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- 1- Blocker Construction Ad
- 1- UMC Fall Dinner today
- 2- Chicken Soup for the Soul
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- 3- Groton Care & Rehap Help Wanted
- 3- Groton Area Help Wanted
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Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

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

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

Groton 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 605-397-2351.



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Senior Snow Queen Contestants

The Snow Queen Contest is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 5, 7 p.m., at the GHS Gym. The senior snow queen contestants are pictured above. In back, left to right, are Maddison Sippel, Hattie Weismantel, Alex Stange, Hannah Lewandowski and Gia Gengerke; in front, left to right, are Jessica Bjerke, Ericka Herr, Jasmine Schinkel and Jennifer Fjelstad (Photo by Tina Kosel)

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Junior Snow Queen Contestants

The Snow Queen Contest is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 5, 7 p.m., at the GHS Gym. The junior snow queen contestants are pictured above. In back, left to right, are Tanae Lipp, Sarah Sippel, Regan Leicht, Tiara DeHoet; in front, left to right, are Alexa Herr, Jasmine Gengerke, Kenzie McInerney and Alexis Hanten; not pictured is Tessa Erdmann due to National FFA. (Photo by Tina Kosel)

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South Dakota's Economy Benefits from NAFTA

Free and fair trade is vital to South Dakota's economy. Not only does it open up important markets for South Dakota products, it results in higher wages and supports our small businesses and producers. Last year, we exported \$1.2 billion in products to other countries, including goods, machinery and electronic equipment. In particular, the North American Free Trade Agreement—NAFTA between the U.S., Mexico and Canada, South Dakota's top two exporters in 2016, continues to benefit our farmers, ranchers and manufacturers.



Since taking office, President Trump has indicated that he has a desire to renegotiate our trade agreements, and in May of this year, he announced the administration would begin talks with Canada and Mexico to renegotiate NAFTA. I am supportive of him making the best possible deals for American producers, however simply withdrawing from NAFTA, without a similar structure in place, would harm South Dakota's producers.

Just last year, American producers sent \$20.5 billion worth of exports to Canada and \$17.8 billion worth of exports to Mexico, which is the largest market for U.S. corn and soymeal. Mexico is also the second largest market for U.S. soybeans and the third largest market for U.S. beef. American trade with our NAFTA partners has more than tripled since the agreement took effect, and has increased more rapidly than trade with the rest of the world. Between 1993 and 2016, according to trade data reported by the U.S. International Trade Commission, U.S. trade with Mexico increased by 544 percent and trade with Canada increased 158 percent.

Agriculture is South Dakota's number one industry, and trade contributes to the overall health of the ag economy. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) concluded in a recent report that NAFTA has had a positive impact on North American agriculture over the past two decades. The value of U.S. agricultural trade with our NAFTA partners has increased from \$8.7 billion in 1992—before the agreement was implemented—to \$38.1 billion in 2016, while imports rose from \$6.5 billion to \$44.5 billion. The leading NAFTA-traded products are meat and dairy products, followed closely by grains. South Dakota is a top producer of these products.

I have encouraged the administration to maintain strong ties with our NAFTA partners as they continue their negotiations. I have repeatedly asked our U.S. Trade Representative, Robert Lighthizer, to stand up for the United States' agricultural industry abroad, and work to open up new markets for American products. Earlier this year, the administration reached an agreement to allow for U.S. exports of beef into China. This was a win for South Dakota ranchers, who are now able to sell their top-quality beef in a lucrative market.

Canada and Mexico are essential trading partners for our state and nation, and I encourage the administration to continue working with their leaders to maintain an agreement for free and fair trade among our countries. At a time of economic downturn in our agricultural sector, continuing to increase trade with our North American neighbors and other global allies is of vital importance.

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The Life of Sondra Peckham

Sondra K. Peckham, 76, of Buckley, died Oct. 22, 2017 in Bonney Lake, WA. She was born Feb. 11, 1941 to Chester & Florence Thompson in Aberdeen, SD. She married Rex Peckham June 26, 1957 in Groton, SD. Sondra graduated from Grossmont Community College with a degree in respiratory therapy in 1968. She worked for Kiser & Grossmont Hospitals until 1975 when she moved to Buckley, WA. Then she went to work for Community Memorial Hospital as a respiratory therapist. During her tenure she became the manager of her department and ultimately managed the Emergency Department, Nursing and Laundry Department. She also became the Infection Control Officer. Sondra was a member of APIC – Association for Professionals in Infection Control & Epidemiology. She retired from the hospital and went to work for the Enumclaw Medical Center. She retried again to their tree farm in Buckley & Rochester. Sondra enjoyed crafts, knitting, crocheting, cooking and baking. Everyone loved her.

Sondra is survived by her husband, Rex Peckham of Buckley; sons, Bradley Peckhan of Tacoma, Lane Peckham and wife, Nanette of Federal

Way, and Bret Peckham and wife, Michelle of Desert Aire, WA; daughters, Lisa Gallagher and husband Chris of Boise, ID and Wendy Mahaney and husband Charles of Graham. She is also survived by 13 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

Sondra is preceded in death by her daughter, Leigh Anna Grover March 29, 2915; brothers, Ivan and Darwin; sisters, Audrey and Shirley.

Memorials may be made to: Children's Hospital Foundation, PO Box 50020, Seattle, WA 98401. A memorial service will be held, Sat., Nov, 4, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at Weeks' Funeral Home, 451 Cemetery Rd., Buckley, WA 98321. Please sign the online guest book at www.weeksfuneralhomes.com

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Today in Weather History

October 29, 1925: Record cold occurred across the area on this date in 1925. The record lows were 9 at Wheaton, Minnesota, 2 degrees below zero at Watertown, 5 degrees below zero at Aberdeen, 7 degrees below zero southeast of McInstosh, and a frigid late October 19 degrees below zero at Kennebec.

1693: From the Royal Society of London: "There happened a most violent storm in Virginia which stopped the course of ancient channels and made some where there never were any." Known as the Accomack Storm, this event likely caused changes to the Delmarva shoreline, and coastal inlets.

ROSLYN, SOUTH DAKOTA 4-PLEX FOR SALE

The following real estate is for sale: Lots Seven (7), Eight (8) and Nine (9), Block Twenty-two (22), Original Plat, Roslyn, Day County, South Dakota;

A/k/a 716 1st Street, Roslyn, South Dakota; st Consisting of lots and 4-plex apartment house, currently unoccupied and has been for five (5) years. Property is to be sold "AS IS". Apartment units have electric baseboard heat and electric hot water heaters. Apartment units also include electric ranges, refrigerators, and washers/dryers.

No warranties are being offered on the appliances ("AS IS").

Interested parties should submit sealed bids to Law Office of Danny R. Smeins, P.C., 506 Main Street, Webster, SD 57274, or hand delivered to the same address prior to 5:00 p.m. on the 14th day of November, 2017. Bids will be opened after the bid deadline, and Seller will identify the bidders that will be invited to raise their bid on the 17 day of November, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. at the Law Office of Danny R. Smeins, P.C. in Webster, South Dakota. Not all bidders will be invited to raise their bid.

Successful bidder will be required to execute a standard Purchase Agreement and make an earnest money deposit.

SELLER RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS.

Direct all inquiries, questions or requests for real estate information to Danny R. Smeins, Attorney at Law, at (605) 345-4875 or (605) 448-5964 or Ray Lardy, Roslyn Homes, Inc., at (605) 228-1597 or Richard Galbraith at (605) 229-0180. 1917 - The temperature at Denver, CO, dipped to zero, and at Soda Butte, WY, the mercury plunged to 33 degrees below zero, a U.S. record for the month of October. (David Ludlum)

1942 - A tornado struck the town of Berryville in northwest Arkansas killing 20 persons and causing half a million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1948: An historic smog event occurred in the town of Donora, Pennsylvania. The smog killed 20 people and sickened 7,000 more.

