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Tristan Kampa was the closest person to guess the weight of this pumpkin at the Pumpkin Fest held Saturday in Groton. He guessed 848 pounds. The pumpkin weighed in at 850 pounds. He won the decorated pumpkin that was donated by Mayor Scott Hanlon. (Photo by Paul

Kosel)

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper
recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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**"One way to
get the most
out of life is
to look upon
it as an
adventure."**

-William Feather

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All auto owners!

Save \$2-\$4 /tank

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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 Area Help Wanted

The Groton Area School District is seeking qualified applicants for a part-time Assistant Business Manager. Job description and application materials can be found under the employment tab at www.grotonarea.com. Questions should be directed to Joe Schwan, Superintendent at 605-297-2351.

Help Wanted

We are Hiring Nurses – RN or LPN,
Full or Part Time. Cooks/Dietary Aid.

NEW WAGE PACKAGE!!!

Contact Brynn Pickrel or Nellie Peterson at 605-397-2365 or apply in person.

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CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

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

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PUMPKIN FEST A HUGE SUCCESS!

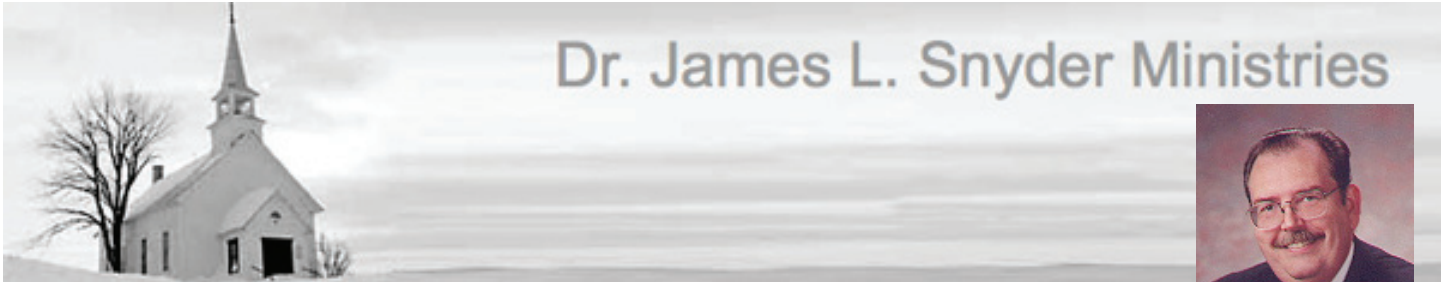


A very large crowd turned out for the Second Pumpkin Fest held Saturday at the Groton City Park. It was such a huge success that even the high wind advisory was cancelled. It turned out to be a perfect day with temperatures in the 70s and a light southwest wind. It was hard to estimate how many people showed up, but it looked like the attendance was triple of what it was last year, perhaps over 1,200 people. More photos will be published in Monday's edition.



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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries



Why I Am Suspicious of All Yard Sales

One of the passions that I really do not have is going to yard sales. The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is another story.

It is my sincere belief that yard sales were created with her in mind. There is not a yard sale within a 150-mile radius she does not know about. If she does not know about a yard sale, it probably is not a legitimate yard sale.

Long ago I have come to the point that I will not go anywhere with my wife on a Saturday morning. That is usually when most of the yard sales are and she has several times tricked me into going with her.

At the time, I thought we were going to a restaurant, but along the way, there were 175 stops at yard sales. By the time we got to the restaurant, I was so yard saled out that I couldn't order lunch. Fortunately, the Yard Sale Lady was in such high spirits she ordered for me.

Throughout the years I have made the mistake of seeing a cup and making casual conversation, "That's a nice cup, where did you get it?"

I'm looking for the answer to be, "I really don't know, I've forgotten." That is what I was expecting, but what I got was a detailed explanation of where she got it, what she paid for it, when she got it and every item that was at that yard sale that day.

By the time she is done, I had forgotten the question.

Going to yard sales is not the worst thing in the world. The worst thing in the world is when my wife plans and organizes a yard sale. Every year she organizes the church yard sale, and as you would guess, it gets bigger and bigger.

At least three months leading up to the yard sale I am on pins and needles. I need to tiptoe around the Parsonage because I know that someone, not me, is on the prowl for items for the yard sale. I'm surprised I haven't been sold at the yard sale yet.

She will come into my office area, casually look around and say something like, "You sure have a lot of books in this library, don't you?"

What she is doing is not appreciating my library, but trying to trick me into donating books from my library to her church yard sale. It is a very dangerous time in our house.

She will then come into my office area, pick up one of my special fountain pens, and say something like, "How long have you had this pen?"

Again, she is not inquiring about the pen, but trying to trick me into donating that fountain pen to the yard sale.

Nobody knows this, so do not let it get around, but I have a small pocketknife collection. I have been collecting these pocketknives ever since I was a young boy. I enjoy looking at them and I always have one on my person wherever I go, except in the shower.

I was looking at my collection the other day and my wife happens to come in and started admiring my collection. I must confess she caught me off guard because I was admiring my collection as well. And I happened to smile.

That is one thing you do not do in front of my wife. Because when you smile, she's got you!

So, not realizing what was happening, I smiled.

Then it happened!

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Looking at my pen-knife collection, she said something like, "Look at these two knives." And she picked them up very carefully and looked at them. "They look alike don't they? Do you need two knives that look the same?"

It was then that I firmly closed the lid on my knife collection and slowly walked away.

As the church yard sale got closer, I got more nervous. I do not mind donating to good causes, but I am not going to donate something that I am tricked into donating.

The week before the yard sale, my wife was walking around the house graciously looking in my office and smiling at me. Each day I got more nervous. Each day she smiled at me a smile that began to worry me to the very core of my being.

What was she smiling about? What was she doing or taking from my office that I did not know about?

All week long leading up to the yard sale I was very nervous. I was so nervous and concerned about the situation that I did the only thing I possibly could do at the time. I volunteered to help at the church yard sale.

That way, I could see if any of my things were at the church yard sale.

That night after the yard sale, we were sitting in the living room just resting. My wife said, "Thanks so much for helping in the yard sale today."

It was then I realized what had happened. She was playing me every day of the week. She was not going to take any of my stuff, but she wanted me to think it so I would volunteer to help at the yard sale.

She wins this one, for certain.

Jesus said it best when he said, "But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth," (Matthew 6:3).

True giving is between you and the Lord.



Opportunity for All

Sitting across the room from Mona Drolc, you can tell she's ready to go – and that's not far from the truth. She's always on the go! Mona is the Vice President of the Ups and Downs Family Support Group, a nonprofit dedicated to those with Down syndrome as well as their friends and family in western South Dakota. She serves as the Head Coach for the Rapid City Special Olympic Young Athlete's program. She's an instructor with South Dakota-based STRIDER bikes, teaching kids of all abilities how to ride. And above all, she's a dedicated mother, fighting to make sure her son, David, has every opportunity in the world to succeed.

Like one in every 700 babies born in the U.S., David has Down syndrome. David also has dreams as big as his smile. He wants to get a job, become financially independent, and maybe one day even move into a house of his own. And he's blessed with a mom who is fighting to make sure he and so many South Dakotans like him can achieve every one of these goals.

With October marking Down Syndrome Awareness Month, Mona took a trip out to Washington, D.C., to advocate for policies that create more opportunities for David. Her message was clear: Individuals with Down syndrome deserve a more level playing field; they should have access to the same opportunities as their peers.

In 2014, I helped pass legislation, which was signed into law, to move us closer to this goal. The Achieving a Better Life Experience Act – or the ABLE Act – tore down many barriers those with Down syndrome face, such as making improvements to the way those with disabilities can save for the future.

But hurdles remain. As a member of the Task Force on Down Syndrome, I'm helping to drive forward the ABLE to Work Act, which seeks to further incentivize employment. More specifically, most ABLE Act beneficiaries face tremendous medical costs over the course of their lifetime. Even with the amplified savings potential under the 2014 legislation, a cap is in place that prevents folks from saving enough to cover their long-term medical costs – let alone allow them to save for things like a home. The ABLE to Work Act would allow those with Down syndrome and other disabilities to save more in a tax-free account, helping secure financial independence.

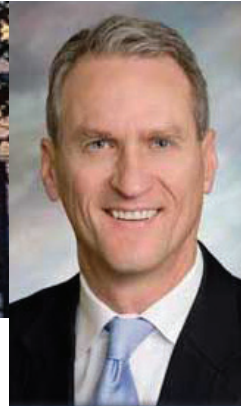
Fundamentally, I want to create opportunities for South Dakotans from all walks of life to thrive. That's my guiding principle. So, when kids like David have big dreams, I'm going to fight to help them fulfill every ounce of their God-given potential. I'm hopeful the ABLE to Work Act will help them do that.

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South Dakota Governor
Dennis Daugaard



Cause For Celebration This Native Americans' Day

Since 1990, South Dakota has celebrated Native Americans' Day. We were the first in the nation to establish Native Americans' Day as an official state holiday, done at the urging of Gov. George S. Mickelson as a part of his "Year of Reconciliation" efforts.

A crowd of South Dakotans gathered at Crazy Horse Memorial to celebrate the state's first Native Americans' Day. There were prayers offered by the Keeper of the Sacred Pipe of the Sioux Nation and an Episcopalian bishop, the Sioux Anthem and Star Spangled Banner were sung, and speeches were given by Oglala Sioux Tribe President Harold Salway and Gov. Mickelson. Also at the event, Ruth Ziolkowski, the gracious hostess of the celebration, was presented with a reconciliation award.

This event was just one of the highlights of the Year of Reconciliation. Gov. Mickelson spent those months trying to form new partnerships with tribes and bridge gaps between Natives and non-Natives. He reactivated the Commission on Indian Affairs and put in the effort to work directly with individual tribes and consider each tribe's unique issues and needs. Mickelson called on South Dakotans of all races to focus on areas of agreement, which led to successes in tribal tourism, health care and small business development.

Throughout my time in office, I have tried to mirror some of Gov. Mickelson's efforts. In 2011, I established the Department of Tribal Relations as a cabinet-level agency within state government. Every year, Tribal Secretary Steve Emery and I schedule tribal visits so we can meet with tribal presidents and council members to better understand the specific issues affecting each tribe.

In the last few years, Tribal Relations has worked diligently to facilitate partnerships among state agencies and the nine tribes. For instance, we have tax collection agreements with eight tribes and gaming compacts with eight tribes. In 2016 and 2017, the Department of Game, Fish, and Parks signed cooperative Memorandums of Understanding with the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Oglala Sioux Tribe, and Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe to improve communication and management of wildlife and lands. And the Department of Environment and Natural Resources has dedicated millions of dollars for the operation and maintenance of tribal drinking water systems.

Legislatively, Tribal Relations holds an annual forum where tribal members are able to discuss their legislative priorities with current state legislators. I also signed a bill allowing for the exemption of elected tribal leaders from having to register as a lobbyist in order to testify or lobby for or against legislation.

On the corrections front, we have implemented a tribal parole program with the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate that has been very successful. As part of the Criminal Justice Initiative of 2013, the program returns parolees to their tribal communities where family and community supports help parolees remain compliant. This joint supervision program has resulted in higher parole completion rates, fewer instances of absconding and culturally relevant support systems for parolees returning home.

Relations between the tribes and the State of South Dakota have improved over the last 27 years. It's normal to have diverse viewpoints and some disagreements, but we continue to move in a positive direction. That's cause for celebration this Native Americans' Day.

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Volleyball team goes 3 for 4 at Redfield Tourney

Groton Area lost the first match at the Redfield Tourney, losing to Northwestern in the first match, but then came back to beat Beresford, Belle Fourche and Waverly/South Shore. Payton Maine and Gia Gengerke were both named to the All-Tournament Team.

Groton Area 2, Beresford 1

Game Scores were 25-20, 25-27 and 25-23

Serving: 73 of 78 with 3 ace serves. Jessie Bjerke was 20 of 20. Jennie Doeden was 12 of 13 with one ace serve. Payton Maine was 10 of 10. Miranda Hanson was 15 of 18 with one ace serve. Tadyn Glover was eight of eight with one ace serve and Payton Colestock was eight of 9.

Hitting: 132 of 140 with 30 kills. Gia Gengerke was 25 of 27 with seven kills. Jessie Bjerke was 22 of 26 with one kill. Jennie Doeden was 47 of 52 with 17 kills. Nicole Marzahn was 26 of 32 with four kills. Payton Colestock was 12 of 13 with one kill.

Setting: 138 of 139 with 29 assists. Miranda Hanson was 120 of 120 with 27 assists. Payton Maine was nine of nine with one assist. Jessie Bjerke was four of five with one assist.

Digs: 95. Eliza Wanner had 25 digs, Payton Maine 18, Jessie Bjerke 16, Tadyn Glover 11, Miranda Hanson 8, Jennie Doeden 6, Payton Colestock 6, Nicole Marzahn 3, Gia Gengerke 2.

Blocks: Gia Gengerke 8 solo and 4 assists. Jennie Doeden 2 assists. Payton Maine 1 solo and 1 assist. Nicole Marzahn 1 assist. Payton Coleston 3 assists.

Groton Area 2, Belle Fourche 1

Game Scores were 25-22, 20-25 and 25-17.

Serving: 58 of 62 with 4 ace serves. Payton Colestock 16 of 18 with 3 ace serves. Jennie Doeden 11 of 11 with 1 ace. Jessie Bjerke was 10 of 11. Tadyn Glover and Payton Maine each were 9 of 9. Miranda Hanson was 14 of 16.

