

Groton Daily Independent

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Official Notices

- Brown County (updated 8-31)**
- Frederick Area School (updated 8-29)**
- Groton City (updated 8-29)**
- Groton Area School (updated 8-29)**
- Westport Town (updated 8-21-17)**
- Other Notices (updated 8-21)**
- Frederick Town (Updated 8-15)**
- Groton Area School (updated 8-7)**
- Claremont Town Official Notices Book**

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**

15

Senior Menu: Hot turkey combo, mashed potatoes and gravy, 7 layer salad, peach sauce.

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

School Lunch: Mini corndogs, baked beans, celery with dip, fruit.

Football: hosts Chamberlain, 7 p.m.

Dance Practice: Groton Community Center (Sugar Babes 3:50 to 4:35, Sweet Sensations 4:40 to 5:25, Spice Girls 5:30 to 6:30)

Groton Christian & Missionary Alliance: Men's Bible Study at the Groton Dairy Queen, 6:30 a.m.

16

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship at Rosewood Court, 10 a.m.

Heaven Bound Ministries: Worship in Pierpont at 5:30 p.m.

Catholic Parish: Mass at SEAS in Groton, 4:30 p.m.; Mass at St. Anthony, Bristol, 6 p.m.

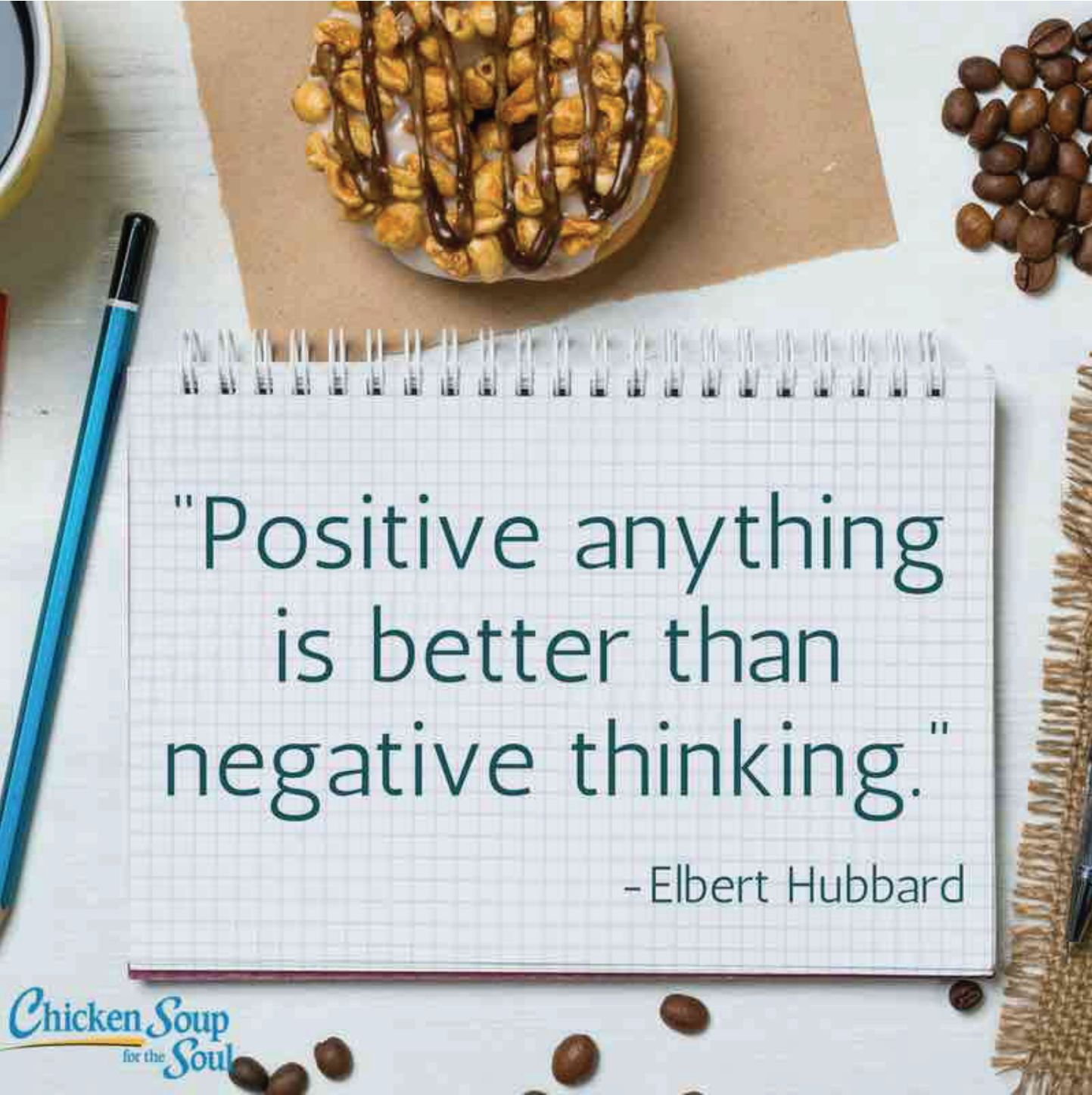
Soccer: Girls at Garretson at 1 p.m.; Boys host Freeman Academy at 3 p.m.

Youth Football: 9 a.m., Groton 5th/6th at Milbank Jamboree; 9:30 a.m., Groton 3rd/4th hosts Sisseton Black.



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A top-down view of a desk. In the center is a spiral-bound notebook with a white cover and a grid pattern. The notebook is open to a page with a quote. To the left of the notebook is a blue pen. Above the notebook is a small bowl filled with nuts, drizzled with chocolate. To the right of the notebook is a small pile of coffee beans. The background is a light-colored surface.

"Positive anything
is better than
negative thinking."

- Elbert Hubbard

Chicken Soup
for the Soul

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Coming up today on GDILIVE.COM

It's Football Action on GDILIVE.COM



Groton Area Tigers

VS



**CHAMBERLAIN
CUBS**

Friday, Sept. 15, 2017, 7:00 p.m.
at Doney Field in Groton

[Click here for the program](#)

2017 Groton Area Elementary

Preschool Developmental Screening for 3 year olds

September 20 and 21

Parents of children age 3 in the Groton Area School District are asked to contact Heidi Krueger at the Groton Area Elementary School during school hours at 397-2317 to either confirm their screening time or set up a time. Letters will be send out the week of September 10. If your child is already receiving services or enrolled at Groton Elementary School they will not need to be screened. If your child has already been screened but you have concerns please contact the elementary school. If you are new to the district and have a child under the age of 5, we also ask you to contact the elementary school.

The Developmental Screening will take place at the Groton Area High School Arena. Please park and use the east entrance to the arena.



Faith Keepers to be shown at C&MA Church

The public is cordially invited to the Groton Christian & Missionary Alliance Church who will be showing the movie (Faith keepers, Be Your Brother's Keeper) at 7pm on Sept. 20th at the church at 706 N Main. This is most suitable for adults or older youth. The movie was produced by Roma Downey.

"In the middle East, the birthplace of Christianity, Christians and other minorities are being violently persecuted, driven

out and wiped out. Even their places of worship are being destroyed. Faith keepers gives face and voice to the humanitarian crisis and genocide affecting millions in the Middle East as a result of religious and ethnic persecution.

The film is a testament to the stories of the persecuted and an inspiring portrait of the human spirit. Using personal testimonies and original animation, the film exposes daily life for those facing violence and expulsion.

Faith keepers- the movie and the movement- will awaken, enlighten and inspire all people of faith to stand up and take action."

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Volleyball Statistics
Date 9-14-17

C Scores Groton 19 26 16
Hamlin 25 24 14

Groton v. Hamlin

Scores: Groton 25 23 22 25 15
Opponent 14 25 25 21 8

JV Scores: 25 25

Opponent 19 11

Team Serving 106-108 Aces 8

Individual Leaders
Eliza Wanner 16-16 Aces 4

Jennie Doeden 20-21 Aces 3

Aces _____

Team Attacking 181-214 Kills 54

Individual Leaders
Gia Gengerke 38-49 Kills 19

Taylor Holm 30-35 Kills 11

Kills _____

Team Setting 210-213 Assists 49

Individual Leaders
Miranda Hanson 189-192 Assists 48

Jessica Bjerke 2-2 Assists 1

Team Digs 129

Individual Leaders
Payton Maine 32

Jessica Bjerke 27

Jennie Doeden 23

Team Blocking 6 solo 3 assisted

Individual Leaders
Gia Gengerke 6 solo 2 assisted

Opponent _____

Team Serving 86-91 Aces 3

Individual Leaders
Logan Keszler Aces 2

Phusuda Sheehan Aces 1

Aces _____

Team Attacking 121-139 Kills 40

Individual Leaders
Lexi Wadsworth Kills 14

Faith Leiseth Kills 10

Kills _____

Team Setting _____ Assists 40

Individual Leaders
Logan Keszler Assists 19

Kylee Wadsworth Assists 17

Team Digs 107

Individual Leaders
Ashtyn Abraham 22

Phusuda Sheehan 19

Team Blocking 10

Individual Leaders
Lexi Wadsworth

Brynn Alfson

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All auto owners!
Save \$2-\$4 /tank
& grow your local economy
by choosing low carbon
Super Premium E30's
94 octane, more power,
same mileage, fewer
carbon deposits, lower
maintenance costs,
slashed benzene & related
genotoxic, carcinogenic
tailpipe emissions;
*see sdfu.org's E30 tab for
info, E30 prices\locations.

***Farmers Union's
PSA: Courtesy Merle
Anderson (Merle is 94
year old founder of Ace
and legendary ethanol
supporter... "because it is
the right thing to do")**

Groton Administrator resigns

Jessica Muellenberg, administrator of the Groton Care and Rehabilitation Center, announced on Facebook that she will be resigning.

Here is what she posted on Facebook.

"It is with mixed emotions to announce that I have resigned my position as Nursing Home Administrator in Groton. I am sad to leave my staff and our residents. I have had a great experience in long term care and am so thankful for the opportunity that was given to me, many years ago. I fell in love with the industry and was blessed to take part in so many aspects of all of it. A big piece of my heart will remain at Groton Care and Rehabilitation Center. Those of you that have ever been given the opportunity to work in long term care, will understand that we all become a big family and its what makes the work so meaningful!

With that, I am happy to add that I will be working where I live, in Redfield. I was given the opportunity to join the ladies at Dakota Tan and Hair. I will be providing full hair service, facials, waxing, manicures, and pedicures at this time. I am so excited to join all of them and I look forward to serving all of you! I will be starting this new journey at the beginning of October. Please call me anytime at 605.460.2575 to make your appointment. I will be taking appointments, starting Oct. 2nd and will start reserving your spots, today."

Help Wanted

We are Hiring Nurses – RN or LPN,
Full or Part Time.

NEW WAGE PACKAGE!!!

Contact Jessica Lindskov or Nellie Peterson at 605-397-2365 or apply in person.

EOE/AA/M/F/V/D-Drug Free Workplace



GROTON
CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

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

SDRA Applauds South Dakota Supreme Court Decision That Puts Sales Tax Case One Step Closer to SCOTUS

Pierre, SD – Today, the South Dakota Supreme Court issued a decision on the case of State of South Dakota v. Wayfair, Overstock, Newegg. The decision increases the likelihood that the United States Supreme Court will have the opportunity to revisit Quill Corp v. North Dakota, a 1992 decision that prohibits states from requiring retailers without a physical presence in a state to collect sales tax on purchases delivered into that state.

The South Dakota Retailers Association (SDRA) commends the decision that could finally bring parity between online and main street retailers. "Today's decision is a win for South Dakota retailers and local businesses across our state. Local retailers collect sales taxes every day which are vital to the economic growth of our communities," stated SDRA Board President Gary Cammack.

For more than two decades, out of state, online-only retailers held a significant tax advantage over local businesses. "The court's decision moves us one more step in the journey to accomplish a more stable revenue source for the state and an even playing field for retailers in South Dakota and across the nation," Cammack said.

South Dakota's retail community applauds the decision from the South Dakota Supreme Court as well as Governor Dugaard, Attorney General Marty Jackley and the Legislature who have made solving this problem a top priority. Cammack says the organization hopes the U.S. Supreme Court will move swiftly to hear this case.

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Granary Rural Cultural Center - Groton, S.D.

LIVING HISTORY FALL FESTIVAL



See The Past Come Alive!



Saturday, September 23, 2017

11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

FREE ADMISSION

COME DRESSED IN FRONTIER COSTUME—GET A PRIZE!

*Fun for All Ages! Reenactment, Demonstrations,
Hands On Activities, Spelling Bee at 2:30 p.m.,
Square Dance Lessons with Art Marmorstein
Pie Social from 1-4 p.m., Music & More!*

NEW!