1956 - A violent tornado, or series of tornadoes, moved along a path more than 100 miles in length from south of North Platte NE into Rock County NE. It was an unusually late occurence so far north and west in the U.S. for such a storm. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Severe thunderstorms in Arizona produced wind gusts to 86 mph at the Glendale Airport near Phoenix, baseball size hail and 70 mph winds at Wickenburg, and up to an inch of rain in fifteen minutes in Yavapai County and northwest Maricopa County. Arizona Public Service alone reported 2.5 million dollars damage from the storms. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Wintry weather prevailed in the Upper Midwest. South Bend, IN, equalled their record for October with a morning low of 23 degrees. International Falls MN reported a record low of 11 degrees in the morning, then dipped down to 8 degrees above zero late in the evening. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced severe weather in Oklahoma and north central Texas during the late afternoon and evening hours. Thunderstorms in Oklahoma produced weak tornadoes near Snyder and Davidson, and produced hail two inches in diameter at Altus. Large hail damaged 60 to 80 percent of the cotton crop in Tillman County OK. Nine cities in the northeastern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date as readings warmed into the 70s. For Marquette MI it marked their fifth straight day of record warmth. Arctic cold invaded the western U.S. Lows of 7 degrees at Alamosa CO and 9 degrees at Elko NV were records for the date. (The National Weather Summary)

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Monday

Night



Today

Rain Likely then Chance Rain and Breezy



Tonight

Mostly Cloudy and Blusterv



Low: 28 °F

High: 37 °F

Monday

Mostly Cloudy

and Breezy

Decreasing Clouds

Low: 17 °F



High: 38 °F

Tuesday





Low: 27 °F

Tuesday

Night



Wednesday

Mostly Cloudy



Mostly Cloudy

High: 47 °F



Published on: 10/29/2017 at 5:21AM

A storm system crossing the region today will bring light rain, along with breezy northwesterly winds. The strongest winds will occur west of the Missouri Valley were gusts could exceed 45 mph. Highs today will reach the 50s. Much colder temperatures are expected on Monday and Tuesday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 45.2 Low Outside Temp: 9.9 High Gust: 13 Precip: 0.00

Today's Info Record High: 79° in 1937

Record High: 79° in 1937 Record Low: -5° in 1925 Average High: 51°F Average Low: 27°F Average Precip in Oct: 1.91 Precip to date in Oct: 0.67 Average Precip to date: 20.39 Precip Year to Date: 13.47 Sunset Tonight: 6:24 p.m. Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:10 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart Valid Sun, Oct 29, 2017, issued 5:05 AM EDT DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center Prepared by Kong 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)





WHAT SIZE GOD DO YOU WORSHIP?

Some years ago J.B. Phillips wrote a compelling book entitled, Your God Is Too Small. Most of the world was startled by its title. What could he mean that the Creator of heaven and earth and everything in it and on it could possibly be too small?

His purpose was to expose those of us who did not believe that our God was big enough or wise enough or powerful enough or compassionate enough or even willing to solve the problems of the world. Surely, he reasoned if He was, and if we who called Him Lord, had enough confidence in Him and concern for the world's issues, we could expect Him to do something about them if we prevailed in prayer.

Sometimes we picture God as though He were Lincoln sitting in an arm chair looking out into the distance from His perch in Washington. Other times we picture Him with a flowing white beard having no place to sit as He floats around the universe. Some picture Him peeking over a cloud looking at the "mess" He created and wondering what to do.

Psalm 65 sees God as the Creator of all things and the One to whom all things – great and small, big or little, important or insignificant – belong. Additionally, He sustains His creation by His constant involvement in everything: from falling rains to the harvesting of grain.

But it does not end there: He is not only the Creator-Sustainer, He is the Redeemer-Savior. One day, He will reclaim His universe and make all things new!

Prayer: Lord, increase our faith to exceed the size of our problems knowing that You can do the impossible. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 65:5 You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

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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 Meat- 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 Prógram 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

Tribal leaders call land-use bill step in right direction By ISSAC WINDES, Cronkite News

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tribal leaders backed a House bill Wednesday that would give tribes the ability to control more of their land, instead of having to get federal approval for virtually any use.

The American Indian Empowerment Act would let tribes shift federally controlled trust land to "restricted fee land," a move that could save millions of dollars that tribes now spend on "burdensome regulation," while restoring a level of tribal sovereignty.

While they called the bill a step in the right direction, however, witnesses said they are concerned about ambiguities in the thin, three-page bill that "could allow state or local governments to implement property taxes on tribal land," among other issues.

Navajo Nation Vice President Jonathan Nez said that clarifying those issues is necessary for tribes who, "given our history with the federal government . are rightly concerned about any further loss of our lands."

But with slight changes, witnesses said at a hearing of House Natural Resources subcommittee, the bill would greatly benefit Indian Country.

Currently, Nez said, even small tasks are laborious and expensive for tribes. He pointed to road repairs that the state can do "in days" in most of Arizona.

"But when it comes to dealing with road infrastructure on our nation . we have to wait for BIA (the Bureau of Indian Affairs) on the regulations, we would have to go through environmental reviews, right-of-way applications," Nez told the committee . "And it takes years sir, and a lot of resources."

He said bureaucracy was in part to blame for problems with electricity and water, which he said "are not helped by the current requirement that we gain additional approvals from the Department of Interior for rights-of-way permits across our own lands."

Those delays come with a cost: Nez said that of "the dollars that go to Indian Country to improve the roads, millions of dollars are utilized to go just to those clearances, and right-of-ways alone."

Lummi Nation Council Member Henry Cagey said the current system "interferes with the sovereign authority of the tribal government to determine what is appropriate use of our own land." By shifting trust land to restricted fee lands, which are "not considered owned by the United States," tribal leaders have exclusive management rights for the land.

Cagey said the bill "streamlines land-use regulation and makes it easier to develop such things as housing or businesses."

Eric Henson, an executive vice president for economic consulting company Compass Lexecon, said the bill is a "very positive move forward" but that there are "a few clarifying things" that need to be addressed to avoid unforeseen consequences.

One concern raised by Henson is the lack of specific language about taxation in the bill, which could open the door to other governments taxing the restricted fee lands. Henson, who works with the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, said it's "diminishing" to the sovereignty of tribal governments to dictate how they can tax their lands.

"We should treat Indian nations as nations," Henson said . "You wouldn't call France, and say, 'Hey, don't tax your citizens because we are going to do it instead . Why don't you guys start exporting more baguettes?' That would be crazy."

Nez said the bill should also include language to let tribes "elect to revert land back to trust land from restricted federal land if they deem it in their best interest."

Henson said tribes could decide to put land back into trust for any number of reasons, including unexpected taxes leveraged by state and local governments and other "unforeseen consequences."

This is the fourth time Kep. Don Young. K-Alaska, has introduced the bill. No previous version has ever gotten out of committee.

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But Cagey and other panelists said it's time for the bill, that tribes are able to regulate themselves. "What we're asking the committee to do is what's best for us," Cagey said. "Not what's best for the businesses, or the state or the county or the United States, but what's best for the Indian people."

Long-time friends recall fishing adventures By NATHAN SUMMERS, The Daily Reflector of Greenville

GREENVILLE, N.C. (AP) — Joe Albea's earliest childhood memories of the Tar River are the many times his mother told him to stay away from it.

It is the same for lifelong friend, business associate and fishing buddy Tommy Harrington. Luckily, they both disobeyed their moms at some point.

The two have spent their lives fishing and filming the Tar-Pamlico system, and no one could likely match their combined knowledge of its complex web of creeks and bays, unique landmarks and diverse fish and fishermen. The duo helped to launch a state outdoors institution with the UNC-TV series "Carolina Outdoor Journal" that has now cast lines across North Carolina for 24 seasons.

Albea's face has become synonymous with Carolina angling in that time, and Joe Albea Productions is still based in Greenville despite the show's long-standing statewide popularity.

Albea is also a staunch conservationist, having played a major role in defeating the U.S. Navy's proposed Outlying Landing Field in the northeastern part of the state, as well as proposed paper and ethanol plants on the Roanoke River, all of which would have affected local fish and bird populations.

But a day of fishing his home river or even having lunch with him is an experience with a man who is humble about his accomplishments, dedicated to the friends and family who have helped him get where he is and quietly competitive and even a little sarcastic when it comes to fishing.

"Everybody always wants to know, 'When are you going to let me come on your show and fish with you?" Albea said recently. "And I always ask them, 'Can you catch a fish?"

As Albea himself has learned, when the cameras are rolling and show deadlines are a factor, that is often a vital question. It is not a matter, he said, of taking an entire day to catch one, but to catch many within the inevitable time constraints of TV and to make it entertaining to boot.

For 24 years, Albea has been working to master that outwardly simple yet undoubtedly difficult task. His collection of shows is a comprehensive tour of the Tarheel State that seemingly has left no stream's stone unturned and no fish ignored.

When given the choice, though, Albea has usually sided with being in his hometown. Similarly, even with the almost constant lure of more and bigger fish found in the river when it changes from the Tar to the Pamlico in Washington, Albea is quick to defend the Tar as a top-flight fishery all its own.