Hitting: 102 of 118 with 33 kills. Gia Gengerke 35 of 39 with 15 kills. Jennie Doeden 23 of 25 with 7 kills. Nicole Marzahn 18 of 23 with 5 kills. Payton Colestock 9 of 13 with 2 kills. Jessie Bjerke 8 of 9 with 3 kills. Payton Maine 5 of 5 with 1 kill. Miranda Hanson 4 of 4.

Sets: 95 with no errors. Miranda Hanson had 82 sets and 30 assists. Payton Maine had 4 attempts and 2 assists. Jennie Doeden had 4 attempts.

Digs: 59. Payton Maine 19, Miranda Hanson 11, Tadyn Glover 9, Jessie Bjerke 5, Jennie Doeden 4, Nicole Marzahn 4, Gia Gengerke 3, Eliza Wanner 2, Payton Colestock 2.

Blocks: Gia Gengerke 3 solo and 1 assist. Jennie Doeden 1 solo and Jessie Bjerke 1 assist.

Groton Area 2, Waverly/South Shore 1

Game Scores: 25-20, 24-26, 25-10

Servings: 70 of 74 with 4 ace serves. Jennie Doeden was 23 of 24 with 3 ace serves. Payton Maine was 13 of 15. Miranda Hanson was 8 of 9. Eliza Wanner was 8 of 8. Payton Coleston was 7 of 7 with 1 ace. Tadyn Glover was 6 of 6. Jessie Bjerke was 5 of 5.

Hitting: 93 of 101 with 35 kills. Gia Gengerke was 32 of 34 with 15 kills. Jennie Doeden was 27 of 30 with 10 kills. Payton Colestock was 18 of 18 with 6 kills. Nicole Marzahn was 9 of 12 with 1 kill. Jessie Bjerke was 6 of 6 with 2 kills. Miranda Hanson was 1 of 1 with 1 kill.

Serving: 88 with no errors. Miranda Hanson had 76 with 26 assists. Payton Maine had 5 with 1 assist. Tadyn Glover had 3. Eliza Wanner and Jessie Bjerke each had 2.

Digs: 48. Payton Maine 11, Miranda Hanson 8, Jessie Bjerke 7, Jennie Doeden 6, Tadyn Glover 5, Eliza Wanner 4, Payton Colestock 4, Gia Gengerke 2, Nicole Marzahn 1.

Blocks: Gia Gengerke 9 solo and 2 assist. Jennie Doeden 1 solo and 1 assist. Payton Colstock 2 assists and Nicole Marzahn 1 assist.

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Northwestern 2, Groton Area 0

Game Scores: 16-25, 12-25.

Serving: 29 of 32 with 1 ace serve. Jennie Doeden was 7 of 8. Miranda Hanson was 5 of 6 with 1 ace serve. Payton Colstock was 5 of 5. Jessie Bjerke was 3 of 3. Kaylin Kucker was 2 of 2. Payton Maine was 2 of 3. Eliza Wanner and Tadyn Glover were each 2 of 2.

Hitting: 63 of 70 with 6 kills. Eliza Wanner was 15 of 16. Jennie Doeden was 14 of 16 with 1 kill. Gia Gengerke was 13 of 13 with 2 kills. Jessie Bjerke was 9 of 11 with 1 kill. Nicole Marzahn was 6 of 7 with 2 kills. Payton Colestock was 6 of 7.

Sets: 62 of 64. Miranda Hanson was 38 of 40 with 2 assists. Kaylin Kucker was 14 of 14 with 4 assists. Payton Maine was 5 of 5 with 1 assist. Gia Gengerke, Jessica Bjerke and Nicole Marzahn each had 1.

Digs: 40. Payton Maine 9, Jennie Doeden 9, Eliza Wanner 5, Gia Gengerke, Jessie Bjerke and Miranda Hanson each had 4, Tadyn Glover and Payton Colstock each had 2 and Kaylin Kucker had 1.

Blocks: Jennie Doeden had 1 solo and Gia Gengerke and Jessie Bjerke each had 1 assist.

GFP Commission Proposes Fee Changes for State Parks

PIERRE, S.D. – Last week, the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission proposed changes to state park campground classifications, as well as some entrance and facility fees.

State Park Director Katie Ceroll said the changes reflect the increased demand for and use of the state's campgrounds and facilities.

The department recently reviewed campground occupancy rates, which are used to determine the classification of the campgrounds and the per night fees charged. Camping fees for each of the classifications will not change, Ceroll said, but fees at several parks would see a modest increase as they are moved into the correct category.

The proposal would establish the following campground classifications:

Basic campgrounds: Campgrounds without modern facilities. \$11 nightly per non-electric site; \$15 nightly per electric site.

Modern campgrounds: Less than 80% weekend occupancy during the summer; feature restrooms and showers. \$13 nightly per non-electric site; \$17 nightly per electric site. Includes 7 campgrounds.

Preferred campgrounds: 80-89% weekend occupancy during the summer; feature restrooms and showers. \$15 nightly per non-electric site; \$19 nightly per electric site. Includes 7 campgrounds.

Prime campgrounds: 90% or higher weekend occupancy during the summer; feature restrooms and showers. \$17 nightly per non-electric site; \$21 nightly per electric site. Includes 32 campgrounds.

Other fee changes proposed include:

Elimination of the per person daily entrance license. The \$6 per vehicle daily entrance license remains unchanged.

Camping cabin fee increase to \$45 in all parks except Custer, which will remain \$50 per night.

Campsites in French Creek Horse Camp in Custer State Park increase to \$31 per night.

Increase in some group lodging fees: Mina Lake and Shadehill to \$205 a night; and Lake Thompson, Palisades, Sheps Canyon, and Newton Hills to \$280 a night.

The proposal also calls for fee increases for the use of the following state park facilities:

Fort Sisseton South Barracks rental would increase to \$500.

Lewis and Clark catamaran dry slip summer storage would increase to \$325.

The Angostura catamaran dry slip summer storage would increase to \$175.

Details of the proposed changes can be viewed at <http://gfp.sd.gov/agency/commission/>.

The Commission will finalize this proposal Nov. 2-3, 2017, at the McCrory Gardens in Brookings. Written comments can be sent to wildinfo@state.sd.us. To be part of the public record, comments must be received by 12 p.m. CDT on Nov. 2. Please include a full name along with the city and state of residence. To comment in person, the public hearing will be held Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. CDT at McCrory Gardens in Brookings.

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GFP Commission Considers Two Petitions for Changes to Mountain Lion Rules

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission rejected one petition and accepted another petition requesting changes to the existing mountain lion season at their October meeting.

The first petition asked to remove the restrictions of the use of hounds on public land outside of the Black Hills Fire Protection District. After a thorough discussion, the GFP Commission accepted the petition as a proposal for expanded use of hounds to hunt mountain lions outside the Black Hills Fire Protection District. If adopted at the November GFP Commission meeting, the net result would allow the pursuit of mountain lions on other public lands open to hunting; including U.S. Forest Service lands. Hunts which include the use of hounds must still originate on private land.

The GFP Commission denied the second petition which was a request to remove the rule language that states hunters "must take the first legal lion treed" (in regards to the legal use of hounds while mountain lion hunting).

For more information on the petitions and proposal, please visit <http://gfp.sd.gov/agency/commission/default.aspx>.

The Commission will finalize this proposal Nov. 2-3, 2017, at the McCrory Gardens in Brookings. Written comments can be sent to wildinfo@state.sd.us. To be part of the public record, comments must be received by 12 p.m. CDT on Nov. 2. Please include a full name along with the city and state of residence. To comment in person, the public hearing will be held Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. CDT at McCrory Gardens in Brookings.

Additional Elk Hunting Opportunity Proposed for Custer State Park

PIERRE, S.D. – A proposal from the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission would increase the number of licenses available for a special Custer State Park antlerless elk hunting season from 20 to 60.

The proposal would also establish a new antlerless elk hunting unit for these additional antlerless elk licenses which allows GFP department officials to use adaptive management to learn more about the chronic wasting disease (CWD) infection rate of elk inside the park.

"Chronic wasting disease prevalence rates from the 2016 elk hunting season are a concern for both the short and long term status of the Black Hills elk population," stated Tony Leif, director of the Division of Wildlife. "This additional harvest will help us better understand prevalence rates, reduce numbers where elk congregate and provide additional information to construct season structures for the 2018 hunting season."

The Commission will finalize this proposal Nov. 2-3, 2017, at the McCrory Gardens in Brookings. Written comments can be sent to wildinfo@state.sd.us. To be part of the public record, comments must be received by 12 p.m. CDT on Nov. 2. Please include a full name along with the city and state of residence. To comment in person, the public hearing will be held Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. CDT at McCrory Gardens in Brookings.

Rules for Marking NonMeandered Waters Proposed

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission created a set of standards for landowners to follow when marking nonmeandered water over private property at their October meeting last week.

Newly adopted House Bill 1001 requires the Department to establish specific standards for markers used to indicate closure of nonmeandered waters to recreational use. The Commission proposed the following rules:

Nonmeandered water closures shall be marked with buoys or Department-supplied signs.

Signs and buoys must be placed no further apart than 660 feet.

Signs and buoys shall be installed so they are conspicuous.

Buoys shall be of polyform design.

Buoys shall be red with contrasting 3 inch minimum letters stating: "Closed".

Buoy size shall be a diameter of not less than 14.5 inches and a length of not less than 19.5 inches.

Signs and buoys are to be installed, removed and maintained by the owner or their designee of the

private property.

View an image of these markers [here](#).

Any landowner who wishes to close the water overlying their flooded land on a nonmeandered water body must mark the water as closed to recreational use and notify the Department within a reasonable time of doing so. Any landowner who wishes to restrict access on a Section 8 nonmeandered lake must petition the GFP Commission to request such closure. To learn more about this process, please visit <http://gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/petition-form.aspx>.

The Commission will finalize this proposal Nov. 2-3, 2017, at the McCrory Gardens in Brookings. Written comments can be sent to wildinfo@state.sd.us. To be part of the public record, comments must be received by 12 p.m. CDT on Nov. 2. Please include a full name along with the city and state of residence. To comment in person, the public hearing will be held Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. CDT at McCrory Gardens in Brookings.

GFP Commission Proposes an Aerial Hunting Rule Modification

PIERRE, S.D. – Nonresident pilots may be able to obtain an aerial hunting permit from the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) if a Commission proposal is approved in November.

"Landowners who desire additional predator control efforts on their property may be able to use non-resident pilots to assist with those efforts when necessary. There are times when some landowners desire additional predator control efforts, above and beyond what GFP and the federal USDA-Wildlife Services can provide. Because of these situations, a rule change was requested," stated Keith Fisk, wildlife damage management program administrator.

Currently, GFP administrative rule allows for only residents to obtain an aerial hunting permit.

The Commission will finalize this proposal Nov. 2-3, 2017, at the McCrory Gardens in Brookings. Written comments can be sent to wildinfo@state.sd.us. To be part of the public record, comments must be received by 12 p.m. CDT on Nov. 2. Please include a full name along with the city and state of residence. To comment in person, the public hearing will be held Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. CDT at McCrory Gardens in Brookings.

Bighorn Sheep Hunting Season Proposed for 2018 and 2019

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission proposed a rule adjustment which would allocate no more than five bighorn sheep licenses for both the 2018 and 2019 hunting seasons.

The proposed seasons would run Sept. 1 – Dec. 31 respectively. The proposal also removes language in administrative rule depicting the license type and number of licenses from each hunting unit.

By rule, if there is a minimum of three total bighorn sheep licenses, one of the licenses shall be an auction "ram bighorn sheep" license.

The Commission will finalize this proposal Nov. 2-3, 2017, at the McCrory Gardens in Brookings. Written comments can be sent to wildinfo@state.sd.us. To be part of the public record, comments must be received by 12 p.m. CDT on Nov. 2. Please include a full name along with the city and state of residence. To comment in person, the public hearing will be held Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. CDT at McCrory Gardens in Brookings.

GFP Commission Proposes Modifications to Bait Rules

PIERRE, S.D. – A rule proposal by the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission would require all bait dealers to list employees/agents on their application who will engage in trapping, transporting, delivering, raising, or seining bait and allow the Department to refuse the issuance of a license to a bait dealer with an employee/agent who has received a suspension or revocation of their bait dealer license.

The Commission will finalize this proposal Nov. 2-3, 2017, at the McCrory Gardens in Brookings. Written comments can be sent to wildinfo@state.sd.us. To be part of the public record, comments must be received by 12 p.m. CDT on Nov. 2. Please include a full name along with the city and state of residence. To comment in person, the public hearing will be held Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. CDT at McCrory Gardens in Brookings.

GFP Commission Proposes the Removal of Walleye Length Limit on Lake Poinsett

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission proposed to remove the 15-inch minimum size restriction for walleye on Lake Poinsett at their October meeting.

The Lake Poinsett walleye population has a large year class present. Fish growth is slow and walleyes are succumbing to natural mortality prior to attaining 15-inches in length and being available for anglers to harvest.

On Oct. 11, the Department will host a public meeting to provide information regarding the Lake Poinsett fishery and to gather public input regarding the potential regulation removal. The meeting will be held at the Methodist Camp Retreat Center on Lake Poinsett at 6:30 p.m.

For more information on this meeting, contact Mark Ermer at 605.345.3381.

The Commission will finalize this proposal Nov. 2-3, 2017, at the McCrory Gardens in Brookings. Written comments can be sent to wildinfo@state.sd.us. To be part of the public record, comments must be received by 12 p.m. CDT on Nov. 2. Please include a full name along with the city and state of residence. To comment in person, the public hearing will be held Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. CDT at McCrory Gardens in Brookings.

GFP Commission Updates Name Changes to the Threatened and Endangered Species List

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission proposed to change the scientific names of four fish and animal species on the state threatened and endangered lists. These changes were proposed due to taxonomic name changes within the scientific community.

