

Groton Daily Independent

Monday, Feb. 05, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 208 ~ 1 of 51

“The future
belongs to those
who believe in the
beauty of their
dreams.”

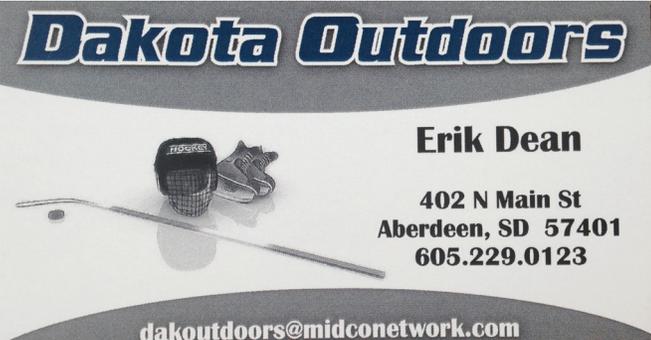
~ Eleanor Roosevelt

Chicken Soup
for the Soul

Riddle:

**I have many keys but I never open doors.
What am I?**

Answer at end of AP News



Dakota Outdoors

Erik Dean

402 N Main St
Aberdeen, SD 57401
605.229.0123

dakoutdoors@midconetwork.com

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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Today's Events

Monday, Feb. 5

City Council Meeting at Groton Community Center, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

GBB: Girls host Roncalli.
The JH Band will be doing a split pot for Ava Tunheim at the Feb 6th Roncalli GBB game that they play pep band for.

Thursday, Feb. 8

Boys Junior High Basketball at Frederick. 7th Grade at 4pm, 8th Grade at 5pm

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Death Notice: Joy Stiklestad

Joy Stiklestad, 68, of Claremont passed away February 3, 2018 at Avera St. Lukes's Hospital, Aberdeen. Services are pending with Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Groton City Council Meeting Agenda February 5, 2018 – 7:00pm Groton Community Center

1. Minutes
2. Bills
3. DGR Engineering Representative
4. Department reports -
 - Herron – Skating rink key pad lock \$180
 - Lambertz – Electric pickup quotes
 - Zerr – Dakota pump
 - Bjerke – Annual report
5. Blackmun -
 - Baseball Foundation Report
 - Planning and zoning update
6. Small cell ordinance
7. Necog 2017 Performance Report
8. Election Reminder – Petitions to be turned in by Feb. 23rd at 5:00pm
9. Surplus old stove from community center
10. Executive session personnel & legal 1-25-2 (1) & (3)

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Lady Tiger defense holds S.F. Christian to lowest scoring game

Both Groton Area coaches were impressed with the Lady Tigers in the NEC/DAK XII Clash held Saturday in Madison. Groton Area lost by 10, 44-34.

Groton scored first with a Harleigh Stange three-pointer. The game was tied at five and eight before the Chargers took their first lead, 9-8. The lead changed hands two more times before the Chargers held an 11-10 first quarter lead.

Groton recaptured the lead early in the second quarter with the game tied at 17 and 19. Sioux Falls Christian opened up a 23-19 lead and at half time, it was 23-21.



Miranda Hanson and Sioux Falls Christian's Courtney Kellenberger battle for the loose ball. (Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Harleigh Stange brings the ball up court for the Tigers.

(Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)

The third quarter was low scoring for both sides as Sioux Falls Christian outscored the Tigers, 7-2, to take a 30-23 lead. Groton kept it a five to seven point deficit, before the Chargers scored six straight points to open up a 44-32 lead. The final score was a 10-point difference, 44-34.

After the game as Coach Shaun Wanner was leaving, he said, "Much better!" and Assistant Coach Becky Erickson said, "It was nice to see us get more physical."

Jennie Doeden led Groton Area with 17 points and six rebounds. Harleigh Stange had 10 points followed by Eliza Wanner with three and Payton Maine and Nicole Marzahn each had two points.

Groton Area had 34 rebounds with Jessica Bjerke having seven and Doeden, Maine and Marzahn with six each. Bjerke had three of the team's seven steals and Doeden, Maine and Marzahn each had two of the team's seven assists. Groton Area had 23 turnovers and Sioux Falls Christian had 12. Doeden fouled out as Groton Area had 13 turnovers.

Lexi Unruh led the Chargers with 14 points followed by Courtney Kellenberger and Kylee VanEgelom with eight each, Emily Strasser had six, Lauren Tims had four points and adding two points each were Rachel Barkema and Madison De-Jong.



Payton Maine towers over the defense for this shot. (Photo by

Jeslyn Kosel)



Jennie Doeden encounters a defender on her way to the basket. (Photo

by Jeslyn Kosel)

- Paul Kosel

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Dahl Leads Four in Double Figures as Wolves Down Warriors by 18

Winona, Minn. – The No. 16 Northern State University men's basketball team notched an 18-point victory over Winona State on Saturday, defeating the Warriors 82-64. NSU improved to 23-3 overall and 16-2 in the league following the win.

It was all Northern State in the first half, as the Wolves out-scored the Warriors 46-28. Winona State battled back in the second, with each team scoring 36 points, they however were unable to overcome the first half deficit.

As a team, the Wolves shot 48.4 percent from the floor, 46.7 percent from the arc, and 72.7 percent from the foul line. The Warriors on the other hand, shot 40.0 percent from the floor, 23.1 percent from the 3-point line, and 62.5 percent from the charity stripe. Northern knocked down 14 3-pointers, to Winona's six, and out-rebounded WSU 39-33 in the win.

The Wolves tallied 32 points in the paint, 30 points off the bench, 11 points off turnovers, nine second chance points, and two fast break scores. They combined for 16 assists, five blocks, and three steals, while giving up just seven turnovers. Defensively they forced seven turnovers as well and held the Warriors to just six offensive boards.

Cole Dahl led the team with 15 points, knocking down 4-of-6 from the arc and 5-of-8 from the field. He added three rebounds as well. DJ Pollard and Ian Smith drained 12 points and grabbed six rebounds each. The pair shot a combined 50.0 percent from the floor, with Smith notched two long range scorers and Pollard tallying a team leading two steals.

Logan Doyle led the team off the bench and was the final Wolf in double figures with ten points and five rebounds. The senior shot 50.0 percent from the floor and added a team leading four assists and two blocks. Gabe King and Carter Evans rounded out the starting five with eight and five points respectively. King tallied a team leading seven rebounds, and hit two from beyond the arc, while Evans tallied three rebounds, two assists, and a team leading two blocks.

Andrew Kallman notched nine points, going 3-of-5 from the 3-point line, and added two assists. Darin Peterka and Bo Fries recorded six and five points respectively, with Peterka dishing out a team leading four assists and grabbing a team second best six rebounds.

Northern will remain on the road next weekend at Minnesota Crookston and Bemidji State. Tip-off is scheduled for 8 p.m. on Friday versus the Golden Eagles and 6 p.m. on Saturday against the Beavers.

Wolves Seniors Led the Way in Loss to MSU Moorhead

Aberdeen, S.D. – The Northern State University wrestling team fell to MSU Moorhead on Saturday evening 36-9. The Wolves are now 1-11 overall this season and 0-5 in the league, with four duals remaining this season.

Northern fell behind early as the Wolves dropped the first four weight classes. Tanner Olson took the wind out of the Moorhead sails notching a decision win at 157-pounds. The senior pinned Patrick Freeman after notching both a takedown and four point nearfall. The 6-point brought NSU within striking distance as they trailed 19-6.

Blake Perryman followed with a win of his own, notching a 2-0 weekend for the senior in his return to the mat. Perryman battled Weston Dobler in a high scoring 10-5 decision. Dobler took an early lead in the first after a pair of takedowns, before Perryman grabbed a takedown and 2-point nearfall of his own. The Dakota Dunes native added an escape and takedown in the third to seal the victory. The win brought the Wolves within ten, however Northern was unable to come up with a victory in the final four duals.

NSU returns to Wachs Arena next Thursday and Friday for a pair of duals beginning at 7 p.m. against Minnesota State and Dickinson State. Northern will honor their three seniors on Friday against the Blue Hawks.

Wolves Big Fourth Quarter Seals Victory Over Warriors

Winona Minn. – Northern State’s big fourth quarter led the Wolves over the Winona State Warriors 70-63. The Wolves improve to 20-4 overall and 15-3 in the NSIC.

NSU had a 2-point advantage after the first quarter, leading 16-14, and continued to hold the 2-point lead heading into the intermission. Northern State shot 70.0 percent from the floor in the first half. NSU was trailing by one heading into the fourth quarter 49-50, however the Wolves out-scored the Warriors in the final ten minutes, 21-13, picking up the 7-point win.

The Wolves shot a season high 62.2 percent from the floor, 66.7 percent from behind the arc, and a perfect 10-for-10 from the free throw line. Defensively, NSU allowed 47.1 percent from the floor, 45.0 percent from the three-point line, and 17 rebounds. Northern State also tallied, 32 points in the paint, 16 points off of 13 Warrior turnovers, and 17 bench points.

Miranda Ristau lead the Wolves with 23 points, while adding six rebounds, four assists, and one block. Jill Conrad was the second player in double figures with 19 points, six rebounds, two assists, and one steal. Haley Froelich put in six points, three rebounds, and one assist, while Jessi Marti lead the Wolves in assists with seven. Marti added three points and three rebounds to the team total.

The last starter in the scorebook for the Wolves was Brianna Kusler, who recorded two points, four rebounds, four assists, and one steal. Alexis Tappe led the Wolves off the bench with 11 points and two rebounds. Brynn Flakus notched four points and one assist for NSU, while Alayna Johnson tallied two points for the Wolves. Sara Tvedt and Anika Fredrick each had one assist off the bench.

The Wolves are back in action next weekend, as they hit the road to face Minnesota Crookston and Bemidji State. Tip-off against the Golden Eagles on Friday is set for 6 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday against the Beavers.

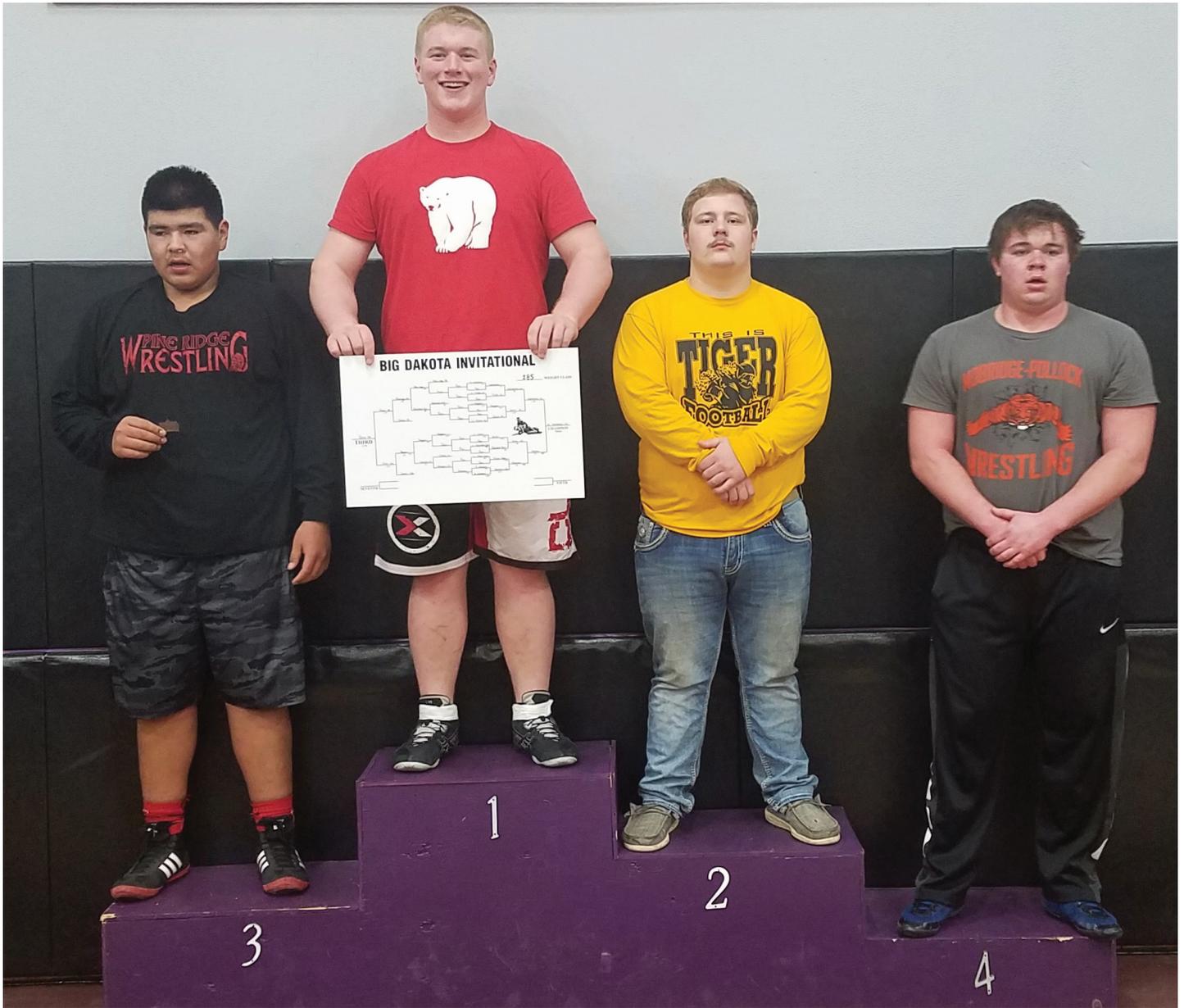


All auto owners!
Save \$2-\$4 /tank
& grow your local economy
by choosing low carbon
Super Premium E30's
94 octane, more power,
same mileage, fewer
carbon deposits, lower
maintenance costs,
slashed benzene & related
genotoxic, carcinogenic
tailpipe emissions;
*see sdfu.org's E30 tab for
info, E30 prices\locations.

***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")**

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Brandyn Anderson, at 285 pounds, placed second at the Big Dakota Conference Tourney held Saturday at Ft. Pierre.

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Anderson places second at Big Dakota Conference Tourney

Brandyn Anderson, at 285 pounds, placed second at the Big Dakota Conference Tourney held Saturday at Ft. Pierre. Several other Groton Area wrestlers took part and scored points, but did not place.

113: Dragr Monson (15-8) Scored 4.00 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 15-8 won by fall over Thomas Powell (Chamberlain) 4-4 (Fall 1:38)

Quarterfinal - Landon Sudbeck (Parkston) 31-16 won by decision over Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 15-8 (Dec 3-0)

Cons. Round 2 - Shilo Mowry (Lyman) 27-12 won by fall over Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 15-8 (Fall 1:00)

145: Lane Krueger (2-18)

Champ. Round 1 - Sam Kruger (Winner) 38-2 won by fall over Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 2-18 (Fall 0:53)

Cons. Round 1 - Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 2-18 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 2 - Blake Brodercht (Lyman) 9-13 won by fall over Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 2-18 (Fall 0:22)

160: Thomas Cranford (8-13) Scored 1.00 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Tyler Eddy (Wessington Springs-Woonsocket) 20-13 won by fall over Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) 8-13 (Fall 2:36)

Cons. Round 1 - Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) 8-13 won by decision over Aaron Smith (Potter County) 4-7 (Dec 5-4)

Cons. Round 2 - Cody Westendorf (Kimball/White Lake/Platte-Geddes) 24-15 won by fall over Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) 8-13 (Fall 1:36)

170: Grady O`Neill (7-10) Scored 2.00 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Noah Johnson (Miller/Highmore-Harrold) 6-11 won by fall over Grady O`Neill (Groton Area) 7-10 (Fall 0:38)

Cons. Round 1 - Grady O`Neill (Groton Area) 7-10 won by major decision over Kade Konstanz (Kimball/White Lake/Platte-Geddes) 5-19 (MD 19-8)

Cons. Round 2 - Jasiah Thompson (Chamberlain) 12-20 won by fall over Grady O`Neill (Groton Area) 7-10 (Fall 2:25)

195: Adrian Knutson (7-13) Scored 3.00 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 7-13 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Sam Adams (Harding County) 30-5 won by fall over Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 7-13 (Fall 4:50)

Cons. Round 2 - Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 7-13 won by fall over Braxton Big Crow (Little Wound) 0-15 (Fall 2:06)

Cons. Round 3 - Rylie Stevens (Wessington Springs-Woonsocket) 15-10 won by fall over Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 7-13 (Fall 2:06)

220: Corbin Reich (0-10)

Champ. Round 1 - Tyler Resick (Kimball/White Lake/Platte-Geddes) 24-9 won by fall over Corbin Reich (Groton Area) 0-10 (Fall 1:12)

Cons. Round 1 - Collin Schmiedt (Wessington Springs-Woonsocket) 7-17 won by fall over Corbin Reich (Groton Area) 0-10 (Fall 4:46)

285: Brandyn Anderson (25-2) placed 2nd and scored 20.00 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Brandyn Anderson (Groton Area) 25-2 won by fall over Eden Arcoren (Todd County) 14-21 (Fall 1:02)

Quarterfinal - Brandyn Anderson (Groton Area) 25-2 won by fall over Lucas Blue Legs (Pine Ridge) 9-13 (Fall 0:39)

Semifinal - Brandyn Anderson (Groton Area) 25-2 won by decision over Carson Keller (Mobridge-Pollock) 22-10 (Dec 3-1)

1st Place Match - Nash Hutmacher (Chamberlain) 36-0 won by forfeit over Brandyn Anderson (Groton Area) 25-2 (For.)

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Lana's Annals

**Lana
Greenfield
District 2
State
Representative**

Greetings once again. Week 4 is now complete. Our commerce and energy committee saw several alcohol-related bills. HB1070, consisting of 61 pages, addressed two major changes: a person 18-20 can sell and serve alcohol if either of the following are present:(1) less than 50 per cent of the gross business transacted is from the sale of alcohol or (2) someone 21 is on the licensed premises at the time of sale or service. This bill, a conjoined effort of manufacturers, distributors, retailers, government entities, and trade groups such as SDRA, also provides for alcohol sales 7 days a week and 365 days a year. However, local governing bodies can pass more restrictive ordinances. This bill still has to clear the Senate. They may amend it in some way.