"The Tar has always had fish. A lot of people kind of turn their nose up to it," said Albea, named in 2012 as the Sportsman of the Year by North Carolina Sportsman Magazine. "That's where my earliest experience in fishing happened. And I remember fondly going down to Chicod Creek on Friday afternoons after school or Saturday mornings. We'd fish for shad and people would be dipping (nets) for herring." Best friends in the biz

Albea's friendship with Harrington dates back at least four decades and is largely based in both of their former careers as wildlife still photographers. Both went in different directions in their working lives, but to sit with them now is to see that not much has changed in their friendship other than the ever-increasing numbers of fish they have caught together.

Albea got his start as what he described as a stringer for Franc White on the long-standing Southern Sportsman TV series in the mid-1970s. He worked as White's cameraman, shooting roughly 50 shows while honing his skills in video and film production.

"During that time I was doing some outdoor writing, and we'd go out on trips then I'd write about it," he said. "That's where I got my first exposure to moving pictures. (White) was shooting in 16mm film (on what Albea said were WWII-era cameras), and my whole career spans, dating back to film, all the way to HD."

In the late '80s, Albea started his own video company and began trotting the globe filming — two African

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safaris and eight Alaskan treks were among his journeys. But no amount of miles quelled his passion for fishing his home state, so when Albea first began thinking of doing his own show he needed experienced, trustworthy anglers.

In short, he needed people he knew could catch a fish. That's where Harrington came into the fold. Some of the earliest episodes of Carolina Outdoor Journal, in fact, featured Harrington, whose own accomplishments as a photographer include the covers of such outdoor mega-magazines as Field & Stream and Outdoor Life.

Since they initially worked on the show together in 1989, Carolina Outdoor Journal has logged 250 episodes in standard format and 177 more since switching to HD.

The technology it takes Albea to make a successful fishing show has changed, but both men readily agree that the fishing itself has changed a lot too.

Harrington, 66, spent a great deal of his boyhood at his uncle's cabin in the woods next to Hardee Creek near the modern day Port Terminal boat ramp. He said it was there he first learned to hunt and fish.

"My daddy taught me how to shoot a rifle there and we cooked fish stews there," said Harrington, adding that he vaguely remembers excitedly carrying cane poles up the path of his family's farm in the mornings to fish in ponds as a tiny child. His uncle had a flat-bottom boat, and Harrington remembers taking it solo into the murky twists and turns of Hardee Creek, helping to instill a lifelong passion for the waters of eastern North Carolina.

"I couldn't go out in the river," Harrington said. "That was off-limits. But in that creek, you could catch all the bream, all the crappie, white perch and a rock or a bass every now and then that you wanted. Fishing was great."

Like Albea, Harrington went from fishing off the bank to buying his first boat. Then he began exploring the entire system with a fishing rod in hand — Tranters Creek, Blounts Creek, Goose Creek and beyond, and his life changed. He later became a tournament bass angler.

"If you don't talk fishing to me, I'm gone," Harrington said, contending that the fishery's cherished striped bass population, now mostly stocked fish, is as high as he has seen it in recent years, but he agrees with the prevailing belief that the average fish has shrunk substantially over time.

It is a far cry, he said, from the 6- to 8-pound average rockfish he said once were common. He said netting practices, including some done by his uncle, began rapidly depleting the native striper population, especially erasing the older, bigger fish. The science on the subject substantiates that claim.

Both men talked about their early forays into fishing the Tar in the late '50s and early '60s, and of the once-legendary herring runs up the river and into the creeks.

Albea recalled short piers set up for netting the fish en masse and doing just that as a high school student. Harrington said the now possibly endangered herring once were so plentiful they were sold for a penny apiece during the annual run.

Albea said it was local custom to smoke the fish right along the river banks, creating a scene likely never to be seen again.

Perhaps those memories are in the back of Albea's mind as he relentlessly pursues the state's underwater wildlife and tries to keep the spotlight on preserving it. Maybe they are what make him so steadfastly loyal to his home fishery.

With me riding in the back seat of his truck with Harrington riding shotgun on our way to an unforgettable late-October fishing day on the Pamlico, Albea recounted his trip to Florida earlier in the week for a prominent lure company's annual retreat.

He had quite an experience, including catching one of the Sunshine State's most sought-after trophies, a snook, while he was there. But now he was back home, headed out for another day of fishing with Harrington, and he proclaimed eastern N.C. "a world-class fishery."

"I wouldn't leave here to retire there," Albea added as he steered the truck toward the Pamlico.

____ Information from: The Daily Reflector, http://www.reflector.com

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SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash 02-04-15-21-26 (two, four, fifteen, twenty-one, twenty-six)

Hot Lotto 13-23-31-35-46, Hot Ball: 19 (thirteen, twenty-three, thirty-one, thirty-five, forty-six; Hot Ball: nineteen)

Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$40 million

Powerball 27-35-38-57-66, Powerball: 10, Power Play: 2 (twenty-seven, thirty-five, thirty-eight, fifty-seven, sixty-six; Powerball: ten; Power Play: two)

South Dakota defense dominates for 7th win, 42-0

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Andrew Gray returned an interception a school-record 97 yards to help lead South Dakota to a dominating 42-0 win over Southern Illinois on Saturday as the Coyotes got to seven wins in a season for the first time at the FCS level.

Mike Johnson stole one in the final quarter, returning it 80 yards for another score as Tanner Hearn was intercepted four times.

South Dakota (7-1, 4-1 Missouri Valley Conference) was without the services of senior quarterback Chris Streveler who was injured on the first drive of the game. Austin Simmons stepped in, completing 11 of 18 passes for 91 yards and two touchdowns.

Streveler was throwing passes on the sideline in the second half, but the Coyotes led 28-0 late in the third, so he remained out.

Michael Fredrick rushed for 94 yards and a touchdown.

Darrell James had 105 yards receiving for the Salukis (4-4, 2-3).

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

Christion's 5 TDs send S. Dakota St. past W. Illinois 52-24

MACOMB, Ill. (AP) — Taryn Christion threw for 386 yards and five touchdowns and ran for another score and South Dakota State pulled away from Western Illinois for a 52-24 win on Saturday.

The Jackrabbits scored 21 points in the third quarter and eclipsed the 50-point mark for the second week in a row and fourth time this season.

Christion, a junior, moved into second place in school history with 58 career touchdown passes ahead of Ryan Berry's 56 from 2005 to 2008. Austin Sumner's school record 65 TD throws was set from 2011 to 2014. He's thrown 21 TDs in eight games this season and is on pace to eclipse his 30 TD mark set in 13 games last season.

Christion put South Dakota State (6-2, 3-2 Missouri Valley Conference) ahead for good, 24-17, on a 1-yard scoring pass to Jake Wieneke 55 seconds before halftime. In the third, he threw scoring passes to Marquise Lewis for 46, found Wieneke from 6-yards out and Mikey Daniel ran it in from 2-yards out to seal the game.

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Steve McShane led Western Illinois (5-3, 2-3) with 90 yards rushing and two scores.

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

Police investigate alleged assault involving USD students

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Police in Vermilion are investigating an alleged sexual assault involving University of South Dakota students.

A university statement says the incident involved students in an off-campus location. It says school officials received a complaint Wednesday and turned it over to law enforcement and the appropriate university authorities for investigation.

Neither the Vermilion Police Department nor USD have provided many details of exactly what happened. Capt. Chad Passick says no arrests have been made since the investigation began Wednesday, but police don't believe there's a lingering threat to the community. He says investigators are determining whether there's enough evidence for any arrests or charges. He says it's too early to say if alcohol was a factor. Student body president Teagan McNary says students are upset but still feel safe.

Pipeline protester sent to Fargo halfway house, awaits trial

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A Denver woman accused of shooting at law enforcement officers during a protest against the Dakota Access pipeline has been moved to a Fargo halfway house to await trial.

The Bismarck Tribune says court documents show marshals were set to transport Red Fawn Fallis from the Stutsman County Correctional Center to Fargo. Chad Jackson, administrator of jail in Jamestown, confirms that Fallis left his facility.

Fallis is due to stand trial beginning Jan. 29 on allegations that she fired a handgun three times as officers tried to arrest her at a protest last year. She has pleaded not guilty to federal charges that include discharge of a firearm in a crime of violence and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Her trial is expected to last 10 days.

Information from: Bismarck Tribune, http://www.bismarcktribune.com

Tens of thousands rally in Barcelona for Spanish unity By ARITZ PARRA, ELENA BECATOROS and JOSEPH WILSON, Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Tens of thousands who want Catalonia to remain part of Spain rallied in downtown Barcelona on Sunday, two days after a separatist majority in Catalonia's parliament voted for the wealthy region to secede.

