

Groton Daily Independent

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Groton Area Schedule of Events

Sunday's Announcements

St. John's Lutheran Church, Groton and Zion Lutheran, Andover are both cancelling services. Emmanuel Lutheran, Groton, will not be having Sunday School or Church

Sunday, February 24, 2019

2:00pm- 6:00pm: Open Gym at GHS Arena (Grades JK-8 2pm - 4pm; Grades 6-12 4pm - 6pm)

Monday, February 25, 2019

Basketball: Girls Varsity Region 1A: (High Seed (Host) #1 Seed---Bye #2 vs #7 #3 vs #6 #4 vs #5)

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

Basketball: Boys Varsity Region 1A: (High Seed (Host) #1 Seed---Bye #2 vs #7 #3 vs #6 #4 vs #5)

Thursday, February 28, 2019

Basketball: Girls Varsity Region 1A: High Seed (Host) #1 vs #4/#5 winner #2/#7 winner vs #3/#6 winner

Friday, March 1, 2019

Basketball: Boys Varsity Region 1A: High Seed (Host) #1 vs #4/#5 Winner #2/#7 Winner vs #3/#6 Winner

State Debate at Sioux Falls O'Gorman High School

Saturday, March 2, 2019

State Debate at Sioux Falls O'Gorman High School

Sunday, March 3, 2019

2:00pm- 6:00pm: Open Gym at GHS Arena (Grades JK-8 2pm - 4pm; Grades 6-12 4pm - 6pm)

Help Wanted

Looking for a fun, part-time job? Groton Dairy Queen is now hiring. Stop in for an application. (0216.0316)

OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

Day County Sheriff's office is advising no travel in Day County due to zero visibility. Posted on their facebook page: The visibility and roads are horrible. One of my dispatchers got stuck by Bristol. We sent her back home and will have a Webster staff fill in for her. Please if my deputies can't see due to the visibility it's going to make it impossible to try to get to you if you get stranded. Stay home!!!!

- 1- Groton Care & Rehab Help Wanted Ad
- 1- Help Wanted
- 2- 2019-20 & 2020-21 Proposed Alignments
- 15- Show choir is state champs
- 16- Northern State caps of regular season with swift victory at Minot State
- 17- Locke takes third, Monson fifth at state
- 18- Lana Greenfield's Column
- 19- Gov. Noem's Weekly Column
- 20- Rep. Johnson's Weekly Column
- 21- Today in Weather History
- 22- Weather Pages
- 24- Daily Devotional
- 25- 2019 Groton Events
- 26 - News from the Associated Press

HELP WANTED

Director of Nursing



Current RN licensure in SD
BSN/MSN degree preferred

Sign on bonus available

Full benefits included.

Contact Brynn Pickrel



GROTON
CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

1106 North Second Street
605.397.2365

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2019-20 & 2020-21 Proposed Alignments

Please see below for the proposed athletics alignments for the 2019-20 & 2020-21 school years.

These alignments will go through two readings of the SDH-SAA Board of Directors, with the first taking place at the February 27, 2019 meeting.

2019-2020 AND 2020-21 PROPOSED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

Last updated – February 18, 2019

BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL

CLASS AA

Aberdeen Central	Huron	SF Lincoln	Spearfish
Brandon Valley	Mitchell	SF O’Gorman	Sturgis Brown
Brookings	Pierre TF Riggs	SF Roosevelt	Watertown
Douglas	RC Central	SF Washington	Yankton
Harrisburg	RC Stevens		

CLASS A

Region 1

Aberdeen Roncalli
Groton Area
Milbank
Redfield/Doland
Sisseton
Tiospa Zina
Webster Area

Region 2

Clark/Willow Lake
Deuel
Flandreau
Flandreau Indian
Florence/Henry
Hamlin
Sioux Valley

Region 3

Baltic
Dell Rapids
Garretson
SF Christian
Tri-Valley
West Central

Region 4

Beresford
Canton
Dakota Valley
Elk Point-Jefferson
Lennox
Tea Area
Vermillion

Region 5

Madison (moved from 2 to 5)
McCook Central/Montrose
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton
Parker
Parkston
Wagner

Region 6

Chamberlain
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte
Crow Creek
McLaughlin
Miller
Mobridge-Pollock
Stanley County