... As if you were there!

**PRESIDENT TEDDY
ROOSEVELT**

Played by Arch Ellwein of Flyin' Lion Productions



PERFORMANCES at 1 & 3 p.m.

Program made possible by: South Dakota Humanities Council
(An affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities)



Stop by for Lunch! Concessions by: **THE BRASS KETTLE**



THE GRANARY - Physical Address: 40161 128th St., Rural Groton
The Arts & Culture Campus of Dacotah Prairie Museum
Museum Website: www.dacotahpraiemuseum.com • Granary Website: granaryfinearts.org



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Today in Weather History

September 15, 1977: Sioux Falls residents received a rude awakening during the morning hours as thunderstorms rolled through the city. Over two and one-half inches of rain fell in the city in an hour and 15 minutes. A large amount of rain in a short period led to street flooding in some areas. Lightning strikes from the storms also started several small fires.

1747: Some historical accounts of a hurricane caused flooding on the Rappahannock River in Virginia. A slave ship was overturned, and several fatalities were reported.

1945: A hurricane entered the south Florida coast at Homestead, curving northward right up through the center of Florida, remaining over land, and exited near Jacksonville Beach with winds gusting to 170 mph. The following is from the Homestead Air Reserve Base. "On Sept. 15, 1945, three years to the day after the founding of the Homestead Army Air Field, a massive hurricane roared ashore, sending winds of up to 145 miles per hour tearing through the Air Field's buildings. Enlisted housing facilities, the nurses' dormitory, and the Base Exchange were all destroyed. The roof was ripped from what would later become building 741, the Big Hangar. The base laundry and fire station were both declared total losses. The few remaining aircraft were tossed about like leaves."

1752 - A great hurricane produced a tide along the South Carolina coast which nearly inundated downtown Charleston. However, just before the tide reached the city, a shift in the wind caused the water level to drop five feet in ten minutes. (David Ludlum)

1910 - Rains of .27 inch on the 14th and .73 inch on the 15th were the earliest and heaviest of record for Fresno CA, which, along with much of California, experiences a ""rainy season"" in the winter. (The Weather Channel)

1939 - The temperature at Detroit MI soared to 100 degrees to establish a record for September. (The Weather Channel)

1982 - A snowstorm over Wyoming produced 16.9 inches at Lander to establish a 24 hour record for September for that location. (13th-15th) (The Weather Channel)

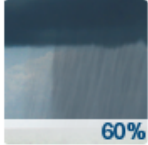






1987 - The first snow of the season was observed at the Winter Park ski resort in Colorado early in the day. Eight inches of snow was reported at the Summit of Mount Evans, along with wind gusts to 61 mph. Early morning thunderstorms in Texas produced up to six inches of rain in Real County. Two occupants of a car drowned, and the other six occupants were injured as it was swept into Camp Wood Creek, near the town of Leakey. Late afternoon and evening thunderstorms produced severe weather in central and northeastern Oklahoma. Wind gusts to 70 mph and golf ball size hail were reported around Oklahoma City OK. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thunderstorms brought much needed rains to parts of the central U.S. Rainfall totals of 2.87 inches at Sioux City IA and 4.59 inches at Kansas City MO were records for the date. Up to eight inches of rain deluged the Kansas City area, nearly as much rain as was received the previous eight months. Hurricane Gilbert, meanwhile, slowly churned toward the U.S./Mexican border. (The National Weather Summary)

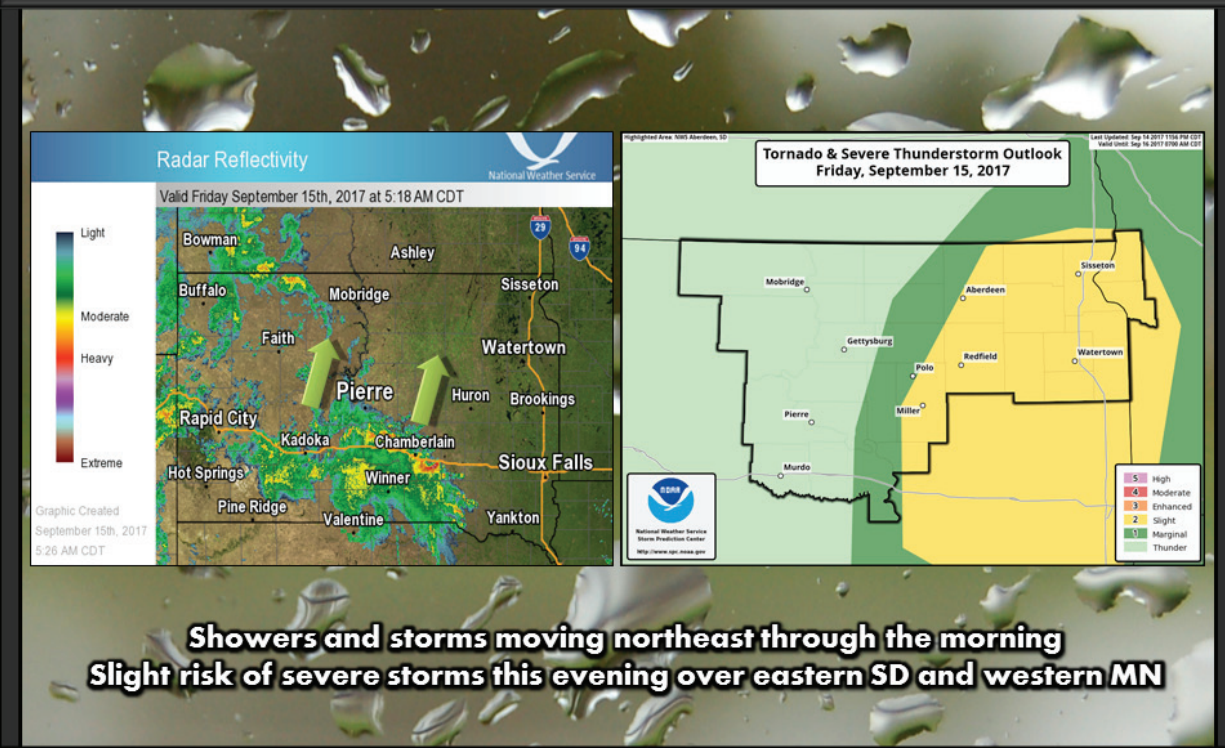
1989 - Showers and thunderstorms produced locally heavy rain in the Central Appalachians. Virgie VA received 2.60 inches of rain during the evening hours, and Bartlett TN was deluged with 2.75 inches in just ninety minutes. Heavy rain left five cars partially submerged in high water in a parking lot at Bulls Gap TN. Thunderstorms over central North Carolina drenched the Fayetteville area with four to eight inches of rain between 8 PM and midnight. Flash flooding, and a couple of dam breaks, claimed the lives of two persons, and caused ten million dollars damage. Hugo, churning over the waters of the Caribbean, strengthened to the category of a very dangerous hurricane, packing winds of 150 mph. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

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Today	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
						
60%	50% 30%	30%			20%	
Showers Likely	Chance T-storms then Chance Showers	Chance Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy then Slight Chance Showers	Mostly Sunny
High: 67 °F	Low: 51 °F	High: 59 °F	Low: 39 °F	High: 66 °F	Low: 50 °F	High: 76 °F

Showers and Thunderstorms Across the Region Today



National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD



weather.gov/Aberdeen



National Weather Service Aberdeen



@NWSAberdeen

Updated: 9/15/2017 5:36 AM Central

Published on: 09/15/2017 at 5:40AM

The first batch of showers and thunderstorms is moving northeast out of southern South Dakota and will move through the area during the morning hours. Additional activity is expected through the day, with possible development of stronger storms by early evening over eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota. The Storm Prediction Center has put this area into a slight risk for severe storms. Cooler temperatures will begin moving into the region today as well, with cloudy skies for most areas.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 80.6

Low Outside Temp: 59.4

High Gust: 20

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 100° in 1948

Record Low: 28° in 1964

Average High: 73°F

Average Low: 47°F

Average Precip in Sept: 1.13

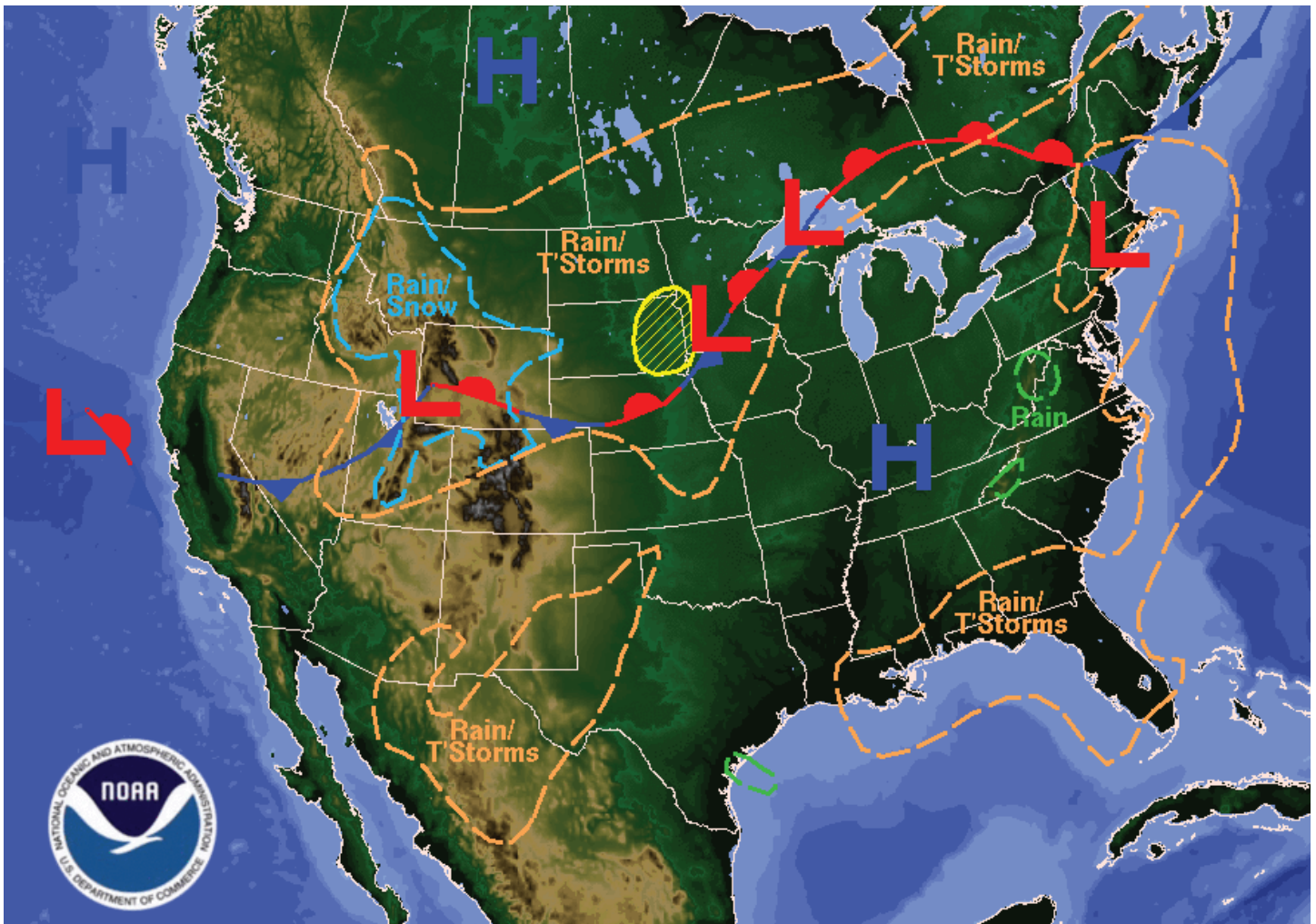
Precip to date in Sept: 0.11

Average Precip to date: 17.42

Precip Year to Date: 9.63

Sunset Tonight: 7:44 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:13 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Fri, Sep 15, 2017, issued 4:46 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

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A KING FOR GOD'S KINGDOM?

A leading scientist at a convention of scientists was asked, "Is there anyone anywhere whom you know who could solve all of the problems of illness and famine, poverty and killing?"

"Indeed I do," came his quick reply.

Astonished, the chairman of the committee asked, "Who?"

"A King!" came the quick, confident response.

In utter disbelief the chairman replied, "A king? Where can we find such a king? Where has he been hiding?"