Organizers say the march's goal is to defend Spain's unity and reject "an unprecedented attack in the history of democracy." Leaders of rival pro-union parties from the ruling conservatives, the pro-business liberals and the socialists have joined together under the slogan "We are all Catalonia. Common sense for coexistence!"

Grassroots group Societat Civil Catalan called for those who oppose Catalonia from breaking away to march at noon Sunday (1100 GMT; 7 a.m. EDT). Demonstrators, many waving Spanish, Catalan and European Union flags, flooded a central boulevard. The mood was festive and jubilant, with no incidents reported.

Three weeks ago, the same group organized a mass rally that brought hundreds of thousands onto Barcelona's streets. That was by far the largest pro-union show of force in Catalonia in recent years, in contrast to huge rallies by separatists.

"We have organized ourselves late, but we are here to show that there is a majority of Catalans that are no longer silent and that no longer want to be silenced," Societat Civil Catalana president Alex Ramos said. Members of Spain's central government, including Health Minister Dolors Montserrat, and Enric Millo,

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who is Madrid's representative in Catalonia, also attended Sunday's rally. No major pro-independence marches were expected.

Catalonia's separatist leader, who was fired along with his regional government on Saturday, has called for Catalans to engage in peaceful opposition to Spain's crackdown to keep the country together.

The vote by pro-independence lawmakers Friday in favor of secession, and Madrid's response triggering unprecedented constitutional powers taking control of Catalan affairs, was the climax of Spain's worst political crisis in decades.

Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy also dissolved Catalonia's parliament and called a new regional election for Dec. 21.

Separatists only won 48 percent of the vote in Catalonia in the last regional election in 2015, although they took more seats because of Spanish election law which gives more weight to sparsely populated areas.

The top politicians for pro-union parties wanted to use Sunday's rally as a launchpad for the critical elections in just over six weeks.

"It's time to take over the streets and take over the ballot boxes," said Albert Rivera, the leader of the center-right Citizens party.

Oriol Junqueras, the ousted vice president of Catalonia's rebellious government, wrote in an open letter in Catalan newspaper El Punt-Avui on Sunday that separatists should consider participating in the elections. That was in response to some secessionists who argue to boycott them.

The Catalan parliament's vote to secede came after an illegal Oct. 1 referendum in Catalonia in favor of independence. Spain's constitutional court had outlawed the vote, and local opponents to secession had boycotted the process after separatists violated parliament rules to push through its convocation.

Voting on the day itself was marred by violence when national police clashed with people attempting to cast their ballots, in what was widely seen in the region as a heavy-handed response by Spanish police. But Spain's government said that the police response was proportionate to the resistance that officers met.

Ousted Catalan president Carles Puigdemont issued a televised message Saturday saying that he and other regional officials fired by Madrid would keep "working to build a free country." His comments were a veiled refusal to accept his Cabinet's dismissal as ordered by central authorities.

Following their official dismissal, Puigdemont and the 12 members who until Saturday made up the Catalan Cabinet are no longer paid.

Spain's government has said they could be charged with usurping others' functions if they refuse to obey, which could throw the region into further turmoil by prolonging a monthlong standoff.

Separately, a Belgian government official said Sunday it would be "not unrealistic" for Puigdemont to ask for asylum, and warned it would create serious diplomatic difficulties with fellow European Union member state Spain.

Asylum State Secretary Theo Francken said on Twitter that "it is possible to ask for asylum as an EU subject" in Belgium, adding it was up to independent asylum authorities whether to grant it.

The 28-nation EU is considered a bloc where the rule of law applies and granting asylum based on arguments that repression would endanger the full exercise of one's rights would be exceptional.

"If you assess the situation at this stage, including the prison terms and the repression from Madrid," Francken told VTM network, "there is the question whether a person like that can get a fair trial, of course."

In another tweet, he stressed Belgium wasn't seeking such a scenario. "I am not rolling out the welcome mat," he said.

In the past, some Basque separatists have asked for asylum in Belgium and weren't extradited to Spain, causing years of friction.

Raf Casert in Brussels contributed to this report.

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AP sources: DeVos may only partly forgive some student loans By MARIA DANILOVA, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Education Department is considering only partially forgiving federal loans for students defrauded by for-profit colleges, according to department officials, abandoning the Obama administration's policy of erasing that debt.

Under President Barack Obama, tens of thousands of students deceived by now-defunct for-profit schools had over \$550 million in such loans canceled.

But President Donald Trump's education secretary, Betsy DeVos, is working on a plan that could grant such students just partial relief, according to department officials. The department may look at the average earnings of students in similar programs and schools to determine how much debt to wipe away.

The officials were not authorized to publicly comment on the issue and spoke on condition of anonymity. If DeVos goes ahead, the change could leave many students scrambling after expecting full loan forgiveness, based on the previous administration's track record. It was not immediately clear how many students might be affected.

A department spokeswoman did not immediately respond to a request for comment Saturday.

But the Trump team has given hints of a new approach.

In August, the department extended its contract with a staffing agency to speed up the processing of a backlog of loan forgiveness claims. In the procurement notice, the department said that "policy changes may necessitate certain claims already processed be revisited to assess other attributes." The department would not further clarify the meaning of that notice.

DeVos' review prompted an outcry from student loan advocates, who said the idea of giving defrauded students only partial loan relief was unjustified and unfair because many of their classmates had already gotten full loan cancellation. Critics say the Trump administration, which has ties to the for-profit sector, is looking out for industry interests.

Earlier this year, Trump paid \$25 million to settle charges his Trump University misled students.

"Anything other than full cancellation is not a valid outcome," said Eileen Connor, a litigator at Harvard University's Project on Predatory Student Lending, which has represented hundreds of defrauded students of the now-shuttered Corinthian Colleges. "The nature of the wrong that was done to them, the harm is even bigger than the loans that they have."

"Even more importantly, it is completely unfair that a happenstance of timing is going to mean that one student who's been defrauded is going to have full cancellation and the next is not," Connor said.

A federal regulation known as borrower defense allows students at for-profit colleges and other vocational programs to have their loans forgiven if it is determined that the students were defrauded by the schools. That rule dates to the early 1990s. But it was little used until the demise of Corinthian and ITT for-profit chains in recent years caused tens of thousands of students to request that the government cancel their loans.

In the last few months of the Obama administration, the Education Department updated the rule to add protections for students, shift more financial responsibility onto the schools and prevent schools from having students sign away their right to sue a school.

That change was set to take effect in July, but DeVos has frozen it and is working on a new version. She argued that the Obama regulation was too broad and could cancel the loans of some students without a sound basis.

DeVos has come under criticism for delaying consideration of over 65,000 applications for loan forgiveness under the borrower defense rule. The agency hasn't approved a single claim since DeVos took office in February.

Jennifer Wang, an expert with the Institute of College Access and Success, said the Obama administration was providing full loan cancellations to students.

"It would be totally different from what was happening under the last administration," Wang said. "It's not equitable; it's not fair for students. If she provides partial relief, it's that she only cares what's fair for

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schools and not students."

Abby Shafroth, an attorney at the National Consumer Law Center, said the agency could be faced with lawsuits, especially from Corinthian students, whose classmates had received full forgiveness.

Gurriel banned 5 games in 2018 for racist gesture at Darvish By KRISTIE RIEKEN, AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Yuli Gurriel will have to sit out for making a racist gesture toward Yu Darvish — but not during the World Series.

Major League Baseball suspended the Houston Astros first baseman Saturday for the first five games next season. The punishment came a day after Gurriel's actions toward the Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher during Game 3.

"I understand that people may have different views," Commissioner Rob Manfred said. "But it was my best judgment that this timing was appropriate."

"I wanted the burden of this discipline to fall primarily on the wrongdoer," he said.

The Cuban-born Gurriel pulled on the corners of his eyes after homering off Darvish during Houston's 5-3 win Friday night. He also used a derogatory Spanish term in reference to Darvish, who was born in Japan.

"I made an offensive gesture that was indefensible," Gurriel said in a statement released by the Astros. I sincerely apologize to everyone that I offended with my actions. I deeply regret it."

"I would particularly like to apologize to Yu Darvish, a pitcher that I admire and respect. I would also like to apologize to the Dodgers organization, the Astros, Major League Baseball and to all fans across the game," he said.

Gurriel said Friday that he wanted to meet with Darvish to express his regret. Manfred said there would be a private apology.

Gurriel will lose \$322,581 of his \$12 million salary next year, which the Astros will donate to charitable causes. He also will be required to undergo sensitivity training during the offseason.

Immediately after the game, Darvish said he was angry.