Region 7

Bennett County
Little Wound
Pine Ridge
Red Cloud
St. Francis Indian
Todd County
Winner

Region 8

Belle Fourche
Custer
Hill City
Hot Springs
Lead-Deadwood
RC Christian
St. Thomas More

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2019-20 AND 2020-21 ADOPTED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

CLASS B

Region 1

Aberdeen Christian
Britton-Hecla
Great Plains Lutheran
Langford Area
Leola/Frederick Area (moved from 2 to 1)
Northwestern
Warner
Waubay/Summit
Waverly-South Shore
Wilmot

Region 3

Arlington
Castlewood
De Smet
Deubrook Area
Estelline/Hendricks
Hitchcock-Tulare
Iroquois
James Valley Christian
Lake Preston
Wessington Springs
Wolsey-Wessington

Region 5

Alcester-Hudson
Bridgewater-Emery
Canistota
Centerville
Freeman
Freeman Academy/Marion
Gayville-Volin
Irene-Wakonda
Menno
Scotland (moved from 6 to 5)
Viborg-Hurley

Region 7

Crazy Horse
Edgemont
Jones County
Kadoka Area
Lyman
New Underwood
Oelrichs
Philip
Wall
White River

Region 2

Edmunds Central
Eureka/Bowdle
Faulkton Area
Herreid/Selby Area
Highmore-Harrold
Ipswich
Lower Brule (moved from 7 to 2)
Potter County
Sully Buttes
Sunshine Bible Academy

Region 4

Chester Area
Colman-Egan
Dell Rapids St. Mary
Elkton-Lake Benton
Ethan
Hanson
Howard
Mitchell Christian
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket

Region 6

Andes Central/Dakota Christian
Avon
Bon Homme
Burke
Colome
Corsica-Stickney
Gregory
Kimball/White Lake
Marty
Platte-Geddes
Tripp-Delmont/Armour

Region 8

Bison
Dupree
Faith
Harding County
Lemmon
McIntosh
Newell
Takini
Timber Lake
Tiospaye Topa
Wakpala

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2019-20 AND 2020-21 ADOPTED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

CROSS COUNTRY ALIGNMENTS

CLASS AA

Aberdeen Central	Harrisburg	RC Central	SF Roosevelt	Sturgis Brown
Brandon Valley	Huron	RC Stevens	SF Washington	Watertown
Brookings	Mitchell	SF Lincoln	Spearfish	Yankton
Douglas	Pierre T.F. Riggs	SF O'Gorman		

CLASS A

Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5
Aberdeen Roncalli	Baltic	Beresford	Chamberlain	Belle Fourche
Clark/Willow Lake	Dell Rapids	Canton	Cheyenne-Eagle Butte	Bennett County
Deuel	Flandreau	Dakota Valley	Crow Creek	Custer
Florence/Henry	Flandreau Indian	Elk Point-Jefferson	McLaughlin	Hill City
Groton Area	Garretson	Ethan/Parkston	Miller	Hot Springs
Hamlin	Madison	Lennox	Mobridge-Pollock	Lead-Deadwood
Milbank	McCook Cent./Montrose	Parker	Mt. Vernon/Plankinton	Little Wound
Redfield/Doland	SF Christian	Tea Area	St. Francis Indian	Pine Ridge
Sisseton	Sioux Valley	Vermillion	Stanley County	RC Christian
Tiospa Zina	Tri-Valley	Wagner	Todd County	Red Cloud
Webster Area	West Central		Winner Area	St. Thomas More

CLASS B

Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5
Aberdeen Christian	Alcester-Hudson	Andes Central/Dak. Chr.	Edmunds Central	Bison
Britton-Hecla	Arlington	Avon	Eureka/Bowdle	Crazy Horse
Castlewood	Canistota	Bon Homme	Faulkton Area	Dupree
Dakota Hills	Centerville	Bridgewater-Emery	Herreid/Selby Area	Faith
Deubrook Area	Chester Area	Burke	Highmore-Harrold	Harding County
Estelline/Hendricks	Colman-Egan	Corsica-Stickney	Ipswich	Jones County
Frederick Area	De Smet	Freeman	Leola	Kadoka Area
Great Plains Lutheran	Dell Rapids St. Mary	Freeman Acad./Marion	Lower Brule	Lemmon
Hitchcock-Tulare	Elkton-Lake Benton	Gregory	Lyman	New Underwood
Iroquois	Gayville-Volin	Hanson	McIntosh	Newell
James Valley Christian	Howard	Kimball/White Lake	Potter County	Oelrichs
Langford Area	Irene-Wakonda	Marty	Sanborn Central/Woon.	Philip
Northwestern	Lake Preston	Menno	Sully Buttes	Takini
Tri-State	McCrossan	Mitchell Christian	Sunshine Bible Academy	Tiospaye Topa
Warner	Oldham-Ramona/Rutland	Platte-Geddes	Timber Lake	Wall
Waverly-South Shore	Viborg-Hurley	Scotland	Wakpala	White River
		Tripp-Delmont/Armour	Wessington Springs	
			Wolsey-Wessington	