"Oh, He is not hiding," replied the scientist. "He has made Himself well known. It is just that people refuse to recognize Him. You see, this Man is incapable of making any mistakes, knows the power of healing – both physical healing and mental healing and He knows how to feed thousands and have food left over to feed many more. He can also take care of those without water and solve other problems that people bring to him."

In disbelief, the chairman asked, "Who is this person you have described and where can we find him?"

"You can find Him in the Bible. He is known as Jesus. In His life on earth He did all of the things I have mentioned. And He is capable of doing many more miraculous things," he said.

The audience was stunned as the scientist took his seat.

The Psalmist wrote, "Your throne, O God, will last forever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of Your Kingdom." The "throne" described in this Psalm is Christ's throne in heaven and will last through eternity. From this throne He will rule the world in love, justice and righteousness – and all problems will finally be solved.

Prayer: Father, we look forward to that day of days when You will rule the world with Your peace that passes all understanding. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 45:6 Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.

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News from the Associated Press

Wind Cave National Park wildfire now 90 percent contained

HOT SPRINGS, S.D. (AP) — Firefighters are making progress in containing a wildfire that's burned nearly 1,200 acres in Wind Cave National Park in southwestern South Dakota.

The Rankin wildfire is now 90 percent contained. No structures have been burned, but 10 are threatened and another 20 are within a mile of the fire. The blaze started with a lightning strike on Monday.

KOTA-TV reports the nearby Beaver wildfire grew to 400 acres Thursday afternoon.

Information from: KOTA-TV, <http://www.kotatv.com>

Thursday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Aberdeen Roncalli def. Redfield/Doland, 17-25, 25-23, 25-21, 12-25, 15-12

Belle Fourche def. St. Thomas More, 19-25, 25-21, 23-25, 25-20, 21-19

Bennett County def. New Underwood, 25-21, 25-18, 18-25, 25-17

Bridgewater-Emery def. Viborg-Hurley, 25-19, 25-14, 25-13

Britton-Hecla def. Tiospa Zina Tribal, 25-22, 25-19, 24-26, 25-12

Brookings def. Brandon Valley, 24-26, 25-22, 25-19, 25-21

Canistota def. Dell Rapids St. Mary, 25-19, 25-22, 25-19

Chester def. Howard, 25-6, 25-12, 25-22

Dakota Valley def. Canton, 25-12, 25-12, 25-13

Dell Rapids def. Tri-Valley, 25-9, 25-15, 25-12

Deuel def. Webster, 24-26, 25-16, 25-20, 27-25

Elk Point-Jefferson def. Tea Area, 25-14, 25-20, 21-25, 25-23

Elkton-Lake Benton def. Oldham-Ramona/Rutland, 25-13, 25-3, 25-16

Ethan def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-21, 25-13, 25-13

Freeman def. Tripp-Delmont/Armour, 25-17, 14-25, 25-15, 25-17

Great Plains Lutheran def. Waubay/Summit, 25-22, 25-16, 23-25, 25-21

Groton Area def. Hamlin, 25-14, 23-25, 22-25, 25-21, 15-8

Hendricks, Minn. def. Estelline, 25-21, 25-16, 25-16

Herreid/Selby Area def. Leola/Frederick, 26-28, 25-13, 25-22, 25-17

Hitchcock-Tulare def. Highmore-Harrold, 25-23, 25-23, 22-25, 25-14

Irene-Wakonda def. Bon Homme, 25-13, 25-20, 25-23

Kadoka Area def. Faith, 19-25, 23-25, 25-22, 25-19, 15-6

Lake Preston def. Iroquois, 25-18, 25-13, 25-6

Lead-Deadwood def. Custer, 25-14, 25-23, 25-22

McCook Central/Montrose def. Beresford, 25-19, 25-20, 25-20

Milbank def. Sisseton, 25-14, 25-17, 25-18

Miller def. Faulkton, 25-21, 25-16, 25-11

Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Mitchell Christian, 25-19, 25-18, 25-14

Northwestern def. Ipswich, 25-13, 25-15, 25-13

Oelrichs def. Crazy Horse, 25-27, 25-21, 25-13, 25-23

Parker def. Alcester-Hudson, 25-6, 25-20, 25-14

Parkston def. Lennox, 25-21, 25-20, 25-22

Potter County def. McLaughlin, 25-9, 25-7, 25-4

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Rapid City Christian def. White River, 20-25, 23-25, 25-23, 25-19, 15-1
Red Cloud def. St. Francis Indian, 25-15, 25-13, 26-24
Sioux Falls Christian def. Wagner, 25-10, 25-17, 25-7
Sioux Valley def. Castlewood, 25-8, 25-10, 25-22
Spearfish def. Douglas, 25-16, 25-22, 25-15
Sturgis Brown def. Hill City, 26-24, 29-27, 25-15
Sully Buttes def. Lyman, 25-15, 25-14, 25-15
Timber Lake def. Dupree, 25-13, 25-13, 25-21
West Central def. Garretson, 25-19, 25-10, 25-13
Wilmot def. Florence/Henry, 25-21, 25-10, 25-13
Wolsey-Wessington def. Aberdeen Christian, 25-9, 25-18, 25-13
Boyd County Triangular
Burke/South Central def. Stuart, Neb., 25-8, 25-18
Burke/South Central def. Boyd County, Neb., 25-21, 25-15
Freeman Academy Tournament
Baltic def. Gayville-Volin, 25-17, 25-17, 25-19
Baltic def. Freeman Academy/Marion, 25-23, 25-16, 25-19
Freeman Academy/Marion def. Gayville-Volin, 25-17, 25-17, 25-20

Sioux Falls Marathoner surprised with proposal

By MEGAN RAPOSA, Argus Leader

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — When Mike Snyder woke up to early-morning thunderstorms on Sunday, he wasn't worried about how the rain would affect his plans to run the Sioux Falls Marathon.

He was worried about his plans after the race and the diamond engagement ring stashed in the center console of his car, the Argus Leader reported .

Snyder, a 33-year-old Sioux Falls attorney, signed up for the Sept. 10 marathon along with his girlfriend, Charlotte Wood, who would be completing the 26.2-mile race for the first time.

The rain cleared up, and, after a 15-minute delay, the couple started the race alongside the thousands of other runners in the marathon, half marathon and 5K races.

Snyder finished first in just about four hours. Using the Sioux Falls Marathon app to track Wood's progress, he knew he had about 40 minutes before she reached the finish line.

He hobbled out to his car to get the ring and went back to wait near the finish line.

When Wood was greeted with an engagement ring after finishing 26.2 miles for the first time, she was shocked.

"My brain just shut off," Wood said. "What do you say? Thank you? I was just shocked. It was just kind of a blur."

Neither Snyder nor Wood remembers exactly what happened next. She knows she said yes, but they can't recall any details about the hundreds of racers and spectators around them during the proposal.

"I remember there was clapping. ... but once I remember proposing, it just kind of went black," Snyder said.

Wood, 31, was able to find photos of the proposal captured by other racers through the Sioux Falls Women Run Facebook group.

The finish-line proposal suits the couple perfectly.

The two met online, and after their first date at Monks four years ago, they've been together ever since.

Soon after their relationship started, Wood took up running because Snyder was a regular runner.

The two began running races together. He had run the full marathon, and she had run the half, which meant Wood was most often the one at the finish line cheering Snyder on when he finished.

On Sunday, for the first time, he was at the finish line for her.

"I knew he was at the finish, and so that made the last mile easier," Wood said.

After Sunday, Wood doesn't plan on running any more full marathons, though she's already got a few more half marathons planned for the coming months.

"Having finished a marathon is kind of the same as this relationship of 'one and done,'" Wood said. "I don't think I'll run another marathon, and I'll probably not have another relationship."

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

South Dakota man acquitted in girlfriend's death

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota man has been acquitted in the death of his girlfriend.

Brian Duncan was acquitted Wednesday after spending 14 months in jail. He had been charged with second-degree murder in the 2015 death of his girlfriend Helen Wright, the Rapid City Journal reported. Police said Wright was found dead at a Rapid City motel, where she lived with Duncan.

Dr. Donald Habbe, a Rapid City pathologist who conducted an autopsy on Wright, ruled she died of strangulation due to hemorrhaging in her neck.

But Dr. Leon Kelly, a Colorado-based pathologist who reviewed the case for the defense, testified Wright died of pneumonia and that the hemorrhaging was a sign of decomposition.

Kelly said medical records revealed Wright apparently suffered from various illnesses, including a heart disease. Habbe said he didn't review such records.

Duncan testified that Wright died in their motel room while he was performing first aid on her. He admitted to leaving town after she died without informing anyone.

Duncan's defense attorneys, Conor Duffy and Jeff Fransen, expressed relief after the verdict.

"Representing an innocent man is a huge responsibility and pretty scary," Duffy said. "I'm relieved."

The prosecution declined to provide comment to the newspaper.

"Domestic violence is often extremely challenging to investigate and I would imagine to prosecute," said Rapid City Police Chief Karl Jegeris, whose department led the investigation. "It's even more difficult when a death is involved and a victim can't speak for herself."

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

Senate committee approves ND federal judge for appeals court

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — The Senate Judiciary committee has unanimously approved U.S. District Judge Ralph Erickson of Fargo to serve on the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

North Dakota's U.S. senators, John Hoeven and Heidi Heitkamp, announced Erickson's approval Thursday.

The committee approval is the final step before the full Senate votes on Erickson's nomination.

President Donald Trump nominated Erickson in June. He's served in various judicial positions for nearly a quarter of a century. In 2003, he was nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve as a federal judge.

The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals handles appeals from federal courts in the Dakotas, Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri and Nebraska.

Ellsworth AFB says airman charged in son's death

ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE, S.D. (AP) — Officials at Ellsworth Air Force Base say an airman has been charged with murder in the death of his infant son.

Airman 1st Class David E. MacDonald faces a pretrial hearing in military court on Oct. 26. A statement from the base says the charge stems from the death of MacDonald's son on Nov. 7, but gives no details.

Ellsworth officials did not immediately respond to a message seeking the name of MacDonald's legal representation.

South Dakota court rejects law aimed at online sales taxes

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's Supreme Court on Thursday struck down a law that would require out-of-state retailers to collect sales taxes on in-state purchases — a defeat the state expected and welcomed in a case that eventually could have national implications for e-commerce.

Attorney General Marty Jackley hopes to persuade the U.S. Supreme Court to reconsider rulings issued mostly before the online shopping boom that exempt retailers from having to collect sales taxes in states where they have no physical presence. He said they give out-of-state online retailers an unfair competitive advantage over local retailers.

"Today's decision paves the way to respectfully request the U.S. Supreme Court to provide that much needed fairness to save main streets and jobs across South Dakota," Jackley said in a statement.

South Dakota has no income tax and depends heavily on sales taxes, and the state estimates it loses about \$50 million in tax revenue annually to e-commerce. Jackley said the U.S. Supreme Court should particularly reconsider its 1992 ruling in a North Dakota case "in light of the extraordinary growth of the internet and the exponential technological advances that have been made in the last quarter century."

States have pushed Congress to address the issue without success so far, and one estimate put the loss to states at roughly \$26 billion in 2015. South Dakota is the furthest along of several states attempting to overturn the precedent.

Many e-commerce companies rely on the 1992 ruling to avoid collecting state sales taxes, while some, such as Amazon, do so despite the precedent. Online retailers Wayfair, Overstock and Newegg challenged the South Dakota law at the trial court level.

The state Supreme Court acknowledged that as online sales have risen, South Dakota's revenues have decreased. That prompted the Legislature to pass the law with little opposition last year as a deliberate challenge to several U.S. Supreme Court rulings on how to apply the Commerce Clause of the Constitution, which generally gives Congress exclusive authority to regulate interstate trade.

South Dakota is pinning its hopes on a concurrence written by Justice Anthony Kennedy in a 2015 Colorado case that questioned the advisability of abiding by those precedents on sales tax collections given the "dramatic technological and social changes ... in our increasingly interconnected economy," the state's high court noted. It also acknowledged that before joining the U.S. Supreme Court this year, Neil Gorsuch raised similar concerns when he was a federal appeals court judge.

But the South Dakota justices wrote that however persuasive the state's arguments may be for revisiting the issue, the 1992 decision has not been overruled and remains the controlling precedent.

South Dakota will now take its case to the U.S. Supreme Court, where to be heard, it would need the votes of four justices.

The National Retail Federation issued a statement calling on Congress to pass carefully crafted legislation allowing states to require online sellers to collect sales taxes, which it said would be far preferable to a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that reverses the 1992 decision without addressing the details of implementation.

Hoeven, industry want study of North Dakota oil potential

By JAMES MacPHERSON, Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — North Dakota oil drillers and U.S. Sen. John Hoeven want federal geologists to reevaluate the amount of recoverable crude oil in the state, saying a new assessment likely would show stronger production potential and attract investment.