The birds and fish changes are as follows:

Interior Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum athalassos*) to Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*)

Finescale dace (*Phoxinus neogaeus*) to Finescale dace (*Chrosomus neogaeus*)

Northern redbelly dace (*Phounus eos*) to Northern redbelly dace (*Chrosomus eos*)

Pearl dace (*Marariscus margarita*) to Northern pearl dace (*Margariscus nachtriebi*)

The Commission will finalize this proposal Nov. 2-3, 2017, at the McCrory Gardens in Brookings. Written comments can be sent to wildinfo@state.sd.us. To be part of the public record, comments must be received by 12 p.m. CDT on Nov. 2. Please include a full name along with the city and state of residence. To comment in person, the public hearing will be held Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. CDT at McCrory Gardens in Brookings.

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Today in Weather History

October 8, 1982: October 8th and 9th, 1982 a record-breaking snowstorm (at that time) for so early in the Fall paralyzed the northern Black Hills with three to six feet of heavy, wet snow and winds of 40 to 70 miles an hour. Some snowfall amounts included 41 inches at Galena, 36 inches at Lead, and 23 inches at Deadwood. Five to six feet of snow was typical in the higher elevations. The heavy wet snow caused numerous problems. The roof of a clothing store in Lead collapsed under the weight of the snow, and several other businesses were damaged.

The roofs of at least three trailer homes also collapsed. The combination of high winds and heavy snow broke tree branches (causing extensive timber damage), power lines and telephone poles. Damage was done to 40 miles of power lines, including 30 broken power poles. Some residents were without power for five days. The city of Deadwood was without electricity and fresh water for at least three days.

1871: The Great Chicago Fire burns much of the city to the ground, fanned by strong southwest winds. An estimated 250 were killed. On the same night, forest fires swept through Peshtigo, Wisconsin. An estimated 1,500 to possibly as many as 2,500 died as gale-force winds push flames across town. Severe drought blamed for tinder-dry conditions. An additional 200 died in Michigan fires.

1901 - A deluge at Galveston, TX, produced nearly twelve inches of rain in about a six hour period. The rains came precisely thirteen months after the day of the famous Galveston hurricane disaster. (David Ludlum)

1919: An intense tornado moved through the town of Hoisington, 11 miles north of Great Bend, Kansas. It damaged or destroyed 60 homes which resulted in \$200,000 in damages. Business papers and canceled checks were found at Lincoln, 55 miles to the northeast.

1982 - An unusually early snowstorm hit the northern Black Hills of Wyoming and South Dakota. The storm produced up to 54 inches of snow, and winds as high as 70 mph. The snowfall was very much dependent upon topography. Rapid City, 20 miles away, received just a trace of snow. (The Weather Channel)








1987 - Unseasonably cold weather prevailed from the Upper Mississippi Valley to the southeastern U.S. Thirty cities reported record low temperatures for the date, including Madison WI with a reading of 22 degrees. The low of 28 degrees at Evansville IN was the coolest of record for so early in the season. Hot weather continued in the southwestern U.S. Phoenix AZ reported a record high of 104 degrees and a record tying 116 days of 100 degree weather for the year. Tucson AZ established an all-time record with 72 days of 100 degree weather for the year. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Snow was reported across parts of northern New England. Two inches blanketed Mount Snow VT. Warm weather continued in the northwestern U.S. The afternoon high of 80 degrees at Stampede Pass WA exceeded their previous record for October by seven degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Morning lows in the 20s were reported from the Northern Plains to the Upper Great Lakes. International Falls MN and Marquette MI reported record lows of 22 degrees. Unseasonably warm weather prevailed in central California as the Oakland Athletics won the American League pennant. San Luis Obispo CA reported a high of 99 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

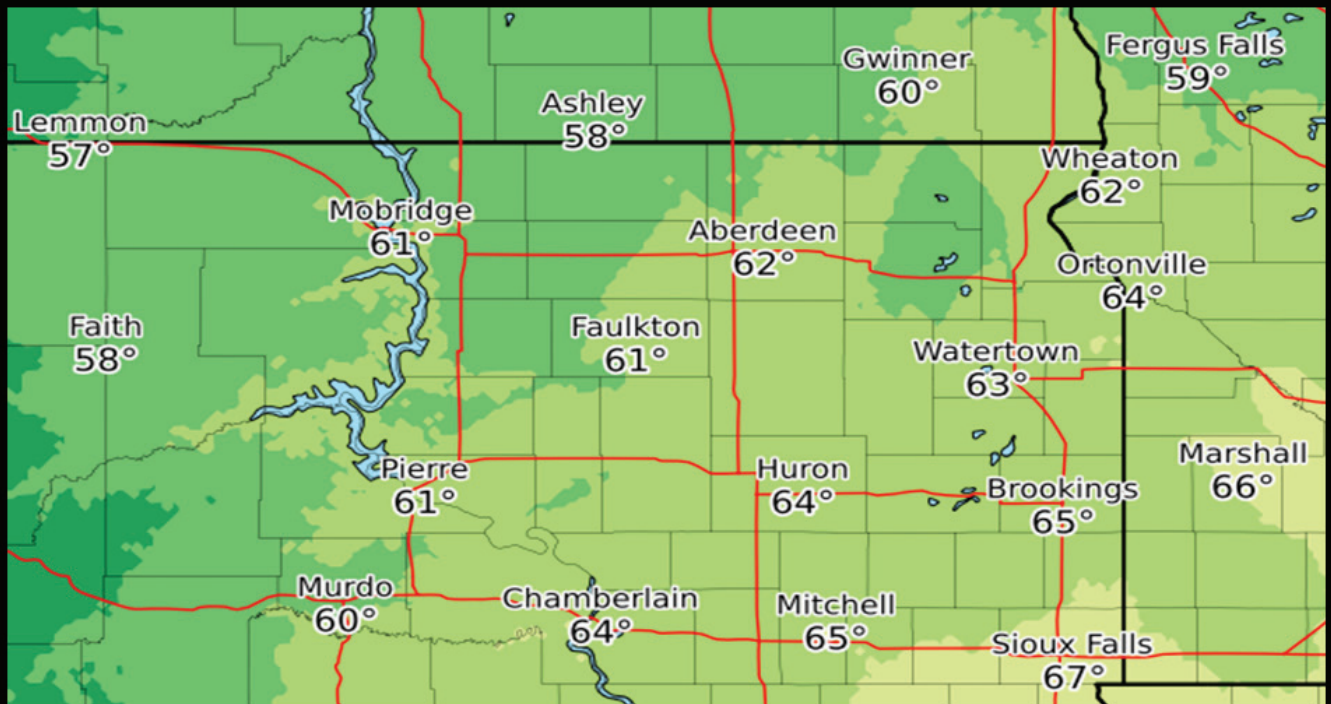
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Today	Tonight	Columbus Day	Monday Night	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday
						
Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Clear then Frost	Frost then Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny
High: 63 °F	Low: 40 °F	High: 51 °F	Low: 26 °F	High: 58 °F	Low: 34 °F	High: 63 °F

Cool Today – Chilly Tonight

Cold Monday – Hard Freeze Monday Night



National Weather Service – Aberdeen, South Dakota

www.weather.gov/abr



NWSAberdeen



@NWSAberdeen



Created: 10/8/2017 4:34 AM

Published on: 10/08/2017 at 4:37AM

Temperatures will top out around 60 today with mainly mid and high clouds. Cold air continues to filter into the area tonight and into Monday with sub freezing temperatures for Tuesday morning.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 75.5 at 3:41 PM

Low Outside Temp: 38.6 at 4:58 AM

High Gust: 17 mph at 2:55 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 87° in 1936

Record Low: 9° in 1895

Average High: 62°F

Average Low: 36°F

Average Precip in Oct: 1.58

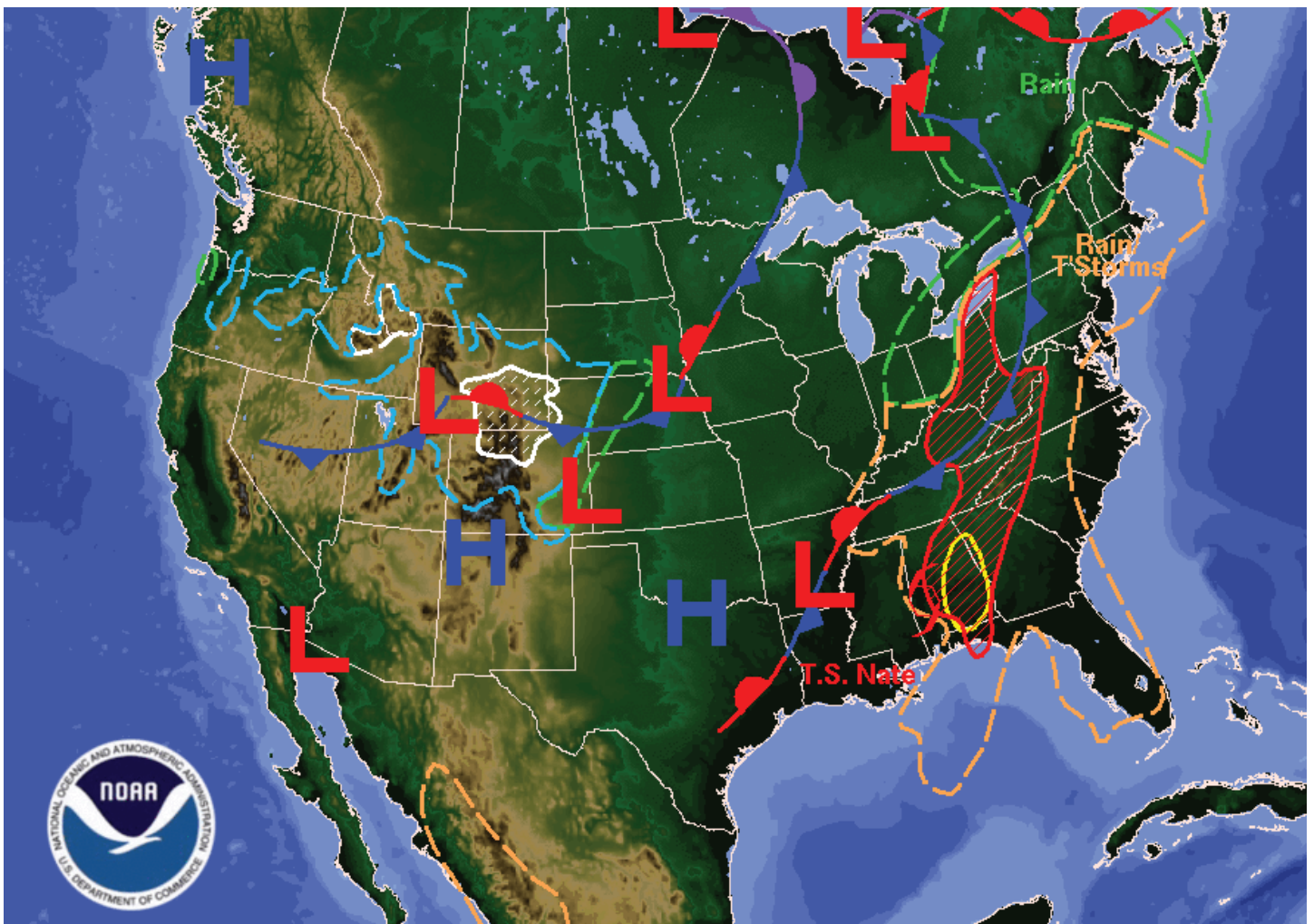
Precip to date in Oct: 0.19

Average Precip to date: 19.08

Precip Year to Date: 13.28

Sunset Tonight: 7:00 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:42 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Oct 08, 2017, issued 4:46 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Tate 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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GIVE IT UP!

Years ago an elderly lady boarded a train for the very first time in her life. As she sat comfortably in her seat, she continued to clutch her small suitcase tightly, fearing something might happen to it.

As the train left the depot a conductor came to her and said, "Madam, if you'll allow me I'll place your suitcase under your seat so it won't burden you down. The train is perfectly capable of carrying you and your baggage."

"Oh, no," she objected. "I want to take care of my baggage by myself."

Many of us are like that gracious, yet frightened, elderly lady. We want to take care of our "baggage" by ourselves.

In the most loving and encouraging way David advised us to "Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous fall!" The word "care" in Hebrew means "what is given to you in life, your lot." And the word "sustain" means that He will "support and nourish" us.

When we throw our "lot" – or ourselves and all of our problems – on the Lord, He will not only hold us up and "sustain" us but he will "never let us fall!"

David was nearly destroyed by men who were out to get him and kill him. But it did not happen. He took all of his pain and problems, his attackers and adversaries, his sins and short comings to the Lord and God upheld him and stabilized him and saved him! He'll do the same for you!

Prayer: Thank You, Lord, for the example You gave us in David. Give us a faith like his that we may not fail. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 55:22 Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.

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2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- 11/18/2017-3/31/2018 Groton Lion's Club Wheel of Meal- Saturday Nights 7pm at the Groton Legion (Fall/Winter Months)
- 1/28/2018 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 3/24/2018 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 5/5/2018 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/28/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery, Lunch to follow at the American Legion (Memorial Day)
- 6/14/2018 Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- 6/15/2018 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
- 6/16/2018 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 7/4/2018 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 7/22/2018 Summer Fest (4th Sunday in July)
- 9/8/2018 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/6/2018 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/12/2018 Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)

- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events

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News from the  Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) _ These South Dakota lotteries were drawn Saturday:

Dakota Cash
11-16-17-30-32
(eleven, sixteen, seventeen, thirty, thirty-two)
Estimated jackpot: \$44,000

Hot Lotto
13-19-20-38-39, Hot Ball: 9
(thirteen, nineteen, twenty, thirty-eight, thirty-nine; Hot Ball: nine)
Estimated jackpot: \$11.37 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$36 million

Powerball
10-49-61-63-65, Powerball: 7, Power Play: 2
(ten, forty-nine, sixty-one, sixty-three, sixty-five; Powerball: seven; Power Play: two)
Estimated jackpot: \$112 million

South Dakota State roughs up Southern Illinois 49-14

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Taryn Christion threw four first-half touchdown passes, Brady Mengarelli rushed for 220 yards and two scores and South Dakota State overpowered Southern Illinois 49-14 on Saturday.