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2019-20 AND 2020-21 ADOPTED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

FOOTBALL ALIGNMENTS

CLASS 11AAA

Aberdeen Central
Brandon Valley
Harrisburg

RC Central
RC Stevens
SF Lincoln

SF O'Gorman
SF Roosevelt

SF Washington
Watertown

CLASS 11AA

Brookings
Douglas

Huron
Mitchell

Pierre T.F. Riggs
Spearfish

Sturgis Brown
Yankton

CLASS 11A

Belle Fourche
Canton
Custer
Dakota Valley

Dell Rapids
Lennox
Madison
Milbank

Pine Ridge
SF Christian
Tea Area
Todd County

Tri-Valley
Vermillion
West Central

CLASS 11B

Region 1

Aberdeen Roncalli
Groton Area
McLaughlin
Mobridge-Pollock
Redfield/Doland
Sisseton
Webster Area

Region 2

Beresford
Elk Point-Jefferson
Flandreau
Garretson
McCook Central/Montrose
Sioux Valley

Region 3

Bridgewater-Emery/Ethan
Chamberlain
Miller/Highmore-Harrold
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton
Wagner
Woon./Wess. Sp./San. Cent.

Region 4

Bennett County
Hot Springs
Lead-Deadwood
St. Thomas More
Stanley County
Winner

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2019-20 AND 2020-21 ADOPTED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

FOOTBALL ALIGNMENTS

CLASS 9AA

Region 1

Clark/Willow Lake
Dakota Hills
Deuel
Florence/Henry
Great Plains Lutheran
Hamlin

Region 2

Arlington/Lake Preston
Baltic
Deubrook Area
Elkton-Lake Benton
Parker
Viborg-Hurley

Region 3

Bon Homme
Hanson
Menno/Marion
Parkston
Platte-Geddes

Region 4

Hill City
Jones County/White River
Lemmon/McIntosh
Newell
Rapid City Christian

CLASS 9A

Region 1

Britton-Hecla
Ipswich/Edmunds Central
North Border
Northwestern
Warner

Region 2

Canistota/Freeman
Castlewood
Chester Area
De Smet
Howard
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland

Region 3

Burke
Gayville-Volin
Gregory
Kimball/White Lake
Lyman
TDA/AC/DC

Region 4

New Underwood
Philip
Potter County
Sully Buttes
Timber Lake
Wall

CLASS 9B

Region 1

Faulkton Area
Herreid/Selby Area
Hitchcock-Tulare
Langford Area
Sunshine Bible Academy
Wolsey-Wessington

Region 2

Alcester-Hudson
Centerville
Colman-Egan
Dell Rapids St. Mary
Estelline/Hendricks
Waverly-South Shore

Region 3

Avon
Colome
Corsica-Stickney
Irene-Wakonda
Scotland

Region 4

Bison
Dupree
Edgemont
Faith
Harding County
Kadoka Area

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2019-20 AND 2020-21 ADOPTED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

GOLF ALIGNMENTS

CLASS AA

Aberdeen Central
Brandon Valley
Brookings
Douglas
Harrisburg

Huron
Mitchell
Pierre T.F. Riggs
RC Central
RC Stevens

SF Lincoln
SF O'Gorman
SF Roosevelt
SF Washington

Spearfish
Sturgis Brown
Watertown
Yankton

CLASS A

Region 1

Aberdeen Roncalli
Dell Rapids
Flandreau
Flandreau Indian
Groton Area
Madison
Milbank
Sioux Valley
Sisseton
Tiospa Zina
Tri-Valley