Also heard was HB1125, which would have allowed delivery gift baskets containing a bottle of wine or some other type of alcohol. Last year we passed a law that a 150 dollar minimum of alcohol could be delivered to someone's location for a special event. The stipulation would have been that the purchaser(at least 21) had to order and pay for the sale in person and when delivered, the receiver had to also be at least 21. This new bill changed the entire intent, we felt, as now it would become an every day delivery to someone from, perhaps, a big box store. Even though passed in committee, it was soundly defeated on the floor.

HB1216 was also a commerce bill. It asked for non-payment on rebates made on car prices. Current law requires that rebates listed are taxed. Had that been law in 2017, the Department of Revenue testified we would have lost about 7 million dollars on 72,000 vehicles sold in state. Thus it was sent to the 41st day. I marveled at the staggering number of cars sold last year...that is a lot for a state of 800,000 + people. I do realize that some may have been fleet vehicles, but still.....

Our local government passed HB1070, which actually would create a business improvement district (BID) for, in this case, the town of Keystone. If you have ever been there in the heart of the summer, you understand that this tiny town is very short-changed for parking and may have to alleviate that issue. As this town of 300 has no zoning or mil levy, it was necessary to approach the legislature for approval for any upcoming improvement projects. The committee passed it unanimously.

HB 1141 and 1142 did not fair as well. The subject of these were to allow the posting of legals online. The spin this year was that one of the small western towns lost its newspaper office and the place for putting their legals in the paper was over 30 miles away. The Black Hills Pioneer owner and operator was there to testify that she has plans already for including news of that area in their paper. She also said they would attend the council meetings, run sporting and community events, and has hired another employee to adequately cover the area that lacks news coverage. After listening to many testifiers speaking in favor of the two bills, we sent both to the 41st day as transparency of governmental entities trumps everything.

Many bills also saw floor action. Last week we changed the language from "mental retardation" to "intellectual disability." It did not seem to be that problematic, so we passed it unanimously. Now this week one of our death row inmates was tested to see if he had an intellectual disability. I knew right then, we were heading into muddy waters. This week on the House floor, a bill arose which would exempt anyone, previously defined as having a mental illness, from the death penalty. Now I know there are feelings one way or the other about capital punishment. My point is this: sometimes we do things such language clean up, and it just leads to something completely different. While it passed the House, we will see if the Senate concurs.

I will wrap up by saying this: all of the bills that we can present have now reached the deadline. While some bills seem small to many, they certainly are important to someone. Therefore, we give every bill a fair, respectful hearing. The language of the bill is also important, and many times amendments are added due to that alone. This is the process.

Thank you, Carter Lane, for being a great House page. Carter is from Warner and is Les Solberg's (Clark)grandson. Thank you also to my husband, Don and Supt. Hulscher, Storley, and Klautd for attending

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session this week. It is always good to see "back home people." Hats off to our military for the outstanding formal and program. Thank you for your service.

Future Cracker Barrels are as follows; Feb.10 and 24 in Aberdeen at 10 A.M. (we have already attended two there), Feb.19 in Clark at 10:30 and at 2:30 in Redfield, Feb.24 in Lake Norden at 2:30.

Until next week, may you be well and blessed.

My e-mail is lanagreenfield@sdlegislature.gov or lana.greenfield@gmail.com My home phone is 635-6932.
Rep. Lana Greenfield

Get a Replacement Social Security Tax Form Online With Ease

It's that time of year again. Preparing for tax season can seem overwhelming. Some forms and paperwork might be difficult to track down. If you misplaced your Benefits Statement or haven't received it by the end of January, we've made it easy to go online to get a replacement with my Social Security.

An SSA-1099, also called a Benefit Statement, is a tax form Social Security mails each year in January to the more than 60 million people who receive Social Security benefits. It shows the total amount of benefits received from Social Security in the previous year so people know how much Social Security income to report to the IRS on their tax return.

For noncitizens who live outside of the United States and received or repaid Social Security benefits last year, we'll send form SSA-1042S instead. The forms SSA-1099 and SSA-1042S are not available for people who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

If you currently live in the United States and need a replacement form SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S, we have a way for you to get a replacement quickly and easily. Go online and get a replacement form with a my Social Security account.

Every worker in the United States should create a my Social Security account. The secure and personalized features of my Social Security are valuable tools to help Americans plan for retirement.

Patty Hoffman is the Public Affairs Specialist for ND, SD and Western MN. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 4207 Boulder Ridge Road, Ste. 100, Bismarck ND 58503 or via email at patty.hoffman@ssa.gov.



Last Year's Accomplishments lay Groundwork for More Changes in 2018

Over the past year, Congress and the White House made important changes to get away from the centralized, overregulated system of government that stifled American innovation and economic growth for years. We're now laying the groundwork to make America even stronger, safer and freer in the coming year.

Last year, we were successful in undoing or stopping 1,600 burdensome federal regulations, including 15 under the Congressional Review Act. This will help businesses thrive by reducing the time and money they were forced to spend complying with costly and unnecessary regulations. We were also able to repeal Obamacare's individual mandate so Americans aren't forced to pay for expensive health insurance that they don't like, want or need.

We restored balance to the courts by confirming fair-minded judges who adhere to the Constitution as it was written. We confirmed 22 of President Trump's judicial nominees—12 of whom now sit on our country's circuit courts—in addition to confirming Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch. These men and women base their decisions on the rule of law rather than their personal policy preferences or feelings, which is important in their duty to faithfully and impartially apply the law.

One of our most important accomplishments—and one that will make a positive impact on the lives of a majority of Americans—is the enactment of historic tax reform. Tax reform is already leading to bigger paychecks and is creating a healthy, more vibrant economy—one that we can be proud to pass onto our kids and grandkids. Most Americans can expect to see more money in their paychecks this month. Already, more than 3 million Americans are feeling the benefits as more than 270 major employers announced raises and other benefits to their employees. Because of tax reform, the stock market has improved. This leads to more money in folks' pensions and retirement accounts.

In his State of the Union address this year, President Trump laid out a vision for a more united country in which government is less intrusive and the American dream is possible for everyone. The progress we made over the past year provides a strong base to build on his priorities for 2018.

This year, we'll focus on strengthening our armed forces, as directed by the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that was signed into law last year. Giving our military a much-needed boost will allow military leaders to take necessary steps to regain the required level of readiness. A strong military is necessary to deter attacks from our enemies, and in the case of an attack on us or our allies, defeat them in combat.

We'll also focus on developing a strong workforce to fill jobs here in the United States. We'll work to equip potential employees with the skills and experience they need to thrive in this economy, whether through job training, apprenticeships or improving high school curriculum. The economic policies that Congress and the White House are working to implement will create more high-paying jobs, and we need skilled American workers to fill them.

While we have much progress to be proud of, we also have much work to do, and it will take hard work from both parties in both chambers and the White House to accomplish our goals. I look forward to continue working with the president and my colleagues as we address the most pressing issues before us. With just eight years until America's 250th birthday, we must not let up on our efforts as we continue to make progress on our vision for America in which we are freer, safer and more prosperous for generations to come.

Birthday of Laura Ingalls Wilder to be commemorated in Cultural Heritage Center program

PIERRE, S.D. – The birthday of author Laura Ingalls Wilder will be commemorated at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre.

Caroline Fraser will speak remotely about her book, "Prairie Fires: The American Dreams of Laura Ingalls Wilder" at 7 p.m. CST on Tuesday, Feb. 13.

"Prairie Fires" was selected as one of the New York Times Book Review's 10 Best Books of 2017. This program gives people the opportunity to learn the author's insights into the book," said Catherine Forsch, president of the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation.

The foundation, which is the nonprofit fundraising partner of the South Dakota State Historical Society, and the South Dakota Historical Society Press are sponsoring the free program as part of the History and Heritage Book Club. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Wilder was born on Feb. 7, 1867. Her "Little House" books continue to shape ideas of pioneer life on the American frontier in the late 1800s.

Before "Little House in the Big Woods" was published in 1932, Wilder had previously written a memoir of her life called "Pioneer Girl" that publishers rejected. The manuscript remained unpublished until 2014, when the SDHS Press published "Pioneer Girl: The Annotated Autobiography."

"Pioneer Girl Perspectives" is a collection of essays edited by Nancy Tystad Koupal, director of the Pioneer Girl Project, and published by the SDHS Press. Fraser contributed an essay to "Pioneer Girl Perspectives" that examines the relationship between Wilder and her daughter, Rose Wilder Lane.

The professional relationship between Wilder and Lane is at the heart of "Prairie Fires," according to Fraser. She will discuss this relationship during her talk on Feb. 13.

Fraser is editor of the Library of America's two-volume edition of Wilder's "Little House" books and has written about Wilder and other topics for magazines and other publications. She holds a doctorate in literature from Harvard University.

People in De Smet, Wilder's childhood home, will be able to participate in the program at the De Smet Middle School through the state's video conferencing network. They will be able to see, hear and talk to Fraser and people at the Cultural Heritage Center.

People in other locations who would like the program broadcast to a location such as a school or university on the DDN should contact (605) 773-6006 for more information.

"Prairie Fires," "Pioneer Girl" and "Pioneer Girl Perspectives" are all available at the Heritage Stores at the Cultural Heritage Center and the Capitol.

State Historical Society seeks nominations for Governor's Awards, board positions

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota State Historical Society in Pierre is seeking nominations for the annual Governor's Awards for History and two positions on its board of trustees.

The Governor's Awards include recognition for individuals, organizations and also a K-12 History Teacher of the Year.

People interested in making a nomination should visit www.history.sd.gov or contact the State Historical Society at Jeff.Mammenga@state.sd.us or 605-773-6000 to receive the nomination form. The nomination forms are due back to the society by Feb. 26. The nominations will be reviewed by a subcommittee of the society's board of trustees, and the winners will receive their awards during the society's annual history conference on April 28 in Rapid City.

"We encourage people who know individuals, organizations or teachers who have excelled at preserving South Dakota history to nominate them for the awards," said Jay D. Vogt, director of the State Historical Society. "Nominees need not be members of the State Historical Society."

Extraordinary individuals could be considered for the Robinson Award, the society's highest honor, recognizing a lifetime of preserving state history. The Robinson is not awarded every year.

The Schell Award, selected by a separate panel of judges, is given to the author of the best article in the previous year's volume of "South Dakota History," the society's award-winning quarterly journal.

Nominations are also being sought for two members of the society's board of trustees -- a member at-large and the professional architectural historian. Nominees must be members of the State Historical Society. The incumbents in those positions are Peggy Sanders of Oral (at-large) and Rolene Schliesman of Wilmot (architectural historian).

Trustee nomination forms can be obtained the same way as award nomination forms. They are due back to the society by March 2. The three-year trustee positions are voted on by members of the society. The winners will be announced at the history conference on April 27.

Call 605-773-6000 with questions on either the Governor's Awards or the board of trustees openings.

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Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

Two weeks after thoroughly destroying the Minnesota Vikings, the Philadelphia Eagles were lifting the Lombardi Trophy on the Vikings home turf. The Eagles and New England Patriots participated in Super Bowl LII at U.S. Bank Stadium on Sunday, February 4, and after a thrilling game that went down to the final seconds, the Eagles emerged victorious.

The Eagles and Patriots had two of the best defenses in the NFL, but the game ended up being an offensive slugfest. The two teams combined for 1,151 total yards, which is the most in NFL post season history. The two teams also combined for 74 points (41-33), which was one point shy of tying the Super Bowl record (Super Bowl XXIX). This game had tons of trick plays and gutsy calls, but in the end it came down to the greatest quarterback of all time versus the more complete team.

The Eagles were led by backup quarterback Nick Foles, who proved the NFC Championship game wasn't a fluke. Foles completed 28 of 43 passes for 373 yards (fourth most in Super Bowl history), three touchdowns and one interception. The key for the Eagles was establishing a ground game to help take pressure off Foles, and they did a tremendous job of it, rushing for 164 yards as a team. The Eagles also did a great job on third down, converting 63 percent of the time, which kept their offense on the field – and perhaps most importantly, kept Tom Brady on the sidelines.

Tom Brady played a nearly-perfect game, completing 28 of 48 passes for 505 yards (Super Bowl record), three touchdowns, no interceptions, and a passer rating of 115.4 (third most in Super Bowl history). Brady also had a pass thrown his way from Danny Amendola, but he was unable to haul in the ball. The Patriots had three players with over 100-yards receiving, including Rob Gronkowski (nine catches for 116 yards and two touchdowns) – but in the end it wasn't enough.

As good as the game was, millions of people tuned in for another reason: the commercials. Super Bowl commercials have become almost as important as the game itself, and this year didn't disappoint. Although there were many commercials that stood out, either because of the emotional message it conveyed or because it was just plain funny, there were three that really impressed.

The most anticipated commercial for me was the trailer for *The Avengers: Infinity War*. I have been watching Marvel movies since the first *Iron Man* (2008), and *Infinity War* is the beginning of the end for the phase one characters I have known and loved.

The funniest commercials were for Tide detergent. David Harbour, who plays Jim Hopper in the Netflix show *Stranger Things*, takes the lead in the Tide commercials that appeared at first glance to be advertisements for other things, only to end up taking a turn at the end.

The commercial that made the strongest impression to me was the Doritos/Mt. Dew commercial. The commercial began with Peter Dinklage, who plays Tyrion Lannister on HBO's *Game of Thrones*, rapping a Busta Rhymes song to promote a new Doritos flavor. Then Morgan Freeman rapped a Missy Elliot song to promote a new Mt. Dew flavor.

The biggest disappointment was Bud Light. Budweiser usually has some of the best Super Bowl commercials, and Bud Light had a big marketing campaign surrounding the term "Dilly Dilly". Maybe I was disappointed because I was expecting too much, but Bud Light's "Bud Light Knight" wasn't funny.

Now that the 2017 NFL season is over, it's time to look back at the Vikings season and look ahead to free agency and the NFL draft!

If you have any questions or comments (about the Vikings, the Super Bowl, or the commercials), reach out to me on Facebook ([facebook.com/SkolJWright](https://www.facebook.com/SkolJWright)) or on Twitter (@SkolJWright)

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Today in Weather History

February 5, 1978: Another winter blizzard plagued the northern half of the state beginning on February 5th and continuing until the 9th. The unusual aspect of this blizzard was that the wind came from the southeast between 25 to 45 mph. Only one to three inches of new snow accumulation fell during the five-day period but was piled high on the existing large snow drifts. Most of the northern half of the state was paralyzed due to blocked roads. Eighteen counties across the north part of the South Dakota were declared a disaster by the governor. There were also numerous livestock losses.

1745: Today is National Weatherman/Meteorologist day commemorating the birth of John Jeffries in 1745. Jeffries, one of America's first weather observers, began taking daily weather observations in Boston, MA in 1774 and he made the first balloon observation in 1784.

1887: San Francisco experienced its most significant snowstorm of record. Nearly four inches was reported in downtown San Francisco, and the western hills of the city received seven inches. Excited crowds went on a snowball throwing rampage.

1920: An intense nor'easter dumped 17.5 inches of snow over a three day period in New York City, New York.

1986: A supercell thunderstorm tracked through the Tomball area northwest of Houston, TX and produced four tornadoes along with damaging microburst winds and up to tennis ball size hail. An F3 tornado killed two people, injured 80 others and devastated a mobile home park and the David Wayne Hooks Airport. 300 aircraft were either damaged or destroyed. Much of the more substantial hail was propelled by 60 to 80 mph winds, resulting in widespread moderate damage. Total damage from this storm was 80 million dollars.

2008: The Super Tuesday 2008 Tornado Outbreak has been one of the deadliest tornado outbreaks in the US with 59 fatalities reported. So far, it ranks in the top 15 deadly tornado outbreaks (and the highest number of tornado deaths since 1985). According to the SPC Storm Reports, there were over 300 reports of tornadoes, large hail (up to 4.25 inches in diameter in Texas, Arkansas, and Missouri), and damaging wind gusts from Texas to Ohio and West Virginia. The outbreak produced at least 64 tornadoes, some producing EF-3, and EF-4 damage.

1987 - Thunderstorms in the Southern Plains Region caused flooding in parts of south central Texas. Del Rio TX was soaked with two inches of rain in two hours prior to sunrise. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Cold and snow invaded the southern U.S. Roswell NM was buried under 16.5 inches of snow in 24 hours, an all-time record for that location. Parts of the Central Gulf Coast Region reported their first significant snow in fifteen years. Strong winds in Minnesota and the Dakotas produced wind chill readings as cold as 75 degrees below zero. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Severe cold gripped much of the nation. Thirty cities reported new record low temperatures for the date. Morning lows of 9 above at Astoria OR and 27 below zero at Ely NV were records for February. In Alaska, Point Barrow warmed to 24 degrees above zero, and Nome reached 30 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1990 - For the second time in two days, and the third time in a week, high winds plagued the north-western U.S. Winds in Oregon gusted to 60 mph at Cape Disappointment, and wind gusts in Washington State reached 67 mph at Bellingham. The first in a series of cold fronts began to produce heavy snow in the mountains of Washington and Oregon. Ten inches of snow fell at Timberline OR. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2006 - Mount Washington Observatory in New Hampshire reaches a high of 41°F, the warmest February 5th on record at the summit and two degrees off the monthly mark, where records have been kept since 1932. The Weather Doctor

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Sat Feb 3	Sun Feb 4	Mon Feb 5	Tue Feb 6	Wed Feb 7	Thu Feb 8	Fri Feb 9
						
16°F -6°F	11°F -2°F	17°F -4°F	18°F 0°F	19°F 2°F	20°F 1°F	21°F -11°F
NE 22 MPH Precip 40%	NW 14 MPH	N 10 MPH	SSW 6 MPH	NW 6 MPH Precip 20%	NNE 8 MPH Precip 30%	N 8 MPH

Cold with Chances of Snow

Today	Tues	Wed
10 - 20°	13 - 25°	13 - 25°
		

 National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD
www.weather.gov/abr
graphic created
2/5/2018 3:42 AM

Published on: 02/05/2018 at 3:47AM

Below average temperatures will persist through the week. A couple of weak waves of low pressure will clip the region today and tomorrow bringing some chances of light snow. This morning, areas south of Pierre could see up to an inch of snow. On Tuesday, the chance of flurries or light snow will be more widespread, but no significant accumulation is expected.