"Acting like that, you just disrespect all the people around the world," he said in Japanese through a translator.

Darvish later tweeted "let's stay positive and move forward instead of focusing on anger."

Gurriel drew cheers when he batted in the second inning of Game 4 on Saturday night. He grounded into a double play and finished 0 for 3 with a strikeout in Houston's 6-2 loss, which tied the Series at two games apiece.

The 33-year-old Gurriel played in Japan in 2014 and is completing his second season in the major leagues after leaving Cuba.

Darvish was born to a Japanese mother and an Iranian father. The four-time All-Star played professionally in Japan from 2005-11 before joining the Texas Rangers in 2012. He was sent to the Dodgers at this year's July 31 trade deadline.

Astros general manager Jeff Luhnow said the team was "surprised and disappointed" by Gurriel's behavior and supported Manfred's decision.

"Yuli has always demonstrated respectful behavior and is extremely remorseful for his actions," Luhnow said. "Appropriately, Yuli has apologized for his gesture. He had no intention of offending anyone, but now recognizes the perceived offensiveness of his actions."

MLB suspended two players this season for using slurs. Toronto's Kevin Pillar and Oakland's Matt Joyce each were banned two games after making anti-gay comments. In 2012, Toronto infielder Yunel Escobar was penalized three games for a gay slur.

"That precedent is not adequate to deal with the current situation," Manfred said. "I've decided to go beyond that precedent as a statement of our disapproval of this behavior."

Manfred said he was "impressed in my conversation with Yu Darvish by his desire to move forward, and I felt that moving the suspension to the beginning of the season would help in that regard."

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Said Manfred: "There is no place in our game for the behavior or any behavior like the behavior we witnessed last night."

"There is no excuse or explanation that makes that type of behavior acceptable," he said.

By imposing a penalty Gurriel and the players' union agreed not to contest, Manfred avoided a possible grievance hearing in the next few days before arbitrator Mark Irvings that would have taken attention away from the World Series.

Gurriel will be put on the restricted list next season, meaning the Astros can replace him and play with a 25-man roster.

Manfred would not compare Gurriel's actions with the Cleveland Indians' decision to keep using their Chief Wahoo logo, which has been criticized by Native Americans and others.

"I see a difference between behavior from one player directed specifically at a player, and a logo," he said. "While both are problematic, I don't see them as the same issue. We continue to have conversations with the Indians about the logo, and it's an issue I intend to deal with in the offseason."

More MLB baseball: https://apnews.com/tag/MLBbaseball

Bellinger, Dodgers top Astros 6-2 to tie World Series 2-all By RONALD BLUM, AP Baseball Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Cody Bellinger pulled into second base with his first World Series hit and said: "It's a miracle!"

With the Dodgers three innings from falling into a deep deficit, the rookie slugger sparked a late comeback that stopped the Houston Astros' surge.

Hitless in 13 at-bats, Bellinger doubled and scored the tying run in the seventh inning , then doubled home the go-ahead run off struggling closer Ken Giles in a five-run ninth that lifted Los Angeles to a 6-2 win Saturday night and tied the Series at two games apiece.

"Sometimes you see in the postseason you want to try to do too much, and that's what I was doing," Bellinger said. "Today I tried to make an effort of not doing too much, and when you do that you get two hits sometimes. It's a crazy game."

George Springer put the Astros ahead with a two-out homer in the sixth , the first hit off Los Angeles starter Alex Wood. The crowd at Minute Maid Park, where Houston had been 7-0 this postseason, was revved up in anticipation of the Astros having a chance to win the first title in their 56-season history on Sunday.

Instead, the Series will go back to Los Angeles no matter what. Clayton Kershaw starts Game 5 for the Dodgers on Sunday night and Dallas Keuchel for the Astros in a rematch of the opener, when Kershaw pitched Los Angeles to a 3-1 win.

Bellinger, a 22-year-old bopper who set a National League rookie record with 39 home runs this season, struck out four times in Game 3 and once more in the fifth inning — his eighth whiff of the Series.

Dodgers manager Dave Roberts expressed faith Friday night in Bellinger and again Saturday afternoon. "He's got that calmness about him," Roberts said. "And when things speed up, he has a way of sort of resetting and not letting it spiral."

During batting practice, Bellinger tried to emulate teammates Andre Ethier and Logan Forsythe by hitting the ball to the opposite field.

"I was always told these really good hitters hit the ball the other way in BP and I had never done it, and I wanted to try it," he said. "I hit every ball in BP today to the left side of the infield. I've never done that before in my life. Usually I try to lift. I needed to make an adjustment."

Bellinger lined a fastball to the opposite field over Marwin Gonzalez into the quirky corner next to the left-field scoreboard, chasing starter Charlie Morton. He came home on Forsythe's two-out single off Will Harris.

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Giles entered to start the ninth and got into immediate trouble, allowing a leadoff single to Corey Seager and a walk to Justin Turner. Bellinger took a low slider, then lined a fastball at the letters to left-center. He dropped his bat and raised a hand while running to first and clapped his hands half a dozen times in excitement after sliding into second.

"Every day you see him grow a little bit more," Wood said. "I think everybody kind of had the same message with him: 'We believe in you. You're our guy. You're special. Remember that.""

Joe Musgrove relieved and allowed Austin Barnes' sacrifice fly and Joc Pederson's three-run homer , his second home run of the Series.

"You like that! You like that!" Pederson yelled to teammates, a la Washington Redskins quarterback Kirk Cousins , as he came back to dugout.

Wood, Brandon Morrow, winner Tony Watson and Kenley Jansen combined on a two-hitter — the firstever in the Series in which both hits were home runs. Jansen allowed Alex Bregman's two-out long ball in the ninth , the 15th home run of the Series, most ever through four games, before retiring Jose Altuve on a flyout.

Giles, the loser, was charged with three runs.

"They were all crappy pitches, not where I wanted them," he said. "I need to do better. I need to pick up this team. I need to carry my weight."

He has an 11.75 postseason ERA, allowing runs in six of seven appearances.

"When you're a back-end reliever," Astros manager A.J. Hinch said, "unless you're extraordinarily dominant, you're only talked about when you suffer, when you struggle. So for him, he can handle it mentally. He can handle it physically."

Springer put the Astros ahead when he drove a curveball, Wood's 84th and final pitch, over the left-field scoreboard and into the Crawford Boxes. Wood dropped to a knee on the mound and watched the ball land in the seats and rebound onto the field.

Houston was nine outs from winning for the 18th time in 20 home games since returning to Minute Maid Park after Hurricane Harvey, and from becoming the first major league team to start a postseason 8-0 at home.

But the Dodgers tied the score in the seventh. Bellinger pointed skyward when reaching second standing up on his opposite-field hit. He clapped both hands above his head, said "It's a miracle!" and pointed for the ball to be saved.

Los Angeles had been 1 for 17 with runners in scoring position before Forsythe's hit.

Making only his second appearance since Sept. 26, Wood accomplished a feat that eluded Sandy Koufax, Don Drysdale, Orel Hershiser and other Dodgers pitching greats. In the team's 109th World Series game, Wood became the first Dodgers pitcher to hold an opponent hitless through five innings.

Houston had put a runner on in 14 consecutive innings before the 26-year-old lefty retired the side in order in the first.

Morton was nearly as stingy, allowing three hits in 6 1/3 innings. This was the first Series game in which both starters allowed four baserunners or fewer.

"The innings were rolling pretty quickly there the first four, five, six innings," Wood said. "It kept us both of us locked in."

Chris Taylor singled leading off the first but was thrown out on a delayed steal attempt that ended the inning, the first runner caught stealing by Houston catcher Brian McCann since June 18. That was part of a streak of 15 straight outs by Morton before he hit Barnes on the right forearm with a pitch leading off the sixth.

Enrique Hernandez's single put runners at the corners and Taylor hit a two-hopper to third that Bregman scooped on an in-between hop and threw home in plenty of time for McCann to tag Barnes, who tried to stop about 10 feet from the plate and fell. Bregman also threw out the Yankees' Greg Bird at the plate in the fifth inning of Game 7 in the AL Championship Series.

"We're a super-resilient team," Bellinger said. "Taking one here to make sure we go back to LA is huge."

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More MLB baseball: https://apnews.com/tag/MLBbaseball

JFK files release is Trump's latest clash with spy agencies By ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — It was a showdown 25 years in the making: With the world itching to finally get a look at classified Kennedy assassination files, and the deadline for their release just hours away, intelligence officials were still angling for a way to keep their secrets. President Donald Trump, the one man able to block the release, did not appreciate their persistence. He did not intend to make this easy.