The U.S. Geological Survey once said two massive shale formations found in North Dakota held the largest continuous oil accumulation it ever assessed. But the title was given to a formation in Texas' Permian Basin last year, after a USGS assessment found nearly three times the amount of recoverable oil than in the Bakken and Three Forks formations.

Hoeven now wants the USGS to take into account other formations in western North Dakota's oil patch that could be exploited using technology developed for the Bakken and the Three Forks directly below it.

"The industry wants a broader study," the North Dakota Republican said. "The industry feels it will show

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a larger resource if the other formations are included.”

Hoeven said top officials at the USGS have given assurances that the study would be done, though it could take “a year or two” to begin.

USGS spokesman Dave Ozman said he was aware of the request but no formal decision has been made to do a new assessment.

North Dakota geologists say nearly 20 different geologic formations have been tapped in the state since oil was first brought to the surface 66 years ago. The Bakken and Three Forks, which only have been tapped in the last decade using hydraulic fracturing, now account for 95 percent all of North Dakota’s more than million-barrel-per-day oil production, ranking it second behind Texas.

Know-how gained from the Bakken and Three Forks is being tested on other formations in the state and it has been successfully applied elsewhere, creating a rivalry for drilling rigs and investment.

Ron Ness, president of the North Dakota Petroleum Council, said investment dollars have dropped in the state as companies and investors have more options.

“We’ve certainly seen a lot of competition from other oil shales,” said Ness, whose group represents more than 500 companies working in the state’s oil patch.

Ness said a new assessment that would consider underdeveloped formations would give a more accurate picture of the state’s oil capability.

“Having the best information available would do a lot for development and reaffirm and show the potential,” he said.

The Bakken formation encompasses some 25,000 square miles within the Williston Basin. About two-thirds of the acreage is in western North Dakota, where the oil is trapped in a thin layer of dense rock nearly 2 miles beneath the surface. The Three Forks formation underlies most of the Bakken.

In 2013, the USGS released data that showed 7.4 billion barrels of oil could be recovered from the Bakken and Three Forks spanning parts of North Dakota and parts of Montana, nearly double the amount the agency previously estimated for the region in 2008.

The USGS’s study last year found Wolfcamp shale, located in the Midland Basin portion of Texas’ Permian Basin, contains 20 billion barrels of recoverable oil.

Billionaire oilman Harold Hamm, chairman and chief executive officer of Oklahoma City-based Continental Resources Inc., has long said that government estimates of recoverable oil in the Bakken and Three Forks formations are too conservative.

Hamm, whose company is one of the oldest and biggest operators in North Dakota, has for years maintained the Bakken and Three Forks alone hold more than 20 billion barrels of recoverable oil, which would rival new the federal estimate for the Texas formation.

Improvised bomb injures 22 on London subway train

By JILL LAWLESS, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — A homemade bomb exploded on a packed London subway train during rush hour on Friday, leaving 22 people injured, police and health officials said. None of the injured is thought to be seriously hurt.

Police say the explosion was a terrorist attack, the fifth in Britain this year. Britain’s domestic spy agency is helping out in the investigation.

Police were alerted to an incident at 8:20 a.m. local time (0720GMT) after commuters reported a noise and a flash aboard the District Line train at Parsons Green station in the southwest of the city. Chaos then ensued as hundreds of people rushed to get away from danger.

“I ended up squashed on the staircase, people were falling over, people fainting, crying, there were little kids clinging on to the back of me,” Ryan Barnett, 25, said of the “absolute chaos” as people tried to leave the station.

Mark Rowley, head of counterterrorism for the Metropolitan Police, said “we now assess this was a detonation of an improvised explosive device.”

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He said 18 people had been injured, most with "flash burns." Health officials later said four others took themselves to hospital.

Rowley said the domestic intelligence service, MI5, was assisting with the investigation, led by the police counter-terrorism unit.

He gave no information about potential suspects, saying "It's very much a live investigation." Forensic officers combed the scene for clues and detectives examined surveillance camera footage in an attempt to get a glimpse at who planted the bomb.

U.S. President Donald Trump tweeted that it was another attack "by a loser terrorist," adding that "these are sick and demented people who were in the sights of Scotland Yard."

The London police force declined to comment on Trump's suggestion that it knew about the attacker.

Photos taken inside the train show a white plastic bucket inside a foil-lined shopping bag. Flames and what appear to be wires emerge from the top.

London ambulance service said they had sent multiple crews to the Parsons Green station and 18 people were hospitalized, though none had life-threatening injuries.

"There was out of the corner of my eye a massive flash of flames that went up the side of the train," eyewitness Chris Wildish told Sky News, then "an acrid chemical smell."

He said many of those on board were schoolchildren, who were knocked around as the crowd surged away from the fireball.

Another commuter, Richard Aylmer-Hall, said he saw several people injured, apparently trampled as they fled what he described as a packed train.

At capacity, the train could hold more than 800 people.

"I saw crying women, there was lots of shouting and screaming, there was a bit of a crush on the stairs going down to the streets," Aylmer-Hall, said.

Aerial footage later showed commuters from other subway trains being evacuated along the elevated track.

Transport for London said subway services were suspended along the line.

London Mayor Sadiq Khan said the city "utterly condemns the hideous individuals who attempt to use terror to harm us and destroy our way of life."

London has been targeted by attackers several times this year, with deadly vehicle attacks near Parliament, on London Bridge and near a mosque in Finsbury Park in north London. Beyond the capital, a May 22 suicide bomb attack at Manchester Arena killed 22 people.

The London Underground itself has been targeted several times in the past, notably in July 2005, when suicide bombers blew themselves up on three subway trains and a bus, killing 52 people and themselves. Four more bombers tried a similar attack two weeks later, but their devices failed to fully explode.

Last year Damon Smith, a student with an interest in weapons and Islamic extremism, left a knapsack filled with explosives and ball bearings on a London subway train. It failed to explode.

In its recent Inspire magazine, al-Qaida urged supporters to target trains.

Separately, French counterterrorism authorities were investigating an attempted knife attack on a soldier patrolling a large Paris subway interchange.

The Paris prosecutor's office says counterterrorism investigators have opened a probe into Friday morning's incident at the Chatelet station in central Paris, based on preliminary examination of the attacker's background.

The knife-wielding assailant tried to attack a soldier with a special military force assigned to protect prominent sites following deadly Islamic extremist attacks. He was quickly arrested and no one was hurt.

Gregory Katz in London and Lori Hinnant in Paris contributed to this report.

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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. FIRE ON LONDON SUBWAY TRAIN CALLED TERROR

London police say that a reported explosion and fire on a subway train at the Parsons Green station in southwest London was a terrorist incident.

2. NORTH KOREA FIRES ANOTHER MISSILE OVER JAPAN

It's the longest-ever such test-flight and a clear message of defiance to Pyongyang's rivals.

3. RAUL CASTRO PERSONALLY DENIED CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN US DIPLOMAT "HEALTH ATTACKS"

U.S. officials say Castro sought out the top American diplomat in Havana and relayed that he was just as befuddled about what was happening, The AP finds.

4. CONCERN MOUNTS FOR ELDERLY IN FLORIDA

The state's fits and starts toward post-Irma recovery shift to urgent efforts to protect its vulnerable elderly residents after a string of nursing home deaths.

5. UNICEF SAYS 240,000 ROHINGYA CHILDREN FLED MYANMAR

Flames could be seen in a Myanmar village from a Bangladeshi border point where the Rohingya Muslims who lived there had escaped and then watched as their homes burned.

6. HIGHER EDUCATION SEEKS TO AID STUDENTS IN DACA PROGRAM

Colleges and universities are stepping up efforts to protect students enrolled in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

7. WHICH LONG JOURNEY IS ENDING

After more than a decade of taking "a magnifying glass" to Saturn, NASA's Cassini spacecraft will burn up like a meteor in the sky above the enchanting planet.

8. ANGRY BIRDS COULD CREATE \$1 BILLION NEST FOR FINNISH GAME MAKER

Rovio Entertainment, the Finnish maker of "Angry Birds" and other popular mobile games, says that its initial public share offering will value it at about \$1 billion.

9. WHERE EXPERTISE IN VIDEO GAMES CAN LEAD

Varsity esports teams are becoming increasingly common on college campuses as more schools tap into the rising popularity of competitive gaming.

10. CLEVELAND KEEPS STREAK ALIVE WITH WALK-OFF WIN

The Indians rally in the bottom of the 10th inning for their 22nd straight win to extend their AL record, beating Kansas City 3-2.

Fleeing Rohingya Muslims watch as homes burn in Myanmar

By JULHAS ALAM, Associated Press

TUMBRU, Bangladesh (AP) — Groups of fleeing Rohingya Muslims watched from inside Bangladesh on Friday as another of the homes in their abandoned village across the border in Myanmar went up in flames.

The villagers said they'd escaped days ago, crossing into Bangladesh at the border point of Tumbru and joining thousands of other ethnic Rohingya huddling in the open in the district of Bandarban to escape recent violence in Buddhist-majority Myanmar.

Flames could be seen only about 500 meters (yards) from the border fence.

"You see this fire today, that is my village," said Farid Alam, one of the Rohingya.

When they crossed the border into Bangladesh, they saw land mines that had been newly planted by Myanmar forces, he said.

Thousands of Rohingya are continuing to stream across the border, with U.N. officials and others demanding that Myanmar halt what they describe as a campaign of ethnic cleansing that has driven nearly 400,000 Rohingya to flee in the past three weeks.

That number includes an estimated 240,000 children, UNICEF said in Geneva on Friday.

"We had a big house, we are 10 people in the family, but they burned our home," Alam said as he

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watched another house burning Friday. "My father was a village doctor, we had a medical store. We had land and cattle, all are gone."

Ethnic Rohingya have long faced discrimination in Myanmar and are denied citizenship, even though many families have lived there for generations.

After a Rohingya insurgent group attacked police posts in Myanmar's Rakhine state on Aug. 25, the military responded with "clearance operations." Fleeing Rohingya say security forces shot indiscriminately, burned their homes and threatened them with death. The government says hundreds died, mostly Rohingya, and that 176 out of 471 Rohingya villages have been abandoned.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Wednesday described the violence against Rohingya as "ethnic cleansing" — a term that describes an organized effort to rid an area of an ethnic group by displacement, deportation or killing.

Amnesty International said Thursday it has evidence of an "orchestrated campaign of systematic burnings" by Myanmar security forces targeting dozens of Rohingya villages over the last three weeks.

Abul Bashar, a 73-year-old Rohingya in Bandarban, said he traveled 15 days on foot to reach Bangladesh on Wednesday, and was separated from the rest of his family.

He took nothing with him as he fled.

"I have lost everything," he said. "Our homes were burned. ... It was painful, very painful."

Elsewhere, along a fence near the Kutupalong refugee camp in Bangladesh's border district of Cox's Bazar, men, women and children ran after aid trucks as volunteers tossed clothing and packets of dry food.

With refugee camps overflowing and hundreds of thousands of Rohingya struggling to find shelter, food and other essential services, aid workers say they are deeply worried by the continuing influx of people by land and water.

"This is desperate. It's one of the biggest man-made crises and mass movements of people in the region for decades," Martin Faller, a deputy regional director of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies said in a statement.

"People have no food, water or shelter and they are in desperate need of support. No one should have to live like this," Faller said.

U.N. refugee agency spokesman Joseph Tripura said that, unless authorities address health concerns, "we might see a very bad situation in coming days" with disease outbreaks.

The International Organization for Migration in Geneva believes "thousands of people are waiting to take boats to Cox's Bazar," according to Asia-Pacific spokesman Chris Lom. "There is no sign that this flow is going to dry up."

U.N. agencies fear continued violence in Myanmar may eventually drive up to 1 million Rohingya into Bangladesh.

"We are worried that children, pregnant women and older people will quickly become malnourished and sick," Mozharul Huq, secretary general of Bangladesh's Red Crescent Society added.

"Each day our teams of doctors, nurses and paramedics are treating hundreds of injured and sick people, but the queues keep getting bigger."

On Friday, one of the recently arrived refugees, Moulana Arif Ullah, led some 300 other Rohingya Muslim men in weekly prayer.

"There are soldiers over there ... we can't have freedom there," he said to worshippers at a makeshift mosque at the Kutupalong refugee camp, one of the largest in the area.

He shouted and sobbed as he asked them: "Who can save us? Who can give us food?"

"Allah," they shouted back.

"What can we do? We pray to Allah. He will save us," Mohammed Ashikur said as the prayers ended.

Associated Press writer Jamey Keaten in Geneva contributed to this report.