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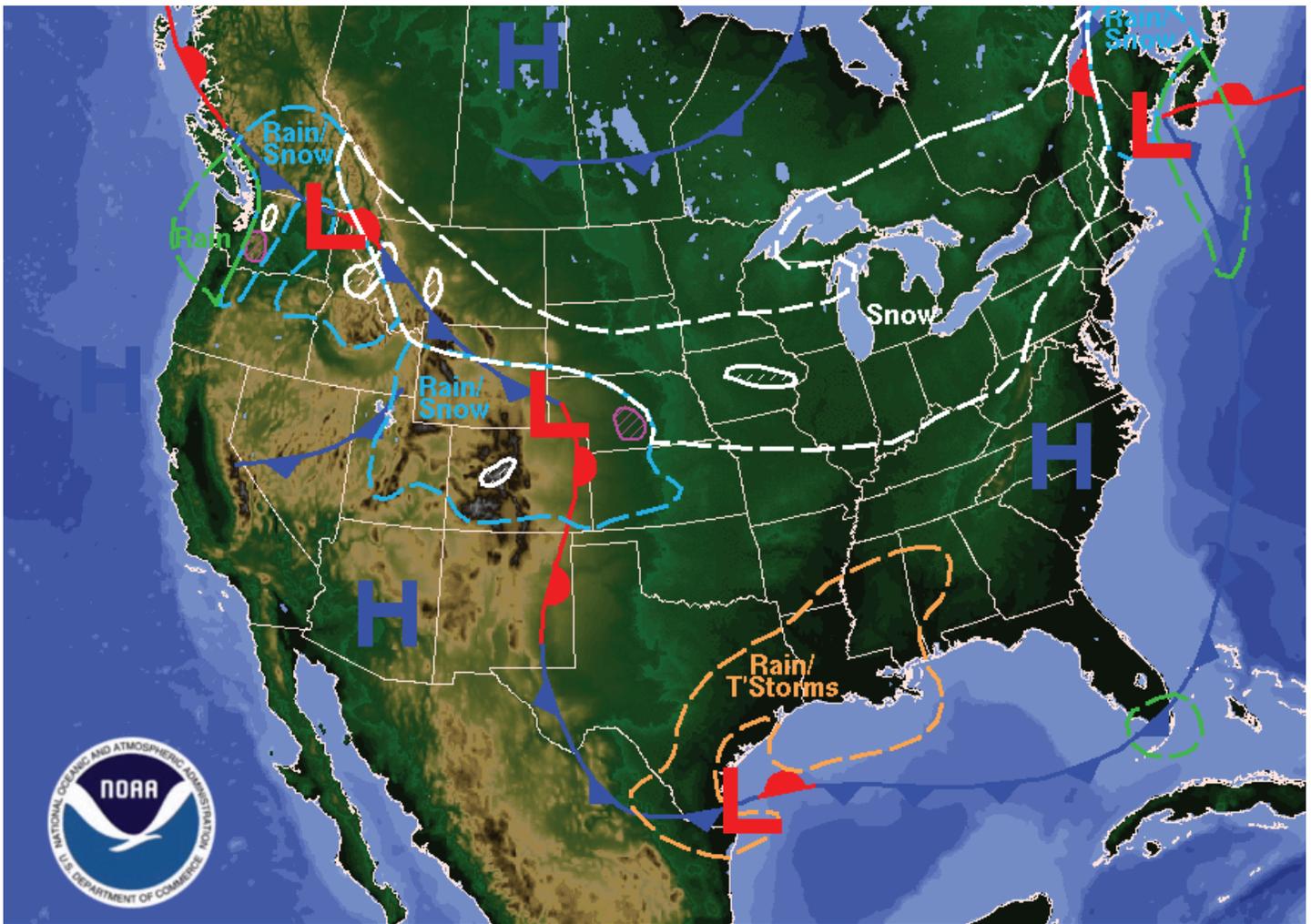
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Yesterday's Weather

Sat. High Outside Temp: 19.0 F at 1:46 AM
Sun. High Outside Temp: 5.4 F at 4:31 PM
Sat. Low Outside Temp: -3.7 F at 11:26 PM
Sun. Low Outside Temp: -10.6 F at 5:52 AM
Sun. Wind Chill: -23.0 F at 12:09 PM
Sat. High Gust: 29.0 Mph at 6:14 PM
Sun. High Gust: 19.0 Mph at 1:24 AM
Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 57° in 1991
Record Low: -36° in 1907
Average High: 25°F
Average Low: 4°F
Average Precip in Feb: 0.08
Precip to date in Feb: 0.00
Average Precip to date: 0.55
Precip Year to Date: 0.00
Sunset Tonight: 5:46 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:48 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Mon, Feb 05, 2018, issued 4:38 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds 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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FATHER

Recognizing someone as "father" carries with it a very special significance. Immediately, and without doubt, the one who we call "father" is the one who is responsible for our being born. Without the one we call "father" we would not be in existence.

Because a "father" is responsible for our existence, he then becomes responsible for our well-being. Whatever concerns us must ultimately concern him. Whether it is food or clothing, shelter or healthcare, protection or education – it is his responsibility to meet that need. It is a role that is not to be taken lightly or without careful thought and planning.

There is more, however, than a responsibility factor. There is the relationship factor. This includes acceptance and openness, honesty and trust, a willingness to hear what is on the child's heart and in the child's mind. There must be loyalty and faithfulness between father and child.

One without the other leaves children lacking.

In Psalm 89 David said to God, "You are my Father, my God, the Rock – my Savior." If an author were writing about David today he would probably say that "David led a charmed life." He would look at the times he escaped his enemies, faced death, struggled with depression, and knew what abandonment was all about, could hardly face God because of His guilt, and knew the extreme pain of grief.

David, however, knew that it was not about "living a charmed life." No. It was about a Father who not only provided for and loved His child – but became his Savior.

Prayer: We thank You, Lord, that You are our Father. We are humbled at Your love and care and our salvation. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 89:26 He shall cry to Me, 'You are my Father, My God, and the rock of my salvation.'

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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 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

Saturday's Scores

By The Associated Press

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Arlington 59, Great Plains Lutheran 56, OT
Bennett County 53, Lead-Deadwood 41
Bridgewater-Emery 63, Gregory 38
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 66, Winner 62
Clark/Willow Lake 76, Castlewood 58
Crow Creek 79, Pine Ridge 77
Edmunds Central 59, South Border, N.D. 56
Flandreau Indian 80, Tiospa Zina Tribal 68
Harrisburg 63, Brandon Valley 44
Hill City 61, Rapid City Christian 32
Huron 49, Sturgis Brown 39
James Valley Christian 70, DeSmet 65
Langford 74, Wilmot 18
McCook Central/Montrose 54, Dell Rapids St. Mary 43
Moorcroft, Wyo. 60, Edgemont 47
Northwestern 62, Waubay/Summit 37
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 66, Aberdeen Roncalli 50
Todd County 72, Mobridge-Pollock 67
Tripp-Delmont/Armour 51, Freeman 45
Watertown 74, Mitchell 44

Highmore Classic

Burke/South Central 66, Wessington Springs 35
Herreid/Selby Area 61, Colome 50

Little Moreau Conference Tournament

Fifth Place: Lemmon 65, Tiospaye Topa 29
Third Place: Harding County 48, Bison 43
Championship: Timber Lake 61, Faith 48

Sanford Classic

Colman-Egan 48, Aberdeen Christian 33
LeMars, Iowa 66, Red Cloud 56
Madison 62, Western Christian, Hull, Iowa 59
Redfield/Doland 64, Deubrook 47
Sioux Falls Christian 76, Sioux Valley 69
Sioux Falls Lincoln 73, Moorhead, Minn. 42
Sisseton 50, St. Thomas More 38
Warner 49, Corsica/Stickney 40

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Arlington 45, Great Plains Lutheran 30
Bridgewater-Emery 46, Gregory 31
Crazy Horse 72, Takini 30
DeSmet 52, James Valley Christian 14
Hill City 64, Rapid City Christian 31
Langford 54, Wilmot 39

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Lead-Deadwood 48, Bennett County 33
Lyman 39, New Underwood 30
McLaughlin 51, St. Francis Indian 36
Miller 67, Platte-Geddes 33
Minnetonka, Minn. 81, Sioux Falls Roosevelt 46
Mitchell 59, Spearfish 45
Moorcroft, Wyo. 47, Edgemont 35
Pierre 43, Yankton 37
Pine Ridge 82, Crow Creek 49
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 44, Wolsey-Wessington 37
Sturgis Brown 45, Huron 30
Tiospa Zina Tribal 54, Flandreau Indian 24
Todd County 71, Mobridge-Pollock 22
Tripp-Delmont/Armour 61, Freeman 51
Waubay/Summit 74, Northwestern 64
Winner 65, Cheyenne-Eagle Butte 41
Dakota XII Conference Classic
Aberdeen Roncalli 56, West Central 32
Canton 45, Britton-Hecla 34
Dakota Valley 46, Clark/Willow Lake 45
Dell Rapids 60, Milbank 54
Elk Point-Jefferson 44, Webster 32
Hamlin 56, Lennox 45
Madison 63, Redfield/Doland 45
Sioux Falls Christian 44, Groton Area 34
Tea Area 56, Deuel 45
Tri-Valley 50, Sisseton 41
Vermillion 49, Castlewood 42
Highmore Classic
Herreid/Selby Area 65, Philip 63
Jones County 44, Wessington Springs 39
Lower Brule 52, Highmore-Harrold 51
Sanford Classic
Red Cloud 50, Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 44

Report: Sioux Falls home prices are unsustainable

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A recent report shows that rising home prices in Sioux Falls last year are likely unsustainable and could create issues for those trying to afford a home this year.

Sioux Falls and Rapid City ranked near the bottom of Nationwide's housing affordability index, which evaluates hundreds of metro areas nationwide, the Argus Leader reported. The report ranks housing markets against past performance and scores based on prices, the economy and demographics.

"If you're a homeowner right now, you're going to have a little more trouble selling a home," said Nationwide Senior Economist Ben Ayers. "You may not get as much money for a home."

The prediction might come as a surprise to anyone who has tried to buy a home in Sioux Falls in the last year or who follows the city's housing market. Sioux Falls has seen short supply in the city's inventory of homes for sale for months, particularly in affordable price ranges.

Ayers said the Sioux Falls market gives "mixed signals," which points to something being out of balance.

Nationwide determines supply and demand by looking at the unemployment rate, the number of households and the number of jobs. Sioux Falls' job growth has slowed, and while median outcome has soared

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since 2010, it's been outpaced by median home prices.

Sioux Falls real estate agents, home builders and mortgage brokers disagree with the prediction.

Mortgage banker Craig Markhardt said he believes housing prices could stabilize, but that he doesn't expect a big shift.

"I don't think the market is going to cool off," Markhardt said. "Our unemployment is still low, and wages are still stabilized."

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

South Dakota couple turns old school into community center

BELLE FOURCHE, S.D. (AP) — A couple has purchased a former high school in a western South Dakota with plans to turn the nearly century-old building into a community events center.

James and Provatia Pietila are familiar with renovation projects. In 2013, they purchased the former Lincoln School building in Belle Fourche, where they currently live.

Now, the Pietilas have set their sights on a new project downtown, the old Roosevelt High School building.

"I guess we like old unique buildings," James Pietila said. "This building could just be great revitalized."

The couple purchased the building for \$85,000 in November, the Black Hills Pioneer reported. They want to turn it into a space where community members can host potlucks, family gatherings, reunions, parties, weddings and league sports.

James Pietila said the building was built in the 1920s and stopped functioning as a school in the early 1990s. The building has a vault-like bomb shelter that used to hold faculty and students during bomb drills. The Pietilas said they found unopened boxes of bomb shelter provisions supplied by the Department of Defense from the early 1960s.

They're applying to put the building on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Pietilas said that the school's former students are particularly invested in the renovation project.

James Pietila's main focus for the summer is installing a new roof. The couple said they're in it for the long haul and are continuing cleanup efforts to prepare for several upcoming community events planned at the old building.

James Pietila said he hopes the project will help revitalize downtown Belle Fourche.

"We would like to have it be a nice, inviting, welcoming, community space that fits the area," he said.

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

South Dakota lawmakers to debate tuition, beer and pipelines

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota lawmakers this week plan to take up bills on public university tuition, craft brewing laws and oil pipelines.

Here's a glance at the agenda when the Legislature returns to Pierre on Monday:

TUITION TAKEOVER

Some lawmakers want to stand between university students and tuition hikes. The House Education Committee on Monday is set to debate House Bill 1122, which says the state Board of Regents would set tuition only after the Legislature has approved any rate increases.

The board last year increased tuition and fees at the state's six public universities by an average of 2.9 percent. Republican Rep. Lynne DiSanto, the bill's sponsor, has said the board needs more oversight.

BURGEONING BREWERS

Gov. Dennis Daugaard's push to overhaul craft brewing laws is headed to the Senate Commerce and Energy Committee on Tuesday. Senate Bill 169 would allow craft brewers to produce up to 30,000 barrels

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per year while holding other licenses and sell their beer directly to bars and stores. The limit now is 5,000 barrels.

The governor says current state law limits craft breweries' ability to grow and thrive.

DISCLAIMER: THIS IS ABOUT BALLOT MEASURES

The House State Affairs Committee plans to talk a lot about ballot questions early next week.

Under House Bill 1282, voters could start seeing ballot question advertisements with a new notice: "Paid for in-part with out-of-state money." The bill would require ballot measure campaigns that accept contributions from outside South Dakota to put the disclaimer on communications such as brochures, billboards and broadcast advertisements. Republican Rep. Greg Jamison has said the measure, to be heard Tuesday, would improve transparency and inform voters.

Also scheduled for discussion Tuesday, House Bill 1302 would prohibit paying people to gather signatures for initiatives, a move that would hamstring campaigns' ability to collect the thousands of names required to qualify for the ballot. Republican Rep. Chip Campbell, the sponsor, declined to comment.

Democratic lawmakers that day will mount an unlikely push to bring a redistricting constitutional amendment back to the ballot after a similar measure failed in 2016. House Joint Resolution 1009 would ask November voters to take control of drawing political boundaries from state legislators and give it to an independent commission to be established by law.

The panel on Monday is to discuss a proposed constitutional amendment that would extend lawmakers' terms from two years to four. It would take effect in 2022.

SMOKE BREAK

A bill that would raise the legal age to buy tobacco from 18 to 21 is to go before the House Health and Human Services Committee on Tuesday. Republican Sen. Alan Solano, a sponsor of House Bill 1250, has said it would help remove tobacco from South Dakota schools.

MINES & PIPELINES

A pair of bills would stop new oil pipeline construction in South Dakota and end mining in the Black Hills without the consent of each tribe in the state.

Democratic Rep. Shawn Bordeaux, the sponsor of House bills 1223 and 1224, said he's carrying the bills for Cheyenne River Sioux Chairman Harold Frazier. Bordeaux said the bills affect the environment and water, which are important to his community and should be important to South Dakota.

The House Commerce and Energy Committee is scheduled to take them up Monday.

Woman arrested after SUV crashes into Sioux Falls apartment

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Police have arrested a woman who allegedly crashed a stolen SUV into a Sioux Falls apartment building.

A police statement says officers tried to pull the vehicle over around 2:15 a.m. Sunday, but the driver fled. Officer lost sight of it and heard a loud crash. They arrived to see the SUV had crashed into a first-floor apartment and gone partially inside. The officers saw her run away, but caught her after a short chase.

Four people were inside, including a baby and toddler. A man was taken to the hospital with minor leg injuries. The other three were unhurt, but debris landed on them.

The 20-year-old driver faces several potential charges, including possessing a stolen vehicle, aggravated eluding, hit and run, driving while intoxicated and ingesting a controlled substance.

Deal may displace mobile home residents near Air Force base

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota plans to give a \$3.2 million building to a Black Hills businessman in exchange for his agreement to demolish 125 mobile homes he owns near Ellsworth Air Force Base.

The Rapid City Journal reports that Branden Bestgen plans to convert a former Western Dakota Technical Institute building in Rapid City into a plant that produces modular units, such as individual hotel rooms, that will be shipped to building sites and stacked into larger structures. The plant is projected to employ at least 100 people.

The mobile homes are close to the southeast end of Ellsworth's runway. Proponents hope removing them from a potential accident zone will make the base less vulnerable to future base closings.

The governor could sign legislation that includes the deal as soon as Monday.

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

South Dakota fends off North Dakota State 76-72

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Matt Mooney scored 21 points, Triston Simpson and Nick Fuller 13 apiece and South Dakota fought off a furious second-half rally and beat North Dakota State 76-72 on Saturday.

Mooney had 18 points and hit all three of his 3-pointers to propel the Coyotes (20-6, 8-2 Summit) to a 44-24 halftime lead. South Dakota hit 7 of 12 from distance in opening up the 20-point advantage. But the Coyotes went cold in the second half, missing seven of their first eight shots, and two free throws by Deng Geu pulled the Bison (12-12, 4-5) within 52-42 with 12½ minutes remaining.

Paul Miller scored 12 with two 3-pointers that began and ended a 14-6 spurt, and North Dakota State trailed 68-65 with 1:44 left. But Tyler Peterson scored seven straight for the Coyotes — four free throws and a 3-pointer — and Mooney made 1 of 2 free throws with six seconds to go to preserve the win. Peterson finished with 12 points.

Miller paced the Bison with 24 points, five rebounds and four assists, while Tyson Ward scored 11 with 11 rebounds for his sixth double-double of the season.

Audit: Sioux Falls forgave \$1.6M in fees, fines over 2 years

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A new audit has found that Sioux Falls forgave about \$1.6 million in fines and fees from 2016 through 2017.

The Sioux Falls Internal Audit Department's report shows City Hall forgave about \$860,000 in fees and fines in 2016 and more than \$775,000 in 2017, the Argus Leader reported.

The city typically collects about \$100 million each year in fees and fines, including parking tickets, building permits and other revenue generators.

"We determined that approximately 1 percent of the total amount of revenue generated from fees and fines is foregone annually due to the authorized waivers and reduced rates," the report said.

The audit doesn't specify which departments are waiving fees or fines most frequently.