Like much else surrounding investigations of the 1963 killing of President John F. Kennedy, this week's release of 2,800 records from the JFK files was anything but smooth. It came together only at the last minute, with White House lawyers still fielding late-arriving requests for additional redactions in the morning and an irritated Trump continuing to resist signing off on the request, according to an account by two White House officials. They spoke only on condition of anonymity to discuss internal discussions.

The tale of the final hours before the congressionally mandated 25-year release deadline on Thursday adds a new chapter to the story of Trump's troubled relationship with his spy agencies. He again flashed his skepticism and unpredictability in dealing with agencies long accustomed to a level of deference. Intelligence officials, meanwhile, were again left scratching their heads about a president whose impulses they cannot predict.

And those officials had their own story tell, some rejecting the notion they were slow to act on Trump's expectations for the documents. The CIA began work months ago to get its remaining assassination-related documents ready for release on Thursday, according to a person familiar with the process. The person, who was not authorized to publicly to discuss the process and spoke only on condition of anonymity, said the goal was to have all the agency's documents ready to be released in full or with national security redactions before the deadline.

Since taking office, Trump has challenged the integrity of intelligence leaders, moved to exert more control over U.S. spying agencies and accused his predecessor of using government spycraft to monitor his campaign. In the JFK files matter, one White House official said, Trump wanted to make clear he wouldn't be bullied by the agencies.

Whatever occurred in the lead-up to deadline day, Trump was irritated Thursday that agencies still were arguing for more redactions. The president earlier in the week had tweeted to tease the release of the documents, heightening the sense of drama on a subject that has sparked the imaginations of conspiracy theorists for decades. Under a 1992 law, all of the records related to the assassination were to be made public unless explicitly withheld by the president.

Just before the release Thursday, Trump wrote in a memorandum that he had "no choice" but to agree to requests from the CIA and FBI to keep thousands of documents secret because of the possibility that releasing the information could still harm national security. Two aides said Trump was upset by what he perceived to be overly broad secrecy requests, adding that the agencies had been explicitly warned about his expectation that redactions be kept to a minimum.

"The president and White House have been very clear with all agencies for weeks: They must be transparent and disclose all information possible," White House Principal Deputy Press Secretary Raj Shah said Friday.

Late last week, Trump received his first official briefing on the release in an Oval Office meeting that included Chief of Staff John Kelly, White House Counsel Don McGahn and National Security Council legal adviser John Eisenberg. Trump made it clear he was unsatisfied with the pace of declassification.

Trump's tweets, an official said, were meant as a signal to the intelligence community to take seriously his threats to release the documents in their entirety.

According to White House officials, Trump accepted that some of the records contained references to sensitive sources and methods used by the intelligence community and law enforcement and that declassification could harm American foreign policy interests. But after having the scope of the redactions

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presented to him, Trump told aides he did not believe them to be in the spirit of the law.

On Thursday, Trump's top aides presented him with an alternative to simply acquiescing to the agency requests: He could temporarily allow the redactions while ordering the agencies to launch a new comprehensive examination of the records still withheld or redacted in part. Trump accepted the suggestion, ordering that agencies be "extremely circumspect" about keeping the remaining documents secret at the end of the 180-day assessment.

"After strict consultation with General Kelly, the CIA and other agencies, I will be releasing ALL JFK files other than the names and addresses of any mentioned person who is still living," Trump wrote in a Friday tweet. "I am doing this for reasons of full disclosure, transparency and in order to put any and all conspiracy theories to rest."

Trump returned to the topic in a Saturday night tweet: "JFK Files are released, long ahead of schedule!" The deadline set by law came Thursday, the day the documents were released.

Associated Press writer Deb Riechmann contributed to this report.

Delta: Bird likely caused damage to plane carrying Thunder

CHICAGO (AP) — Delta Air Lines says a charter flight carrying the Oklahoma City Thunder from Minneapolis to Chicago apparently encountered a bird early Saturday when it was landing, causing damage that prompted some players to post photos on social media showing the caved-in nose of the plane.

No one was reported hurt. The Thunder are playing the Chicago Bulls on Saturday night.

"You never take anything for granted, just be thankful and blessed they we were able to land the plane and everything was OK," Thunder star Russell Westbrook said. "Seeing stuff like that just shows you how you need to cherish life and understand the important things in life and embrace every moment."

Carmelo Anthony, Josh Huestis, and Steven Adams all posted photos of the plane shortly after it landed around 12:45 a.m.

Anthony wrote on Instagram, "What possibly could we have hit in the SKY at this time of night? Evervone is Safe, Though."

Adams' Twitter post said , "We had a rough flight to say the least." Huestis wrote on Twitter , "I guess we hit something? 30,000 feet up..."

Delta Airlines spokeswoman Elizabeth Wolf said maintenance was evaluating the situation and that the damage was likely caused by a collision with a bird. She said the Boeing 757-200 landed safely without incident at Chicago's Midway International Airport.

"Must've been a pretty big bird — a Pterodactyl maybe," Thunder forward Nick Collison said.

Collison was watching the show "Stranger Things" when he felt the plane drop for a second like a "roller-coaster."

"It's one of those moments you bow your head and thank the man above," Westbrook said.

Coach Billy Donovan said the plane encountered the turbulence about halfway through the flight.

"The plane dropped a little bit," Donovan said. "Then they just basically told us they were trying to get to a lower altitude because they maybe were concerned about the cabin pressure.

"We landed safely. Thank God everybody was safe."

The Thunder lost to the Minnesota Timberwolves 119-116 on Friday night.

This version of the story corrects airline's official name to Delta Air Lines from Delta Airllines.

Egypt triggers major security shakeup a week after ambush **By BRIAN ROHAN, Associated Press**

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt launched a major shakeup of its security services on Saturday in an apparent reaction to an ambush by militants outside Cairo last week that killed at least 16 police troopers.

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President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi replaced his armed forces chief of staff, while the Interior Ministry, in charge of police, dismissed the head of national security, a handful of generals, and a dozen senior leaders responsible for the area where the deadly shootout occurred.

The move was not unexpected after officials publicly evoked potential intelligence failures, lack of coordination, or incompetence as playing a factor in the losses, the latest installment of Egypt's ongoing war against Islamic militants, including the Islamic State group.

Last Friday's attack took place in the al-Wahat al-Bahriya area in Giza province, about 135 kilometers (84 miles) southwest of Cairo — a gateway into Egypt's vast Western Desert which leads to lawless Libya. Authorities consider the area an infiltration path for smugglers and militants, and have blamed some past attacks on extremists transiting through.

The ambush's brazenness and location raised the specter of the simmering insurgency creeping closer to the capital, which has been largely secure and far from what has long been its main front — a north-eastern corner of the Sinai Peninsula.

Security troops have announced major operations in the Western Desert and areas near Cairo in recent days, and foreign companies and embassies have long warned expats against travel to such places, even those as seemingly tame as the Fayoum Oasis.

Just a day ago, security forces killed 13 militants in another gun battle in the western desert, during a raid on an alleged militant hideout in the New Valley province which shares part of the porous border with Libya.

The attack a week ago that seemingly prompted the leadership shakeup appeared to be a carefully planned ambush that trapped many counter terrorism officers as well, with police ranks of those killed reaching up to brigadier-generals.

The troops had been acting on intelligence and moving against a militant hideout backed by armored personnel carriers when they drew fire and rocket-propelled grenades, according to officials who reported the incident anonymously because they weren't authorized to brief journalists.

They added that the force likely ran out of ammunition and that the militants captured several policemen and later killed them.

While the official death toll announced by the Interior Ministry was only 16 at the end of the day, with 15 militants killed or wounded, officials who spoke with the Associated Press earlier had citied over 50 policemen killed in the attack. That would make it one of the worst on Egyptian police in years, although the differing numbers could not be reconciled.

Egypt's categorically pro-government media unleased a tidal wave of jingoism following the killings, calling for military trials and summary executions of militants. And along with some officials, they have accused the foreign media of publishing fake news for reporting the higher death toll.

No one claimed responsibility for the attack, although the IS local affiliate is spearheading an insurgency in Sinai, which borders Israel and the Gaza Strip, and the group has been active recently in neighboring Libya, home to a wide array of militants.

Egypt has been under a state of emergency since IS-claimed bombings and suicide attacks targeting minority Coptic Christians killed scores earlier this year, and attacks on the mainland have recently increased.

The last time Egypt's security forces suffered such a heavy loss of life was in July 2015 when IS militants carried out a series of coordinated attacks, including suicide bombings, against army and police positions in Sinai, killing at least 50. However, the army then said only 17 soldiers were killed along with over 100 militants.