Castro's denial: Personal assurance clouds probe of attacks

By **JOSH LEDERMAN, MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN and ROB GILLIES, Associated Press**

HAVANA (AP) — Raul Castro seemed as rattled as the Americans.

The Cuban president sent for the top American official in the country to address grave concerns about a spate of U.S. diplomats harmed in Havana. There was talk of futuristic "sonic attacks" and the subtle threat of repercussions by the United States, until recently Cuba's sworn enemy.

The way Castro responded surprised Washington, several U.S. officials familiar with the exchange told The Associated Press.

In a rare face-to-face conversation, Castro told Jeffrey DeLaurentis, the American Embassy chief, that he was equally befuddled, and concerned. Predictably, Castro denied any responsibility. But it wasn't the indignant, how-dare-you-accuse-us response the U.S. had come to expect from Cuba's leaders.

The Cubans even offered to let the FBI come down to Havana to investigate. U.S.-Cuban cooperation on law enforcement has increased some since the detente in 2015. Even so, the new access was extraordinary.

"Some countries don't want any more FBI agents in their country than they have to — and that number could be zero," said Leo Taddeo, a retired FBI supervisor who served abroad.

Cuba, Taddeo said, is normally in that group.

The list of confirmed American victims was much shorter on Feb. 17, when the U.S. first complained to Cuba. Today, the number of "medically confirmed" cases stands at 21 — plus several Canadians. Some Americans have permanent hearing loss or mild brain injury, incidents that have frightened Havana's tight-knit diplomatic community.

At least one other nation, France, has tested embassy staff for potential sonic-induced injuries.

But several U.S. officials say there are real reasons to question whether Cuba perpetrated a clandestine campaign of aggression. The officials weren't authorized to discuss the ongoing investigation and demanded anonymity.

When the U.S. has accused Cuba of misbehavior in the past, like harassing diplomats or cracking down on local dissidents, Havana has often accused Washington of making it up. This time, although Castro denied involvement, his government didn't dispute that something troubling may have gone down on Cuban soil.

Perhaps the picture was more complex? Investigators considered whether a rogue faction of Cuba's security forces had acted, possibly in combination with another country like Russia or North Korea.

For decades, Cuba and the U.S. harassed each other's diplomats. The Cubans might break into homes to rearrange furniture or leave feces unflushed in a toilet. The Americans might conduct obvious break-ins and traffic stops, puncture tires or break headlights.

Yet those pranks were primarily to pester, not to harm.

What U.S. diplomats started reporting last November was altogether different.

Diplomats and their families were getting sick. Some described bizarre, unexplained sounds, including grinding and high-pitched ringing. Victims even recounted how they could walk in and out of what seemed like powerful beams of sound that hit only certain rooms or even only parts of rooms, the AP reported this week.

At the time, Washington and Havana were in frantic cooperation mode, working feverishly to lock in progress on everything from internet access to immigration rules before Barack Obama's presidency ended. Donald Trump's surprise election win on Nov. 8 meant the U.S. would soon be led by a president who'd threatened to reverse the rapprochement.

As America awaited an unpredictable new administration, Cuba faced a pivotal moment, too.

Fidel Castro died on Nov. 25. The revolutionary had reigned for nearly a half-century before ceding power to his brother, Raul, in his ailing last years. It was no secret in Cuba that Fidel, along with some supporters in the government, were uneasy about Raul Castro's opening with the U.S.

"There is a struggle going on for the soul of their revolution," said Michael Parmly, who headed the U.S. diplomatic post in Havana from 2005 to 2008. "It's entirely possible there are rogue elements."

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When the first diplomats came forward with their inexplicable episodes and symptoms, the U.S. didn't connect the dots. It took weeks before embassy officials pieced together "clusters" of incidents, and multiple victims with confirmed health damage.

By the time Obama left the White House on Jan. 20, talk of mysterious maladies had reached some officials in Washington. Word of sonic attacks hadn't reached the top echelons of the White House or U.S. State Department, three former U.S. officials told the AP.

As Trump took office, a clearer picture started to emerge.

On Feb. 17, the U.S. complained to Cuba's embassy in Washington and its foreign ministry in Havana. Soon came Castro, seeking out DeLaurentis directly.

The attacks halted for a time. But several U.S. officials said it wasn't clear why.

It wasn't long before the incidents started again, as mysteriously as they'd stopped.

Then the Canadians got hit.

Between March and May, several households were hit with symptoms including nausea, headaches and nosebleeds, said a Canadian official with knowledge of his country's investigation.

Then those attacks, too, ended.

What culprit would want to attack both the U.S. and its northern neighbor?

Cuba has no obvious grievances with Canada. The two countries have close ties. But perhaps Canadians were targeted to muddle the motive and throw investigators off the trail, another possibility U.S. authorities haven't eliminated.

The Canadians tested some of their staff in Havana and recalled others home temporarily, the Canadian official said.

Searching for its own answers, the U.S. Embassy conducted medical tests on staffers. Many were sent to the University of Miami for further examination. The State Department consulted with doctors at Johns Hopkins University and the University of Pennsylvania. The U.S. encouraged those institutions to keep what they knew private.

In Havana's diplomatic circles, anxiety spread. The French Embassy tested employees after a staff member raised health concerns, according to a French diplomat familiar with the matter. False alarm; the tests turned up no signs of damage consistent with a sonic attack.

The FBI traveled to Havana and swept some of the rooms where attacks were reported — a list that included homes and at least one hotel: the Spanish-run Hotel Capri, where visiting U.S. officials occasionally stay. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police flew down, too. Neither law enforcement agency found any sonic device, several officials told the AP.

By May 23, the U.S. still had no answers. But something had to be done. The Trump administration expelled two Cuban diplomats from Washington to protest the communist government's failure to protect the safety of American diplomats.

Neither country disclosed the expulsion at the time. Cuba didn't retaliate.

The next month, Trump imposed some barriers to travel between the former Cold War foes. But there was no hint it was to punish Castro's government for the attacks. Trump left much of Obama's broader detente intact, including the two nations' re-opened embassies.

The diplomats suffered in private, until Aug. 9.

News reports finally prompted the State Department to publicly acknowledge "incidents which have caused a variety of physical symptoms" and were still under investigation. The AP learned they included concentration problems and even trouble recalling commonplace words.

Two weeks later, the U.S. announced at least 16 Americans showed symptoms. At that point, the State Department said the incidents were "not ongoing."

Still, the tally continued to rise — first to 19 victims, and then this week to 21.

In the meantime, the State Department had to withdraw its assurance the attacks had long ceased.

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There had been another incident, on Aug. 21.

"The reality is, we don't know who or what has caused this," State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said Thursday. "And that's why the investigation is underway."

Lederman reported from Washington and Gillies from Toronto. Associated Press writers Angela Charlton in Paris, Jake Pearson in New York, and Matthew Lee, Bradley Klapper and Eric Tucker in Washington contributed.

North Korea fires missile over Japan in longest-ever flight

By KIM TONG-HYUNG and FOSTER KLUG, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea conducted its longest-ever test flight of a ballistic missile Friday, sending an intermediate-range weapon hurtling over U.S. ally Japan into the northern Pacific Ocean in a launch that signals both defiance to its rivals and a big technological advance.

Since President Donald Trump threatened the North with "fire and fury" in August, Pyongyang has conducted its most powerful nuclear test, threatened to send missiles into the waters around the U.S. Pacific island territory of Guam and launched two missiles of increasing range over Japan. July saw its first tests of intercontinental ballistic missiles that could strike deep into the U.S. mainland when perfected.

The growing frequency, power and confidence displayed by these tests seem to confirm what governments and outside experts have long feared: North Korea is closer than ever to its goal of building a military arsenal that can viably target both U.S. troops in Asia and the U.S. homeland. This, in turn, is meant to allow North Korea greater military freedom in the region by raising doubts in Seoul and Tokyo that Washington would risk the annihilation of a U.S. city to protect its Asian allies.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the latest missile traveled about 3,700 kilometers (2,300 miles) and reached a maximum height of 770 kilometers (478 miles). Guam, which is the home of important U.S. military assets, is 3,400 kilometers (2,112 miles) away from North Korea.

North Korea's weapons tests demonstrate that it can "turn the American empire into a sea in flames through sudden surprise attack from any region and area," Pyongyang's Rodong Sinmun newspaper said Friday, without mentioning the latest missile test.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in, a liberal who initially pushed for talks with North Korea, said that Pyongyang's tests currently made dialogue "impossible."

"The sanctions and pressure by the international community will only tighten so that North Korea has no choice but to take the path for genuine dialogue" for nuclear disarmament, Moon said. "If North Korea provokes us or our allies, we have the strength to smash the attempt at an early stage and inflict a level of damage it would be impossible to recover from."

North Korea has repeatedly vowed to continue its weapons tests amid what it calls U.S. hostility — by which it means the presence of nearly 80,000 U.S. troops stationed in Japan and South Korea. Robust international diplomacy on the issue has been stalled for years, and there's so far little sign that senior officials from Pyongyang and Washington might sit down to discuss ways to slow the North's determined march toward inclusion among the world's nuclear weapons powers.

Friday's test, which Seoul said was the 19th launch of a ballistic missile by North Korea this year, triggered sirens and warning messages in northern Japan but caused no apparent damage to aircraft or ships. It was the second missile fired over Japan in less than a month. North Korea conducted its sixth and most powerful nuclear test on Sept. 3.

The missile was launched from Sunan, the location of Pyongyang's international airport and the origin of the earlier missile that flew over Japan. Analysts have speculated the new test was of the same intermediate-range missile launched in that earlier flight, the Hwasong-12, and was meant to show Washington that the North can hit Guam if it chose to do so.

Despite its impressive range, the North's missile probably still isn't accurate enough to destroy Guam's Andersen Air Force Base, said David Wright, a U.S. missile expert with the Union of Concerned Scientists.

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Such early generation missiles are often inaccurate because of guidance and control errors during the boost and re-entry phases as the warhead passes through the atmosphere late in flight, Wright said.

South Korea detected North Korean launch preparations Thursday, and President Moon ordered a live-fire ballistic missile drill if the launch happened. This allowed Seoul to fire its missiles only six minutes after the North's launch Friday. One of the two missiles hit a sea target about 250 kilometers (155 miles) away, which was approximately the distance to Pyongyang's Sunan, but the other failed in flight shortly after launch, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

The U.N. Security Council scheduled an emergency closed-door meeting to be held Friday afternoon in New York. Trump didn't immediately comment.

North Korea initially flight-tested the Hwasong-12 and the ICBM model Hwasong-14 at highly lofted angles to reduce their range and avoid neighboring countries.

The two launches over Japan indicate North Korea is moving toward using angles close to operational to determine whether its warheads can survive the harsh conditions of atmospheric re-entry and detonate properly.

North Korea's August launch over Japan came weeks after it threatened to fire a salvo of Hwasong-12s toward Guam and bracket the island with "enveloping" missile fire.

North Korea has been accelerating its nuclear weapons development under leader Kim Jong Un, a third-generation dictator who has conducted four of North Korea's six nuclear tests since taking power in 2011. The weapons being tested include hard-to-detect solid-fuel missiles designed to be launched from road mobile launchers or submarines.

The U.N. Security Council unanimously approved new sanctions earlier this week over the nuclear test, which Pyongyang claimed was a detonation of a thermonuclear weapon built for its ICBMs. The sanctions ban all textile exports and prohibit any country from authorizing new work permits for North Korean workers — two key sources of hard currency. They also prohibit North Korea from importing all natural gas liquids and condensates, and cap Pyongyang's imports of crude oil and refined petroleum products.

North Korea's Foreign Ministry denounced the U.N. sanctions and said the North will "redouble its efforts to increase its strength to safeguard the country's sovereignty and right to existence."

Associated Press writer Mari Yamaguchi in Tokyo contributed to this report.

'Amnesty decries 'campaign of burnings' targeting Rohingya

By JAMEY KEATEN, Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — Amnesty International says it has turned up evidence of an "orchestrated campaign of systematic burnings" by Myanmar security forces targeting dozens of Rohingya villages over the last three weeks.

The human rights group is releasing a new analysis of video, satellite photos, witness accounts and other data that found over 80 sites were torched in Myanmar's northern Rakhine State since an Aug. 25 militant attack on a border post. The U.N. children's agency estimates that as many as 400,000 people have fled to Bangladesh since then.

Top U.N. officials, including Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, have previously expressed concerns about possible "ethnic cleansing" perpetrated against the Rohingya. But Amnesty's findings released Friday in Myanmar offer some of the most precise evidence that Rohingya areas were specifically targeted.