Internal Auditor Ashley VanDeBerg said city ordinances and executive orders allow department heads to forgo fees or fines in certain cases. The Planning Department can waive permit fees for nonprofits, city buildings and Community Development Neighborhood Revitalization projects, for instance. The parking division can also forgive tickets for registered vehicles outside of the county metro area.

"The whole reason we were doing this audit was to see if there were a lot of fees and fines being waived or is it's guided by ordinance," said VanDeBerg. "We did find that they're only being approved if it's in ordinance or sometimes management will (forgive) a late fee for, say, an account that's always been paid on time."

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

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8-year-old helps save veteran from South Dakota house fire

HECLA, S.D. (AP) — The family of a World War II veteran has called an 8-year-old girl a “hero” after she helped the veteran safely escape a house fire in northern South Dakota.

Adi Lloyd was driving with her grandparents in Hecla on New Year’s Day when she saw a plume of smoke rising from the home of 92-year-old Dale Shelton, who was asleep inside. Adi alerted her grandparents, Bob and Gayle Lloyd, and insisted that they check on the homeowner.

Shelton was exiting the burning house when they arrived, the Aberdeen American News reported. He was covered in ashes, dazed and without a coat.

“I kind of felt worried because he had a bunch of black stuff in his hair,” said Adi.

“I’ve never seen anything like it,” Gayle Lloyd said. “We jumped out, got him out of house and into the pickup.”

The trio helped Shelton into their car, where they bundled him in blankets and waited for an ambulance to arrive. Shelton was treated in an ambulance on scene, but wasn’t taken to a hospital.

“Within 10 minutes, Adi was asking to check on him,” Gayle Lloyd said. “And they let her up there (in the ambulance) to do that.”

Shelton’s daughter, Valerie Youngman, said Shelton is recovering in a furnished apartment with enough clothes to last years, thanks to those in Hecla and the surrounding area who helped.

Youngman told Adi that she was their “little hero.” “Our family would like to say a very special thank you to Adi and her grandparents for being there that day,” said Youngman.

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

South Dakota lawmakers to debate legislative pay panel

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota lawmakers may establish a commission to give salary recommendations for the state’s 105 legislators.

The 10-member Legislative Compensation Commission would consider salaries of other similar state legislators in developing recommendations.

The citizen panel would look to maintain a citizen Legislature while compensating members such that all people would have an opportunity to serve.

State lawmakers set their own salaries, which have been a subject of debate during the 2018 session.

The state House has approved a measure that would ask voters to set legislators’ salaries at one-fifth of the South Dakota median household income.

U.S. Census numbers for 2015 show that would mean a raise of 70 percent for state lawmakers to nearly \$10,200. The proposed constitutional amendment is pending in the Senate and would require voter approval.

Vietnam vet donates letters, photos to South Dakota archives

By KATHERINE GRANDSTRAND, Aberdeen American News

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A Webster veteran recently delivered a gold mine to the South Dakota State Archives. James C. Walton Jr., a former airman, was stationed in Vietnam from June 1969 to June 1970, when he was 21. During that time, he wrote letters home to his parents, James and Helen Walton, in Webster, kept a journal and took some photographs.

The collection was meticulously organized before Walton handed his collection over to the state historical society in Pierre, Aberdeen American News reported .

“It was kind of an archivists dream,” said Matthew Reitzel, manuscript and photo archivist. “He was big into his family history, and he had all of his letters in individual file folders. A lot of times, we just get boxes of stuff, and it’s just a mess. This was in immaculate condition and it was awesome to work through and look at.”

The collection included about 150 letters, a journal kept in a notebook and three albums of photographs,

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Reitzel said.

Walton declined an invitation to be interviewed by the American News, but Reitzel said the historical society is thankful for the donation.

"We've slowly been seeing more items coming into our collections that are Vietnam related," Reitzel said.

Ken Burns' documentary "The Vietnam War" might have played a role in Walton's and similar donations in recent months, Reitzel said. The 10-part documentary aired on South Dakota Public Broadcasting in September.

"Anything that gets people thinking of, 'OK, I have this stuff, what am I gonna do with it?'" Reitzel said.

There was also a local focus on Vietnam veterans by public broadcasting and even the Dacotah Prairie Museum in Aberdeen when the program ran.

Walton served in the U.S. Air Force from 1967 to 1971, according to a news release from the archives. During his time in the service, he was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas, Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama, Bien Hoa Air Base in Vietnam and Lowry Air Force Base in Denver.

Walton was a senior security policeman, law enforcement in the third security police squadron at Bien Hoa.

Many of Walton's letters home contained reassuring language for his family, Reitzel said.

"You'll see a lot of references to, 'I'm OK,' 'Everything's fine,'" he said. "It will say, 'We've been eating food, don't worry about the food, the food's fine.' 'There was a rocket attack or something, but I'm fine.' There's always that reassurance."

Other than being well-organized, Walton's donation was important because he's around to ask questions of, Reitzel said.

"A lot of times it's a spouse or children or niece or nephew or something who gets a collection of stuff that's like, 'This is my dad's' or 'This is my grandpa's, and we don't know anything about it,'" Reitzel said.

These types of donations, from the last 70 years or so, are especially important, Reitzel said.

The historical society and archives are always looking for interesting donations about South Dakota's history, he said. Not everything may be appropriate for the collections in Pierre, but that doesn't mean there's not a local museum or university that wouldn't take the items.

"One of the advantages we have as the state historical society is, as long as it's South Dakota history, it's something we'd be interested in," Reitzel said.

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

Japanese man pursues construction dream in South Dakota

By TANYA MANUS, Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Lots of people dream about working in the movie industry. Kaz Kunishige spent 20 years in movie theaters dreaming about construction.

Today, Kunishige owns Handcrafted Log Homes in Box Elder. His company builds about two custom houses a year in the Black Hills and Wyoming.

Finding opportunities to learn was the key to Kunishige's own construction career. Kunishige is from Yokohama, Japan's second-largest city. Before relocating to South Dakota, he worked in movie theaters, and he and his wife were raising two sons. He dreamed of building his own house, even though it was an unlikely idea.

"I'd never have a chance in Japan, and I had no experience with building," Kunishige said, laughing.

Health problems prompted him to take his family on an extended vacation in the Black Hills, where his brother-in-law lives. Kunishige's health improved. The Kunishiges' vacation stretched so long they enrolled their children in school, and later decided to move to South Dakota for good.

"Everybody liked it here," Kunishige said. "The nice open space, the reasonable prices and the people are so nice. (We decided) here is where we'll stay awhile."

When he had the chance to help a neighbor with a construction project, Kunishige realized South Dakota might be the place where he could achieve his dream.

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"South Dakotans believe they can do everything by themselves, and maybe there's a chance I can build my house," Kunishige said.

He still knew nothing about the building trade, so he began writing to local contractors. One log home builder, DeWitt Construction, responded. After going to work for DeWitt, Kunishige quickly realized he needed to learn about the construction industry from the ground up. He studied carpentry at Western Dakota Tech, then earned a degree in structural engineering at South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. Four years ago, Kunishige became the owner of Handcrafted Log Homes, which had been a division of DeWitt Construction. Handcrafted Log Homes has won multiple awards from the Construction Industry Center and the Black Hills Homebuilders Association.

Twenty years after the Kunishiges started their extended vacation here, they're still happy to be in the Black Hills. Kunishige did build himself a house. "But it's not finished completely," he said, laughing. "I have to do other people's first. But we are living in it."

Handcrafted Log Homes builds houses from the foundation up, designing entire homes or enhancing houses with log accents such as railings, staircases or porches. Each home is meticulously assembled, and every log numbered, in the company's log yard in Box Elder. This process ensures that every piece fits perfectly and can require weeks or months of work. Then the house is taken apart and transported to the homeowners' land. There, it's reassembled, typically in a few days.

From the early design ideas to a finished home's biennial maintenance, Kunishige is involved. "I do everything from buying materials to running the crew," he said.

Kunishige guides clients through the design process to determine the floor plan that will best suit them, the Rapid City Journal reported. "I talk with homeowners until I understand what they need. Sometimes they bring in a magazine and say, 'I want this.' That's where we start from. Sometimes they want a big nice dining room but the reality is they use it once or twice a year," he said. "I talk to them about how they really live."

"I like to help people enjoy their life. ... They're designing their future," he said.

Handcrafted Log Homes are built with hand-peeled logs. "Each log is a different shape and it has a different character, so we have to watch each log to find out the best part and then we use that one," Kunishige said.

"Our crew feels like we're building our own homes. ... If they make a mistake, they will fix it. We spend lots of time. We want to be good log home builders," Kunishige said. "We're proud at the end of the day of what we've done."

Every other year, Kunishige's crew returns to the houses they've built to do maintenance. Though log homes can be energy-efficient, shrinking, settling and exposure to sunlight and weather affect the logs.

"That's why a log home is exactly yours. It needs your attention. Give it attention and you'll love your whole house," Kunishige said.

Kunishige currently has three employees and strives to be a mentor as well as a builder. He encourages his employees to be innovative and continually find ways to increase productivity and safety.

"I would like to pass all my knowledge on to the younger generation," he said. "I am looking for people who want to learn or are interested in building log homes. I'm looking for employees who are ready to settle down and be responsible and are willing to learn. ... I want good people to work with us."

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

Ram truck ad using MLK speech draws backlash

By MAE ANDERSON, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A Ram truck ad that used a speech by Martin Luther King, Jr., is drawing a backlash. The ad shows people doing service-oriented tasks set against audio of King's speech, which urges people to be "great" by serving the greater good rather than being successful. It was supposed to highlight the volunteer program Ram Nation.

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But it was criticized by viewers and ad experts alike for forging too tenuous a connection with the civil rights hero.

On Twitter, most people expressed the idea that using King's speech to "sell trucks" crossed a line between a heartfelt message and exploiting emotions just to push a vehicle.

"They pushed it over the edge," said Kelly O'Keefe, a professor at Virginia Commonwealth University's Brandcenter. "You wanted to root for it because the cause is good, but it just didn't end up fitting the brand, so you ended up feeling a little bit manipulated."

"The use of MLK to promote Ram trucks strikes many people as crass and inappropriate," said Tim Calkins, a marketing professor at Northwestern University.

Watching at home, some viewers expressed distaste for the ad as well.

"I liked being reminded of Martin Luther King's speech (but) I'm not sure it was fitting for a truck commercial," said Kimberly Stites, who was watching the game in Gretna, Nebraska. "I would have liked it better if they had said something like, 'This reminder of all that we can be brought to you by'"

Fiat Chrysler said in a statement that it worked closely with the King estate on the ad.

The firm managing King's intellectual property, Intellectual Properties Management, said in a statement that it approved the ad because it embodied King's philosophy.

The ad is not the first one to use a King Speech. Telecom Alcatel used King's "I Have a Dream" speech in an ad that was also approved by IPM.

That ad shows King giving his most famous speech to an empty Mall in Washington D.C. to illustrate the idea that "before you can touch, you must first connect."

Eds: An earlier version of this story mistakenly referred to Ram trucks, which are no longer affiliated with the Dodge brand.

Paris attacks suspect refuses to stand at shootout trial

By LORI HINNANT, Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The only surviving member of the Islamic State cell that attacked Paris in November 2015 refused to rise for a Belgian court on Monday, or answer questions about his actions, during his first appearance in public since his arrest nearly two years ago.

Salah Abdeslam is on trial in his hometown of Brussels on charges of attempted murder for a police shootout from which he fled. The man who covered for his getaway with a spray of automatic gunfire died. Abdeslam's escape was short-lived — he was captured on March 18, 2016, in the same neighborhood where he and many of his Islamic State fighter colleagues grew up.

Abdeslam arrived in the Belgian capital on Monday morning after being transferred from a prison in France. Security was high at the Brussels courthouse, with armed guards and multiple checkpoints leading to the courtroom.

He is being tried alongside a second defendant, Sofiane Ayari, in relation to the shootout. The judge's questions Monday were oriented toward establishing which of the two had also fired on officers.

Asked why he was refusing to stand, Abdeslam said: "I'm tired, I did not sleep."

Abdeslam, now wearing a full beard and longer hair than in pictures released before he was arrested, was flanked by masked guards and refused to answer questions beyond a few formalities.

"I do not wish to respond to any questions. I was asked to come. I came," he said. "I defend myself by keeping silent."

"Muslims are judged and treated without pity, there is no presumption of innocence," said Abdeslam, who stared straight ahead for much of the hearing. "I'm not afraid of you, I'm not afraid of your allies. I place my faith in Allah."

Abdeslam has previously refused to speak to investigators in France about the attack there that killed 130. Days after his capture, extremists struck in Brussels. In total, 162 people died in the two attacks.

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The trial relates to the 2016 shooting in Brussels, some four months after the Paris attacks. Abdeslam and two suspects were hiding in an apartment when police arrived for a routine search. Three officers were wounded in the shootout that followed and one suspect was killed. Abdeslam was captured a few days later in the flashpoint Brussels neighborhood of Molenbeek.

"We want to see what elements will be provided in order to have a better understanding of this series of events and terror attacks, in France and in Belgium," said Guillaume Denoix de Saint Marc, a member of V-Europe, a victims' association.

"This trial is one of the pieces of a global puzzle which will answer some of our questions. But at the same time, we expect to be very disappointed and to learn nothing."

Lorne Cook in Brussels and Sam Petrequin in Paris contributed to this report.

AP Exclusive: Despite denial, Pope got abuse victim's letter

By NICOLE WINFIELD and EVA VERGARA, Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis received a victim's letter in 2015 that graphically detailed how a priest sexually abused him and how other Chilean clergy ignored it, contradicting the pope's recent insistence that no victims had come forward to denounce the cover-up, the letter's author and members of Francis' own sex-abuse commission have told The Associated Press.

The fact that Francis received the eight-page letter, obtained by the AP, challenges his insistence that he has "zero tolerance" for sex abuse and cover-ups. It also calls into question his stated empathy with abuse survivors, compounding the most serious crisis of his five-year papacy.

The scandal exploded last month when Francis' trip to South America was marred by protests over his vigorous defense of Bishop Juan Barros, who is accused by victims of covering up the abuse by the Rev. Fernando Karadima. During the trip, Francis callously dismissed accusations against Barros as "slander," seemingly unaware that victims had placed him at the scene of Karadima's crimes.

On the plane home, confronted by an AP reporter, the pope said: "You, in all good will, tell me that there are victims, but I haven't seen any, because they haven't come forward."

But members of the pope's Commission for the Protection of Minors say that in April 2015, they sent a delegation to Rome specifically to hand-deliver a letter to the pope about Barros. The letter from Juan Carlos Cruz detailed the abuse, kissing and fondling he says he suffered at Karadima's hands, which he said Barros and others witnessed and ignored.

Four members of the commission met with Francis' top abuse adviser, Cardinal Sean O'Malley, explained their objections to Francis' recent appointment of Barros as a bishop in southern Chile, and gave him the letter to deliver to Francis.

"When we gave him (O'Malley) the letter for the pope, he assured us he would give it to the pope and speak of the concerns," then-commission member Marie Collins told the AP. "And at a later date, he assured us that that had been done."

Cruz, who now lives and works in Philadelphia, heard the same later that year.

"Cardinal O'Malley called me after the pope's visit here in Philadelphia and he told me, among other things, that he had given the letter to the pope — in his hands," he said in an interview at his home Sunday.

Neither the Vatican nor O'Malley responded to multiple requests for comment.

While the 2015 summit of Francis' commission was known and publicized at the time, the contents of Cruz's letter — and a photograph of Collins handing it to O'Malley — were not disclosed by members. Cruz provided the letter, and Collins provided the photo, after reading an AP story that reported Francis had claimed to have never heard from any Karadima victims about Barros' behavior.

The Barros affair first caused shockwaves in January 2015 when Francis appointed him bishop of Osorno, Chile, over the objections of the leadership of Chile's bishops' conference and many local priests and laity. They accepted as credible the testimony against Karadima, a prominent Chilean cleric who was sanctioned by the Vatican in 2011 for abusing minors. Barros was a Karadima protegee, and according to Cruz and

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other victims, he witnessed the abuse and did nothing.

"Holy Father, I write you this letter because I'm tired of fighting, of crying and suffering," Cruz wrote in Francis' native Spanish. "Our story is well known and there's no need to repeat it, except to tell you of the horror of having lived this abuse and how I wanted to kill myself."

Cruz and other survivors had for years denounced the cover-up of Karadima's crimes, but were dismissed as liars by the Chilean church hierarchy and the Vatican's own ambassador in Santiago, who refused their repeated requests to meet before and after Barros was appointed.

After Francis' comments backing the Chilean hierarchy caused such an outcry in Chile, he was forced last week to do an about-face: The Vatican announced it was sending in its most respected sex-crimes investigator to take testimony from Cruz and others about Barros.

In the letter to the pope, Cruz begs for Francis to listen to him and make good on his pledge of "zero tolerance."

"Holy Father, it's bad enough that we suffered such tremendous pain and anguish from the sexual and psychological abuse, but the terrible mistreatment we received from our pastors is almost worse," he wrote.

Cruz goes on to detail in explicit terms the homo-eroticized nature of the circle of priests and young boys around Karadima, the charismatic preacher whose El Bosque community in the well-to-do Santiago neighborhood of Providencia produced dozens of priestly vocations and five bishops, including Barros.

He described how Karadima would kiss Barros and fondle his genitals, and do the same with younger priests and teens, and how young priests and seminarians would fight to sit next to Karadima at the table to receive his affections.

"More difficult and tough was when we were in Karadima's room and Juan Barros — if he wasn't kissing Karadima — would watch when Karadima would touch us — the minors — and make us kiss him, saying: 'Put your mouth near mine and stick out your tongue.' He would stick his out and kiss us with his tongue," Cruz told the pope. "Juan Barros was a witness to all this innumerable times, not just with me but with others as well."

"Juan Barros covered up everything that I have told you," he added.

Barros has repeatedly denied witnessing any abuse or covering it up. "I never knew anything about, nor ever imagined, the serious abuses which that priest committed against the victims," he told the AP recently. "I have never approved of nor participated in such serious, dishonest acts, and I have never been convicted by any tribunal of such things."