Region 2

Beresford
Canton
Dakota Valley
Elk Point-Jefferson
Lennox
SF Christian
Tea Area
Vermillion
West Central

Region 3

Chamberlain
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte
Mobridge-Pollock
Parkston
Redfield/Doland
St. Francis Indian
Todd County
Wagner
Winner Area

Region 4

Belle Fourche
Custer
Hot Springs
Lead-Deadwood
Little Wound
Pine Ridge
Red Cloud
St. Thomas More

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2019-20 AND 2020-21 ADOPTED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

GOLF ALIGNMENTS

CLASS B

Region 1

Aberdeen Christian
Britton-Hecla
Castlewood
Clark/Willow Lake
Deuel
Florence/Henry
Frederick Area
Great Plains Lutheran
Hamlin
Hitchcock-Tulare
Langford Area
Leola
Waubay/Summit
Webster Area

Region 2

Arlington
Chester Area
Colman-Egan
De Smet
Dell Rapids St. Mary
Deubrook Area
Elkton-Lake Benton
Estelline/Hendricks
Howard
James Valley Christian
Lake Preston
Oldham-Ramona
Wessington Springs
Wolsey-Wessington

Region 3

Alcester-Hudson
Baltic
Bridgewater-Emery
Canistota
Centerville
Freeman
Freeman Academy/Marion
Garretson
Gayville-Volin
Irene-Wakonda
McCook Central/Montrose
Parker
Viborg-Hurley

Region 4

Andes Central/Dakota Christian
Avon
Bon Homme
Burke
Corsica-Stickney
Ethan
Gregory
Kimball/White Lake
Marty
Mitchell Christian
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton
Platte-Geddes
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket
Scotland
Tripp-Delmont

Region 5

Bowdle
Edmunds Central
Eureka
Faulkton Area
Herreid
Highmore-Harrold
Ipswich
Lower Brule
Lyman
Miller
Potter County
Selby Area
Stanley County
Sully Buttes

Region 6

Bennett County
Bison/Hettinger/Scranton
Crazy Horse
Harding County
Hill City
Jones County
Kadoka Area
Lemmon
McLaughlin
Newell
Philip
RC Christian
Takini
Timber Lake
Tiospaye Topa
Wall
White River

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2019-20 AND 2020-21 ADOPTED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

SOCCKER ALIGNMENTS

Class AA

Aberdeen Central
Brandon Valley
Brookings
Douglas/RC Christian
Harrisburg
Huron
Mitchell
Pierre T.F. Riggs
RC Central
RC Stevens
SF Lincoln
SF O’Gorman
SF Roosevelt
SF Washington
Spearfish
Sturgis Brown
Watertown
Yankton

Class A

Belle Fourche
Dakota Valley (Girls)
Freeman Academy (Boys)
Garretson (Girls)
Groton Area
James Valley Christian (Boys)
Mitchell Christian/Mt. Vernon (Boys)
SF Christian
St. Thomas More
Tea Area
Vermillion
West Central (Girls)

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2019-20 AND 2020-21 ADOPTED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

TRACK & FIELD ALIGNMENTS

CLASS AA

Aberdeen Central	Huron	SF Lincoln	Spearfish
Brandon Valley	Mitchell	SF O’Gorman	Sturgis Brown
Brookings	Pierre T.F. Riggs	SF Roosevelt	Watertown
Douglas	RC Central	SF Washington	Yankton
Harrisburg	RC Stevens		

CLASS A

Region 1

Aberdeen Roncalli
Groton Area
Milbank
Redfield/Doland
Sisseton
Tiospa Zina
Webster Area

Region 3

Baltic
Dell Rapids
Garretson
SF Christian
Tri-Valley
West Central

Region 5

Ethan/Parkston
Madison
McCook Central/Montrose
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton
Parker
Wagner

Region 7

Bennett County
Little Wound
Pine Ridge
Red Cloud
St. Francis Indian
Todd County
Winner

Region 2

Clark/Willow Lake
Deuel
Flandreau
Flandreau Indian
Florence/Henry
Hamlin
Sioux Valley

Region 4

Beresford
Canton
Dakota Valley
Elk Point-Jefferson
Lennox
Tea Area
Vermillion

Region 6

Chamberlain
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte
Crow Creek
McLaughlin
Miller
Mobridge-Pollock
Stanley County