The satellite images, contracted by Amnesty from satellite providers Deimos and Planet Labs, and other source materials point to "80 large-scale fires in inhabited areas, each measuring at least 375 meters (1,230 feet) in length" since Aug. 25, the group said.

The data adds to many accounts of villages being burned from refugees who spoke to U.N. agencies, rights groups and journalists in Bangladesh.

"The evidence is irrefutable — the Myanmar security forces are setting northern Rakhine State ablaze in a targeted campaign to push the Rohingya people out of Myanmar," said Tirana Hassan, Amnesty In-

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ternational's crisis response director, in a statement.

"There is a clear and systematic pattern of abuse here. Security forces surround a village, shoot people fleeing in panic and then torch houses to the ground," she said. "In legal terms, these are crimes against humanity."

The International Criminal Court says crimes against humanity involve torture, enslavement, murder or extermination of civilians in a "widespread and systematic" way.

Hassan also took issue with claims by Myanmar's government that the Rohingya themselves were setting ablaze their homes.

"The government's attempts to shift the blame to the Rohingya population are blatant lies," she said. "Our investigation makes it crystal clear that its own security forces, along with vigilante mobs, are responsible for burning Rohingya homes."

Myanmar authorities have curtailed access for journalists and human rights experts to Rakhine in recent months, and Amnesty acknowledged that the breadth of the damage cannot be verified on site. It said the full extent of destruction "is likely to be much higher" than the evidence compiled because cloud cover sometimes blocked the satellite views.

The U.N.-backed, 47-country Human Rights Council in Geneva is expected to take up a discussion on Myanmar on Monday.

Trump, lawmakers squabble over whether they struck a deal

By ERICA WERNER and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The fate of 800,000 young immigrants hung in the balance as top lawmakers, White House officials and President Donald Trump himself squabbled over whether an agreement had been struck to protect them — and if so, exactly what it was.

In the face of an intense backlash from conservatives inside the Capitol and out, Speaker Paul Ryan and other GOP House members adamantly insisted that there was no agreement to enshrine protections for the immigrants brought to America as children and now here illegally.

John Cornyn of Texas, the No. 2 Senate Republican, put it this way: There was "a deal to make a deal."

Trump himself said he was "fairly close" to an agreement that could protect the young "Dreamers" while also adding border security, as long as his long-promised wall with Mexico was also separately addressed. Democratic leaders Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer — whose dinner with Trump Wednesday night was at the heart of Thursday's controversy — insisted there was discussion and even agreement on legislation that would offer eventual citizenship to the immigrants in question.

"We agreed it would be the DREAM Act," Schumer told reporters, referring to a bipartisan bill that would allow immigrants brought here as children and now in the U.S. illegally to work their way to citizenship in as little as five years if they meet certain requirements.

But one person familiar with the meeting said the president had agreed not to the DREAM Act, but to narrower legislation that would make permanent the protections offered by President Barack Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

What was clear was that the outcome for the "Dreamers" themselves was still unresolved and subject to much further debate and negotiation — and that the politics of immigration, which has defeated Congress for years, remained as tricky and explosive as ever. After winning the White House on a campaign that was remarkably harsh toward immigrants and revolved around construction of an enormous wall along the entire border with Mexico, Trump's sudden pivot infuriated some of his closest allies, and seemed to contain more potential to alienate his base than any of his other unconventional moves.

"He was so explicit during the campaign on the issue of the border wall and border security that if he were to backtrack on that promise I don't think he'd have a single friend left in the country. Democrats aren't going to support him and he would lose the entire Republican base," said GOP Rep. Tom McClintock of California. "This was a core explicit and graphically clear promise he made to the American people."

"At this point, who DOESN'T want Trump impeached?" conservative commentator Ann Coulter remarked

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over Twitter.

Administration officials quickly recognized the danger in the backlash, and the White House shifted into damage control mode, with press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders denying a deal had been struck or the wall excluded from it. Some also wondered aloud on Thursday whether the president was aware of the minutiae of the DREAM Act legislation discussed on Wednesday, including the fact that it includes an eventual path to citizenship.

"We're not looking at citizenship, we're not looking at amnesty. We're looking at allowing people to stay here," Trump told reporters as he traveled to view hurricane damage in Florida.

"But very importantly, what we want: We have to have a wall," Trump said. "If we don't have a wall, we're doing nothing."

Despite Trump's denial, two people briefed on Wednesday night's proceedings said that citizenship was explicitly mentioned when Democrats raised the DREAM Act. Budget Director Mick Mulvaney, who was among the group dining on Chinese food (a Schumer favorite) in the White House Blue Room, spoke up to say that the bill does include a pathway to citizenship, according to the people briefed, who spoke on condition of anonymity to disclose the private proceedings.

Another person familiar with the meeting said that as the president and Schumer were going back and forth, hashing out the confines of the agreement, the president kept referencing DACA, while Schumer kept talking about the DREAM Act. After Mulvaney piped in to make clear the distinction, the president signaled he understood the difference and was talking about DACA, the person said.

Exactly what Trump and Schumer agreed to is unclear. But the posture struck by Ryan and others on Capitol Hill seemed designed to protect the president from a backlash from his conservative base. Ryan energetically disputed the idea that any deal had been struck, though his argument seemed to turn largely on semantic distinctions.

"These were discussions not negotiations, there isn't an agreement," Ryan said. "The president wasn't negotiating a deal last night. The president was talking with Democratic leaders to get their perspective. I think the president understands that he's going to have to work with the congressional majorities to get any kind of legislative solution."

For their part, immigrant advocates and Latino lawmakers reacted cautiously, with several saying that any celebration would be premature. Many immigrants have been consumed by worry since Trump announced last week that he was ending DACA, which has granted temporary work permits and deportation relief to hundreds of thousands of immigrants brought here as minors.

In New York, Martin Batalla Vidal, who came to the U.S. with his parents when he was 7, said he's taken college classes, does "meaningful" nursing home work and pays taxes. He spoke at a rally by civil rights groups.

Trump gave Congress six months to come up with a solution before the protections would end, although what he would actually do absent congressional action is uncertain. Despite promising to end DACA on Day One of his administration, Trump has struggled openly with the question of what to do about this sympathetic group of young immigrants.

Trump has appeared to enjoy his newfound luster as a bipartisan dealmaker since a disaster-and-debt deal he struck with Pelosi and Schumer last week stunned Washington and garnered a stack of positive headlines. Schumer, too, clearly relishes the dealmaking; he was caught on a live microphone on the Senate floor Thursday gleefully telling Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.: "He likes us! He likes me, anyway."

Associated Press writers Catherine Lucey, Jonathan Lemire, Kevin Freking, Andrew Taylor, Alan Fram and Matthew Daly contributed.

Deal or no deal? 'Dreamers' wait as Trump, lawmakers joust

By ERICA WERNER and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The fate of 800,000 young immigrants hung in the balance Thursday as top lawmakers, White House officials and President Donald Trump himself squabbled over whether an agreement had been struck to protect them — and if so, exactly what it was.

In the face of an intense backlash from conservatives inside the Capitol and out, Speaker Paul Ryan and other GOP House members adamantly insisted that there was no agreement to enshrine protections for the immigrants brought to America as children and now here illegally.

John Cornyn of Texas, the No. 2 Senate Republican, put it this way: There was "a deal to make a deal."

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Trump revives debate on hate groups, then condemns them

By **JESSE J. HOLLAND**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Thursday signed a resolution condemning white supremacists and hate groups, hours after reviving his assertion that there were "bad dudes" among the people who assembled to oppose a white nationalist protest in Charlottesville, Virginia, last month.

"You know, you have some pretty bad dudes on the other side also," the president told reporters aboard Air Force One, sparking another round of criticism that the president has failed to adequately condemn hate speech.

The resolution, passed by Congress earlier this week, condemns "the violence and domestic terrorist attack that took place" in Charlottesville as well as white supremacists, neo-Nazis and other hate groups.

It also urges the president and his administration to "speak out against hate groups that espouse racism, extremism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and white supremacy," and calls on the Justice Department and other federal agencies to "use all resources available" to address the growing prevalence of those groups.

"As Americans, we condemn the recent violence in Charlottesville and oppose hatred, bigotry, and racism in all forms," Trump said in a statement announcing the signing. He called on Americans to move forward "as one people" and "to rediscover the bonds of love and loyalty that bring us together as Americans."

Trump's earlier comments on Charlottesville came one day after he met in private with Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina, the Senate's lone black Republican, at the White House. The two discussed the president's past remarks blaming "many sides" for the violence and death around a Confederate statue.

Recounting his conversation with Scott, Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One on Thursday: "I think especially in light of the advent of antifa, if you look at what's going on there, you know, you have some

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pretty bad dudes on the other side also. And essentially that's what I said."

"Antifa" is short for "anti-fascist," an umbrella description for far-left-leaning militant groups.

Trump added that more and more people are starting to agree with him.

"A lot of people are saying — in fact a lot of people have actually written, 'Gee Trump might have a point,'" Trump said. "I said, 'You got some very bad people on the other side also,' which is true."

Trump last month said there were "very fine people" among the nationalists and neo-Nazis protesting the possible removal of a Confederate statue in Charlottesville.

Scott said he told the president that there was no comparison.

"We had three or four centuries of rape, murder and death brought at the hands of the (Ku Klux Klan) and those who believe in a superior race," he told reporters at the Capitol. "I wanted to make sure we were clear on the delineation between who's on which side in the history of the nation."

Scott bluntly criticized Trump for assigning blame in a way that put white supremacist protesters on equal footing with counterdemonstrators who turned out for the Aug. 12 protests, sparked by Charlottesville officials' decision to remove a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee.

That remark, Scott said, compromised Trump's moral authority as president.

On Wednesday, Trump told Scott that he just meant to convey "that there was an antagonist on the other side" — to which Scott replied, "The real picture has nothing to do with who is on the other side."

Scott continued: "I shared my thoughts of the last three centuries of challenges from white supremacists, white nationalists, KKK, neo-Nazis, so there is no way to find an equilibrium when you have three centuries of history."

The president said that he got the point, Scott said. Asked if the president can regain his moral authority, Scott responded, "That will take time."

White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Trump and Scott had an "in-depth" discussion about the Charlottesville comments, "but the focus was primarily on solutions moving forward."

"That was what both people came to the meeting wanting to discuss," Sanders said during a White House briefing. "What we can do to bring people together, not talk about divisions within the country."

Scott said Trump also brought up Seattle Seahawks defensive end Michael Bennett, who has accused Las Vegas police of using racially motivated excessive force against him.

Bennett sat on the bench during the national anthem before Sunday's game at Green Bay, one of several NFL players protesting in support of former NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick, who remains unsigned after starting the protests last year to bring attention to police brutality against minorities.

"I believe he found it unsettling and challenging," Scott said.

This came as several athletes, activists and celebrities signed a letter of support for Bennett.

"Michael Bennett has been sitting during the anthem precisely to raise these issues of racist injustice that are now an intimate part of his life. Now we stand with him," the letter said.

It was signed by Kaepernick; tennis legend Martina Navratilova; academic Cornel West; John Carlos, a U.S. Olympic champion who famously raised his black-gloved fist during a 1968 medal ceremony; and other athletes and activists.

Jesse J. Holland covers race and ethnicity for The Associated Press. Contact him at jholland@ap.org, on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/jessejholland> or on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/jessejholland>.

Catch 22: Indians rally, win AL-record 22nd straight game

By TOM WITHERS, AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — On a winning streak that just won't stop, the Cleveland Indians have posted shutouts, blowouts and routine wins.

All that was missing were a walk-off victory and extra innings.

"Check those two off," closer Cody Allen said. "We're checking all the boxes."

And check this out: 22 in a row.

Jay Bruce hit an RBI double in the 10th inning — after Francisco Lindor tied it with a clutch double in

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the ninth — as the Indians rallied for their 22nd straight win to extend their AL record, beating the Kansas City Royals 3-2 on Thursday night.

Cleveland moved within four wins of matching the 1916 New York Giants for the longest streak in major league history. A few hours later, it became the first AL team to clinch a postseason spot when the Angels lost to the Astros.

A three-week romp through the league finally had some real drama to keep baseball's longest winning streak in 101 years intact.

Even before the rally, Allen looked at his teammates in the bullpen and knew something special was about to happen.

"In the ninth, we were saying, 'We're gonna walk them off,'" said Allen (3-6). "We thought we were going to walk them off right there. You win enough games in a lot of different ways, you see what those guys are capable of."

Allen and the Indians only had to wait a little longer until Jose Ramirez scored the winning run.

With the crowd signing "Jose, Jose, Jose," Ramirez led off the 10th with a hard hit into right-center off Brandon Maurer (2-2) that he turned into a double with a head-first slide. After Edwin Encarnacion walked, Bruce, the recent arrival who hit a three-run homer in win No. 21 on Wednesday, ripped a 2-0 pitch into the right-field corner.