Christion connected with Marquise Lewis for a 10-yard score and Skyler Cavanaugh from 16 yards out for a 14-0 lead. Mikey Daniel's 4-yard TD run put the Jackrabbits (4-1, 1-1 Missouri Valley) up 21-0.

Mengarelli scored on runs of 28 and 32 yards for the Jackrabbits, who have outscored opponents 58-7 in the first quarter this season.

Christion added scoring passes of 23 yards to Lewis and 1 yard to Jake Wieneke to give SDSU a 35-0 halftime lead and five touchdowns in its first five possessions. It was Wieneke's 50th career TD catch, moving him into a four-way tie for fourth place in FCS history.

The Salukis (2-3, 0-2) got on the scoreboard in the third quarter on Sam Straub's 6-yard scoring run to cut the lead to 35-7. Straub added a 39-yard scoring strike to Leonard Raphael in the fourth quarter.

More AP college football: <http://collegefootball.ap.org> and http://www.twitter.com/AP_Top25

Saturday's Scores

By The Associated Press

PREP FOOTBALL

Elkton-Lake Benton 24, Dell Rapids St. Mary 14

Yankton 48, Sturgis 7

___ Some high school football scores provided by Scorestream.com, <https://scorestream.com/>

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Saturday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Lemmon def. Tiospaye Topa, 25-2, 25-10, 25-18

Leola/Frederick def. Waubay/Summit, 25-16, 25-17, 21-25, 25-23

Mitchell def. Brookings, 28-26, 25-19, 25-13

Oelrichs def. Takini, 25-20, 25-18, 25-10

Oldham-Ramona/Rutland def. Flandreau Indian, 25-19, 25-8, 25-17

Beach Tournament

Pool Play

Pool B

Alexander, N.D. def. Bison, 20-16, 14-20

Beach, N.D. def. Bison, 20-5, 20-6

First Round

Bowman County, N.D. def. Bison, 25-15, 25-7

Chester Challenge

Arlington def. West Central, 25-20, 25-21, 16-25, 23-25, 15-13

Elkton-Lake Benton def. Winner, 25-17, 23-25, 25-19, 25-13

Fargo "Scheels" Invitational

Gold Tournament

Quarterfinal

Sioux Falls Washington def. Devils Lake, N.D., 25-13, 25-15

Semifinal

Fargo Shanley, N.D. def. Sioux Falls Washington, 25-10, 25-20

Third Place

Bismarck Century, N.D. def. Sioux Falls Washington, 31-29, 23-25, 15-12

Silver Tournament

Quarterfinal

Sioux Falls Lincoln def. Central Cass, N.D., 30-28, 14-25, 15-12

Semifinal

Sioux Falls Lincoln def. Minot, N.D., 25-18, 22-25, 15-8

Championship

Sheyenne, N.D. def. Sioux Falls Lincoln, 23-25, 25-13, 17-15

Redfield-Doland Tournament

Pool Play

Pool A

Groton Area def. Waverly-South Shore, 25-20, 24-26, 25-10

Northwestern def. Waverly-South Shore, 25-21, 25-17

Northwestern def. Groton Area, 25-16, 25-12

Pool B

Belle Fourche def. Wolsey-Wessington, 25-20, 25-12

Redfield/Doland def. Wolsey-Wessington, 25-8, 25-14

Redfield/Doland def. Belle Fourche, 25-18, 25-19

Pool C

Beresford def. Webster, 25-18, 17-25, 25-18

Miller def. Webster, 25-15, 25-6

Miller def. Beresford, 25-22, 25-17

Second Round

Gold Pool

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Northwestern def. Redfield/Doland, 25-11, 25-11
Northwestern def. Miller, 25-16, 25-15
Redfield/Doland def. Miller, 25-22, 25-21
Silver Pool
Beresford def. Belle Fourche, 25-22, 25-18
Groton Area def. Belle Fourche, 25-22, 20-25, 25-17
Groton Area def. Beresford, 25-20, 25-27, 25-23
Bronze Pool
Waverly-South Shore def. Wolsey-Wessington, 17-25, 25-15, 25-20
Waverly-South Shore def. Webster, 25-14, 24-26, 25-22
Webster def. Wolsey-Wessington, 25-12, 25-22

Weese FG gives S Dakota first win over Youngstown St, 31-28

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Ryan Weese kicked a 29-yard field goal with seven seconds remaining and South Dakota beat Youngstown State for the first time 31-28 on Saturday.

The winning drive for the Coyotes (5-0, 2-0 Missouri Valley Conference) was set up when Taylor Lambert sacked Youngstown State's Nathan Mays at the Penguins' 5-yard line on a third-and-13 pass attempt. The Coyotes took over on their own 47 and Chris Streveler used eight plays to drive his team 41 yards for the winning kick. South Dakota was 0-5 all-time against the Penguins (3-2, 1-1).

Streveler finished with 360 yards and three touchdowns on 21-of-35 passing. Streveler also led the Coyotes in rushing with 73 yards on 16 carries.

South Dakota is 5-0 for the first time since 2005.

Tevin McCaster, who leads the MVC in rushing yards per game at 111, piled up 94 yards on 22 carries and scored all four TDs for Youngstown State. Nathan Mays, filling in for injured QB Hunter Wells, completed 12 of 25 passes for 153 yards. He was sacked six times.

More AP college football: <http://collegefootball.ap.org> and http://www.twitter.com/AP_Top25

Sioux Falls renter increase to outpace rest of US

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Projections show the number of apartment-dwelling households in the Sioux Falls area will increase at a greater rate than the rest of the United States.

High demand for workers continues to draw more people to move to the city, the Argus Leader reported. Recent U.S. Census Bureau data said nearly one-third of Sioux Falls residents are now renters.

Some neighborhoods have combined forces to try to halt progress on plans for larger-scale apartment buildings. The Oakview Neighborhood Association recently attempted unsuccessfully to prevent a rezone of a nearby urban farmstead.

Neighbors of Lacy Estate asked City Council to understand their concerns about the effects a large-scale apartment building would have on traffic and density. But council members still voted for the building.

"Because of the way that we're growing, how quickly we're growing, we have a need for multifamily housing," said Greg Neitzert, a councilman.

Permits filed with City Hall every year show significant increases in multifamily housing construction. City Planner Mike Cooper predicts the trend will slow for 2017, but his staff still expects serious long-term growth.

"Our employment growth, which drives population growth, which is what drives demand for housing," he said.

The trend is nationwide as younger families prefer the mobility and financial freedom of renting. The U.S. is expected to see large increases in the number of renters in the next couple of decades, according to a report from the National Multifamily Housing Council and the National Apartment Association.

But the increase in Sioux Falls renters is expected to be even more significant than the rest of the U.S.

Cooper said the city could see a 60 percent increase in the number of apartments by 2040.

"Sioux Falls is not unique," he said. "Municipalities throughout the country are always dealing with land-use debates about higher density development."

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

New species of trout to catch in South Dakota

SPEARFISH, S.D. (AP) — Several Black Hills streams have a new species of fish for anglers to catch, but where the cutthroat trout came from is a mystery.

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks officials have found small numbers of Snake River cutthroat trout recently during sampling, the Black Hills Pioneer reported.

Jake Davis is an area fisheries supervisor with the state Game, Fish and Parks. He said fisheries crews have encountered cutthroat trout in Spearfish, Whitewood and the north fork of Rapid creeks.

Davis says it's not known where the fish came from.

"They aren't stocked by the state of South Dakota," Davis said. "There are cases where we have allowed a private individual to stock fish."

He said those people are required to have a permit as well as a clean fish health report.

Two stockings of cutthroat trout have been permitted in the state so far this year. Both were by the same hatchery.

Mike Clark owns Clark Trout Farm located in Wyoming. Clark said he stocked Snake River cutthroat trout in the Deerfield Park subdivision area, which feeds into Deerfield Reservoir and eventually the north fork of Rapid Creek.

Clark also previously stocked a private pond near Mattson Lane, outside of Deadwood. He said a strong rainstorm washed out the dam of that pond as well as the fish. It's possible they ended up in Whitewood Creek.

In its display ponds, D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives has the same strain of cutthroat — some of which may have escaped while cleaning screens.

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

Nate makes 2nd landfall outside Biloxi, Mississippi

By JANET McCONNAUGHEY, MELINDA DESLATTÉ and JEFF AMY, Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Hurricane Nate brought flooding and power outages to the Gulf Coast as it sloshed ashore outside Biloxi early Sunday, the first hurricane to make landfall in Mississippi since Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

The storm hit the state with maximum sustained winds near 85 mph (140 kph) but weakened later to a tropical storm as it moved inland, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said.

As of 5 a.m. EDT, Nate was centered about 80 miles (130 kilometers) north-northeast of Biloxi and moving north-northeast near 23 mph (37 kph).

At one point, Nate's eye moved over Keesler Air Force Base, where the National Hurricane Center's hurricane hunter planes are kept, the center said.

It was Nate's second landfall. Saturday night, the storm came ashore along a sparsely populated area in southeast Louisiana.

Nate's powerful winds pushed water onto roads and its winds knocked out power to homes and business. But Nate didn't have the intensity of other storms — Harvey, Irma and Jose — had during this busy hurricane season, and people didn't seem as threatened by it. No deaths or injuries were immediately reported.

As the midnight high tide approached in Biloxi, Nate's storm surge pushed over the beachfront highway of U.S. 90 onto the peninsula that makes up the city's eastern edge. It flooded the parking structure of the Golden Nugget casino, which is closest to the peninsula's tip. Water kept going several blocks deep

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into the area.

"It kind of surprised us," Mike Kovacevich, who lives two blocks north of U.S. 90, told Biloxi officials on their Facebook page. "We didn't expect to be this deep. It come in pretty good — a lot of water."

Pascagoula also reported that storm surge flooded downtown streets in that coastal city.

Thousands were without power in southern Mississippi. Outages were mostly concentrated on the eastern half of the state's narrow coastal strip, in Harrison, Jackson and George counties.

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency spokesman Greg Flynn said there were no immediate reports of storm-related deaths or injuries in the state. Roughly 1,100 people spent the night in shelters, according to Flynn, but he said he had not heard any reports of widespread damage to homes.

"Thankfully, right now we have no major damage reports," he said.

In Alabama, the storm's rising water flooded homes and cars on the coast and inundated at least one major thoroughfare in downtown Mobile.

Dauphin Island Mayor Jeff Collier said he woke up around 3 a.m. Sunday to discover knee-deep water in his yard. Although some homes and cars on the island had flooded, Collier said he hadn't heard of any reports of residents needing to be rescued from the floodwaters. Collier also said the water levels appeared to be falling as dawn approached.

Storm surge also flooded Water Street in downtown Mobile and a ground-level causeway across Mobile Bay. Alabama Department of Transportation traffic cameras show water still standing on both those routes before dawn Sunday.

Hurricane Katrina made its final landfall on the Mississippi coast on Aug. 29, 2005, leveling many cities and buckling bridges. Casino barges were pushed into homes.

Katrina was the last hurricane that made a landfall on the Mississippi coast, although both Hurricane Gustav in 2008 and Hurricane Isaac in 2012 affected parts of the coast.

Nate passed to the east of New Orleans, sparing the city its most ferocious winds and storm surge. Its quick speed lessened the likelihood of prolonged rain that would tax the city's weakened drainage pump system. The city famous for all-night partying was placed under a curfew, effective at 7 p.m., but the mayor lifted it about an hour after it had begun when it appeared the storm would pass by and cause little problem for the city.

Still, the streets were not nearly as crowded as they typically are on a Saturday night and Mayor Mitch Landrieu asked people to shelter in place.

Some bars were closed in the French Quarter but music blasted from others.

Nate weakened slightly and was a Category 1 storm with maximum winds of 85 mph (137 kph) when it made its first landfall in a sparsely populated area of Plaquemines (PLAK'-uh-minz) Parish.

Governors in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama declared states of emergency. The three states have been mostly spared during this hectic hurricane season.

"This is the worst hurricane that has impacted Mississippi since Hurricane Katrina," Mississippi Emergency Management Director Lee Smithson said Saturday. "Everyone needs to understand that, that this is a significantly dangerous situation."

Officials rescued five people from two sailboats in choppy waters before the storm. One 41-foot sailboat lost its engine in Lake Pontchartrain and two sailors were saved. Another boat hit rocks in the Mississippi Sound and three people had to be plucked from the water.

Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards urged residents to make final preparations quickly.

"It's going to hit and move through our area at a relatively fast rate, limiting the amount of time it's going to drop rain," Edwards said. "But this is a very dangerous storm nonetheless."

Some people worried about New Orleans' pumping system, which had problems during a heavy thunderstorm on Aug. 5. The deluge exposed system weaknesses - including the failure of some pumps and power-generating turbines - and caused homes and businesses to flood. Repairs have been made but the system remained below maximum pumping capacity.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott warned residents of the Panhandle to prepare for Nate's impact.

"Hurricane Nate is expected to bring life-threatening storm surges, strong winds and tornados that

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could reach across the Panhandle," Scott said. The evacuations affect roughly 100,000 residents in the western Panhandle.

The Pensacola International Airport announced it was closing at 6 p.m. Saturday and remain closed Sunday. However, the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport was open Saturday.

Nate killed at least 21 people in Central America.