Attacks by militants significantly increased since the army's 2013 ouster of an elected but divisive Islamist president.

Following el-Sissi's decree, Lt. Gen. Mohamed Farid Hegazy will now be the country's second most senior soldier, replacing Lt. Gen. Mahmoud Hegazy. The two are not related.

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23 dead, more than 30 wounded in Mogadishu hotel attack By ABDI GULED, Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — A suicide truck bomb exploded outside a popular hotel in Somalia's capital on Saturday, killing at least 23 people and wounding more than 30, and gunfire continued as security forces pursued other attackers inside the building, police said. Two more blasts were heard, one when an attacker detonated a suicide vest.

Speaking to The Associated Press by telephone from the scene, Capt. Mohamed Hussein said 30 people, including a government minister, were rescued from the Nasa-Hablod hotel as heavy gunfire continued in the standoff between extremists and security forces. Three of the five attackers were killed, Hussein said. The others hurled grenades and cut off the building's electricity as night fell.

Saturday's blasts came two weeks after more than 350 people were killed in a massive truck bombing on a busy Mogadishu street in the country's worst-ever attack.

Al-Shabab, Africa's deadliest Islamic extremist group, quickly claimed responsibility for Saturday's attack and said its fighters were inside the hotel.

Among the dead were a mother and three children, including a baby, all shot in the head, Hussein said. Other victims included a senior Somali police colonel, a former lawmaker and a former government minister. Footage from the scene showed twisted vehicles and nearby buildings with only walls left standing.

Mohamed Dek Haji said he survived the bombing as he walked beside a parked car that was largely destroyed by the explosion. He said he saw at least three armed men in military uniforms running toward the hotel after the bombing at its gate.

"I think they were al-Shabab fighters who were trying to storm the hotel," he said, lying on a hospital bed. He suffered small injuries on his shoulder and skull from flying glass.

Witnesses in some previous attacks have said al-Shabab fighters disguised themselves by wearing military uniforms.

Security officials say Saturday's bomber had pretended his truck had broken down outside the gate. Police Col. Mohamed Abdullahi says the bomber stopped outside the heavily fortified hotel and pretended to repair the truck before finally turning it around and detonating.

Al-Shabab often targets high-profile areas of Mogadishu. It has not commented on the massive attack two weeks ago; experts have said the death toll was so high that the group hesitated to further anger Somali citizens as its pursues its insurgency.

Somalia President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed said the new attack was meant to instill fear in Somalis who united after the Oct. 14 attack, marching in the thousands through Mogadishu in defiance of al-Shabab.

Since the blast two weeks ago, the president has visited regional countries to seek more support for the fight against the extremist group, vowing a "state of war." He also faces the challenge of pulling together regional powers inside his long-fractured country, where the federal government is only now trying to assert itself beyond Mogadishu and other major cities.

A 22,000-strong multinational African Union force in Somalia is expected to withdraw its forces and hand over the country's security to the Somali military by the end of 2020. U.S. military officials and others in recent months have expressed concern that Somali forces are not yet ready.

The U.S. military also has stepped up military efforts against al-Shabab this year in Somalia, carrying out nearly 20 drone strikes, as the global war on extremism moves deeper into the African continent.

Trump dossier research triggered by website with GOP ties By STEVE PEOPLES and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A conservative website with strong ties to the Republican establishment triggered the investigation into Donald Trump's past that ultimately produced the dossier that alleged a compromised relationship between the president and the Kremlin.

The Washington Free Beacon on Friday confirmed it originally retained the political research firm Fusion

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GPS to scour then-candidate Trump's background for negative information, a common practice known as "opposition research" in politics. Leaders from the Free Beacon, which is funded largely by Republican billionaire Paul Singer, insisted none of the early material it collected appeared in the dossier released later in the year detailing explosive allegations, many uncorroborated, about Trump compiled by a former British spy.

"During the 2016 election cycle we retained Fusion GPS to provide research on multiple candidates in the Republican presidential primary, just as we retained other firms to assist in our research into Hillary Clinton," wrote the site's editor-in-chief, Matthew Continetti, and chairman Michael Goldfarb. They continued: "The Free Beacon had no knowledge of or connection to the Steele dossier, did not pay for the dossier, and never had contact with, knowledge of, or provided payment for any work performed by Christopher Steele."

Earlier in the week, reports revealed that the Clinton campaign and the Democratic National Committee continued funding Fusion's work after the original GOP source lost interest.

Trump this week called it a "disgrace" that Democrats had helped pay for research that produced the document. But the original source of the research remained a secret.

The president himself hinted that he knew the Republican source earlier in the week, but he refused to share it. The White House had no immediate comment Friday night about the Free Beacon's involvement.

The Washington Free Beacon was initially founded as a project of the conservative nonprofit group Center for American Freedom, as an alternative to liberal news sites run by progressive nonprofits. The Center for American Freedom was organized as a 501(c)4 and did not reveal its donors, but Singer was the sole funder of the site as recently as 2014, according to a Republican political veteran familiar with the site. The veteran spoke on condition of anonymity to detail the newspaper's financial background.

The Free Beacon first retained Fusion to investigate Trump in the fall of 2015 and ended its relationship after Trump secured the Republican presidential nomination in late spring of 2016, according to a person close to Goldfarb, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to share private discussions.

The website and its leaders have strong ties throughout the Republican establishment. Goldfarb was deputy communications director on John McCain's presidential campaign. Singer was backing Florida Sen. Marco Rubio's presidential bid at the time of the Free Beacon's involvement. And one of Singer's closest associates, Republican operative Dan Senor, served as Speaker Ryan's chief adviser during the 2012 president campaign.

A representative to Singer did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Rubio denied any knowledge of the Fusion research or the dossier this week.

"As far as whether it was my campaign, it wasn't and I'll tell you why," he told CNN. "I was running for president. I was trying to win. If I had anything against Donald Trump that was relevant and credible and politically damaging, I would've used it. I didn't have it."

The document, compiled by former British spy Christopher Steele, emerged this year as a political flashpoint in the broader debate over Trump's ties to Russia.

A person close to Singer said the billionaire was not aware of Steele's involvement or the dossier until earlier this year when it was published. The person was not authorized to share internal discussions.

Law enforcement officials have worked to corroborate the dossier's claims. James Comey, FBI director at the time, advised Trump about the existence of the allegations, and Steele has been questioned as part of an ongoing probe into possible coordination between Russia and the Trump camp.

The U.S. intelligence community has determined that Russia meddled in the 2016 U.S. election. Special counsel Robert Mueller is investigating the Russian interference and whether it was tied to Trump's campaign.

The House Intelligence Committee will help verify whether the Free Beacon had any involvement with Steele or his dossier, according to Jack Langer, a spokesman for House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes.

"The Beacon has agreed to cooperate with the House Intelligence Committee to help the Committee

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verify this assertion," Langer said.

In a statement Saturday, Langer said an agreement had been reached that will secure the committee's access to Fusion GPS bank records necessary for its investigation. The committee had sought the records through a subpoena.

Miller reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Chad Day, Mary Clare Jalonick, Stephen Braun and Tom LoBianco in Washington contributed to this report.

Real 'Love & Hip-Hop:' Offset proposes to Cardi B onstage

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Here's some real life love and hip-hop: Cardi B and Offset from Migos are officially engaged.

The "Bodak Yellow" rapper was onstage with Offset at a Power 99 Powerhouse concert in Philadelphia when Offset dropped to one knee and pulled out a diamond ring. Cardi B excitedly waved her hands and jumped around before Offset put the diamond on her hand.

Later, she showed off the bling — said to be eight carats — on social media.

Cardi B is one of the year's more surprising success stories. She started off as an ex-stripper on the VH1 reality show "Love & Hip-Hop" before debuting "Bodak Yellow," which became a No. 1 smash.

Offset is part of the three-member group Migos, whose hits include "Bad and Boujee" and "T-Shirt."

North Korean 'masterminds' evade Kim Jong Nam murder trial By ERIC TALMADGE, Associated Press

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — At a trial that could send two Southeast Asian women to the gallows, Malaysian prosecutors are shining a light on several men at large they say masterminded and played crucial roles in carrying out the assassination of North Korean leader Kim Jong's Un's estranged half brother.

The lone defendants at the Shah Alam High Court — Siti Aisyah, 25, of Indonesia and Doan Thi Huong, 29, of Vietnam — say they are innocent, duped by the men into participating in February's attack at Kuala Lumpur's international airport, which they say they thought was a harmless prank for a TV show.