As Progressive Field shook like it usually does in October, Bruce reached second base and was quickly mobbed by his teammates, who doused him with ice water and talcum powder while tearing the front of his jersey.

"Kids these days are throwing everything," Bruce said with a laugh. "You never know what you're going to get hit with out there. It's my first jersey rip off, for sure. They didn't get it all, though."

These Indians aren't stopping for anything.

Down to their last strike in the ninth, the Indians rallied to tie it at 2 off closer Kelvin Herrera, with Lindor delivering his shot off the left-field wall, just above the leap of four-time Gold Glove winner Alex Gordon, to score pinch-runner Erik Gonzalez from first.

"The ball actually hit off the top of my glove," Gordon said. "It was in a perfect spot where you had to decide whether to play it off the wall or go for it. I thought if I played it off the wall, he scores anyway, so I had to go for it."

Lindor's ball caromed off the wall and rolled slowly across the grass in left field, and 30,874 fans who have watched the Indians overpower teams for the last three weeks soon saw the AL Central leaders pull off their most dramatic win this season.

The Indians entered the day tied with the 1935 Chicago Cubs for the second-longest streak, and now only trail those '16 Giants, who won 26 in a row — all at home.

The Giants won 12 straight, played a 1-1 tie, and then won 14 in a row. But because the tied game was replayed from the start the next day, it didn't technically count and therefore didn't stop New York's streak.

Unlike many of Cleveland's games over the past three weeks, this one required a little late-innings work by the Indians, who have outscored their opponents 142-37 during this unimaginable run that has put them on the cusp of another Central title and possibly finish with the league's best record.

"This doesn't really happen anywhere," said Bruce, who came over in an Aug. 9 trade from the New York Mets. "You can hit that lull in September and even though you've got all but wrapped up the division, you know, the games can get long. They can get boring. They can get monotonous. We have a lot of things going for us that make it not like that."

"People are going crazy. It's a playoff atmosphere. We're trying to get the best record in baseball."

If not for Lindor, the Indians' streak would have stopped.

With one out in the ninth, pinch-hitter Tyler Naquin singled to left off Herrera, who then got rookie Francisco Mejia to bounce into a force. But Lindor, the blossoming superstar shortstop who has been Cleveland's best hitter throughout the streak, came through with his double.

"For a second, when I hit it, I was like, 'Oh no, I went the other way. I hit it to the wrong guy,'" Lindor said. "Then, I saw it hit the wall and the emotions were pretty high. Just seeing the whole entire crowd

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was fun, and then seeing your teammates screaming on the top step of the dugout is pretty special.”

So is this team.

MILLER TIME

On top of getting another win, the Indians also got top reliever Andrew Miller back. The All-Star came in to a rousing ovation in the seventh, and gave up a pair of bloop singles around a strikeout before getting an inning-ending double play.

It was his first appearance since Aug. 21, when Miller’s knee tendinitis flared up during an appearance against Boston and he went on the DL for the second time.

“I thought he looked much, much closer to Andrew than the last time,” said manager Terry Francona, who will closely monitor Miller. “He’s going to need some outings, but that was a really good first step for him.”

TRAINER’S ROOM

Royals: LHP Danny Duffy (sore elbow) threw a side session and could start Sunday’s series finale. He’s been on the disabled list since Aug. 26. Duffy is 8-8 with a 3.78 ERA in 21 starts.

Indians: All-Star OF Michael Brantley still isn’t running and the club still doesn’t have a timetable for his return from an ankle injury. Brantley was having a strong comeback season after playing in just 11 games in 2016 following shoulder surgeries.

UP NEXT

Trevor Bauer, tied for the league lead in wins, goes for his 17th and Cleveland’s 23rd in a row against Jason Vargas.

More AP baseball: <https://apnews.com/tag/MLBbaseball>

Nearly 3 weeks into Rohingya crisis, refugees still fleeing

By **JULHAS ALAM** and **DAR YASIN**, Associated Press

COX’S BAZAR, Bangladesh (AP) — Nearly three weeks into a mass exodus of Rohingya Muslims fleeing violence in Myanmar, thousands were still flooding across the border in search of help and safety in teeming refugee settlements in Bangladesh.

The crisis has drawn global condemnation, with U.N. officials demanding Myanmar halt what they described as a campaign of ethnic cleansing that has driven nearly 400,000 Rohingya to flee Rakhine state.

One of the dozens of boats carrying Rohingya to the Bangladeshi border town of Teknaf capsized Thursday and at least two people drowned, police said. That brought known drownings in the Naf River to 88 since the crisis began.

Those who arrived Wednesday in wooden boats on beaches near Shah Porir Dwip fishing village described ongoing violence in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, where smoke could be seen billowing from a burning village — suggesting more Rohingya homes had been set alight.

One Rohingya man said his village of Rashidong had been attacked six days earlier by Myanmar soldiers and police.

“When military and police surrounded our village and attacked us with rocket launchers to set fire, we got away from our village and fled away to any direction we could manage,” Abdul Goffar said.

Myanmar presidential office spokesman Zaw Htay said that out of 471 “Bengali” villages in three Rakhine townships, 176 were now completely empty while at least 34 more were partially abandoned. Many in Myanmar use that term as part of the long-standing refusal to accept Rohingya as citizens of the country.

Myanmar has accused the Rohingya of burning their own homes and villages — a claim the U.N. human rights chief criticized as a “complete denial of reality.”

U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric told reporters at U.N. headquarters on Thursday that 10,000 people reportedly crossed the border that in the last 24 hours.

Combined with the Rohingyas who fled during the last round of violence in Rakhine state last October, Dujarric said “it’s estimated that some 40 percent of the total Rohingya population have now fled into Bangladesh.”

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An estimated 60 percent of the Rohingyas arriving in Bangladesh are children, Dujarric said.

The crisis and refugee exodus began on Aug. 25, when Rohingya insurgents attacked police posts. Myanmar's military retaliated with "clearance operations" to root out the rebels, but the fleeing Rohingyas say Myanmar soldiers shot indiscriminately, burned their homes and warned them to leave or die. Others have said they were attacked by Buddhist mobs. Hundreds have died, mostly Rohingya, and some of the refugees have needed treatment for bullet wounds.

Facing growing condemnation globally, Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi will not attend U.N. General Assembly meetings Sept. 19-25 to instead deal with what the government said were domestic security issues.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told reporters Wednesday that ethnic cleansing was taking place against Rohingyas in Rakhine state. The term "ethnic cleansing" is defined as an effort to rid an area of an unwanted ethnic group — by displacement, deportation or even killing.

And Amnesty International said Thursday that it has turned up evidence of an "orchestrated campaign of systematic burnings" by Myanmar security forces targeting dozens of Rohingya villages over the last three weeks.

The U.N. Security Council has called for "immediate steps to end the violence" and ensure civilian protections. Rohingyas have faced decades of persecution in Myanmar, and are denied citizenship despite centuries-old roots in the Rakhine region.

The thousands of Rohingyas flooding into Bangladesh every day have arrived hungry and traumatized. Many need urgent medical care for violence-related injuries, severe infections or childbirth.

"The women who are coming for check-ups all have a terrified and exhausted look," said Sumaya, a midwife at the Nayapara refugee camp working in association with the U.N. population fund. "We keep hearing stories from them of walking through jungles and across hills for days without food, their children carried over their shoulders. They've lost their homes."

Two existing refugee camps were packed beyond capacity, and Bangladesh has said it would free land to build a third. Many of the new arrivals were huddling in makeshift shelters along roads or in open fields. Near the camp of Balukhali, some were setting up tents made of bamboo and plastic along hillsides muddy from days of rain. Children walked uphill to capture rainwater before it spilled into the teeming settlements below.

Food, clean water and other necessities were scarce.

Panic erupted Thursday along roadsides where local volunteers were distributing food, water and other supplies haphazardly from parked vehicles. Local officials shouted through bullhorns for volunteers to coordinate their efforts with aid agencies to avoid spreading chaos.

"There are acute shortages of everything, most critically shelter, food and clean water," UNICEF country representative Edouard Beigbeder said.

The U.N. children's agency said it needed \$7.3 million to help just the hundreds of thousands of Rohingyas children now at high risk of contracting water-borne diseases.

On Thursday afternoon, a scuffle broke out at a makeshift relief center at Kutupalong, where some refugees tried to break into the center and were beaten back by at least four security guards wielding sticks.

Those who managed to receive some aid after waiting hours in line were dismayed by the meager hand-out.

"I have just got a tarpaulin sheet but no food," said 55-year-old Osman, who gave only one name. "I need rice to eat, I need to feed my family. They said they can't give us anything else. What will I eat now?"

U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi said humanitarian assistance would increase "very, very quickly." Asked why the response has been slow, Grandi alluded to difficulties working in Bangladesh, but said he hoped this will change as the scale of the crisis becomes more apparent.

It is the Myanmar government's "responsibility to ensure that security returns to Rakhine," Grandi told The Associated Press at the Stockholm Security Conference in Sweden.

Bangladesh already was housing some 500,000 Rohingyas who fled earlier flashes of violence including

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anti-Muslim riots in 2012. Rakhine state had up to 1 million Rohingya before the latest violence.

Yasin reported from Shah Porir Dwip, Bangladesh. Associated Press writers David Keyton in Stockholm, Sweden, and Edith M. Lederer at the United Nations contributed to this report.

Seniors fight post-hurricane heat with Popsicles, compresses

By TERRY SPENCER and JAY REEVES, Associated Press

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. (AP) — Florida seniors were ushered out of stifling assisted-living centers Thursday while caregivers fought a lack of air conditioning with Popsicles and cool compresses after eight people died at a nursing home in the post-hurricane heat.

Dozens of the state's senior centers still lacked electricity in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma, and several facilities were forced to evacuate. While detectives sought clues to the deaths, emergency workers went door to door to look for anyone else who was at risk.

Fifty-seven residents were moved from a suburban Fort Lauderdale assisted-living facility without power to two nearby homes where power had been restored. Owner Ralph Marrinson said all five of his Florida facilities lost electricity after Irma. Workers scrambled to keep patients cool with emergency stocks of ice and Popsicles.

"FPL has got to have a better plan for power," he said, referring to the state's largest utility, Florida Power & Light. "We're supposed to be on a priority list, and it doesn't come and it doesn't come, and frankly it's very scary."

Stepped-up safety checks were conducted around the state after eight deaths at the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills, which shocked Florida's top leaders as they surveyed destruction from the punishing storm.

Older people can be more susceptible to heat because their bodies do not adjust to temperatures as well as those of younger people. They do not sweat as much and are more likely to have medical conditions that change how the body responds to heat. They are also more likely to take medication that affects body temperature.

Most people who die from high body temperature, known as hyperthermia, are over 50, according to the National Institutes of Health.

Statewide, 64 nursing homes were still waiting Thursday for full power, according to the Florida Health Care Association. The separate Florida Assisted Living Association said many of its South Florida members lacked electricity. The group was working on a precise count.

A day earlier near Orlando, firefighters helped relocate 122 people from two assisted-living centers that had been without power since the storm. And at the 15,000-resident Century Village retirement community in Pembroke Pines, where there were also widespread outages, rescue workers went door to door to check on residents and bring ice, water and meals.

For older people living on their own, such as 94-year-old Mary Dellaratta, getting help can depend on the attentiveness of neighbors, family and local authorities. The widow evacuated her Naples condominium with the help of police the day before the hurricane. After the storm passed, a deputy took her back home and another brought her food. A deacon from her Roman Catholic church also stopped by.

But with no family in the area and neighbors who are gone or unwilling to help, the New York native feels cut off from the world.

"I have nobody," she said.

The electricity is out in her condo, so there's no television for news. She cannot raise the electric-powered hurricane shutters that cover her kitchen windows.

Near the point of despair, remembering to take her medicine or locating her cane are almost insurmountable challenges.

"I don't know what to do. How am I going to last here?" she said, as a tear rolled down her cheek.

To the east, the Greater Miami Jewish Federation has been checking on elderly residents in their homes

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and felt a greater sense of urgency after the deaths. CEO Jacob Solomon said the group encouraged people to evacuate before the storm if they could, but now they're focused on helping them in their homes.

"At this point, we're better off taking care of them where they are. They didn't leave then. They're not going to leave now. What are you going to do? You go, you check on them, you make sure they have water and food and that's it," he said. "You're not going to convince a 95-year-old Holocaust survivor to do something that she doesn't want to do."

Though the number of people with electricity has improved from earlier in the week, some 4.9 million people across the peninsula continued to wait for power. Utility officials warned it could take a week or more for all areas to be back up and running.