Region 8

Belle Fourche
Custer
Hill City
Hot Springs
Lead-Deadwood
RC Christian
St. Thomas More

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2019-20 AND 2020-21 ADOPTED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

TRACK & FIELD ALIGNMENTS

CLASS B

Region 1

Aberdeen Christian
Britton-Hecla
Dakota Hills
Frederick Area
Great Plains Lutheran
Langford Area
Northwestern
School for the Blind/VI
Tri-State
Warner
Waverly-South Shore

Region 2

Edmunds Central
Eureka/Bowdle
Faulkton Area
Herreid/Selby Area
Highmore-Harold
Ipswich
Leola
Lower Brule
Potter County
Sully Buttes
Sunshine Bible Academy

Region 3

Arlington
Castlewood
De Smet
Deubrook Area
Estelline/Hendricks
Hitchcock-Tulare
Iroquois
James Valley Christian
Lake Preston
Wessington Springs
Wolsey-Wessington

Region 4

Chester Area
Colman-Egan
Dell Rapids St. Mary
Elkton-Lake Benton
Ethan
Hanson
Howard
Lutheran HS of SF
McCrossan
Mitchell Christian
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland
San. Cent./Woonsocket

Region 5

Alcester-Hudson
Bridgewater-Emery
Canistota
Centerville
Freeman
Freeman Acad/Marion
Gayville-Volin
Irene-Wakonda
Menno
Scotland
Viborg-Hurley

Region 6

Andes Cent./Dakota Chr.
Avon
Bon Homme
Burke
Colome
Corsica-Stickney
Gregory
Kimball/White Lake
Marty
Platte-Geddes
Tripp-Delmont/Armour

Region 7

Crazy Horse
Edgemont
Jones County
Kadoka Area
Lyman
New Underwood
Oelrichs
Philip
Wall
White River

Region 8

Bison
Dupree
Faith
Harding County
Lemmon
McIntosh
Newell
Takini
Timber Lake
Tiospaye Topa
Wakpala

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2019-20 AND 2020-21 ADOPTED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

VOLLEYBALL

CLASS AA

Aberdeen Central	Huron	SF Lincoln	Spearfish
Brandon Valley	Mitchell	SF O’Gorman	Sturgis Brown
Brookings	Pierre TF Riggs	SF Roosevelt	Watertown
Douglas	RC Central	SF Washington	Yankton
Harrisburg	RC Stevens		

CLASS A

Region 1

Aberdeen Roncalli
Groton Area
Milbank
Redfield/Doland
Sisseton
Tiospa Zina
Webster Area

Region 3

Baltic
Dell Rapids
Garretson
SF Christian
Tri-Valley
West Central

Region 5

Madison (moved from 2 to 5)
McCook Central/Montrose
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton
Parker
Parkston
Wagner

Region 7

Bennett County
Little Wound
Pine Ridge
Red Cloud
St. Francis Indian
Todd County
Winner

Region 2

Clark/Willow Lake
Deuel
Flandreau
Flandreau Indian
Florence/Henry
Hamlin
Sioux Valley

Region 4

Beresford
Canton
Dakota Valley
Elk Point-Jefferson
Lennox
Tea Area
Vermillion

Region 6

Chamberlain
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte
Crow Creek
McLaughlin
Miller
Mobridge-Pollock
Stanley County

Region 8

Belle Fourche
Custer
Hill City
Hot Springs
Lead-Deadwood
RC Christian
St. Thomas More

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CLASS B

Region 1

Aberdeen Christian
Britton-Hecla
Great Plains Lutheran
Langford Area
Leola/Frederick Area (moved from 2 to 1)
Northwestern
Warner
Waubay/Summit
Waverly-South Shore
Wilmot

Region 3

Arlington
Castlewood
De Smet
Deubrook Area
Estelline/Hendricks
Hitchcock-Tulare
Iroquois
James Valley Christian
Lake Preston
Wessington Springs
Wolsey-Wessington

Region 5

Alcester-Hudson
Bridgewater-Emery
Canistota
Centerville
Freeman
Freeman Academy/Marion
Gayville-Volin
Irene-Wakonda
Menno
Scotland (moved from 6 to 5)
Viborg-Hurley