Associated Press writer Kim Chandler in Alabama and Kevin McGill in New Orleans, and AP photographer Gerald Herbert in Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, contributed to this report.

Jason Aldean pays tribute to Vegas victims, Petty on 'SNL'

NEW YORK (AP) — Country star Jason Aldean took the stage on "Saturday Night Live," paying tribute to the victims of the Las Vegas massacre and to the late rocker Tom Petty.

Aldean performed Petty's "I Won't Back Down" during the live opening Saturday night and then introduced the show.

"This week we witnessed one of the worst tragedies in American history," he said. "So many people are hurting. You can be sure that we are going to walk through these tough times together every step of the way."

Aldean was performing at an outdoor concert in Las Vegas last Sunday night when a gunman sprayed bullets into the crowd from a high-rise hotel, killing 58 people and injuring nearly 500.

Petty died Monday in Los Angeles at age 66 after suffering cardiac arrest.

Thousands rally in Barcelona against Catalonia's secession

By JOSEPH WILSON, Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Thousands of people were rallying Sunday in downtown Barcelona to protest the Catalan government's push for secession from the rest of Spain.

Many in the crowd gathered in a central square carried Spanish and Catalan flags. Some chanted "Don't be fooled, Catalonia is Spain" and called for Catalan president Carles Puigdemont to go to prison.

Sunday's rally comes a week after Puigdemont and other separatist leaders of the Catalan government held a referendum on secession that Spain's top court had suspended and the Spanish government said was illegal.

The "Yes" side won the referendum with 90 percent of the vote, though less than half of the region's electorate voted. Puigdemont has pledged to push ahead for independence anyway and is set to address the regional parliament on Tuesday "to report on the current political situation."

Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy vows that his government will not allow Catalonia to break away from the rest of the country.

In an interview with the Spanish newspaper El Pais published Sunday, Rajoy said that he will consider employing any measure "allowed by the law" to stop the region's separatists.

Rajoy said that includes the application of Article 155 of the Spanish Constitution, which would allow the central government to take control of the governance of a region "if the regional government does not comply with the obligations of the Constitution."

"The ideal situation would be that I don't have to find drastic solutions, but for that to happen there will have to be some rectifications (by Catalan leaders)," Rajoy said.

Large rallies were held Saturday in Madrid, Barcelona and other cities to demand that Rajoy and Puigdemont negotiate to find a solution to Spain's worst political crisis in nearly four decades.

Pro-union forces are hoping to gather more steam with Sunday's protest in Barcelona after a series of large businesses, including Catalonia's top two banks, announced they were relocating their headquarters to other parts of Spain. Other companies are reportedly considering leaving Catalonia to avoid being cast out of the European Union and its common market in the case of secession.

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"I hope that nothing will happen. Because (Catalonia) is going to lose more than (Spain) because businesses are fleeing from here already," said protestor Juliana Prats, a Barcelona resident. "I hope it will remain like it has been up until now, 40 years of peace."

Nobel Literature Prize laureate Mario Vargas Llosa and former president of the European Parliament Josep Borrell are expected to address Sunday's rally, organized by the pro-union grassroots group Societat Civil Catalana.

The most recent polls taken before the referendum showed that Catalonia's 7.5 million residents were roughly split over secession.

Big Tech has big plans to help reconnect Puerto Rico

By MATT O'BRIEN, AP Technology Writer

Facebook and Google once aimed to connect the world. Now they would be happy just to reconnect part of it.

In the wake of Hurricane Maria, Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg pledged to send a "connectivity team" to help restore communications in ravaged Puerto Rico. Google parent company Alphabet offered to send its Wi-Fi balloons. They were among several tech companies proposing disaster response ideas, most aimed at getting phone and internet service up and running.

Some of these plans, of course, are more aspirational than others.

BATTERY POWER

Tesla CEO Elon Musk often takes to Twitter to mull over ideas, but on Friday his musings about sending his company's solar-powered batteries to help restore Puerto Rico's power attracted the attention of the island's governor.

"Let's talk," said Gov. Ricardo Rossello in a Friday tweet .

Musk agreed. Hours later, he announced he was delaying the unveiling of Tesla's new semi-truck and diverting resources, in part to "increase battery production for Puerto Rico and other affected areas."

The need for help in restoring power and communication after Hurricane Maria is great: The Puerto Rican energy authority reported Saturday that about 88 percent of the island is still without power. The Federal Communications Commission said Saturday that 82 percent of cell sites remain out in Puerto Rico; 58 percent are out of service in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The FCC's daily status report also shows significant wireline, TV and radio outages remain in both U.S. territories. The agency formed a task force this week and approved an advance of \$77 million to support carriers working to restore telecommunications services.

VAGUE PROMISES

But many offers of help from big companies remain somewhat vague. Google parent company Alphabet has proposed launching balloons over the island to bring Wi-Fi service to hard-to-reach places, as it has in other parts of the world.

The FCC announced Saturday that it's approved an experimental license for Project Loon to operate in Puerto Rico. But that doesn't mean it will be able to get them in the air anytime soon.

"We're grateful for the support of the FCC and the Puerto Rican authorities as we work hard to see if it's possible to use Loon balloons to bring emergency connectivity to the island during this time of need," said Libby Leahy, a spokesman for Alphabet's X division.

But there are limitations, she said Saturday.

"To deliver signal to people's devices, Loon needs to be integrated with a telco partner's network — the balloons can't do it alone," she said, adding that the company is "making solid progress on this next step."

COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

Cisco Systems has sent a tactical team and says it is working with local government, emergency responders and service providers to facilitate restoration and recovery efforts. The company, along with Microsoft and others, backs the NetHope consortium, which specializes in setting up post-disaster communication networks and has field teams now operating in Puerto Rico and several other Caribbean islands.

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"Communication is critical during a disaster," Zuckerberg said after the hurricane hit, announcing that employees from his company's connectivity team — the same group working to build high-altitude drones that can beam internet service down to Earth — were heading to Puerto Rico. But with its aircraft still in the testing phase, the company said Friday that the engineers it's sent to Puerto Rico are focused on providing support to NetHope's teams.

SMALLER ORGANIZATIONS

Much of the ground work is being spearheaded by nonprofit organizations and small firms with expertise in rural or emergency communications.

Lexington, Massachusetts-based Vanu Inc., which sets up wireless communications networks in rural parts of the United States, Africa and India, is sending dozens of its small, solar-powered cellular base stations to volunteer crews on the ground in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Aid workers are pairing Vanu's devices with other technology, such as inflatable satellite antennas.

After setting up a network on the island of Vieques, off the main island of Puerto Rico, one team watched from a roof as local residents started getting text alerts from family members who had been trying to get in touch.

"They noticed everyone in the plaza pulling their phones out," said CEO Vanu Bose. "You don't have to announce you've lit up coverage. People know right away."

Trump reaches out to Democrats in bid for 'great' health law

By KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Trying to revive health care talks, President Donald Trump said Saturday that he had spoken to the Senate's Democratic leader to gauge whether the minority party was interested in helping pass "great" health legislation.

The answer back: Democrats are willing to hear his ideas, but scrapping the Obama health law is a nonstarter.

Trump's latest overture to Democrats followed GOP failures so far to fulfill the party's yearslong promise to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. In spite of controlling the White House and Congress since January, Republicans have not passed the legislation.

The president tweeted that he called New York Sen. Chuck Schumer on Friday to discuss the 2010 law known as "Obamacare," which Trump said "is badly broken, big premiums. Who knows!" Trump said he wanted "to see if the Dems want to do a great HealthCare Bill."

In remarks Saturday evening on the South Lawn before a trip to North Carolina, Trump said he was willing to consider "a temporary deal." What that might involve was not clear, but Trump referred to a popular GOP proposal that would have the federal government turn over money for health care directly to states in the form of block grants.

"If we could do a one-year deal or a two-year deal as a temporary measure, you'll have block granting ultimately to the states, which is what the Republicans want. That really is a repeal and replace," he said. In an interview taped earlier this week and aired Saturday night on Trinity Broadcasting Network, the president assured host Mike Huckabee that "we'll have health care before the election."

Schumer said through a spokesman Saturday that Trump "wanted to make another run at repeal and replace and I told the president that's off the table." Schumer said if Trump "wants to work together to improve the existing health care system, we Democrats are open to his suggestions."

Trump has suggested before that he would be open to negotiating with Democrats on health care, but there have been no clear signs of a compromise between Republicans who have sought to scrap President Barack Obama's law and Democrats who want to protect it.

Schumer said a starting point could be negotiations led by Sens. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn., and Patty Murray, D-Wash., who have been discussing a limited bipartisan deal to stabilize state-level markets for individual health insurance policies. People covered under the health law represent about half of those who purchase individual policies.

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Trump irritated GOP leaders in Congress when he reached a deal with Schumer and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., on a spending bill and the debt ceiling. The president has referred to those two Democrats as "Chuck and Nancy."

But the Trump administration announced Friday that it would allow more employers to opt out of no-cost birth control to women by claiming religious or moral objections. The move was one more attempt to roll back Obama's health overhaul, prompting Democrats to question whether Trump is committed to avoiding sabotaging the law.

Trump floated the potential talks as he approved an emergency declaration for a large part of Louisiana and ordered federal assistance for the state as Hurricane Nate approached the central Gulf of Mexico.

The president headlined a fundraiser on Saturday night in Greensboro, North Carolina, to benefit his Trump Victory joint fundraising committee with the Republican National Committee. The event was expected to raise \$2 million, with donors paying up to \$35,000 per couple to serve as co-hosts.

Before leaving for North Carolina, Trump repeated his assertion that trying to negotiate with North Korea over its nuclear and missile programs is a waste of time.

In a two-part tweet, he said: "Presidents and their administrations have been talking to North Korea for 25 years, agreements made and massive amounts of money paid ... hasn't worked, agreements violated before the ink was dry, makings fools of U.S. negotiators. Sorry, but only one thing will work!"

Trump's tweets Saturday and earlier in the week were seen directed either at undermining Secretary of State Rex Tillerson's efforts to maintain channels of communication or at somehow bolstering the diplomat's hand in possible future talks.

On Twitter, follow Ken Thomas at @KThomasDC.

Harper, Zimmerman HRs lift Nats past Cubs 6-3 to even NLDS

By HOWARD FENDRICH, AP Sports Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Things were looking bleak for Bryce Harper, Ryan Zimmerman and the rest of the Washington Nationals. They had accumulated one run and four hits through the first 16 innings of their NL Division Series against the Chicago Cubs.

The situation was hardly ideal. Neither was the mood.

"You do your best to keep your spirits up. You get frustrated," Zimmerman acknowledged. "I don't want to say 'pressure,' but, yeah, I mean, the tension builds a little bit, I'll be honest with you. ... Pouting is not going to help you the next time you come up."

Power, though, will. Harper delivered a no-doubt-about-it , tying two-run homer in the eighth, and Zimmerman tacked on a three-run shot that barely made it over the wall moments later, lifting the Nationals to a 6-3 comeback victory over the defending World Series champions on Saturday, evening their NLDS at a game apiece.

"Sometimes," Zimmerman said, "it takes kind of just one hit for everyone to exhale."

The Nationals were in serious danger of falling behind 2-0 in the series, entering the eighth trailing 3-1 after being shut out in Game 1. But the NL East champions broke out with five runs and four hits, thanks to two big swings from 2015 NL MVP Harper — only recently back from a left knee injury that sidelined him for 42 games — and longtime face of the franchise Zimmerman.

"I was kind of bewildered, because it's not too many teams or pitchers that have held us in check like that for a couple days," Nationals manager Dusty Baker said. "I just knew in the bottom of my heart that we were going to explode for some numbers, which we've done all year."

Indeed, his team reached franchise highs for runs and homers this season, and the Nationals were the only club in the majors with four players — including Harper and Zimmerman — who each topped 20 homers and 85 RBIs.

The NLDS moves to Wrigley Field for Game 3 on Monday. The Cubs will have July acquisition Jose Quin-

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tana on the mound, while the Nationals finally send out two-time Cy Young Award winner Max Scherzer, who was pushed back in the rotation because of an injured right hamstring.

"The train's coming," Harper said. "We're a great team. We've got Max coming."

Yes, this matchup is suddenly a contest, and not a moment too soon for Washington, which has won four division titles in the past six years but never won a playoff series.

Jon Lester held Washington to one run and two hits through six innings in Game 2, but Cubs manager Joe Maddon turned to his bullpen and everything changed.

Pinch hitter Adam Lind led off the eighth with a single in the first playoff at-bat of a career that has spanned more than a decade and 1,344 regular-season games.

Carl Edwards Jr. then went to a 3-1 count against Harper and hung a curveball.

"I thought about taking the whole way," Harper said. "And then I saw the loop in the curveball and said, 'Why not swing as hard as you can?' Got barrel on it. Pretty good moment."

He took a moment to admire his shot before chucking his bat to the ground as the ball reached the second deck in right field. Harper's teammates in the dugout reacted immediately, screaming and raising fists as the ball tore through the night air.

Maddon defended his decision to have the righty-throwing Edwards pitch to the lefty-batting Harper.

"He made a bad pitch and the guy didn't miss it, and that's it. Sometimes that happens. Bryce is good. C.J. is good," Maddon said. "Bryce got him."

With fans in the crowd of 43,860 roaring and twirling red towels, Harper jumped up the dugout steps for a curtain call, throwing an uppercut. Then he flipped his hair on his way back to rejoin his teammates after his fifth homer in 16 career postseason games.

"Bryce always steps up right when it's the time," said Nationals starter Gio Gonzalez, who allowed Willson Contreras' solo homer in the second, and Anthony Rizzo's two-run shot in the fourth.

"It's unbelievable what he does and how he does it," Gonzalez continued. "He's a story, a movie, everything all in one."