Including the nursing home deaths, at least 26 people in Florida have died under Irma-related circumstances, and six more in South Carolina and Georgia, many of them well after the storm passed. The death toll across the Caribbean stood at 38.

On Thursday, detectives were at the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills after receiving a search warrant to investigate the eight patients' deaths, which police believed were heat-related.

The center said the hurricane knocked out a transformer that powered the air conditioning. Broward County said the home alerted officials about the situation on Tuesday, but when asked if it had any medical needs or emergencies, it did not request help.

But by early Wednesday, the center had placed three calls to report patients in distress, prompting firefighters to search the facility. They found three people dead and evacuated 145 people to hospitals, many on stretchers or in wheelchairs, authorities said. By that afternoon, five more had died.

The facility's administrator, Jorge Carballo, said in a statement that it was cooperating fully with authorities.

Gov. Rick Scott announced Thursday night that he has directed the Agency for Health Care Administration to terminate the center as a Medicaid provider. The program provides health care for low-income individuals and families.

Reached by phone on Thursday, Rosemary Cooper, a licensed practical nurse at the rehabilitation center, declined to discuss specifics about the case, citing the investigation.

"The people who were working there worked hard to make a good outcome for our patients," she said. "We cared for them like family."

But state records revealed a variety of problems at the center. The center showed deficiencies in maintaining fire and safety standards pertaining to exits and storage areas, as well as more serious problems with its generator maintenance and testing, according to February 2016 reports by Florida Agency for Health Care Administration inspectors.

Another 2016 report found problems with respecting patient dignity and maintaining housekeeping services.

The ex-husband of 71-year-old victim Gail Nova said her devastated family believes the facility should lose its license.

"Someone's got to answer for this. Someone let the ball drop very, very far," Kenneth Nova said by phone from his home in Winter Haven.

Reeves reported from Naples. Associated Press writers Tim Reynolds in Aventura; Brendan Farrington, Gary Fineout and Joe Reedy in Tallahassee; Adriana Gomez Licon in Homestead; Michael Melia in Hartford Connecticut and Jennifer Kay, Freida Frisaro, Curt Anderson and David Fischer in Miami contributed to this report.

Cassini spacecraft: 'Magnifying glass' at Saturn until end

By **MARCIA DUNN, AP Aerospace Writer**

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — For more than a decade, NASA's Cassini spacecraft at Saturn took "a magnifying glass" to the enchanting planet, its moons and rings.

Cassini revealed wet, exotic worlds that might harbor life: the moons Enceladus and Titan. It unveiled

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moonlets embedded in the rings. It also gave us front-row seats to Saturn's changing seasons and a storm so vast that it encircled the planet.

"We've had an incredible 13-year journey around Saturn, returning data like a giant firehose, just flooding us with data," project scientist Linda Spilker said this week from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. "Almost like we've taken a magnifying glass to the planet and the rings."

Cassini was expected to send back new details about Saturn's atmosphere right up until its blazing finale on Friday. Its delicate thrusters no match for the thickening atmosphere, the spacecraft was destined to tumble out of control during its rapid plunge and burn up like a meteor in Saturn's sky.

A brief look back at Cassini:

TIMELINE: Cassini rocketed from Cape Canaveral, Florida, on Oct. 15, 1997, carrying with it the European Huygens lander. The spacecraft arrived at Saturn in 2004. Six months later, Huygens detached from Cassini and successfully parachuted onto the giant moon Titan. Cassini remained in orbit around Saturn, the only spacecraft to ever circle the planet. Last April, NASA put Cassini on an ever-descending series of final orbits, leading to Friday's swan dive. Better that, they figured, than Cassini accidentally colliding with a moon that might harbor life and contaminating it.

SPACECRAFT: Traveling too far from the sun to reap its energy, Cassini used plutonium for electrical power to feed its science instruments. Its separate, main fuel tank, however, was getting low when NASA put the spacecraft on the no-turning-back Grand Finale. The mission already had achieved great success, and despite the chance of pounding Cassini with ring debris, flight controllers directed the spacecraft into the narrow gap between the rings and Saturn's cloud tops. Cassini successfully sailed through the gap 22 times, providing ever better close-ups of Saturn.

RINGS: Cassini discovered swarms of moonlets in Saturn's rings, including one called Peggy that made the short list for final picture-taking. Scientists wanted one last look to see if Peggy had broken free of its ring. Data from the spacecraft indicate Saturn's rings — which consist of icy bits ranging in size from dust to mountains — may be on the less massive side. That would make them relatively young compared with Saturn; perhaps a moon or comet came too close to Saturn and broke apart, forming the rings 100 million years ago. Or perhaps multiple such collisions occurred. On the flip side, more massive rings would suggest they originated around the same time as Saturn, more than 4 billion years ago.

MOONS: Saturn has 62 known moons, including six discovered by Cassini. The biggest, by far, is the first one discovered way back in the 1655: Titan, which slightly outdoes Mercury. Its lakes hold liquid methane, which could hold some new, exotic form of life. Little moon Enceladus is believed to have a global underground ocean that could be sloshing with life more as we know it. Incredibly, geysers of water vapor and ice shoot out of cracks in Enceladus' south pole. Project scientist Linda Spilker said if she could change one thing about Cassini, it would have been to add life-detecting sensors to sample these plumes. But no one knew about the geysers until Cassini arrived on the scene.

NEXT UP: Scientists would love to return to Enceladus or Titan to search for any potential life. Nothing is firmly on the books right now. But there are proposals to go back, submitted under NASA's New Frontiers program. So stay tuned.

World stocks fall on NKorea launch, central banks outlook

By **KELVIN CHAN, AP Business Writer**

HONG KONG (AP) — World stocks were mostly lower on Friday after North Korea launched another missile and as central banks continued to point to tighter monetary policy in coming months.

KEEPING SCORE: Britain's FTSE 100 was the biggest loser, falling 1.2 percent to 7,208 after the pound surged on expectations of interest rate increases soon. Germany's DAX lost 0.1 percent to 12,531 and France's CAC 40 edged 0.1 percent lower as well, to 5,220. Wall Street was poised to open lower. Dow and S&P 500 futures both crept 0.1 percent lower.

MISSILE TENSIONS: North Korea launched an intermediate-range missile that flew 3,700 kilometers

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(2,300 miles), setting off alarms as it flew over Japan to land in the Pacific Ocean. The launch was the latest sign of Pyongyang's willingness to defy international opinion as it moves closer to building up a military arsenal targeting U.S. forces. Asian markets fell in early trading but some regained their footing later, in a sign the initial shock for investors quickly wore off.

TRADER TALK: "Another day, another missile from North Korea," said Rob Carnell, ING's head of Asia research. "It would be wrong to say that markets are not taking any notice, but the relatively muted responses of the Japanese yen and Korean won, and risk assets globally, suggest that a sense of fatigue on this belligerence is creeping in."

CENTRAL BANKS: The pound continued to surge, rising 1.3 percent to \$1.3579, as Bank of England officials confirmed they expect to start raising interest rates for the first time in a decade in coming months. The central bank surprised Thursday with the message, which was reiterated by one of its officials Friday. The pound's rise weighs on the FTSE 100 index because many of its listed companies are multinationals whose earnings abroad are decreased when translated back into pounds.

Meanwhile, investors are also digesting U.S. economic data as they await the Fed's next move on rates. Data released Thursday showed U.S. consumer prices rose in August at their fastest pace in seven months. Industrial production and retail sales figures are due Friday, which could provide more hints on whether the Fed, which holds a scheduled two-day meeting wrapping up Wednesday, will remain on track to raise rates by the end of the year.

ASIA'S DAY: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index added 0.5 percent to 19,835.30 as the dollar spiked lower after the launch but then staged a quick recovery, making shares of exporters more attractive. South Korea's Kospi recouped initial losses to end 0.4 percent higher to 2,386.07. Hong Kong's Hang Seng edged up 0.1 percent to 27,807.59 while the Shanghai Composite in mainland China shed 0.5 percent to 3,353.62. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 sank 0.8 percent to 5,695.00. Taiwan's benchmark rose and Southeast Asian shares were mostly higher.

ENERGY: Oil pushed up further from a seven-week high. Benchmark U.S. crude futures gains 1 cent to \$49.90 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 59 cents to settle at \$49.89 a barrel Thursday, the highest closing price since the end of July. Brent crude, used to price international oils, added 8 cents to \$55.55 barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar slumped against the yen immediately after news of the launch but recovered quickly and rose to 111.24 yen, the highest level since late July. The euro strengthened to \$1.1954 from \$1.1919.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Friday, Sept. 15, the 258th day of 2017. There are 107 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On September 15, 1940, during the World War II Battle of Britain, the tide turned as the Royal Air Force inflicted heavy losses upon the Luftwaffe.

On this date:

In 1789, the U.S. Department of Foreign Affairs was renamed the Department of State.

In 1807, former Vice President Aaron Burr was acquitted of a misdemeanor charge two weeks after he was found not guilty of treason.

In 1857, William Howard Taft — who served as President of the United States and as U.S. chief justice — was born in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In 1917, the first issue of Forbes magazine was published.

In 1935, the Nuremberg Laws deprived German Jews of their citizenship.

In 1942, during World War II, the aircraft carrier USS Wasp was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine; the U.S. Navy ended up sinking the badly damaged vessel.

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In 1950, during the Korean conflict, United Nations forces landed at Incheon in the south and began their drive toward Seoul (sohl).

In 1963, four black girls were killed when a bomb went off during Sunday services at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. (Three Ku Klux Klansmen were eventually convicted for their roles in the blast.)

In 1972, a federal grand jury in Washington indicted seven men in connection with the Watergate break-in.

In 1981, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted unanimously to approve the Supreme Court nomination of Sandra Day O'Connor.

In 1997, two of the nation's most popular diet drugs — dexfenfluramine and fenfluramine — were pulled off the market because of new evidence they could seriously damage patients' hearts.

In 2000, the 2000 Summer Olympics opened in Sydney, Australia, with a seemingly endless parade of athletes and coaches and a spectacular display; Aborigine runner Cathy Freeman ignited an Olympic ring of fire.

Ten years ago: In his Saturday radio address, President George W. Bush said while "formidable challenges" remained in Iraq, the United States would start shifting more troops into support roles in addition to troop withdrawals announced earlier. Several thousand protesters marched from the White House to the Capitol to demand an end to the Iraq war. Sarah Thomas became the first female official to work a game in the Football Bowl Subdivision, formerly I-A, serving as the line judge in the Jacksonville State-Memphis game (which Memphis won, 35-14). Actress-comedian Brett Somers died in Westport, Connecticut, at age 83.

Five years ago: Four days after the deadly attack on a U.S. diplomatic outpost in Benghazi, Libya, al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula called for more attacks on U.S. embassies. The State Department ordered non-essential government personnel and family members to leave its embassies in Sudan and Tunisia and warned U.S. citizens against traveling to the two countries. The National Hockey League locked out its players at 11:59 p.m. EDT; it was the league's fourth shutdown in a decade and one that would cost the league nearly half its season.

One year ago: A report issued by the Republican-led House intelligence committee condemned Edward Snowden, saying the National Security Agency leaker was not a whistleblower and that the vast majority of the documents he stole were defense secrets that had nothing to do with privacy; Snowden's attorney blasted the report, saying it was an attempt to discredit a "genuine American hero." Arizona's first female governor, Democrat Rose Mofford, died in Phoenix at age 94.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Forrest Compton is 92. Comedian Norm Crosby is 90. Actor Henry Darrow is 84. Baseball Hall of Famer Gaylord Perry is 79. Actress Carmen Maura is 72. Opera singer Jessye Norman is 72. Writer-director Ron Shelton is 72. Actor Tommy Lee Jones is 71. Movie director Oliver Stone is 71. Rock musician Kelly Keagy (KAY'-gee) (Night Ranger) is 65. Rock musician Mitch Dorge (Crash Test Dummies) is 57. Football Hall of Famer Dan Marino is 56. Actor Danny Nucci is 49. Rap DJ Kay Gee is 48. Actor Josh Charles is 46. Singer Ivette (EE'-veht) Sosa (Eden's Crush) is 41. Actor Tom Hardy is 40. Actress Marisa Ramirez is 40. Pop-rock musician Zach Filkins (OneRepublic) is 39. Actor Dave Annable is 38. Actress Amy Davidson is 38. Britain's Prince Harry is 33. TV personality Heidi Montag is 31. Actress Kate Mansi is 30.

Thought for Today: "The lack of a sense of history is the damnation of the modern world." — Robert Penn Warren, American poet (born 1905, died this date in 1989).