For the Osorno faithful who have opposed Barros as their bishop, the issue isn't so much a legal matter requiring proof or evidence, as Barros was a young priest at the time and not in a position of authority over Karadima. It's more that if Barros didn't "see" what was happening around him and doesn't find it problematic for a priest to kiss and fondle young boys, he shouldn't be in charge of a diocese where he is responsible for detecting inappropriate sexual behavior, reporting it to police and protecting children from pedophiles like his mentor.

Cruz had arrived at Karadima's community in 1980 as a vulnerable teenager, distraught after the recent death of his father. He has said Karadima told him he would be like a spiritual father to him, but instead sexually abused him.

Based on testimony from Cruz and other former members of the parish, the Vatican in 2011 removed Karadima from ministry and sentenced him to a lifetime of "penance and prayer" for his crimes. Now 87, he lives in a home for elderly priests in Santiago; he hasn't commented on the scandal and the home has declined to accept calls or visits from the news media.

The victims also testified to Chilean prosecutors, who opened an investigation into Karadima after they went public with their accusations in 2010. Chilean prosecutors had to drop charges because too much time had passed, but the judge running the case stressed that it wasn't for lack of proof.

While the victims' testimony was deemed credible by both Vatican and Chilean prosecutors, the local church hierarchy clearly didn't believe them, which might have influenced Francis' view. Cardinal Francisco Javier Errazuriz has acknowledged he didn't believe the victims initially and shelved an investigation. He

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was forced to reopen it after the victims went public.

He is now one of the Argentine pope's key cardinal advisers.

By the time he finally got his letter into the pope's hands in 2015, Cruz had already sent versions to many other people, and had tried for months to get an appointment with the Vatican ambassador. The embassy's Dec. 15, 2014, email to Cruz — a month before Barros was appointed — was short and to the point:

"The apostolic nunciature has received the message you emailed Dec. 7 to the apostolic nuncio," it read, "and at the same time communicates that your request has been met with an unfavorable response."

One could argue that Francis didn't pay attention to Cruz's letter, since he receives thousands of letters every day from faithful around the world. He can't possibly read them all, much less remember the contents years later. He might have been tired and confused after a weeklong trip to South America when he told an airborne press conference that victims never came forward to accuse Barros of cover-up.

But this was not an ordinary letter, nor were the circumstances under which it arrived in the Vatican.

Francis had named O'Malley, the archbishop of Boston, to head his Commission for the Protection of Minors based on his credibility in having helped clean up the mess in Boston after the U.S. sex abuse scandal exploded there in 2002. The commission gathered outside experts to advise the church on protecting children from pedophiles and educating church personnel about preventing abuse and cover-ups.

The four commission members who were on a special subcommittee dedicated to survivors had flown to Rome specifically to speak with O'Malley about the Barros appointment and to deliver Cruz's letter. A press release issued after the April 12, 2015, meeting read: "Cardinal O'Malley agreed to present the concerns of the subcommittee to the Holy Father."

Commission member Catherine Bonnet, a French child psychiatrist who took the photo of Collins handing the letter to O'Malley, said the commission members had decided to descend on Rome specifically when O'Malley and other members of the pope's group of nine cardinal advisers were meeting, so that O'Malley could put it directly into the pope's hands.

"Cardinal O'Malley promised us when Marie gave to him the letter of Juan Carlos that he will give to Pope Francis," she said.

O'Malley's spokesman in Boston referred requests for comment to the Vatican. Neither the Vatican press office, nor officials at the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors, responded to calls and emails seeking comment.

But O'Malley's remarkable response to Francis' defense of Barros and to his dismissal of the victims while he was in Chile, is perhaps now better understood.

In a rare rebuke of a pope by a cardinal, O'Malley issued a statement Jan. 20 in which he said the pope's words were "a source of great pain for survivors of sexual abuse," and that such expressions had the effect of abandoning victims and relegating them to "discredited exile."

A day later, Francis apologized for having demanded "proof" of wrongdoing by Barros, saying he meant merely that he wanted to see "evidence." But he continued to describe the accusations against Barros as "calumny" and insisted he had never heard from any victims.

Even when told in his airborne press conference Jan. 21 that Karadima's victims had indeed placed Barros at the scene of Karadima's abuse, Francis said: "No one has come forward. They haven't provided any evidence for a judgment. This is all a bit vague. It's something that can't be accepted."

He stood by Barros, saying: "I'm certain he's innocent," even while saying that he considered the testimony of victims to be "evidence" in a cover-up investigation.

"If anyone can give me evidence, I'll be the first to listen," he said.

Cruz said he felt like he had been slapped when he heard those words.

"I was upset," he said, "and at the same time I couldn't believe that someone so high up like the pope himself could lie about this."

This version corrects that the commission members' trip to Rome was paid for by the commission, not themselves.

Vergara reported from Santiago, Chile. Yvonne Lee in Philadelphia and Jeffrey Schaeffer in Paris contributed.

Philadelphians take to the streets to celebrate Super Bowl

By DAVE ZEITLIN, Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The rain and hail that pelted Philadelphia for much of the day dissipated just as people across the city spilled out of sports bars, apartments and houses.

They all had one destination: Broad Street.

It was time for a celebration 58 years in the making.

On Sunday night, just as Nick Foles led the Philadelphia Eagles to a surprise Super Bowl victory over the New England Patriots in Minneapolis, the scene more than 1,000 miles away in Philly was jubilation and pandemonium.

Fireworks were set off. Car horns blared. And Philadelphians young and old descended on Broad Street, the iconic thoroughfare that will soon host a parade to commemorate the city's first major pro sports championship since the Phillies won the 2008 World Series.

"The city deserved it," said 66-year-old Lou Potel, who threw a party at his home just off Broad before joining a much bigger party outside. "It's a great city, and now we have a Super Bowl to go along with it."

Like so many other fans, Potel's love for the Eagles has been passed down from generation to generation. He went to the Super Bowl with his son the last time the Eagles played in the title game in 2004, and said that watching Sunday's championship with his son "made up for it."

Dustin Seidman, 42, and his wife Staci, 41, decided to bring their 10-year-old son and 8-year-old daughter to the festivities on Broad Street, even as drunken fans sprayed beer and climbed trash trucks, street poles and awnings. Social media video showed the awning outside the Ritz-Carlton Hotel collapsing with more than a dozen people on it, but it was unclear if there were any injuries.

There were many other young kids on Broad Street, with parents weaving strollers between people and cars and some even holding infants in carriers. One youngster rode a scooter while wearing an Eagles helmet.

"We wouldn't miss this," Dustin Seidman said. "It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

As his son then asked to keep walking north to City Hall, he added: "Does life get any better than this?"

For Staci Seidman, the thought of her late grandfather, a die-hard Eagles fan, immediately crossed her mind when the game ended. She wasn't alone.

Rick Campitelli, 63, who came into the city to watch the game with his son, said he wished his father-in-law could have been alive to see this moment.

"This is the greatest," said Campitelli, wearing the jersey of Wilbert Montgomery, the former Eagles running back to whom he once sold insurance. "I was hoping they would do it before I died, and they did it."

The scene in Boston was far more somber as fans inside the Banshee Bar had to come to terms with a rare loss for Tom Brady. Some, however, took it in stride.

"I've got nothing to complain about," Boston resident Bill Crowley said. "It's the greatest dynasty in NFL history and this loss tonight doesn't change that."

"They'll be back," Conor Hobert added. "One hundred percent, they'll be back."

Sam Murphy, 40, actually made the trip from Boston to Philadelphia, flying in Sunday morning before planning to fly back for work Monday. The longtime Eagles fan and Boston resident joked he couldn't be within 100 miles of his home, instead deciding to watch the game with his old University of Pennsylvania roommate Rob Ballenger, 41, at Grace Tavern, near 23rd and South Streets.

While standing in the back of the packed bar, Murphy drank Newbolds in honor of his father-in-law Ron Skubecz, who loved that beer and who once gave his children a football signed by Eagles legend Chuck Bednarik. Skubecz, a lifelong Eagles fan, died just three weeks ago, making Sunday's championship even more emotional for Murphy.

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"This is Philly at its best," said Murphy, as he, Ballenger and hundreds of other new friends paraded down South Street to get to the party on Broad. "This team is what Philly is all about."

Freelance writer Ignacio Laguarda in Boston contributed to this report.

Foles outduels Brady to give Eagles their first Super Bowl

By JOSH DUBOW, AP Pro Football Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Nick Foles did his best Tom Brady impersonation, leading a late-game comeback to cap a season that began as a backup and ended as Super Bowl MVP.

Foles' journey mirrored Brady's 16 years ago and ended late Sunday night, with green-and-white confetti falling as delirious Philadelphia Eagles fans celebrated their first NFL title since 1960.

No quarterback has gone from backup to title game MVP in one season since Brady replaced Drew Bledsoe in the 2001 season. Foles topped the 40-year-old Brady, football's greatest winner, in the most prolific offensive game in NFL history, with the Eagles defeating the favored New England Patriots 41-33.

Foles finished it off by engineering the type of game-winning drive that made Brady famous, and he watched his defense stopped Brady to seal the victory and the Eagles first Super Bowl — their earlier titles came before the Super Bowl era.

"The stage was never too big for him all year," said Zach Ertz, who caught the game-winning 11-yard touchdown pass from Foles with 2:21 remaining. "To get in a shootout with that guy on the other team is probably not ideal for anyone ever. The guy is the best quarterback to ever play the game."

But on this night Brady played second fiddle to Foles despite throwing for a playoff record 505 yards. Foles was nearly as prolific with 373 yards and three touchdown passes and also caught a TD pass for the Eagles (16-3). Brady dropped his own chance at a reception on a trick play by the Patriots (15-4).

That all added up to Foles becoming the first backup quarterback to win the Super Bowl since Brady beat two-time NFL MVP Kurt Warner to win his first title 16 years ago.

Brady never gave up the job he got after Bledsoe got hurt early that season. He has gone on to win a record five Super Bowl titles. After throwing his third touchdown pass, to Rob Gronkowski, with 9:22 to play to give the Patriots their first lead of the game, he seemed poised for a sixth.

That's when Foles stepped up with the drive of his life to give Philadelphia its first Super Bowl title in a season many wrote off after Carson Wentz injured his knee in Week 14.

Foles drove the Eagles 75 yards, converting a fourth-and-1 with a 2-yard pass to Ertz near midfield and then capping it with the pass to Ertz that needed to survive a replay review to make sure Ertz held onto the ball long enough for a score.

"It doesn't get any bigger than this, but I felt good," Foles said. "I felt calm. I think the big thing that helped me was knowing that I didn't have to be Superman. I have amazing teammates."

One of those teammates delivered the key defensive play on a night when the offenses combined for 1,151 yards — the most in any modern NFL game. With Brady poised to lead one of his memorable comebacks, Brandon Graham knocked the ball out of his hand for a fumble that rookie Derek Barnett recovered with 2:09 to play.

"When the fourth quarter came we had to go out there and make a stop," Graham said. "As a defense we hadn't been doing it all game. The offense carried us all the way through. At the end of the day we kept coming."

Jake Elliott tacked on a field goal and the game ended when Brady's desperation heave to the end zone fell to the turf, sending the Eagles out on the field in celebration and Brady to the ground in despair.

"I don't think anyone wallows on our team," Brady said. "We're a competitive team. Played hard. Didn't make enough plays or score enough points."

The questions after the game immediately turned to the future with Foles expected to return to the backup role when Wentz is healthy. In the other locker room, Brady was asked if he would come back for another run at age 41.

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"I expect to be back," he said. "It's 15 minutes after the game ended, so I would like to process this. I don't see why I wouldn't be back."

Brady did just about all he could to win the game, with his most glaring miss coming as a receiver on a trick play in the first half when he dropped a pass from receiver Danny Amendola.

Foles topped him in that role with his touchdown late in the first half that made him the first player to catch and throw a TD pass in the same Super Bowl.

On fourth down from the 1, Foles motioned into the slot, while rookie Corey Clement took a direct snap. Clement pitched to tight end Trey Burton, a former quarterback at Florida. Foles slid into the right side of the end zone, uncovered and caught the touchdown on a play coach Doug Pederson calls "Philly Special."

"Yeah, that was something we've been working on, and Doug and I were talking, and he was like, 'Let's just run it.' It was a good time," Foles said. "And the end was a little wider than I thought, so I was like, 'I really need to sell like I'm not doing anything.'

"And it worked, Trey made an amazing throw. I just looked it in and, yeah, we've repped it for a while, so I was excited to get it run in the Super Bowl."

That gave the Eagles a 22-12 halftime lead but Brady led three straight second-half touchdown drives — two to Gronkowski. Foles kept pace with a 22-yard touchdown pass to Clement and another drive for a field goal that kept the Eagles in it until the dramatic finish.

"It kind of felt like whoever had the ball last could win this game, and we were just fortunate enough to put ourselves in a position to end the game with that drive for the touchdown," coach Doug Pederson said. "Our defense stepped up and did a nice job to finish it for us."

All that was left was the celebration and yet another rendition of "Fly Eagles Fly."

More AP NFL: <http://www.pro32.ap.org> and http://www.twitter.com/AP_NFL

US starts Iraq drawdown after declaration of victory over IS

By SUSANNAH GEORGE and QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA, Associated Press

AL-ASAD AIRBASE, Iraq (AP) — American troops have started to draw down from Iraq following Baghdad's declaration of victory over the Islamic State group last year, according to Western contractors at a U.S.-led coalition base in Iraq.

In Baghdad, an Iraqi government spokesman on Monday confirmed to The Associated Press that the drawdown has begun, though he stressed it was still in its early stages and doesn't mark the beginning of a complete pullout of U.S. forces.

Dozens of American soldiers have been transported from Iraq to Afghanistan on daily flights over the past week, along with weapons and equipment, the contractors said.

An AP reporter at the Al-Asad base in western Iraq saw troop movements reflecting the contractors' account. The contractors spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations and declined to reveal the exact size of the drawdown.

"Continued coalition presence in Iraq will be conditions-based, proportional to the need and in coordination with the government of Iraq," coalition spokesman Army Col. Ryan Dillon told the AP when asked for comment.

Government spokesman Saad al-Hadithi said "the battle against Daesh has ended, and so the level of the American presence will be reduced." Daesh is the Arabic language acronym for IS.

Al-Hadithi spoke just hours after AP reported the American drawdown — the first since the war against IS was launched over three years ago.

One senior Iraqi official close to Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said 60 percent of all American troops currently in country will be withdrawn, according to the initial agreement reached with the United States. The plan would leave a force of about 4,000 U.S. troops to continue training the Iraqi military.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media.

A Pentagon report released in November said there were 8,892 U.S. troops in Iraq as of late September.

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The U.S. first launched airstrikes against the Islamic State group in Iraq in August 2014. At the time the military intervention was described as "limited," but as Iraq's military struggled to roll back the extremists, the U.S.-led coalition's footprint in the country steadily grew.

"We've had a recent change of mission and soon we'll be supporting a different theater of operations in the coming month," U.S. Army 1st Lt. William John Raymond told the AP at Al-Asad.

He spoke as he and a handful of soldiers from his unit conducted equipment inventory checks required before leaving Iraq. Raymond declined to specify where his unit was being redeployed, in line with regulations as the information has not yet been made public.

The drawdown of U.S. forces comes just three months ahead of national elections in Iraq, where the indefinite presence of American troops continues to be a divisive issue.

Al-Abadi, who is looking to remain in office for another term, has long struggled to balance the often competing interests of Iraq's two key allies: Iran and the United States.

While the U.S. has closely backed key Iraqi military victories over IS such as the retaking of the city of Mosul, Iraq's Shiite-led paramilitary forces with close ties to Iran have called for the withdrawal of U.S. forces. The prime minister has previously stated that Iraq's military will need American training for years to come.

The Iraq drawdown also follows the release of the Pentagon's National Defense Strategy that cited China's rapidly expanding military and an increasingly aggressive Russia as the U.S. military's top national security priorities.

"Great power competition, not terrorism, is now the primary focus of U.S. national security," Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said last month in remarks outlining the strategy.

Iraq declared victory over IS in December after more than three years of grueling combat against the extremists in a war Iraqi forces fought with close U.S. support. In 2014, at the height of the Sunni militant group's power, IS controlled nearly a third of Iraqi territory.

While IS' self-styled caliphate stretching across Iraq and Syria has crumbled and the militants no longer hold a contiguous stretch of territory, in Iraq, the group continues to pose a security risk, according to Iraqi and American officials.

IS maintains a "cellular structure" of fighters who carry out attacks in Iraq aimed at disrupting local security, U.S. Marine Corps Brig. Gen. James Glynn told reporters during a Pentagon briefing last month.

Glynn pledged continued support for Iraq's security forces, but acknowledged U.S.-led coalition "capabilities" in Iraq would likely shift now that conventional combat operations against the group have largely ceased.

There were some 170,000 American troops in Iraq in 2007 at the height of the surge of U.S. forces to combat sectarian violence unleashed by the U.S.-led invasion of the country to oust dictator Saddam Hussein. U.S. troop numbers eventually wound down to 40,000 before the complete withdrawal in 2011.

Abdul-Zahra reported from Baghdad.

US investigators say deadly Amtrak train crash preventable

By MEG KINNARD, Associated Press

CAYCE, S.C. (AP) — Federal investigators are trying to figure out why a switch was in the wrong position, sending an Amtrak train into a freight train and killing a conductor and an engineer in South Carolina.

But they already know what could have prevented the wreck that injured more than 100 passengers: a GPS-based system called "positive train control," which knows the location of all trains and the positions of all switches in an area, and can prevent the kind of human error that puts two trains on the same track.

"It could have avoided this accident. That's what it's designed to do," said National Transportation Safety Board Chairman Robert Sumwalt.

Regulators have demanded the implementation of positive train control for decades, and the technology is now in place in the Northeast, but railroads that operate tracks used by Amtrak elsewhere in the U.S.

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have won repeated extensions from the government. The deadline for installing such equipment is now the end of 2018.

CSX Corp. — the freight railroad operator which runs that stretch of track — issued a statement expressing condolences but said nothing about the cause.

“Business as usual must end,” Democratic Sen. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut said after this latest crash.

Sumwalt said the passenger train hurtled down a side track near Cayce (CAYsee) around 2:45 a.m. Sunday after a stop 10 miles (16 kilometers) north in Columbia because a switch had been locked in place, diverting it from the main line. A crew on the freight train had moved the switch to drive it from one side track — where it unloaded 34 train cars of automobiles — to the side track where it was parked. The switch was padlocked as it was supposed to be, Sumwalt said.