It was the first extra-base hit for Harper since returning from the disabled list during the last week of September after missing 42 games with an injured left knee. He was only 4 for 25 overall in the regular season and playoffs after coming back until that key, possibly series-altering, at-bat.

After the next two men reached, Zimmerman stepped in to face Mike Montgomery. This has been a renaissance year for the first baseman, who had only 15 homers and 46 RBIs during an injury-plagued 2016, but led the Nationals this season with 36 homers and 108 RBIs.

On an evening when balls carried in 12 mph wind — every run scored on a homer — Zimmerman's high shot somehow just made it far enough in left field.

At what point did Zimmerman realize the ball was gone?

"When it landed in the flower bed, I guess," he joked. "Maybe got a little lucky. Who knows?"

As he began running the bases, Zimmerman jutted his right fist out, then spread both arms wide, the way a kid pretends to be an airplane.

That made a winner of Oliver Perez, who pitched to one man in the eighth, inducing an inning-ending double play off Rizzo's bat. The last of Washington's six pitchers, closer Sean Doolittle, worked the ninth for his first postseason save.

"We had them where we wanted them," Montgomery said, "and we couldn't get the job done."

RIZZO'S RECORDS

Rizzo became the Cubs' career leader in postseason homers (six) and RBIs (16). His two-run homer was barehanded by a man in a No. 17 Kris Bryant Cubs jersey and with a camera slung around his neck. The spectator reached over a railing to grab it; after an umpire review, the initial ruling that it was a home run stood.

UP NEXT:

Scherzer finally makes his 15th career postseason start; he is 4-4 with a 3.74 ERA. Quintana, meanwhile, will be making his playoff debut and first appearance against the Nationals.

Follow Howard Fendrich on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/HowardFendrich>

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

Police: Car crash in London is traffic accident, not terror

By GREGORY KATZ and JILL LAWLESS, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — A car crash that injured 11 people outside a major London tourist attraction Saturday sparked fears of a terrorist attack but turned out to be simply a traffic accident, London police said.

The accident at 2:20 p.m. outside the popular Natural History Museum in the heart of central London brought a gigantic police response, including helicopters and hazardous area response teams, because of terrorist concerns.

Police said 11 people were injured when a car apparently mounted the pavement and hit pedestrians. Nine people were hospitalized with head and leg injuries that were not judged to be life-changing.

Panicky scenes ensued after the pedestrians were struck and it took nearly four hours for police to reassure the anxious public that it was not another terrorist attack.

Britons in general, and Londoners in particular, have been jumpy after a string of extremist attacks this year, including deadly attacks using vehicles to hit pedestrians on Westminster Bridge and London Bridge. Britain has been on a "severe" terrorist threat level indicating that the Joint Terrorism Analysis Center believes an attack is viewed as highly likely.

Police said one man at the scene, thought to be the driver, was detained. He has not been charged or identified.

Witnesses described a rush to leave the scene, nearby shops were evacuated and the sprawling museum, a favorite site for families with children, closed down early. Police established a large security cordon around the area within minutes.

Workers in a cafe near the Natural History Museum say they fled the scene in fear.

Marilyn Mueller, 20, said she thought at first it was a traffic accident but had doubts when "loads of police cars" arrived.

"All of these police came marching down saying, 'Move, move.' They said, 'you need to evacuate,'" she said.

Dieon Rurora said people were running down the street to get away and some fell.

"It was quite scary," he said.

One woman draped in a red blanket was led away by a paramedic after the crash. Others were seen leaving with their legs bandaged.

The crash took place on a day when the central London museum district was teeming with pedestrians. Photographs showed a dented silver car and a man being pinned to the ground outside the museum. A police forensics officer in blue coveralls took pictures of the crash site.

London Mayor Sadiq Khan tweeted that he was in close contact with Assistant Metropolitan Police Commissioner Mark Rowley, who plays a lead role in the police's counter-terrorism operation.

The Natural History Museum closed after the crash but its neighbor, the famed Victoria and Albert Museum, remained open.

British Prime Minister Theresa May thanked the first responders and the public for their help and said her thoughts were with the injured.

Associated Press writer Paisley Dodds contributed.

Protesters rally across Russia on Putin's 65th birthday

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV and IRINA TITOVA, Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — In a challenge to President Vladimir Putin on his 65th birthday, protesters rallied across

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Russia on Saturday, heeding opposition leader Alexei Navalny's call to pressure authorities into letting him enter the presidential race.

Police allowed demonstrators in Moscow to rally near the Kremlin in an apparent desire to avoid marring Putin's birthday with a crackdown. A bigger rally in St. Petersburg, Putin's hometown, was disbanded by police after protesters blocked traffic and attempted to break through police cordons.

The rallies came as Navalny himself is serving a 20-day jail term for calling for an earlier unsanctioned protest.

In Moscow, several hundred protesters, most of them students, gathered on downtown Pushkinskaya Square, waving Russian flags and chanting "Russia will be free!" and "Let Navalny run!" Police warned them that the rally wasn't sanctioned and urged them to disperse, but let the protest continue for hours without trying to break it up.

Mostly teenage protesters later walked down Moscow's Tverskaya Street toward the Kremlin, shouting "Putin, go away!" and "Future without Putin!"

Police lines blocked them from approaching Red Square and they turned back. Several hours later, some made a new attempt to march on the Kremlin, shouting "Putin thief!" and briefly attempted to block traffic.

"We battle for Russia to be free from Putinism. Because the power we have now is feudal, we have no freedom of speech, no freedom of choice," said protester Stepan Fesov.

The authorities' decision to refrain from breaking up the Moscow protest contrasted with a more forceful response to previous Moscow rallies called by Navalny, when police detained more than 1,000 demonstrators.

Police also didn't intervene at first with a bigger unsanctioned rally in St. Petersburg, where nearly 2,000 gathered at Marsovo Pole park and then marched across the city chanting "Russia without Putin!" and "Putin, retire!"

Shortly after, police broke up the demonstration, detaining nearly 40 after some tried to break through police lines. Police said those detained were released and will face fines for blocking traffic.

One detainee, Marina Bukina, said she was injured in the head when a police officer hit her with a club.

After the St. Petersburg march was disbanded, several hundred protesters continued rallying for hours at the downtown Vosstaniya Square as police stood by without intervening.

"Putin has been in charge since I was born," said Dmitry Samokhin, an 18-year-old protester in St. Petersburg. "The country is mired in stagnation and I want to see changes."

Navalny's headquarters called protests in 80 cities. Most were not sanctioned by authorities, but police largely refrained from dispersing the rallies that drew from a few dozen to a few hundred people. The Siberian city of Yakutsk saw a tough police response, with a few dozen demonstrators reportedly detained.

Navalny has declared his intention to run for president in the March 2018 election, even though a criminal conviction that he calls politically motivated bars him from running. The 41-year-old anti-corruption crusader has organized waves of protests this year, raising the pressure on the Kremlin.

Putin hasn't yet announced whether he would seek re-election, but he's widely expected to run. With his current approval ratings topping 80 percent, he is set to easily win another six-year term in a race against torpid veterans of past election campaigns, like Communist Party chief Gennady Zyuganov.

Navalny argues that the high level of support for Putin comes from the lack of real political competition and urged supporters to help him get registered.

"(Putin's) 86 percent approval rating exists in a political vacuum," he said. "It's like asking a person who has been fed rutabaga his entire life how eatable they find it and the rating will be quite high. Listen, there are other things that are better than rutabaga."

The sarcastic analogy demonstrated Navalny's stinging style, which has helped him win broad support among the young.

Navalny has worked to expand his reach with videos exposing official corruption and YouTube live broadcasts. His documentary about Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev's alleged ill-gotten wealth has been viewed nearly 25 million times since its release in March, helping galvanize protests.

Following Navalny's call, tens of thousands took to the streets in dozens of cities and towns across

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Russia in March and June in the biggest show of defiance since the 2011-2012 anti-government protests.

Unlike those past rallies, which were driven by anti-corruption slogans, Navalny this time focused on rallying support for his own presidential bid — a reason some gave for the smaller protest in Moscow.

"Some people dislike Putin and the government, but that doesn't mean they are willing to unequivocally back Navalny," political analyst Valery Solovei said on Dozhd television.

Titova reported from St. Petersburg. Ahmad Katib in Moscow contributed to this report.

In Vegas, Pence praises US resolve to find hope after horror

By **MICHAEL BALSAMO** and **AMANDA LEE MYERS**, Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Vice President Mike Pence praised the heroic response by police and the resolve of the American people at a prayer service Saturday in Las Vegas before organizers released 58 white doves in memory of each victim killed in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

At the same time, federal agents started hauling away piles of backpacks, baby strollers and lawn chairs left behind by fleeing concertgoers who scrambled to escape raining bullets from a gunman who was shooting from his high-rise hotel suite.

"It was a tragedy of unimaginable proportions," Pence said as he addressed nearly 300 people at Las Vegas City Hall. "Those we lost were taken before their time, but their names and their stories will forever be etched into the hearts of the American people."

Investigators have remained stumped about what drove gunman Stephen Paddock, a reclusive 64-year-old high-stakes video poker player, to begin shooting at the crowd at a country music festival from his 32nd-floor Mandalay Bay hotel suite last Sunday, killing 58 and wounding hundreds before taking his own life.

Investigators believe a note found on a nightstand in Paddock's hotel room contained a series of numbers that helped him calculate a more precise aim, accounting for the trajectory of shots being fired from that height and the distance between his room and the concert, a law enforcement official said Saturday. The official wasn't authorized to discuss the details of the ongoing investigation publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

The unity service Saturday afternoon came after dozens of people — many wearing shirts that said "Vegas Strong" — marched from Mandalay Bay to City Hall. After speeches from Pence and other politicians, doves were released into the air, flying in a wide arc and then disappearing into the distance as someone shouted, "God bless America!"

"On Sunday night, Las Vegas came face-to-face with pure evil, but no evil, no act of violence, will ever diminish the strength and goodness of the American people," Pence said. "In the depths of horror, we will always find hope in the men and women who risk their lives for ours."

Las Vegas Mayor Carolyn Goodman told the audience that the focus needs to remain on the victims, not "that horrific senseless animal."

Lisa Rhoads-Shook, whose brother-in-law was inside the Mandalay Bay when the shooting broke out, said she wanted to attend the unity service to be part of the conversation about change.

"I'm so sad and it's not fair, really, for us to experience another avoidable tragedy. We have to acknowledge that there is no better time to talk about gun control," she said. "I don't think the Founding Fathers wanted the right to bear arms to become the right to build an arsenal in your home."

Investigators have chased 1,000 leads and examined Paddock's politics, finances, any possible radicalization and his social behavior — typical investigative avenues that have helped uncover the motive in past shootings. But Clark County Undersheriff Kevin McMahill said there's still no clear motive.

What officers have found is that Paddock planned his attack meticulously.

He requested an upper-floor room overlooking the festival, stockpiled 23 guns, a dozen of them modified to fire continuously like an automatic weapon, and set up cameras inside and outside his room to watch for approaching officers.

For complete coverage of the Las Vegas shooting, click here: <https://apnews.com/tag/LasVegasmassshooting> .

Mourners pay tearful tribute to Vegas victim who saved wife

By SCOTT SMITH, Associated Press

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. (AP) — Jack Beaton felt equally comfortable gripping a pair of barbecue tongs surrounded by friends or swinging his roofer's hammer on a hot day at work. He died a hero shielding his wife from a gunman in the nation's deadliest mass shooting in modern history.

More than 800 people packed into a California church on Saturday for one of the first memorial services for the 58 people killed when gunman Stephen Paddock opened fire from a Las Vegas casino hotel room nearly a week ago. The service was held in Beaton's hometown of Bakersfield, a community that was home to several victims.

In family pictures and in tearful tributes, Beaton, 54, was remembered as a fun-loving friend, a hard-working roofer by trade, a generous and kind-hearted neighbor, and above all a devoted husband and father. He took his wife, Laurie, to Las Vegas for the Route 91 Harvest festival to celebrate their 23rd wedding anniversary, and he died in her arms.

"He told me, 'Get down, get down, get down!'" Laurie Beaton told The Associated Press ahead of the memorial service.

He put his body on top of hers for protection, she said.

"He told me, 'I love you, Laurie,' and his arms were around me and his body just went heavy on me," she said.

Jeff Sallee, a next-door neighbor to the Beatons, said Jack was the kind of person who put others first. If you tried to thank him for his kindness, Sallee said, he would cut you off and say: "Well, that's just what you do. Doesn't everyone?"

Inside the church, the family displayed photos from the couple's wedding and family portraits throughout the years. His football jersey from Kern Valley High School was laid out near a portrait of him wearing it as a young man. There was a coffee mug that had "I Love Dad" painted on it in bright colors.

He leaves behind a 20-year-old son and 18-year-old daughter.

Vice President Mike Pence, in Las Vegas on Saturday, praised the heroic response by police and others in the crowd, and he mentioned that Beaton shielded his wife.

"In the depths of horror we will always find hope in the men and women who risk their lives," Pence said.

Friends remembered Beaton's easy smile, his love of camping with family and friends, and his fondness for a cold beer and a shot of Maker's Mark. He was genuine with no pretenses, a what-you-see-is-what-you-get kind of guy, friends said.

The Beatons traveled to the music festival with two other couples, including Dario and Kim Catallo, close friends they often took trips with.

"He was the life of the party," Dario Catallo said, adding that Jack made friends quickly.

Bakersfield is considered the West Coast Nashville as the birthplace of the twangy "Bakersfield Sound" style of country music. Other Bakersfield music lovers who died in Las Vegas were memorialized in other parts of the city.

Outside the Bakersfield Speedway, a makeshift memorial with flowers, candles and a poem was set up for the youngest victim of the attack — 20-year-old Bailey Schweitzer, whose parents own the racetrack.

