith died in Hollywood, Florida, at age 39 of an accidental drug overdose. A federal judge in Fargo, North Dakota, sentenced Alfonso Rodriguez Jr. to death for the slaying of college student Dru Sjodin (droo shoh-DEEN'). (Rodriguez remains in prison as his case is appealed.) Rival Palestinian leaders signed an agreement on a power-sharing government at Saudi-brokered talks in Mecca.

Five years ago: Washington state lawmakers voted to approve same-sex marriage. Kyle Dyer, an anchor for Denver station KUSA-TV, was seriously injured when she was bitten in the face by an 85-pound Argentine mastiff while conducting a live studio interview on the dog's rescue from an icy pond.

One year ago: President Barack Obama asked Congress for more than \$1.8 billion in emergency funding to fight the Zika (ZEE'-kuh) virus and the mosquitoes that were spreading it in the United States and abroad, but said "there shouldn't be a panic on this." Villanova was No. 1 in The Associated Press men's college basketball poll for the first time. (The 20-3 Wildcats made the jump from third following then-No. 1 Oklahoma's loss to Kansas State and then-No. 2 North Carolina's losses to Louisville and Notre Dame.)

Today's Birthdays: Composer-conductor John Williams is 85. Newscaster Ted Koppel is 77. Actor Nick Nolte is 76. Comedian Robert Klein is 75. Actor-rock musician Creed Bratton is 74. Singer Ron Tyson is 69. Actress Brooke Adams is 68. Actress Mary Steenburgen is 64. Author John Grisham is 62. Retired NBA All-Star and College Basketball Hall of Famer Marques Johnson is 61. Actor Henry Czerny is 58. The former president of the Philippines, Benigno Aquino III, is 57. Rock singer Vince Neil (Motley Crue) is 56. Rock singer-musician Sammy Llanas (YAH'-nus) (The BoDeans) is 56. Former Environmental Protection Agency administrator Lisa P. Jackson is 55. Movie producer Toby Emmerich is 54. Actress Missy Yager (Film: "Man-



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chester by the Sea”) is 49. Actress Mary McCormack is 48. Rock musician Keith Nelson (Buckcherry) is 48. Basketball Hall of Famer Alonzo Mourning is 47. Dance musician Guy-Manuel de Homem-Christo (Daft Punk) is 43. Actor Seth Green is 43. Actor Josh Morrow is 43. Rock musician Phoenix (Linkin Park) is 40. Actor William Jackson Harper (TV: “The Good Place”) is 37. Actor Jim Parrack is 36. Folk singer-musician Joey Ryan (Milk Carton Kids) is 35. Actress-comedian Cecily Strong is 33. Rock musician Jeremy Davis is 32. Hip-hop artist Anderson.Paak is 31. Rock musician Max Grahn (Carolina Liar) is 29. Actor Ryan Pinkston is 29. Professional surfer Bethany Hamilton is 27. Actress Karle Warren is 25.

Thought for Today: “Children see things very well sometimes — and idealists even better.” — Lorraine Hansberry, American author and dramatist (1930-1965).