The system that operates the train signals in the area was down, so CSX dispatchers were operating them manually. Sumwalt said it was too early to know if the signal was red to warn the Amtrak crew that the switch was not set to continue along the main train line.

Just hours after Sunday’s crash, which also sent 116 of the 147 people on board the New York-to-Miami train to the hospital, Amtrak President Robert Anderson said there must be no more delays from the federal government in installing the safety system by the end of 2018.

He deferred to investigators about whether the system would have stopped this crash. “Theoretically, an operative PTC system would include switches in addition to signals, so it would cover both speed and switches,” Anderson said.

The Silver Star was going an estimated 59 mph (94 kph) when it struck the freight train, Gov. Henry McMaster said. It was the middle of the night, and many people were jolted from sleep by the crash and forced into the cold.

“I thought that I was dead,” said passenger Eric Larkin, of Pamlico County, North Carolina, who was dazed and limping after banging his knee.

Suddenly awake, Larkin said the train was shaking and jumping and his seat broke loose, slamming him into the row in front of him.

He heard screams and crying all around him as he tried to get out. Other passengers were bleeding.

The locomotives of both trains were crumpled on impact, and the Amtrak engine ended up on its side. One car in the middle of the Amtrak train was snapped in half, forming a V off to one side of the tracks.

Engineer Michael Kempf, 54, of Savannah, Georgia, and conductor Michael Cella, 36, of Orange Park, Florida, were killed, Lexington County Coroner Margaret Fisher said. Of the 116 people taken to four hospitals, only about a half dozen were admitted. The rest had minor injuries such as cuts, bruises or whiplash, authorities said.

“Any time you have anything that happens like that, you expect more fatalities. But God blessed us, and we only had the two,” Fisher said, her voice choked with emotion.

On Wednesday, a chartered Amtrak train carrying Republican members of Congress to a retreat slammed into a garbage truck at a crossing where locals said the safety arms were down even when no trains approached. That accident in rural Virginia killed one person in the truck and injured six others.

And on Dec. 18, an Amtrak train ran off the rails along a curve during its inaugural run near Tacoma, Washington, killing three people and injuring dozens. It was going nearly 80 mph (128 kph), more than twice the speed limit.

“It’s becoming almost like an epidemic for Amtrak,” said Najmedin Meshkati, a University of Southern California engineering professor who has studied positive train control.

Associated Press writers Jeffrey Collins in Columbia, South Carolina, and Michael R. Blood in Los Angeles contributed to this report along with AP video journalist Josh Replege.

Era of trillion-dollar budget deficits is making a comeback

By ANDREW TAYLOR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The era of trillion-dollar budget deficits is about to make a comeback — and a brewing budget deal could mean their return comes just next year.

Talks on a budget-busting spending pact that would give whopping increases to both the Pentagon and domestic programs have been inching closer to an agreement, aides and lawmakers said.

GOP defense hawks are prevailing over the party's depleted ranks of deficit hawks while Democrats leverage their influence to increase spending for domestic priorities such as combating opioid misuse.

Details are closely held and subject to change. But at issue is a two-year deal to increase crunching caps on spending set by a failed 2011 budget deal. Republicans have pushed for defense increases in the neighborhood of \$80 billion a year and have offered Democrats nearly as much — \$60 billion or so per year — for nondefense programs.

Add in \$80 billion to \$90 billion worth of hurricane aid for Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico, health care funding and money for President Donald Trump's border security plan, and the final tally could total close to \$400 billion. The potential cost, over the 2018-19 budget years, would rival the deficit impact of last year's tax measure over that period.

"Republicans for years have made all of these bold promises to rein in spending," said Brian Riedl, a budget analyst at the conservative Manhattan Institute. "And they're doing the opposite."

The negotiations are bipartisan since it takes votes from Democrats to lift the budget caps and advance a follow-up omnibus spending bill, whose overall cost is likely to exceed \$1.2 trillion. That means domestic programs get their due, despite the opposition of conservatives.

"Right now, everything I'm hearing grows the size of government at 13 percent," said Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., citing back-and-forth budget offers. "And that's a nonstarter for conservatives."

Still, Republican deficit hawks stepped aside during last year's tax debate, and it's not looking like they'll mount a stand now. Instead, GOP defense hawks worried about lagging readiness, training and weapons procurement are carrying the day, even if it means placating Democrats with spending elsewhere.

"This budget dysfunction has a human cost, and our military is bearing the brunt of it," said Mac Thornberry, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, citing a spate of casualties from training accidents last year.

The potential agreement would significantly exceed Trump's request for a \$54 billion increase in defense spending — to \$603 billion before adding war funds — above the current cap. Thornberry, R-Texas, said negotiators are "very close to a budget agreement."

The budget talks are closely held and occurring as lawmakers struggle to sort through a solution to protect younger immigrants soon to be at risk of deportation with Trump's elimination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, called DACA, established by President Barack Obama. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., has linked progress on the budget with action to address DACA, but other Democrats are beginning to agitate for delinking the two, lest the opportunity for a budget pact be lost.

A trade of offers on Thursday represented progress, aides said, but an agreement didn't appear imminent. The aides, both Democrats and Republicans, spoke on condition of anonymity because the talks are secretive.

The budget caps are the hangover from the 2011 Budget Control Act, negotiated between Republicans and Obama, that prevented a default on the national debt and established a deficit-cutting supercommittee. But the failure of the supercommittee left behind unrealistic automatic spending cuts, known as sequestration, and today's stringent spending caps.

Deals in 2013 and 2015 eased the effects of sequestration by replacing cuts to domestic agency operating budgets and the Pentagon with spending cuts and fee increases elsewhere in the budget. Those offsetting measures tended to be relatively pain-free, though.

This year's looming deal is too big, however, to be fully offset with easy cuts elsewhere so Capitol Hill leaders would simply be adding much of its costs straight to the \$20.6 trillion national debt.

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In the wake of last year's tax bill, the Congressional Budget Office says the deficit for 2018 will hit about \$700 billion — before any fresh increase. Next year's deficit is already estimated to reach \$975 billion, so the brewing agreement would mean the first \$1 trillion-plus deficit since Obama's first term.

House Budget Committee Chairman Steve Womack, R-Ark., told reporters at a GOP retreat that he is considering abandoning the chamber's traditional pursuit of a budget resolution this year. Under Capitol Hill's arcane rules, the annual budget resolution is a nonbinding measure that lays out priorities on spending, taxes and deficits. But it takes follow-up legislation to implement these priorities.

Womack said he might instead focus his efforts on unspecified changes to Washington's budget process. He said any House budget measure "certainly will not have a force of law and, No. 2, is not ever going to see the light of day."

Foles, Eagles outshoot Patriots for 1st Super Bowl, 41-33

By BARRY WILNER, AP Pro Football Writer

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — As their delirious fans sang their theme song and their owner lifted the Lombardi Trophy, the Philadelphia Eagles finally could breathe freely.

Yo, Philly, you really did beat Tom Brady and the New England Patriots in a thrilling Super Bowl that rewrote the offensive record book.

Nick Foles guided the drive of a lifetime, Zach Ertz made a bobbling touchdown catch that had to survive replay review, and an exhausted defense came up with two stands in the final moments Sunday for a 41-33 victory. For the first time since 1960, the Eagles are NFL champions.

"Fly Eagles Fly," indeed.

"We've played this game since we were little kids, we dreamed about this moment," game MVP Foles said. "There's plenty of kids watching this game right now dreaming about this moment and someday will be here."

In a record-setting shootout between backup QB Foles and five-time champ Brady of the favored Patriots, Foles led a pressure-packed 75-yard drive to the winning touchdown, 11 yards to Ertz with 2:21 to go.

Then Brandon Graham strip-sacked Brady and Derek Barnett recovered, setting up rookie Jake Elliott's 46-yard field goal for an 8-point lead.

Brady got his team to midfield, but his desperation pass fell to the ground in the end zone.

"For us, it was all about one stop we had to make. We went out here and made that one stop," Graham said.

The underdog Eagles (16-3), even injured starting quarterback Carson Wentz, came bolting off the sideline in ecstasy while Brady sat on the ground, disconsolate.

It was the first Super Bowl title for Philadelphia (16-3), which went from 7-9 last season.

"If there's a word (it's) called everything," Eagles owner Jeffrey Lurie said. "That's what it means to Eagles fans everywhere. And for Eagles fans everywhere, this is for them."

Super Bowl MVP Foles orchestrated the victory with the kind of drive NFL MVP Brady, a five-time champion, is known for. The drive covered 14 plays, including a fourth-down conversion.

"I felt calm. I mean, we have such a great group of guys, such a great coaching staff," Foles said. "We felt confident coming in, and we just went out there and played football."

The Eagles had to survive a video replay because ball popped into the air as Ertz crossed the goal line.

"If they would have overturned that, I don't know what would have happened to the city of Philadelphia," Ertz said. "But I'm so glad they didn't overturn it."

The touchdown stood — and so did thousands of green-clad Eagles fans who weren't going to mind the frigid conditions outside US Bank Stadium once they headed out to celebrate. But not before a rousing rendition of "Fly Eagles Fly" reverberated throughout the stands once the trophy was presented to Lurie. Later, fans danced along with the "Gonna Fly Now," the theme from "Rocky," the city's best-known fictional underdog.

The Patriots (15-4) seemed ready to take their sixth championship with Brady and coach Bill Belichick in

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eight Super Bowls. Brady threw for a postseason record 505 yards and three TDs, hitting Rob Gronkowski for 4 yards before Stephen Gostkowski's extra point gave New England its first lead, 33-32.

Then Foles made Eagles fans forget Wentz — at least for now — with the gutsiest drive of his life.

"We couldn't make a play to give the ball back to the offense," Patriots cornerback Stephon Gilmore said.

Foles has been something of a journeyman in his six pro seasons, but he has been spectacular in four career playoff games. He finished 28 of 43 for 373 yards and three TDs.

The combined 1,151 yards were the most in any modern NFL game. The 40-year-old Brady finished 28 of 48 and picked apart the Eagles until the final two series.

Brady indicated he will return for a 19th season even as Gronkowski was hedging on his future.

"I mean it's 15 minutes after the game ended, so I'd like to process this a little bit," Brady said. "I wouldn't see why I wouldn't be back."

Gronkowski, who has played eight superb but injury-riddled years, said "I am definitely going to look at my future."

It was such a wild game that Foles caught a touchdown pass, and Brady was on the opposite end of a Danny Amendola throw that went off his fingertips.

Eagles coach Doug Pederson brought home the championship in his second year in charge. Belichick is 5-3 in Super Bowls, most of them decided by less than a touchdown.

So this one was in keeping with that trend: breathtaking and even a bit bizarre.

Brady and the Patriots looked ready for another comeback by opening the second half with a 75-yard touchdown drive. Gronkowski was unstoppable, grabbing four passes for 69 yards, including the 5-yard score.

Philly didn't flinch, answering with a precise 75-yard march with three more third-down conversions. The Eagles finished 10 for 16 on third. The last was a perfect pass by Foles to Corey Clement over double coverage, and the rookie's reception was upheld by review, putting the Eagles up 10.

Brady shrugged and, getting steadfast protection, connected with Chris Hogan from the 26 for another touchdown.

When all the Eagles could manage was Jake Elliott's 42-yarder for a 32-26 lead, it seemed inevitable the Patriots would go in front, then become the first repeat Super Bowl winner since they did it in the 2004 and '05 games.

Foles, Ertz, and — at last — a revitalized defense said otherwise.

The weird image of Brady ambling downfield on a pass pattern came three plays after New England lost receiver Brandin Cooks to a concussion on a vicious but clean hit by Malcolm Jenkins in the second quarter. Amendola's pass required an over-the-shoulder grab and the ball fell off Brady's outstretched hands.

Brady got back to passing after a wild interception. Alshon Jeffery nearly made a spectacular catch near the Patriots' goal line, only to juggle the ball into the air. Duron Harmon picked it off at the 10. Moments later, Brady was connecting with Chris Hogan for 42 yards.

James White broke several tackles with a brilliant 26-yard run and it was 15-12. That gave White seven touchdowns in his past three postseason games, including the overtime winner in last year's Super Bowl.

But the Eagles still had 2:04 left in the half — and some more magic in their bag.

A short third-down throw Clement turned into a 55-yard gain to the Patriots 8. Philly got to the 1 and on fourth down, and it was Foles' turn to morph into a receiver.

He did better than Brady. On fourth down, Clement took a direct snap, pitched to tight end Trey Burton, and the former Florida QB hit an uncovered Foles. The Eagles were up 22-12 at halftime, the most points New England has allowed in the opening half of a Super Bowl under Belichick.

Each kicker had issues, with Elliott missing an extra point, his fifth miss this season. Then Gostkowski hit the left upright with a 26-yard field goal after holder Ryan Allen mishandled the snap. Gostkowski also missed an extra point.

When LeGarrette Blount, who won the title last season with the Patriots, scored on a 21-yard burst, Pederson went for 2, but the pass failed, making it 15-3.

The Eagles and Pederson brushed it off and stayed with their usual aggressive approach. Breathtakingly, it eventually paid off.

More AP NFL: <http://www.pro32.ap.org> and http://www.twitter.com/AP_NFL

Democratic, GOP lawmakers: Memo doesn't clear Trump in probe

By HOPE YEN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump was wrong to assert that a GOP-produced classified memo on FBI surveillance powers cleared him in the Russia investigation, Democratic and Republican lawmakers said.

They expressed hope Sunday that special counsel Robert Mueller's work would continue without interference.

Democrats could seek a vote on publicly releasing their rebuttal memo when the GOP-led House Intelligence Committee meets late Monday afternoon. The committee rejected that move last week, with one Republican member saying revisions were needed so the memo would not endanger national security. The Senate's Democratic leader, Chuck Schumer of New York, urged Trump to back the public release and said that refusing to do so would show the president's intent to undermine the Russia investigation.

The committee's top Democrat, California Rep. Adam Schiff, branded the GOP memo "a political hit job." He questioned whether the chairman, Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., had coordinated with the White House in drafting the document seized on by the president to vent his grievances against the nation's premier law enforcement agencies.

"The goal here is to undermine the FBI, discredit the FBI, discredit the Mueller investigation, do the president's bidding," Schiff said. "I think it's very possible his staff worked with the White House."

Nunes was asked during a Jan. 29 committee meeting whether he had coordinated the memo with the White House. "As far as I know, no," he responded, then refused to answer when asked whether his staff members had communicated with the White House. He had previously apologized for sharing with the White House secret intelligence intercepts related to an investigation of Russian election interference before talking to committee members.

Trump's Saturday tweet that the memo "totally vindicates 'Trump' in probe" even as "the Russian Witch Hunt goes on and on" found no echo from four committee Republicans who appeared on the Sunday talk shows.

Rep. Brad Wenstrup, R-Ohio, said, "I think this is a separate issue." Rep. Chris Stewart, R-Utah, said, "No, it doesn't end that." Rep. Will Hurd, R-Texas, said, "I don't," when asked whether he agreed with Trump. Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., asked whether the memo affected the investigation, said, "No, not to me, it doesn't, and I was pretty integrally involved in the drafting of it."

The Democratic response was more expected: "Of course, not at all," said Schiff. Added Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill.: "No, of course it does not."

Lawmakers also said the memo should not impede Mueller.

"I think it would be a mistake for anyone to suggest that the special counsel shouldn't complete his work. I support his work. I want him to finish it. I hope he finishes it as quickly as possible," Stewart said.

The memo released Friday alleges misconduct on the part of the FBI and the Justice Department in obtaining a warrant under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act to monitor former Trump campaign foreign policy adviser Carter Page and his ties to Russia. Specifically, it takes aim at the FBI's use of information from former British spy Christopher Steele, who compiled a dossier containing allegations of ties between Trump, his associates and Russia.

The underlying materials that served as the basis for the warrant application were not made public in the GOP memo. Even as Democrats described it as inaccurate, some Republicans quickly cited the memo — released over the objections of the FBI and Justice Department — in their arguments that Mueller's investigation is politically tainted.

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The memo's central allegation is that agents and prosecutors, in applying in October 2016 to monitor Page's communications, failed to tell a judge that the opposition research that provided grounds for the FBI's suspicion received funding from Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign and the Democratic National Committee. Page had stopped advising the campaign sometime around the end of that summer.

Steele's research, according to the memo, "formed an essential part" of the warrant application. But it's unclear how much or what information Steele collected made it into the application, or how much has been corroborated.

Republicans say a judge should have known that "political actors" were involved in allegations that led the Justice Department to believe Page might be an agent of a foreign power — an accusation he has consistently denied.

The memo confirms the FBI's counterintelligence investigation into the Trump campaign began in July 2016, months before the surveillance warrant was sought, and was "triggered" by information concerning campaign aide George Papadopoulos. He pleaded guilty last year to lying to the FBI.

The confirmation about Papadopoulos is "the most important fact disclosed in this otherwise shoddy memo," Schiff said Saturday.

Schiff and Hurd spoke on ABC's "This Week." Stewart appeared on "Fox News Sunday," Gowdy was on CBS' "Face the Nation" and Wenstrup was interviewed on CNN's "State of the Union."

Nassar to receive final sentence in sexual assault scandal

CHARLOTTE, Mich. (AP) — Days of emotional testimony in two Michigan courtrooms are wrapping up with a final sentence for former sports doctor Larry Nassar, whose serial sexual abuse of girls and young women has shaken Michigan State University and elite sports associations.

Nassar, 54, is returning to court Monday in Eaton County, Michigan. He listened to dozens of victims for two days last week and was almost attacked by a man whose three daughters said they were molested.

Nassar pleaded guilty to penetrating girls with ungloved hands when they sought treatment for injuries at Twistars, a gymnastics club that was run by a 2012 U.S. Olympic coach. Nassar already has been sentenced to 40 to 175 years in prison in another county and is starting his time behind bars with a 60-year federal term for child pornography crimes. He worked for Michigan State and USA Gymnastics, which trains Olympians.

Randy Margraves was tackled by sheriff's deputies Friday before he could pummel Nassar in court. He said he wanted just a minute in a locked room with the "demon."

"This cannot be a lawless society. I know that," Margraves, 58, told reporters during a public apology. "I lost control, but I gained control later in a holding cell."