Catallo described the complete chaos and "sheer terror" he felt Sunday when it became clear gunfire was raking the crowd.

"We right away got on top of our wives. We got down together. The next rounds of bullets came. We survived that. Unfortunately, Jack was struck," he said. "There was so much going on. You had milliseconds to make decisions. Do we stay? What do we do? Do we get up? We don't know where the shooter was."

Laurie Beaton knew her husband was dead when she told him she loved him and he didn't respond.

"I screamed his name and he wasn't answering me. There was a lot of blood," she said. A man who said he was a nurse and emergency responder ran up and told her to put her husband on his side. She heard Jack struggling to breathe. The shooting hadn't stopped, and someone advised them to run to safety.

"So we ran," Laurie Beaton said. When they went back for Jack, they couldn't find him. They called hospitals and eventually the coroner's office, which confirmed her husband was among the dead.

"I knew every day that he would protect me and take care of me and love me unconditionally, and what he did is no surprise to me," she said. "He is my hero."

Sallee echoed those words, saying Beaton was a hero to everyone who knew him.

"The hellish evil that rained down from the 32nd floor will never weaken Jack's life, will never diminish the love we hold in our hearts for the gravelly voiced, apple-cheeked hero from Bakersfield, California," Sallee said.

Associated Press writer Jocelyn Gecker contributed to this report from San Francisco.

Rapper Nelly arrested on rape accusation

By MARTHA BELLISLE, Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — Police arrested rapper Nelly early Saturday after a woman said he raped her on his tour bus in a town outside Seattle, an accusation the Grammy winner's attorney staunchly denied.

Nelly, whose real name is Cornell Iral Haynes Jr., was arrested about 4:37 a.m. Saturday in his tour bus at a Walmart, Auburn police spokesman Commander Steve Stocker said.

The woman called 911 to report being sexually assaulted by Nelly on the tour bus, police said in a statement.

He will have his first appearance before a judge "at some point," Stocker said. Nelly was scheduled to perform in Ridgefield, Washington, on Saturday night.

Nelly's attorney, Scott Rosenblum, said Saturday afternoon that the singer was released from jail pending the investigation, and he is expected to be at the Ridgefield show.

Nelly performed at the White River Amphitheatre in Auburn, Washington, on Friday night. He's on tour with Florida Georgia Line.

At 12:23 a.m. Saturday, after that show, he sent out a Tweet that said in part: "its (sic) really you against the whole world because the whole world don't know you exist."

Rosenblum called the rape claim a "completely fabricated allegation."

"Our initial investigation clearly establishes this allegation is devoid of credibility and is motivated by greed and vindictiveness. I am confident, once this scurrilous accusation is thoroughly investigated, there will be no charges. Nelly is prepared to address and pursue all legal avenues to redress any damage caused by this clearly false allegation," Rosenblum said in an email.

Nelly was arrested in Tennessee in 2015 on felony drug possession charges after a trooper smelled marijuana on his bus. Nelly later pleaded guilty to two misdemeanor drug charges: possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia, the district attorney said. Nelly agreed to a pretrial diversion, which means his record was later cleared, Rosenblum said.

Nelly is a three-time Grammy winner, including for the song "Hot in Herre," which won the best male rap solo performance award in 2002.

The song has been sampled and re-recorded by other artists and is ranked No. 21 on a Rolling Stone magazine list of top summer songs. Nelly is also known for the hits "My Place" and "Over and Over." He appeared in the 2005 film "The Longest Yard."

The following year he shared a Grammy for the song "Shake Ya Tailfeather" with Murphy Lee and Sean Combs.

Nelly is also a minority owner of the Charlotte Hornets.

Have wife will carry: Couples vie in wife-carrying contest

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NEWRY, Maine (AP) — It was a messy slog but a Virginia couple reaped the rewards of cash — and beer — in the North American Wife Carrying Championship.

Jake and Kirsten Barney, from Lexington, Virginia, finished first Saturday on an alpine course made all the more difficult because Jake was carrying his wife on his back when he trudged through water and jumped over logs.

The couple placed second last year.

The event is based on the Finland legend of “Ronkainen the Robber,” whose gang pillaged villages and took the women.

These days, men usually carry women, but they don’t have to be married and the couple can choose who carries whom.

The Barneys won five times Kirsten Barney’s weight in cash — or \$630 — and 12 cases of beer.

Trump hits back at late night shows critical of Republicans

By PHILIP MARCELO, Associated Press

President Donald Trump lashed out Saturday against late night television show hosts who have been sharply critical of his administration and Republicans.

Trump took to Twitter to argue that the GOP should be given “equal time” because of the “one-sided” coverage, an apparent reference to Federal Communications Commission rules dealing with political candidates during elections.

“Late Night host(s) are dealing with the Democrats for their very ‘unfunny’ & repetitive material, always anti-Trump!” he tweeted. “Should we get Equal Time?”

Trump also suggested “more and more people” are clamoring for more coverage of Republicans, who control the White House and Congress

Seth Meyers, who has been among the most vocal Trump critics, immediately tweeted back that he’d “love” to have Trump on his NBC show, and sarcastically provided his studio address as “15 Penguin Avenue, Antarctica.”

ABC’s Jimmy Kimmel, another critic, added : “Excellent point Mr. President! You should quit that boring job - I’ll let you have my show ALL to yourself #MAGA.”

And Comedy Central’s Daily Show responded by posting — “in the spirit of equal time”— Trump’s now infamous off-camera comments in 2005 to an “Access Hollywood” host in which he used coarse language to boast about groping women.

Others pointed out that “equal time” is meant for campaign season, not to protect elected officials from being the butt of television humor.

“That’s not how it works. You’re not campaigning. You’re the president,” Mike DiCenzo, a writer and producer for NBC’s “The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon,” tweeted . “Now kindly stop tweeting nonsense and go do your job for once.”

The FCC rule says political candidates should be treated equally by broadcast television stations when it comes to selling or giving away air time. Over the years, the commission has broadly exempted news programs, including late night talk shows, from the provision.

Trump’s tweets followed shortly after a segment on Fox News’ “Fox and Friends” critiquing many late show hosts for taking “a hard turn to the left.”

The president’s reference to “dealing with Democrats” appears to allude to recent reports that Kimmel consulted with Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, a New York Democrat, before delivering a series of emotional and personal monologues against Republicans’ attempts to repeal and replace the health care law that was championed by former President Barack Obama.

Kimmel’s son, Billy, was born this year with a congenital heart defect, a pre-existing condition the late night host argued would have prevented the boy from getting health insurance if not for the Affordable Care Act that Obama signed in 2010.

Trump’s ire for his late night critics— who also include CBS’ Stephen Colbert and even Fallon at times

— is not totally unfounded.

A study by researchers at George Mason University in Virginia found that Trump in on pace to “easily eclipse” the most jokes about any person tracked by its Center for Media and Public Affairs since it began monitoring in 1988.

The New York billionaire was the target of more than 1,000 jokes during his first 100 days in office, surpassing the 936 jokes made at Obama’s expense in his first year in office in 2009 and more than the 546 about George W. Bush in his first year as president in 2001, according to the study.

This story has been corrected to fix a misspelling in Seth Meyers’ name.

Danish police find severed head in Kim Wall submarine case

By JAN M. OLSEN, Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — Danish divers found the decapitated head, legs and clothes of a Swedish journalist who was killed after going on a trip with an inventor on his submarine, police said Saturday.

The body parts and clothing were found Friday in plastic bags with a knife and “heavy metal pieces” to make them sink near where 30-year-old Kim Wall’s naked, headless torso was found in August, Copenhagen police investigator Jens Moeller Jensen said.

Moeller Jensen said there were no fractures to Wall’s skull and he declined to comment on the discovery of the knife.

Peter Madsen, the 46-year-old Danish inventor who is in pre-trial detention on preliminary manslaughter charges, has said Wall died after being accidentally hit by a 70-kilogram (155-pound) hatch on the UC3 Nautilus submarine, after which he “buried” her at sea.

But police have said 15 stab wounds were on the torso found at sea off Copenhagen on Aug. 21. Her arms are still missing.

Wall’s cause of death hasn’t yet been established yet.

The detention of Madsen, who has denied manslaughter charges, expires Oct. 31 when a court will decide if he will continue to remain in custody ahead of a possible trial. He is also being held on preliminary charges of the indecent handling of a corpse.

Police say the submarine only sailed in Danish waters during the Aug. 10-11 trip.

Police believe the pair didn’t know each other beforehand. Wall was working on a story about Madsen, who dreamed of launching a manned space mission. She was last seen alive on Aug. 10 aboard the 40-ton, nearly 18-meter (60-foot) long submarine as it left Copenhagen.

The following day, Madsen was rescued from the sinking submarine without Wall and was arrested the same day. Police believe he deliberately scuttled the vessel.

During their investigation, police have found videos on Madsen’s personal computer of women being tortured, decapitated and murdered. The videos were considered to be real, according to prosecutor Jakob Buch-Jepsen.

Investigators believe Madsen killed Wall between Aug. 10 and 11, cut up her body and attached a belt with a pipe to the torso so it would sink. Officials said her head, arms and legs had been deliberately cut off after her death.

Marks on the dismembered torso indicated that someone had tried to press air out of the body so it wouldn’t float, police said.

A court-ordered psychiatric evaluation of Madsen is pending.

Thousands demand that Spanish, Catalan leaders negotiate

By JOSEPH WILSON, Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Thousands rallied in Madrid and Barcelona on Saturday in a last-ditch call for Spanish and Catalan leaders to stave off a national crisis amid Catalonia’s threat to secede.

The rallies in the Spanish capital and the Catalan city were held with the slogan “Shall We Talk?” in an

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effort to push lawmakers in both cities to end months of silence and start negotiating. Attendees respected the organizers' call to not bring the Spanish or Catalan flag.

Catalonia's regional president Carles Puigdemont has vowed to make good on the results of last Sunday's disputed referendum on secession won by the Yes side. Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy warned that the vote was illegal and has promised that Catalonia is going nowhere.

Protestors packed Barcelona's Sant Jaume Square where the Catalan government has its presidential palace, shouting "We want to talk!" and holding signs saying "More Negotiation, Less Testosterone!" and "Talk or Resign!"

"We have to find a new way forward," said Miquel Iceta, the leader of Spain's Socialist party in Catalonia. "It's the moment to listen to the people who are asking for the problem to be solved through an agreement, and without precipitated and unilateral decisions."

The gathering around Madrid's Cibeles fountain boasted a huge banner demanding that leaders start talking. Some people chanted "Less hate, and more understanding!"

In a separate rally in Madrid's Colon Square, thousands clamored for the unity of Spain and against any attempt by the northeastern region to break away. The crowd bristled with Spanish flags. Pro-union forces will try to generate momentum on Sunday in a protest in Barcelona.

Other protests asking for dialogue were held in cities including Valencia, Bilbao, Pamplona and Sanitago de Compostela, news agency Europa Press reported.

The calls for dialogue and unity come after a traumatic week, with riot police storming several polling stations in an unsuccessful attempt to impede the referendum. Instead, hundreds of voters were left in need of medical attention.

Even though 2.2 million Catalan voted — with 90 percent backing independence— the referendum polled less than half of the region's electorate. Puigdemont declared he would seek a declaration of independence in the regional parliament anyway.

The bloodied vote was followed by a strike on Tuesday across Catalonia to protest the police violence. Then came the stern message from Spain's King Felipe VI that the Catalan government and parliament were breaking the law.

Puigdemont and his separatist supporters were struck a blow when Catalonia's top two banks, CaixaBank and Banco Sabadell, as well as energy giant Gas Natural announced they were relocating their headquarters from Catalonia to other parts of Spain.

Other companies are considering such a move to ensure that the region's possible secession wouldn't knock them out of the European Union and its lucrative common market.

Spain's Minister of Public Works Inigo de la Serna said on Saturday that "the companies will keep leaving and it's exclusively the fault of the members of the regional government."

The warnings by the business sector have coincided with the first calls from within Puigdemont's government to hold off on a declaration of independence.

Santi Vila, Catalonia's regional chief for business, told Cadena SER Radio late Friday that he's pushing for "a new opportunity for dialogue" with Spanish authorities.

"We have to give it one more chance, maybe the last chance, and perhaps the only way that can happen is to start with a cease-fire," Vila said.

Vila said he would like to see Spanish authorities return powers to the region which they have assumed in recent weeks, including control of a large part of its finances.

It is unclear how widespread Vila's moderate position is inside the Catalan government, which is being pressured by separatist grassroots groups and the far-left party CUP to declare independence soon.

Separatist lawmakers had planned to discuss a secession plan on Monday, but that session in the regional parliament was suspended by the Constitutional Court.

The focus has shifted to Tuesday, when Puigdemont is set to address the regional parliament "to report on the current political situation."

The most recent polls taken before the referendum showed that the region's 7.5 million residents were roughly split on the issue.

AP-NORC Poll: Trump fares poorly in public's view

By JULIE PACE and EMILY SWANSON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Just 24 percent of Americans believe the country is heading in the right direction after a tumultuous stretch for President Donald Trump that included the threat of war with North Korea, stormy complaints about hurricane relief and Trump's equivocating about white supremacists. That's a 10-point drop since June, according to a poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

The decline in optimism about the nation's trajectory is particularly pronounced among Republicans. In June, 60 percent of Republicans said the country was headed in the right direction; now it's just 44 percent.

The broader picture for the president is grim, too. Nearly 70 percent of Americans say Trump isn't level-headed, and majorities say he's not honest or a strong leader. More than 60 percent disapprove of how he is handling race relations, foreign policy and immigration, among other issues.

Overall, 67 percent of Americans disapprove of the job Trump is doing in office, including about one-third of Republicans.