If found guilty, they face a mandatory death sentence. In Malaysia, that means they would be hanged. But since the trial began on Oct. 2, the alleged role of the four missing suspects has come to dominate the proceedings. Both the prosecutors and the defense team say a lot more is going to be revealed in the weeks ahead about the men, who outside of court they acknowledge are believed to be North Korean citizens.

The prosecution this week also stressed that authorities reserve the right to take more formal action against the four if they can gather enough evidence.

A look at what's come out so far about the missing men, who are referred to officially in court only by their aliases, and what's known about their actions:

HANAMORI

Police are now calling him the "mastermind."

According to chief investigating officer Wan Azirul Nizam Che Wan Aziz, this man, who sometimes went by the nicknames "Grandpa" and "Uncle," orchestrated the operation on the ground.

Wan Azirul said airport security video shows that he arrived at the terminal in the same vehicle with two of the three other suspects about 90 minutes ahead of the Feb. 13 attack. Security cameras then captured him meeting both of those men and the third suspect, all separately, at an airport cafe before the attack.

Police say Hanamori, who initially wore a purple shirt but changed after the attack, not only came to the airport with two of the suspects but he met with all three just before the plan was put into action. He then left after the attack in a vehicle with two of the three and was seen later that day — and for the last time — with two of them in the departure hall of the main terminal.

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JAMES

He allegedly recruited Aisyah.

Aisyah's lawyer, Gooi Soon Seng, told reporters before the trial that she was recruited in early January by this man, who was known to her only as James, to star in what he said was a video prank show. The lawyer said James and Aisyah went to malls, hotels and airports, where she would rub oil or pepper sauce on strangers' faces. James recorded the encounters on his phone and paid Aisyah between \$100 and \$200 for each prank.

Police official Wan Azirul testified in court that James was seen heading to the Sama Sama airport hotel, which is in the terminal not far from where the attack took place. Wan Azirul said security videos show James entering the hotel room, but quickly checking out.

He said James is later seen at the departure hall of the main airport terminal, where the other three suspects went. What his role was on the day of the hit isn't yet clear — an examination of the airport security camera footage in court Thursday was cut short when Judge Azmi Ariffin ruled more time was needed to digest the information.

The prosecution is expected to return to the videos in the next session, scheduled for Nov. 6.

CHANG

He put the liquid poison on Aisyah's hands, according to Wan Azirul's testimony.

On the morning of the killing, Chang met up with Aisyah at the same cafe where he had earlier met with Hanamori. Wan Azirul said Chang handed Aisyah an airport taxi voucher during their short meeting and he was believed to have later applied the deadly VX nerve agent poison to her hands just before the attack, which happened at about 9 a.m.

The bespectacled Chang wore a dark baseball cap and carried a backpack and a white plastic bag. But after the hit, he ditched his belongings, changed his shirt and even managed to shave off his goatee. He was seen instead carrying an orange plastic bag.

Defense lawyer Gooi has said before the trial it was Chang who had pointed Kim out to Aisyah as the target and put a substance in her hand.

MR. Y

Prosecutors claim he put the poison on Vietnamese defendant Huong's hands.

On the day of the killing, after arriving with Hanamori and the others, he was seen walking around the airport with a woman prosecutors claim was Huong near the area where Kim was attacked. He also wore a baseball cap and had a backpack and water bottle.

Video footage shows that after the attack, Mr. Y also changed his shirt and discarded his belongings. Police say he then left the budget terminal in the same vehicle with Chang and Hanamori.

Not much else about him has been revealed.

THE ESCAPE?

Police say the four suspects flew out of the country the day of the killing and are believed to have made their way back to Pyongyang.

At Malaysia's request, Interpol has issued a "red notice" — the closest equivalent it has to an arrest warrant — for four North Koreans wanted in connection with the killing: Ri Ji Hyon, 33; Hong Song Hac, 34; O Jong Gil, 55; and Ri Jae Nam, 57. But it is not entirely clear if they are the same four whose actions are now being detailed in the court testimony.

Help from Pyongyang is highly unlikely.

North Korea has denied any involvement. And it's not a member of Interpol.

Associated Press writer Eileen Ng contributed to this report.

____ Talmadge has been AP's Pyongyang bureau chief since 2013. He's on Twitter @EricTalmadge and Instagram @erictalmadge.

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Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Oct. 29, the 302nd day of 2017. There are 63 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 29, 2012, Superstorm Sandy slammed ashore in New Jersey and slowly marched inland, devastating coastal communities and causing widespread power outages; the storm and its aftermath were blamed for at least 182 deaths in the U.S.

On this date:

In 1618, Sir Walter Raleigh, the English courtier, military adventurer and poet, was executed in London for treason.

In 1787, the opera "Don Giovanni" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart had its world premiere in Prague.

In 1901, President William McKinley's assassin, Leon Czolgosz (CHAWL'-gahsh), was electrocuted.

In 1929, Wall Street crashed on "Black Tuesday," heralding the start of America's Great Depression.

In 1940, a blindfolded Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson drew the first number -158 - from a glass bowl in America's first peacetime military draft.

In 1947, former first lady Frances Cleveland Preston died in Baltimore at age 83.

In 1956, during the Suez Canal crisis, Israel invaded Egypt's Sinai Peninsula. "The Huntley-Brinkley Report" premiered as NBC's nightly television newscast.

In 1957, former MGM studio boss Louis B. Mayer died in Los Angeles.

In 1967, the counterculture rock musical "Hair" officially opened off-Broadway at Joseph Papp's Public Theater 12 days after beginning previews. Expo 67 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, closed after six months. In 1979, on the 50th anniversary of the great stock market crash, anti-nuclear protesters tried but failed to shut down the New York Stock Exchange.

In 1987, following the confirmation defeat of Robert H. Bork to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court, President Ronald Reagan announced his choice of Douglas H. Ginsburg, a nomination that fell apart over revelations of Ginsburg's previous marijuana use. Jazz great Woody Herman died in Los Angeles at age 74.

In 1994, Francisco Martin Duran fired more than two dozen shots from a semiautomatic rifle at the White House. (Duran was later convicted of trying to assassinate President Bill Clinton and was sentenced to 40 years in prison.)

Ten years ago: A suicide bomber rode his bicycle into a crowd of police recruits in Baqouba, Iraq, killing some 30 people. Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert announced he had prostate cancer, but would continue to perform his duties. Authorities in Chad charged six French charity workers with kidnapping after they tried to put 103 children on a plane to France, claiming they were orphans from Sudan's conflict-wracked Darfur region. (The charity workers were later convicted, jailed for several months, then pardoned.) A Moscow court sentenced Alexander Pichushkin, convicted of 48 murders, to life imprisonment, ending one of Russia's worst serial killer cases.

Five years ago: Letitia Baldrige, the White House social secretary during the Kennedy administration who came to be regarded as an authority on etiquette, died in Bethesda, Maryland, at age 86.

One year ago: Hillary Clinton lashed out at the FBI's handling of a new email review, leading a chorus of Democratic leaders who declared the bureau's actions just days before the election were "unprecedented" and "deeply troubling." The Cleveland Indians moved within one victory of their first championship since 1948, routing the Chicago Cubs 7-2.

Today's Birthdays: Bluegrass singer-musician Sonny Osborne (The Osborne Brothers) is 80. Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is 79. Country singer Lee Clayton is 75. Rock musician Denny Laine is 73. Singer Melba Moore is 72. Musician Peter Green is 71. Actor Richard Dreyfuss is 70. Actress Kate Jackson is 69. Actor Dan Castellaneta (TV: "The Simpsons") is 60. Country musician Steve Kellough (Wild Horses) is 60. Comic strip artist Tom Wilson ("Ziggy") is 60. Actress Finola Hughes is 58. Singer Randy Jackson is 56. Rock musician Peter Timmins (Cowboy Junkies) is 52. Actress Joely Fisher is 50. Rapper Paris is 50.

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Actor Rufus Sewell is 50. Actor Grayson McCouch (mih-COOCH') is 49. Rock singer SA Martinez (311) is 48. Actress Winona Ryder is 46. Actress Tracee Ellis Ross is 45. Actress Gabrielle Union is 45. Actor Trevor Lissauer is 44. Olympic gold medal bobsledder Vonetta Flowers is 44. Actress Milena Govich is 41. Actor Jon Abrahams is 40. Actor Brendan Fehr is 40. Actor Ben Foster is 37. Rock musician Chris Baio (Vampire Weekend) is 33. Actress India Eisley is 24.

Thought for Today: "What people say, what people do, and what they say they do are entirely different things." — Margaret Mead, American anthropologist (1901-1978).