More than 260 women and girls say they were assaulted by Nassar, some as far back as the 1990s. Most victims who wanted to speak publicly or submit a statement did so earlier during Nassar's seven-day court hearing in Ingham County, including 2012 Olympic teammates Aly Raisman, Jordyn Wieber and McKayla Maroney.

The scandal has rocked Michigan State, which has been accused of repeatedly missing opportunities to stop Nassar, who had a campus office and was a revered figure in sports medicine.

Lou Anna Simon resigned as Michigan State's president on Jan. 24 and athletic director Mark Hollis followed two days later. The longtime leader of USA Gymnastics, Steve Penny, quit last March, and all board members recently stepped down at the demand of the U.S. Olympic Committee. A law firm has been hired to investigate how the USOC responded to its knowledge of allegations against Nassar.

Amtrak crash: Screams, cries, awakening to a 'nightmare'

By MEG KINNARD, Associated Press

CAYCE, S.C. (AP) — Passengers aboard the Amtrak train that slammed into a freight train before dawn Sunday described being jolted from slumber as seats ripped away, awakening to screams and crying.

"It was shaking, then it started jumping," said passenger Eric Larkin, speaking with The Associated Press

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about the train's final moments. He said he was suddenly awakened as he felt the train suddenly leave the tracks as it hit a curve. His seat then broke loose, slamming him into the row of seats in front of him.

It was in the panic that followed, Larkin said, that he heard screams and crying all around him as passengers sought to leave the crumpled train. Other passengers were bleeding, he said, and his right knee throbbed from where it banged into the seats in front of him.

Walking with a limp, hours later, the Pamlico County, North Carolina, resident said he was dazed and didn't even know where he was when the train finally came to a complete stop.

Soon after he got off the train, Larkin said arriving police officers told him to stop taking cellphone photos of the wreckage and not to share any of the images he had already captured.

"I thought it was a little strange," Larkin said of the request. Eventually he was shuttled to a middle school with other passengers.

"It's a blessing to be alive," said Larkin. "I thought that I was dead."

It was the third deadly wreck involving Amtrak in less than two months. The Silver Star was en route from New York to Miami with nearly 150 people aboard when it struck the empty CSX train around 2:45 a.m. Sunday, authorities said.

The crash happened near a switchyard south of Columbia where railcars hauling automobiles are loaded and unloaded.

Many of the passengers were asleep.

Andre Neblett, who previously played with the NFL's Carolina Panthers, told the AP his 43-year-old mother Tronia Dorsey was onboard. He said she described massive jolts.

"It was chaos," Neblett said, describing what his mother told him as he left an American Red Cross shelter where his mother's purple suitcase had been sent. "It's unbelievable."

In the third rail car, a seat had fallen onto Dorsey's legs, her son said. He added that she described "a lot of screaming" and babies crying in the dark rail compartment.

"She said she was just waiting on somebody to get to her," Neblett said, noting she was to have been picked up by a family member in Denmark, a community in South Carolina.

He drove in from Charlotte, North Carolina, to retrieve her belongings and added his mother was safely resting later with family after being checked out at a hospital.

"Minor scratches and bruises but really just traumatized by the whole experience," he said. " ... Thank God she was safe."

Some passengers called their loved ones in the minutes afterward.

The State newspaper reports Ryan Roberts couldn't believe it when his wife Alexandria Delgado awoke him with a call early Sunday to their Raleigh, North Carolina, home. He said he asked her to repeat herself three times when she said her train had derailed.

He had left his wife and another female friend off at the Raleigh train station Saturday night so they could take a trip to Florida. Roberts said he and the husband of the other woman drove for hours to reach Columbia, not knowing the condition of their loved ones.

Both women were banged up and still being treated later Sunday at a hospital and "in a lot of pain," according to Roberts.

"They were sleeping and woke up to a nightmare," Roberts told the paper. "They were horrified."

Kinnard can be reached at <http://twitter.com/MegKinnardAP>. Read more of her work at <https://apnews.com>

Hitler book, supremacist flag found in Italy suspect's home

By COLLEEN BARRY, Associated Press

MILAN (AP) — A right-wing extremist suspected of shooting six Africans in central Italy was "lucid and determined, aware of what he had done" and exhibited no remorse, an Italian law enforcement official said Sunday.

Luca Traini, 28, remained jailed as police investigated him on multiple counts of attempted murder with

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the aggravating circumstance of "racial hatred" for the Saturday attacks in the Italian city of Macerata.

The five men and one woman wounded in the two-hour drive-by shooting spree are from Nigeria, Ghana, Gambia and Mali, according to RAI state television.

Italian authorities said they seized Adolf Hitler's "Mein Kampf," other publications linked to Nazism and a flag with a Celtic cross, a symbol commonly used by white supremacists, from Traini's home Sunday.

The suspect was an unsuccessful candidate last year in a local election for the anti-migrant Northern League political party. Italy's ANSA news agency quoted acquaintances saying he previously had ties with the neo-fascist Forza Nuova and CasaPound parties.

Photographs released by police showed Traini with a neo-Nazi tattoo prominently on his forehead and an Italian flag tied around his neck.

Col. Michele Roberti, the Carabinieri commander in Macerata, told Sky TG24 that Traini demonstrated no remorse for the two-hour rampage and "it's likely that he carried out this crazy gesture as a sort of retaliation, a sort of vendetta" for the gruesome slaying of a teenager a few days earlier.

A Nigerian man has been arrested in the death of Pamela Mastropietro, 18. Her remains were found in two suitcases days after she walked away from a drug rehab community.

Police said her bloody clothes, a receipt from a pharmacy where she bought a syringe, and knives consistent with the crime were found in the Nigerian suspect's apartment. Roberti ruled out any personal connection between Traini and the slain woman.

The woman wounded in the shooting spree, a 29-year-old identified only as Jennifer, told La Stampa from her hospital bed that she no longer feels free to walk around the city "with peace of mind."

"I never hurt anyone. I was talking and laughing with three other people" when she was struck by the bullet, she told the Turin-based newspaper.

One of the six victims was released Saturday. The remaining patients were all stable, with one in intensive care and Jennifer facing surgery on her shoulder, doctors said Sunday.

Her boyfriend told La Repubblica they were waiting at a bus station when he saw a man pointing something at them from a black car. He realized then that it was a gun.

"I gave Jennifer a push to get her out of the way and threw myself down. And I heard a shot: Boom!" said Ogie Igbinowania.

Jennifer told the newspaper she arrived in Italy seven months ago and joined her boyfriend in Macerata.

"I have always been comfortable here. People are friendly. I don't know why that guy fired at us," she said.

A Nigerian community leader in Macerata, Sammy Kunoun, said he heard the shots as he was going to meet with cultural mediators about organizing a sit-in to support Mastropietro's family. They called off the event after the shootings for fear of further racist attacks.

"Now, we are all victims in this story," said Kunoun, adding that the immigrant community has been well-integrated in Macerata. Foreigners are 9.2 percent of the city's 43,000 residents, according to official data.

Anti-foreigner sentiment has become a key theme of a heated electoral campaign. Italy has struggled with the arrival of hundreds of thousands of migrants in the last few years coming across the Mediterranean Sea in smugglers' boats.

The general election is scheduled for March 4 and the head of the rebranded League party, Matteo Salvini, had capitalized on the teen's killing in campaign appearances even before the shooting Saturday.

Salvini is pledging to deport 150,000 migrants in his first year in office if his party wins control of parliament — drawing sharp rebukes that he is using the migrant crisis to foment xenophobia for political gain.

Italian Premier Paolo Gentiloni warned in Rome after the attack that "the state will be particularly severe against whoever thinks of feeding the spiral of violence."

This version has been corrected to show the shootings happened during the day on Saturday, not at night.

Colts: Linebacker Edwin Jackson among 2 killed on highway

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indianapolis Colts linebacker Edwin Jackson was one of two men killed early Sunday when a suspected drunken driver struck them as they stood outside their car along a highway in Indianapolis, the team and police said.

The Colts said in a statement Sunday that the team is "heartbroken" by Jackson's death and that the 26-year-old "was loved by all in the Colts organization."

State police identified the victims as Jackson, who grew up in Atlanta, and 54-year-old Jeffrey Monroe, of Avon, Indiana. Police say they were killed when a suspected drunken driver struck them as they stood outside their car along Interstate 70 on Indianapolis' west side.

Police said that it's believed that Monroe was a ride-sharing operator who was transporting Jackson when Jackson became ill. Monroe pulled over to the side of the highway and got out to help Jackson when both were struck by a pickup truck that also hit Monroe's car, police said.

The pickup's driver, a 37-year-old Indianapolis man, tried to flee on foot but was quickly captured, State Police said. The man was believed to be intoxicated and was driving without a license, police said.

He was taken to the Marion County Jail, where blood-alcohol test results were pending.

The 6-foot, 234-pound Jackson attended Georgia Southern. He was signed by the Arizona Cardinals in May 2015 and released by the team about three months later. Jackson was signed to the Colts practice squad in December 2015 and then by the Colts to reserve/future contract in January 2016.

He was placed on injured reserve by the Colts last September.

The Colts said in their statement that they "admired" Jackson's "outgoing personality, competitive spirit and hard-working mentality."

"He was well-respected among all with whom he crossed paths, and he will be greatly missed in our locker room and throughout our entire organization," the statement said.

Cyprus president re-elected, defeats same opponent again

By MENELAOS HADJICOSTIS, Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Cyprus President Nicos Anastasiades vowed to push on with attempts to reunify the ethnically divided island nation and to improve the economic fortunes of its people after he was re-elected by a wide margin Sunday.

Anastasiades defeated left-leaning independent challenger Stavros Malas in a runoff election. Anastasiades received 56 percent of the vote, compared to 44 percent for Malas, in the final returns.

Malas telephoned Anastasiades to concede defeat about an hour after polls closed, when half of the ballots had been counted and Malas trailed badly.

Speaking to supporters, Malas said he told Anastasiades to "take care of our Cyprus."

It's the second consecutive time that Anastasiades, 71, a conservative veteran politician, won a head-to-head contest with Malas, 50, for the presidency.

"Tomorrow, a new day, a new era dawns, where people demand cooperation from all of us," Anastasiades told throngs of jubilant supporters at his campaign headquarters.

Malas campaigned as the candidate who would bring change to a tired political system that short-changes ordinary Cypriots, who have seen salaries and benefits slashed in the wake of the national economy's near-meltdown.

But voters appeared to heed the incumbent's campaign message, which blamed the left-wing economic policies of previous administrations for bringing Cyprus close to bankruptcy.

Malas also struggled to separate himself from the party that supported him, the communist-rooted AKEL. Anastasiades accused AKEL of crushing the economy during the presidency of former leader Demetris Christofias.

"I know that the result has disappointed you, but we must respect it, and above all else for all of us to recognize that this was a worthy battle that neither begins nor ends with an election," Malas told his backers.

Cyprus was split into an internationally recognized Greek Cypriot south and a breakaway Turkish Cypriot

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north in 1974 when Turkey invaded after a coup by supporters of union with Greece. Only Turkey recognizes a Turkish Cypriot declaration of independence and keeps more than 35,000 troops in the north.

Voters remain skeptical about whether a reunification deal can be reached any time soon. The latest round of talks at a Swiss resort in July collapsed amid finger-pointing about who was responsible for the failure.

To buoy public hopes, Anastasiades said he would reach out to Turkish Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci to try and resuscitate their negotiations.

"I call on all Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots to understand the current state of affairs can be a solution to the Cyprus problem," he said.

Anastasiades repeated that he would seek a peace deal that doesn't include Turkey's demands for a permanent troop presence and the right to intervene militarily in a federated Cyprus.

One of the president's first orders of business will be to oversee ongoing exploratory drilling for gas off the island's southern coast — an enterprise that could help the economy but also complicate efforts to heal Cyprus' ethnic divide.

Italian energy company ENI is currently drilling an exploratory well and Cypriot Energy Minister Yiorgos Lakkotrypis said indications of another find are "very encouraging."

The hydrocarbon search undergirds alliances Cyprus has forged with Egypt and Israel, which have located their own sizeable offshore gas reserves.

The exploration has raised the ire of Turkey, which has characterized the work as an attempt to cheat Turkish Cypriots.

Results showed that 74 percent of eligible voters cast ballots Sunday, slightly more than the first round of voting last week, but 7 percent less than in the 2013 election.

Anastasiades has said a second term would be his last.

7 weeks later, 'Jumanji' is no. 1 at box office

By JAKE COYLE, AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The heir to "Titanic" is ... "Jumanji: Welcome the Jungle"?

For the first time since James Cameron's 1998 disaster epic, a December release has topped the weekend box office in February. Seven weeks after first opening in theaters, Sony Pictures' "Jumanji" again took the top spot at the North American box office with an estimated \$11 million in ticket sales, according to studio estimates Sunday.

On a sluggish Super Bowl weekend, that was good enough to surpass last week's no. 1 film, "Maze Runner: The Death Cure." The third installment in the YA trilogy slid 58 percent in its second week with \$10.2 million in ticket sales. Though "The Death Cure" is behind the pace of the first two "Maze Runner" films, it's made \$142.9 million overseas, including an international-best \$35.2 million this weekend.

But it's the fourth weekend out of seven in which the "Jumanji" reboot, starring Dwayne Johnson and Kevin Hart, has led all films domestically. It has carved an unlikely path on route to its record-setting run. Met with little initial fanfare, "Jumanji" played second fiddle for its first two weeks of release to "Star Wars: The Last Jedi."

But riding good word of mouth and relatively little family-film competition, "Jumanji" has become one of Sony's biggest hits ever, ranking behind only its "Spider-Man" films. It has now grossed \$352.6 million in the U.S. and Canada.

The Helen Mirren-led haunted-house horror film "Winchester" was the sole new wide release on a weekend that Hollywood typically cedes to football. The poorly reviewed Lionsgate-CBS Films release, about the true-life tale of the 19th-century heiress Sarah Winchester, opened with \$9.3 million.

Total ticket sales were \$92 million, according to comScore, a sum that falls behind recent Super Bowl weekends — always among the quietest movie weekends of the year — but above the lowest grossing ever.

Hollywood will instead be largely focused on the trailers debuting during Sunday's NFL broadcast. About a dozen films will hope to capitalize on the largest U.S. broadcast of the year with high-priced commercial spots intended to raise the awareness of upcoming spring releases and some of the summer's biggest

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would-be blockbusters.

Disney hasn't announced plans, but "Star Wars" fans are hoping to see a spot for the Han Solo spinoff. More likely on tap are ads for "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom," Jennifer Lawrence's "Red Sparrow," Tom Cruise's "Mission: Impossible — Fallout" and another potential hit for Dwayne Johnson: "Skyscraper."

And for the first time, Fox Searchlight had films playing in 4,000 or more theaters, thanks to its Oscar favorites "The Shape of Water" and "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri." Guillermo del Toro's "The Shape of Water," which took the top honor at the Directors Guild Awards on Saturday, boosted its theater count from 1,854 to 2,341. The leading Oscar nominee with 13 nods, "The Shape of Water" still slid 21 percent with \$4.3 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final three-day domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle," \$11 million (\$12.6 million international).
2. "Maze Runner: The Death Cure," \$10.2 million (\$35.2 million international).
3. "Winchester," \$9.3 million.
4. "The Greatest Showman," \$7.8 million (\$16.2 million international).
5. "Hostiles," \$5.5 million.
6. "The Post," \$5.2 million (\$10.3 million international).
7. "12 Strong," \$4.7 million (\$2.9 million international).
8. "Den of Thieves," \$4.7 million (\$6.5 million international).
9. "The Shape of Water," \$4.3 million (\$4.4 million international).
10. "Paddington 2," \$3.1 million (\$2 million international).

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. "Maze Runner: The Death Cure," \$35.2 million.
2. "The Greatest Showman," \$16.2 million.
3. "The Tuque 3," \$14.3 million.
4. "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle," \$12.6 million.
5. "Coco," \$11.6 million.
6. "The Post," \$10.3 million.
7. "Secret Superstar," \$10.5 million.
8. "Till the End of the World," \$10 million.
9. "The Commuter," \$8.9 million.
10. "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri," \$8.1 million.

Follow AP Film Writer Jake Coyle on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/jakecoyleAP>

Greeks rally in Athens to protest use of the name Macedonia

By ELENA BECATOROS, Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Well over 100,000 protesters from across Greece converged Sunday on Athens' main square to protest a potential Greek compromise in a dispute with neighboring Macedonia over the former Yugoslav republic's official name.

Hundreds of chartered buses brought protesters in from around the country to the Greek capital, while more people arrived on ferries from the islands. Traffic was blocked throughout the city center and three major subway stops were closed.

Chanting "Hands off Macedonia!" and "Macedonia belongs to Greece!" the protesters converged on Syntagma Square in front of parliament, many waving flags bearing the Star of Vergina, the emblem of the ancient Greek kingdom of Macedonia.

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Police officials estimated the attendance at 140,000. Organizers, who claimed 1.5 million were at the rally, used a crane to raise a massive Greek flag over the square.

"We are trying to show the politicians ... that they must not give up the name 'Macedonia'," said 55-year-old protester Manos Georgiou.

In Skopje, a spokesman for the Macedonian government said he didn't know whether his government would react to the rally. Macedonian opposition leader Hristijan Mickoski said in a TV interview that the rally hurt the prospects of a deal on the name issue.

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras was dismissive of the event.

"The overwhelming majority of the Greek people...irrespective of their opinions (on the issue) agree that major foreign policy issues cannot be solved through fanaticism and intolerance," he said in a statement.

Tsipras used the occasion to attack Greek opposition leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis and his fellow conservative, former Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras, for allegedly trying to use Sunday's rally for their advantage and to paper over their own differing approaches.

About 700 left-wing and anarchist protesters set up a counter-demonstration nearby, bearing banners calling for Balkan unity. "Macedonia belongs to its bears" read one banner.

Dozens of riot police were deployed to keep the two demonstrations separate.

Suspected far-right supporters attempted to attack the counter-demonstration, but were prevented by police who used stun grenades and tear gas to hold them back. The far-right side responded by throwing rocks at police.