Tracy Huelsman, a 40-year-old from Louisville, Kentucky, is among them. A self-described moderate Republican, Huelsman said she's particularly concerned about the "divisiveness" she feels the president promotes on social media.

"It's scary in 2017 that we are in what seems like a worse place in terms of division," said Huelsman, who did not vote for Trump in last year's election.

The assessments come after a turbulent summer for Trump that included a major White House shake-up, bringing the departure of his chief of staff, top strategist and press secretary. While the installment of retired Marine Gen. John Kelly as chief of staff has ushered in more day-to-day order in the West Wing, the president has still stirred up numerous controversies, including when he blamed "both sides" for the clashes between white supremacists and counter-protesters in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Trump has also raised the specter of a military conflict with North Korea over its nuclear provocations. He's derided North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un, as "rocket man," including during a speech at the United Nations, and has downplayed the prospects that diplomatic negotiations with Kim could yield results.

Despite his electoral success, Trump struggled as both a candidate and now as president to broaden his base of support beyond his ardent supporters. The loyalty of his core backers has been enough to keep Republican lawmakers largely in line, but party operatives are closely watching Trump's support among GOP and independent voters ahead of next year's midterm elections, when the balance of power in Congress will be at stake.

To be sure, lawmakers have their own problems to worry about. Americans have even less esteem for Congress than Trump, with just 18 percent saying they approve of the job being done by the House and the Senate.

Republicans took another hit last month when they failed — for a second time this year — to pass an overhaul of the nation's health care law. GOP leaders tried to rush votes on the complicated legislation, leaving many voters unsure of what was in the package.

"They never seemed to present a bill to people that you could actually look at the details of and the pluses and minuses of it," said Dennis Cronin, a 67-year-old independent from Wenham, Massachusetts.

The GOP failure on health care has irritated Trump, who promised voters that repealing "Obamacare" would be easy. Americans aren't happy with his progress on health care either; 68 percent disapprove of his handling of the issue.

Of all the issues surveyed by the AP-NORC poll, the president performs slightly better on the economy. But even there, 56 percent disapprove of the job he's doing and just 42 percent say they approve.

On Friday, the Labor Department announced that the U.S. shed 33,000 jobs in September because of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, which closed thousands of businesses in Texas and Florida and forced widespread evacuations. It marked the first monthly hiring drop in nearly seven years.

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Ninety-two percent of Democrats and 69 percent of independents say Trump understands the problems of people like them not very or not at all well. Even among Republicans, only 42 percent say he understands them very well, while 32 percent say he does moderately well.

The AP-NORC poll of 1,150 adults was conducted Sept. 28-Oct. 2 using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4.1 percentage points.

Respondents were first selected randomly using address-based sampling methods, and later interviewed online or by phone.

Online:

AP-NORC Center: <http://www.apnorc.org/>

Follow Julie Pace at <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC> and Emily Swanson at http://twitter.com/el_swan

Extra special: Indians edge Yankees 9-8 in 13, take 2-0 lead

By TOM WITHERS, AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — They've won this season in almost every way imaginable: comebacks, walk-offs, blowouts, nail-biters.

No. 104 for the Cleveland Indians topped them all.

Yan Gomes singled home Austin Jackson from second base with none out in the 13th inning as Cleveland rallied from five runs down to stun the New York Yankees 9-8 on Friday and snatch a 2-0 lead in the AL Division Series.

Despite an atrocious start by ace Corey Kluber and losing slugger Edwin Encarnacion with a severely sprained ankle in the first, the Indians, with some help from a call that went their way, continued a charmed season growing more and more special by the day.

"The tendency of this team is to never give up," Kluber said. "Even when we were down 8-3, we didn't believe the game was over. We never feel like we're out of a game."

Jackson drew a leadoff walk in the 13th from Dellin Betances and stole second. Gomes went to a full count before pulling his bouncer just inside the third-base bag, easily scoring Jackson and touching off another one of those wild celebrations inside Progressive Field, where the Indians have been so good while running away with their division and winning 22 straight.

As Jackson sprinted home, Cleveland's players poured out of the dugout and mobbed Gomes at the conclusion of a wild, 5-hour, 8-minute thriller that featured 14 pitchers and a call that may haunt Yankees manager Joe Girardi for months.

"We just were supposed to win," said Indians outfielder Jay Bruce, who hit a game-tying homer in the eighth. "No words, honestly. I'm speechless."

Francisco Lindor hit a grand slam in the sixth to rally Cleveland, which will try for a sweep in Game 3 Sunday at Yankee Stadium. Carlos Carrasco will start for the Indians against Masahiro Tanaka, who will try to extend New York's season.

The Yankees had their chances late, but they stranded the go-ahead run at third in the ninth and 10th — and had pinch-runner Ronald Torreyes picked off second in the 11th by Gomes from the behind the plate.

Josh Tomlin, who had been scheduled to start later in the series, pitched two perfect innings for the win as Francona ran out of relievers in a game started by his best pitcher.

Aaron Hicks hit a three-run homer off Kluber and Gary Sanchez and Greg Bird hit two-run shots for the Yankees, who may have caught a bad break before Lindor's homer.

New York's Aaron Judge went 0 for 3 and is hitless in seven at-bats in the series with five strikeouts.

The Yankees lost consecutive games for the first time since they were swept at home in a three-game series by the Indians from Aug. 28-30. Now, they need to sweep three in a row from Cleveland.

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Down 8-3, facing New York's vaunted bullpen, the Indians came back.

New York starter CC Sabathia was lifted with one on and one out in the sixth for Chad Green, another one of the Yankees' flame-throwers who got an out before Gomes doubled. Green came inside and Lonnie Chisenhall was awarded first by plate umpire Dan Iassogna on a hit by pitch.

TV replays showed the ball slightly change direction — it appeared to hit the knob of Chisenhall's bat.

Girardi said there wasn't enough evidence within 30 seconds to justify a challenge. He said the team later saw a slow-motion replay suggesting he should've contested the call, but it was too late.

"There was nothing that told us he was not hit by the pitch," Girardi said.

New York catcher Gary Sanchez said he heard something, but wasn't sure what. Sanchez caught the pitch on a fly — it would've been strike three if it had been ruled a foul tip — and immediately pointed to the Yankees dugout, indicating they should consider challenging the call.

Girardi nodded and held up a finger, asking for time to make a decision.

"I didn't think it hit him, because he never reacted," Sanchez said through a translator. "He stood there. But it's just stuff that happens in the game."

Lindor then stepped in and hit a towering shot off the inside of the right-field foul pole to make it 8-7. Before he left the batter's box, Lindor gave his shot some help.

"As soon as I hit it, I knew it had a chance of going out," Lindor said. "Then after a couple of steps, I was like, 'No, don't go foul, please. Just stay fair.' I started blowing on it a little bit. As soon as it went out, it was just a lot of emotions.

As Lindor rounded the bases with Cleveland's first postseason slam since Jim Thome in 1999, Progressive Field shook the way it did last November when Rajai Davis hit a two-run homer in eighth inning of Game 7 off Aroldis Chapman, then with the Cubs and now closing for the Yankees.

Bruce, who has done everything since coming over in an August trade, led off the eighth with his homer to left off reliever David Robertson, who pitched 3 1-3 scoreless innings and earned the win in the wild-card game over Minnesota.

Five innings later, the Indians finally broke the tie. They matched the longest postseason game in Cleveland history — Tony Pena's homer in the 13th beat Boston in Game 1 of the 1995 ALDS.

Kluber wasn't himself. Not even close.

The right-hander, who led the AL in wins, ERA and intimidation, didn't get out of the third inning as Francona pulled him after allowing Hicks' three-run homer.

It was the shortest outing this season for Kluber, and as he slowly walked off the mound, Cleveland's stunned crowd gave him a polite ovation and several teammates approached him to offer consolation.

"I threw too many balls," Kluber said. "And when I'd throw strikes, they were right over the plate."

SLUGGER HURT

After rolling his ankle, Encarnacion stayed on the ground and rolled in the infield dirt in obvious pain while waiting for medical attention. He was helped to his feet and had to be assisted off the field.

Francona said an MRI showed a sprain and that Encarnacion, who hit 38 homers with 107 RBIs, is day to day.

BRANTLEY'S RETURN

Sidelined for Cleveland's deep postseason run in 2016, Michael Brantley is along for the ride this year and the plan — before Encarnacion got hurt — was for the All-Star to start Game 3 in left.

He replaced Encarnacion in the second and went 0 for 5.

UP NEXT

Carrasco went 11-3 with a 2.65 ERA in 17 road starts. Tanaka, who struck out a career-high 15 in his last start, will be making his second postseason start for the Yankees. He lost the wild-card game in 2015.

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Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Oct. 8, the 281st day of 2017. There are 84 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 8, 1871, the Great Chicago Fire erupted; fires also broke out in Peshtigo, Wisconsin, and in several communities in Michigan.

On this date:

In 1869, the 14th president of the United States, Franklin Pierce (puhrs), died in Concord, New Hampshire.

In 1918, U.S. Army Cpl. Alvin C. York led an attack that killed 25 German soldiers and resulted in the capture of 132 others in the Argonne Forest in France.

In 1934, Bruno Hauptmann was indicted by a grand jury in New Jersey for murder in the death of the kidnapped son of Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh.

In 1945, President Harry S. Truman told a press conference in Tiptonville, Tennessee, that the secret scientific knowledge behind the atomic bomb would be shared only with Britain and Canada.

In 1956, Don Larsen pitched the only perfect game in a World Series to date as the New York Yankees beat the Brooklyn Dodgers in Game 5, 2-0.

In 1957, the Brooklyn Baseball Club announced it was accepting an offer to move the Dodgers from New York to Los Angeles.

In 1967, former British Prime Minister Clement Attlee died in London at age 84.

In 1970, Soviet author Alexander Solzhenitsyn was named winner of the Nobel Prize for literature.

In 1982, all labor organizations in Poland, including Solidarity, were banned.

In 1998, the House triggered an open-ended impeachment inquiry against President Bill Clinton in a momentous 258-176 vote; 31 Democrats joined majority Republicans in opening the way for nationally televised impeachment hearings.

In 2001, an SAS airliner taking off from Milan, Italy, hit a private jet, careened into an airport building and exploded; all 110 people on the MD-87, four people in the private jet and four people on the ground were killed.

In 2005, a magnitude 7.6 earthquake flattened villages on the Pakistan-India border, killing an estimated 86,000 people.

Ten years ago: British Prime Minister Gordon Brown announced his country would cut in half its remaining troop contingent in Iraq in the spring of 2008. (Britain ended up postponing the withdrawal amid a spike in militia violence.) Michael Devlin was sentenced in Union, Missouri, to life in prison for kidnapping one of two boys he'd held captive in his suburban St. Louis apartment. (Devlin pleaded guilty the next day to dozens of other counts, resulting in a total of 74 life sentences.) Americans Mario R. Capecchi, Oliver Smithies and Briton Martin J. Evans won the 2007 Nobel Prize in medicine. Racing great John Henry, the thoroughbred who earned more than \$6.5 million before retiring as a gelding, was euthanized at the Kentucky Horse Park at age 32.

Five years ago: Canadian Joshua Boyle and his U.S.-born wife, Caitlan Coleman, were last heard from in Afghanistan before being kidnapped by the Taliban; they remain in captivity. President Barack Obama designated the Keene, California, home of Cesar Chavez, the late founder of the United Farmworkers Union, as a national monument.

One year ago: Three Palm Springs, California, police officers were shot, two fatally, in what authorities called an ambush during a domestic dispute call by a gang member; a suspect has pleaded not guilty to murder. Donald Trump vowed on Twitter to continue his campaign even though he said the "media and establishment" wanted him out of the race "so badly"; many Republicans were calling on Trump to abandon his presidential bid in the wake of the release of a 2005 video in which he made lewd remarks about women and appeared to condone sexual assault.

Today's Birthdays: Entertainment reporter Rona Barrett is 81. Actor Paul Hogan is 78. Rhythm-and-blues

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singer Fred Cash (The Impressions) is 77. Civil rights activist Rev. Jesse Jackson is 76. Comedian Chevy Chase is 74. Author R.L. Stine is 74. Actor Dale Dye is 73. Country singer Susan Raye is 73. TV personality Sarah Purcell is 69. Rhythm-and-blues singer Airrion Love (The Stylistics) is 68. Actress Sigourney Weaver is 68. Rhythm-and-blues singer Robert "Kool" Bell (Kool & the Gang) is 67. Producer-director Edward Zwick is 65. Country singer-musician Ricky Lee Phelps is 64. Actor Michael Dudikoff is 63. Comedian Darrell Hammond is 62. Actress Stephanie Zimbalist is 61. Rock musician Mitch Marine is 56. Actress Kim Wayans is 56. Rock singer Steve Perry (Cherry Poppin' Daddies) is 54. Actor Ian Hart is 53. Gospel/rhythm-and-blues singer CeCe Winans is 53. Rock musician C.J. Ramone (The Ramones) is 52. Actress-producer Karyn Parsons is 51. Singer-producer Teddy Riley is 51. Actress Emily Procter is 49. Actor Dylan Neal is 48. Actor-screenwriter Matt Damon is 47. Actor-comedian Robert Kelly is 47. The mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, is 47. Actor Martin Henderson is 43. Actress Kristanna Loken is 38. Rhythm-and-blues singer Byron Reeder (Mista) is 38. Rock-soul singer-musician Noelle Scaggs (Fitz and the Tantrums) is 38. Actor Nick Cannon is 37. Actor Max Crumm is 32. Singer-songwriter-producer Bruno Mars is 32. Actor Angus T. Jones is 24. Actress Molly Quinn is 24.

Thought for Today: "History is the propaganda of the victors." — Ernst Toller, German poet and dramatist (1893-1939).