There were also reports alleging that anarchists attacked a biker carrying a Greek flag and a person wearing a T-shirt commemorating the participation of Greek mercenaries in the massacres of Muslim civilians in Bosnia during the 1990s.

The name dispute broke out after Macedonia gained independence from Yugoslavia in 1991.

The country is recognized by international institutions as the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, even though about 130 countries refer to it simply as Macedonia. Many Greeks refer to it by the name of its capital, Skopje.

Greece argues use of the name implies territorial claims on its own province of Macedonia, home of one of the most famous ancient Greeks, Alexander the Great.

Officials in Skopje counter that their country has been known as Macedonia for a long time.

Composer and former minister Mikis Theodorakis, 92, the keynote speaker at the rally, repeated the controversial claim that Greece's neighbor wants to expand into Greek territory.

"Using the name Macedonia as a vehicle and twisting historical events to a ridiculous extent, they actually seek to expand their borders at the expense of ours," Theodorakis said.

Rejecting any compromise on Greece's part, Theodorakis called for a referendum on the issue.

The squabble has prevented Macedonia from joining NATO, to which Greece already belongs. The left-led governments in both countries have pledged to seek a solution this year, and have been holding talks with U.N. negotiator Matthew Nimetz.

The most likely solution will be to add a modifier such as "new" or "north" to the republic's name. But the proposals have triggered protests in both countries.

The crowd at Sunday's rally in Athens jeered when speakers mentioned Nimetz's name.

"We're expecting them to hear us," protester Maria Iosifidou said of Greece's politicians. "We don't want Skopje to take the name ...let them have another name."

About 100,000 people attended a similar protest last month in the northern Greek city of Thessaloniki, the capital of Greece's province of Macedonia.

Raphael Kominis and Demetris Nellas in Athens and Konstantin Testorides, in Skopje, contributed to this report.

Child abductions rise amid South Sudan's grinding civil war

By SAM MEDNICK, Associated Press

AKOBO, South Sudan (AP) — It's been almost two years since Deng Machar's three young children were abducted from his home and likely sold for cattle. Sitting in South Sudan's opposition-held town of Akobo, the 35-year-old pointed to the dirt beneath his feet.

"They were playing right there," Machar said. "It would be easier if they were dead because then I could forget."

Machar said his 4-year-old daughter and 5-year-old son were likely sold for cattle after being seized by men from the rival Murle tribe. He doubts his 2-year-old son is still alive. Eleven children in all were abducted from this area that day and none has been seen since.

It is a little-acknowledged tragedy in South Sudan's five-year civil war. Child kidnappings between clans have increased as people become more desperate amid widespread hunger and a devastated economy, human rights groups say.

"Child abductions and trafficking in South Sudan is a real issue that requires an urgent response by the government," said Edmund Yakani, executive director of the nonprofit Community Empowerment for Progress Organization.

While tracking child kidnappings is challenging amid the conflict and mass displacement, he said his organization has confirmed abductions in several parts of the country. Those include 11 children seized last year in Abyei in the north, five taken between 2012 and 2014 in the Wau area in the west, and seven in 2016 and 2017 in the Yei area in the south, near the Ugandan border.

The United Nations says its child protection team confirmed abductions in the regions of Unity, Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Upper Nile and Western Equatoria last year, though it didn't have a total number.

Although inter-clan fighting, cattle raiding and abductions are deep-seated throughout this East African country, Yakani called it a particular problem in Jonglei state, where the town of Akobo is located and where many in the Murle tribe base "their livelihood" on selling children.

During a recent trip to Akobo, near the Ethiopian border, The Associated Press spoke with Murle tribesmen who acknowledged stealing and trafficking children for personal gain.

"The intention is to trade the children for cattle or use them personally," said Thiro Akungurouth, a Murle youth leader who knows some of the abductors.

One child, no matter what their age, can sell for 20 cows, worth about \$7,000, he said.

Children who aren't sold are kept by families without kids while girls are groomed for marriage, Akungurouth said. Stigma remains against childless families in South Sudan. Abducted girls often are married to their captors.

Authorities in Akobo said 37 children have been seized in the surrounding areas since 2016, more than in the first three years of the war combined. It was not clear how many children have been abducted across the country during the civil war.

One opposition governor blamed South Sudan's government for the increase in kidnappings, saying it's trying to create a wedge between the Murle and Nuer tribes to advance its military agenda.

"It's happening more now because the government is instigating a rift and telling the youth to attack by distributing arms and ammunition," Koang Rambang, the governor of Bieh state, which until last year was part of Jonglei, told the AP.

He specifically faulted the country's First Vice President Taban Deng Gai for "instigating more abductions," citing 10 children who were seized in January while Gai toured the largely opposition-held Jonglei.

South Sudan's government denied it, saying Gai was in the region only to promote peace. The government also said it had given "directives to the concerned governors of those states to get rid of those activities," said Maal Maker Thiong, who works in the office of the presidency.

But as the civil war drives the nation deeper into despair, children continue to be the worst affected.

Although South Sudan in 2015 signed onto the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states that all parties should take appropriate measures "to prevent the abduction of, the sale of or traffic in children,"

the country's warring factions repeatedly have been accused of committing grave violations against children, including the forced recruitment of child soldiers.

"The abduction of children is abhorrent. They are vulnerable and deserve our protection," the chief of the U.N. mission in South Sudan, David Shearer, told the AP. He said the U.N.'s human rights team was due to visit Akobo to assess the situation and advocate with local authorities and armed groups to prevent the practice.

Over the years some organizations have tried to work with the tribes, encouraging them to return the kidnapped children and halt the practice.

Last month, a conference held between the Nuer and Murle tribes in the village of Burmath outside Akobo discussed the possible return of some of the children, including three who were abducted on Jan. 17.

"We tell the chiefs that this is having negative consequences and that they need to stop this and live peacefully," said Rueli Hoth, one of the conference organizers.

As desperation among South Sudanese continues, however, people are skeptical that the abduction and sale of children will end.

"I don't think abductions will stop," said Tut Banguot, an aid worker in Akobo. "People have no resources and no salaries, they aren't working and so they get children and trade them for commodities."

Uma Thurman levels accusations against Weinstein, Tarantino

By JOCELYN NOVECK, AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Actress Uma Thurman, in long-awaited remarks, accused disgraced movie mogul Harvey Weinstein of forcing himself on her sexually years ago in a London hotel room. Weinstein, through his attorney, acknowledged making an "awkward pass" but strongly denied any physical assault and suggested the possibility of legal action over her comments.

In a separate allegation in the same New York Times article on Saturday, Thurman also said "Kill Bill" director Quentin Tarantino during filming coerced her into driving a car that she believed to be faulty, resulting in injuries including a permanently damaged neck, a concussion and damage to her knees. A representative for Tarantino did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

Thurman's allegations against Weinstein, who has been accused of rape, assault or other sexual misconduct by scores of women, had been widely anticipated since she hinted late last year that she had a story to tell but wanted to wait until she was less angry. Her story came in an interview with Times columnist Maureen Dowd.

"I used the word 'anger,' but I was more worried about crying, to tell you the truth," Thurman was quoted as saying. "I was not a groundbreaker on a story I knew to be true. So what you really saw was a person buying time."

Thurman said that an early encounter with Weinstein in a Paris hotel room in the 1990s ended with him suddenly appearing in a bathrobe and leading her to a steam room but that she did not feel threatened. She said that the first "attack" — the word appears in quotes — happened later in London.

"He pushed me down," she said. "He tried to shove himself on me. He tried to expose himself. He did all kinds of unpleasant things. But he didn't actually put his back into it and force me. You're like an animal wriggling away, like a lizard."

Later, she alleged, she arranged a meeting with Weinstein and warned him: "If you do what you did to me to other people you will lose your career, your reputation and your family, I promise you."

The Times article says Thurman's memory of the Weinstein encounter stops there, but it quotes a friend who was waiting downstairs as saying Thurman emerged from an elevator disheveled and shaking.

"Her eyes were crazy, and she was totally out of control," said the friend, Ilona Herman.

When Thurman was able to talk again, Herman said, she revealed that Weinstein, who was one of the most powerful men in Hollywood, had threatened to derail her career.

Though the article doesn't make clear how the London hotel room encounter ended, Thurman said: "Harvey assaulted me, but that didn't kill me."

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A representative for Thurman, Leslie Sloane, responded to an Associated Press request for more details on all the encounters by saying only: "The article speaks for itself."

Meanwhile, Ben Brafman, Weinstein's attorney, said the producer was "stunned and saddened" by false accusations from Thurman. He emphasized Weinstein and Thurman had worked together for more than two decades.

The lawyer, in a statement, said Weinstein acknowledged making "an awkward pass at Ms. Thurman 25 years ago which he regrets and immediately apologized for." He said it was a mystery why Thurman would wait so long to come forward or "embellish what really happened to include false accusations of attempted physical assault."

He said Thurman's statements to the Times were being "examined and investigated" before Weinstein decides whether any legal action against her would be appropriate.

Thurman, one of the stars of Tarantino's "Pulp Fiction," also said that just before shooting began on the director's "Kill Bill: Vol. 1," which came out in 2003, she told him about Weinstein and he confronted the mogul, leading him to apologize.

But she also described a harrowing onset episode on location in Mexico in which Tarantino ignored her expressed fears of driving a car that she had been warned might be faulty.

Tarantino persuaded her to do it, she said, quoting him as saying, "Hit 40 miles per hour or your hair won't blow the right way and I'll make you do it again."

Video accompanying the article online — which Thurman says took her 15 years to procure — shows Thurman struggling to control the car, crashing into a tree and then being carried from the car.

"That was a deathbox that I was in," Thurman was quoted as saying.

Billionaire takes a property tax stand over pooping geese

By MARY ESCH, Associated Press

Billionaire Tom Golisano says he tried stringing up fishing line, spraying smelly repellent and even posting a wolf decoy, but nothing could rid his lakeside vacation home of the Canada geese that turned his lawn into a minefield of poop.

His next line of attack? Refusing to pay his \$90,000 school tax bill until officials in the Finger Lakes town of South Bristol find a way to control the birds.

"This past summer it was horrible. We'd drive in and find 100 to 200 geese parked on our lawn," said Golisano, founder of payroll company Paychex and former owner of the Buffalo Sabres hockey team. "You can't walk barefoot, can't play Frisbee, can't have your grandchildren run around. ... Here I am paying all this money in taxes and I can't use my property because of the geese droppings."

Golisano's stand over bird poop is just one part of his one-man protest campaign against a taxation system he believes is flawed and inequitable.

He's pledging to file a class-action lawsuit on behalf of other upstate homeowners who believe they are being overtaxed. And he recently launched a website, TaxMyPropertyFairly.com, to give ordinary taxpayers the tools to challenge their property tax bills.

Golisano contends that tax assessors often lack the training, time and expertise to accurately assign property values that determine what share of the local tax collection each homeowner pays.

"A lot of people are suffering significant injustice because of the assessment system," said the 76-year-old Golisano, founding member of the New York Independence Party and three-time candidate for governor.

Escaping high taxes was part of the reason Golisano changed his permanent home address to Naples, Florida, nearly a decade ago. In 2010, he spent \$200,000 in legal fees to get the property taxes on his home in Mendon, near Rochester, reduced from \$200,000 to \$60,000.

He said western New York is notorious for high property taxes. While his wife, tennis Hall of Famer Monica Seles, pays about \$4,000 a year in taxes on her New York City condo assessed at \$800,000, Golisano said a home with that assessed value in Rochester-area Monroe County would have a \$28,000 tax bill.

Golisano's fight over the bird poop in the town South Bristol, population 1,600, is based on the argument

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that the value of his Canandaigua Lake property is driven down by the flocks of wild geese that congregate there and it's government's duty to solve the problem.

Town Supervisor Daniel Marshall disagrees. "It's a resident's problem to take care of, not the town's," he said. Marshall said no other shoreline residents have complained about the geese. "It is a lake, after all."

New York's Department of Environmental Conservation says the state has an overpopulation of non-migrating Canada geese and it's causing problems for some homeowners, farmers, golf courses and parks. But it says nuisance wildlife on private property isn't the responsibility of the municipality. The agency recommends numerous ways to shoo them off, including those Golisano has tried. When it's a community-wide problem, the DEC suggests local officials may want to hire a "goose control officer" and devise a coordinated control plan. That's what Golisano wants.

For now, the tax fight remains unresolved. Golisano says his next step is to seek a reduced property assessment based on the goose scourge.

Golisano, whose net worth is listed by Forbes at \$3.4 billion, is renowned for his generosity to health care, higher education and opportunities for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. There are three children's hospitals named for him, in Rochester, Syracuse and Fort Myers, Florida.

But he doesn't want his pocket picked by local tax assessors or anyone else. In November, he sued the remodeler of his yacht for overcharging him on furnishings. A jury awarded him \$50,000, which he said he'll add to the \$2.5 million he recently donated for the Golisano Autism Center being built in Rochester.

"It's the principle," he said.

A snapshot of Jerome Powell, who becomes Fed chairman Monday

By The Associated Press

NAME: Jerome H. "Jay" Powell

BIRTHDATE: Feb. 4, 1953

BIRTHPLACE: Washington, D.C.

EDUCATION: Bachelor's degree in politics, Princeton University, 1975; law degree, Georgetown University, 1979.

EXPERIENCE: Member, Federal Reserve board, 2012 to present; visiting scholar at the Bipartisan Policy Center in Washington; partner at the Carlyle Group, 1997 through 2005; assistant secretary and under-secretary at Treasury Department during administration of President George H.W. Bush; after graduating from law school in 1979, joined Wall Street investment bank Dillon, Read & Co.

FAMILY: Married with 3 children.

QUOTE: "Simple policy rules are widely thought to be both interesting and useful but to represent only a small part of the analysis needed to assess the appropriate path for policy. I am unable to think of any critical, complex human activity that could be safely reduced to a simple summary equation."

Today in History

By The Associated Press.

Today in History

Today is Monday, Feb. 5, the 36th day of 2018. There are 329 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 5, 1918, during World War I, the Cunard liner SS Tuscania, which was transporting about 2,000 American troops to Europe, was torpedoed by a German U-boat in the Irish Sea with the loss of more than 200 people.

On this date:

In 1631, the founder of Rhode Island, Roger Williams, and his wife, Mary, arrived in Boston from England.

In 1783, Sweden recognized the independence of the United States.

In 1887, Verdi's opera "Otello" premiered at La Scala.

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In 1917, Mexico's present constitution was adopted by the Constitutional Convention in Santiago de Queretaro. The U.S. Congress passed, over President Woodrow Wilson's veto, an act severely curtailing Asian immigration.

In 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt proposed increasing the number of U.S. Supreme Court justices; the proposal, which failed in Congress, drew accusations that Roosevelt was attempting to "pack" the nation's highest court.

In 1943, "The Outlaw," Howard Hughes' controversial Western featuring the screen debut of Jane Russell, premiered in San Francisco.

In 1958, Gamal Abdel Nasser was formally nominated to become the first president of the new United Arab Republic (a union of Egypt and Syria which lasted until 1961).

In 1967, "The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour" premiered on CBS-TV.

In 1971, Apollo 14 astronauts Alan Shepard and Edgar Mitchell stepped onto the surface of the moon in the first of two lunar excursions.

In 1988, the Arizona House impeached Republican Gov. Evan Mecham (MEE'-kuhm), setting the stage for his trial in the state Senate, where he was convicted of obstructing justice and misusing state funds allegedly funneled to his Pontiac dealership.

In 1989, the Soviet Union announced that all but a small rear-guard contingent of its troops had left Afghanistan.

In 1993, President Bill Clinton signed the Family and Medical Leave Act, granting workers up to 12 weeks unpaid leave for family emergencies.

Ten years ago: More than 80 tornadoes began touching down in the midwestern and southern U.S.; the deadliest of the twisters claimed 57 lives. Sen. John McCain seized command of the race for the Republican presidential nomination, winning delegate-rich primaries from the East Coast to California on Super Tuesday; Sen. Barack Obama, trailing much of the night, nearly pulled even with Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton in the contest for Democratic delegates. Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, a guru to the Beatles who introduced the West to transcendental meditation, died at his home in the Dutch town of Vlodrop; he was believed to be about 90.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama asked Congress for a short-term deficit reduction package of spending cuts and tax revenue that would delay the effective date of steeper automatic cuts scheduled to kick in on March 1. (The president and congressional leaders failed to reach an agreement, and the \$85 billion in federal spending cuts, known as sequester, went into effect.)

One year ago: Tom Brady led one of the greatest comebacks in sports history highlighted by an unbelievable Julian Edelman catch that helped lift New England from a 25-point hole against the Atlanta Falcons to the Patriots' fifth Super Bowl victory, 34-28, the first ever in overtime.

Today's Birthdays: Baseball Hall of Famer Hank Aaron is 84. Actor Stuart Damon is 81. Tony-winning playwright John Guare (gwair) is 80. Financial writer Jane Bryant Quinn is 79. Actor David Selby is 77. Singer-songwriter Barrett Strong is 77. Football Hall of Famer Roger Staubach is 76. Movie director Michael Mann is 75. Rock singer Al Kooper is 74. Actress Charlotte Rampling is 72. Racing Hall of Famer Darrell Waltrip is 71. Actress Barbara Hershey is 70. Actor Christopher Guest is 70. Actor Tom Wilkinson is 70. Actor-comedian Tim Meadows is 57. Actress Jennifer Jason Leigh is 56. Actress Laura Linney is 54. Rock musician Duff McKagan (Velvet Revolver) is 54. World Golf Hall of Famer Jose Maria Olazabal is 52. Actor-comedian Chris Parnell is 51. Rock singer Chris Barron (Spin Doctors) is 50. Singer Bobby Brown is 49. Actor Michael Sheen is 49. Actor David Chisum is 48. Country singer Sara Evans is 47. Country singer Tyler Farr is 34. Neo-soul musician Mark Shusterman (Nathaniel Rateliff & the Night Sweats) is 33. Actor-singer Darren Criss is 31. Actor Alex Brightman is 31. Rock musician Kyle Simmons (Bastille) is 30. Actor Jeremy Sumpter is 29. Drummer Graham Sierota (Echosmith) is 19.

Thought for Today: "The greater the philosopher, the harder it is for him to answer the questions of common people." — Henryk Sienkiewicz, Polish author (1846-1916).

Riddle Answer: A Piano