Region 7

Crazy Horse
Edgemont
Jones County
Kadoka Area
Lyman
New Underwood
Oelrichs
Philip
Wall
White River

Region 2

Edmunds Central
Eureka/Bowdle
Faulkton Area
Herreid/Selby Area
Highmore-Harrold
Ipswich
Lower Brule (moved from 7 to 2)
Potter County
Sully Buttes
Sunshine Bible Academy

Region 4

Chester Area
Colman-Egan
Dell Rapids St. Mary
Elkton-Lake Benton
Ethan
Hanson
Howard
Mitchell Christian
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket

Region 6

Andes Central/Dakota Christian
Avon
Bon Homme
Burke
Colome
Corsica-Stickney
Gregory
Kimball/White Lake
Marty
Platte-Geddes
Tripp-Delmont/Armour

Region 8

Bison
Dupree
Faith
Harding County
Lemmon
McIntosh
Newell
Takini
Timber Lake
Tiospaye Topa
Wakpala

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2019-20 AND 2020-21 ADOPTED SPORTS ALIGNMENTS

WRESTLING ALIGNMENTS

CLASS A

Region 1

Brookings
Dell Rapids
Madison
SF O'Gorman
SF Roosevelt
Tea Area
Watertown
West Central

Region 2

Beresford/Alcester-Hudson
Brandon Valley
Dakota Valley
Harrisburg
Lennox
SF Lincoln
SF Washington
Vermillion
Yankton

Region 3

Aberdeen Central
Chamberlain
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte/Dupree
Huron
Milbank
Mitchell
Pierre T.F. Riggs
Todd County

Region 4

Belle Fourche
Douglas/RC Christian
Little Wound
Pine Ridge
RC Central
RC Stevens
Spearfish
Sturgis Brown

CLASS B

Region 1

Britton-Hecla
Clark/Willow Lake
Deuel
Faulkton Area
Groton Area
Hamlin/Castlewood
Ipswich/Leola/Bowdle
Kingsbury County
Potter County
Redfield Area
Sioux Valley
Sisseton
Sully Buttes
Tiospa Zina
Warner/Northwestern
Webster Area

Region 2

Canton
Elk Point-Jefferson
Flandreau
Garretson
Howard
Marion/Freeman
McCook Central/Montrose
Parker
Tri-Valley
Viborg-Hurley

Region 3

Andes Cent./Dakota Chr.
Bon Homme/Scotland/Avon
Burke/Gregory
Crow Creek
Kimball/Wh. Lake/Platte-Geddes
Lower Brule
Miller/Highmore-Harold
Mt. Vernon/Plank./Cor.-Sti.
Parkston
St. Francis Indian
Sunshine Bible Academy
Wagner
Wess. Springs/Woon./Wol-Wess
Winner Area

Region 4

Bennett County
Custer/Edgemont
Faith
Harding County
Hill City
Hot Springs
Lead-Deadwood
Lemmon/McIntosh
Lyman
McLaughlin
Mobridge-Pollock
Newell
Philip Area
Red Cloud
St. Thomas More
Stanley County

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Groton Area Prismatic Sensations Class A Champions and Best Choreography (of all of the choirs!)



Groton Area competed in the Vermillion Show Choir Invitational on Saturday.

(Photos from Deb Schuelke's Facebook Page)



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Northern State caps of regular season with swift victory at Minot State

Minot, N.D. – The Northern State University men’s basketball team ended the regular season on a high note, with a 17-point victory over Minot State. The Wolves enter the post-season with a 22-6 record overall, after winning the NSIC Overall and North Division titles for the second straight season.

Northern cruised to their second double figure victory of the season over the Beavers after a big opening half. The Wolves out-scored Minot State 37-20 in the first 20 minutes of action, and held their largest lead of the game, 27 points, with 14:28 left in the second. NSU shot 48.3 percent from the floor, 31.3 percent from the 3-point line, and 95.0 percent from the foul line, out-shooting the Beavers.

The Wolves recorded 40 points in the paint, 21 points off the bench, ten points off turnovers, and five points off five offensive boards. They combined for five made 3-pointers, 33 rebounds, 14 assists, four steals, and one block, with four players in double figures.

Andrew Kallman led the team with 16 points, knocking down 5-of-6 from the floor and 5-of-5 from the free throw line. The sophomore added three rebounds and two assists to the team cause. Ian Smith and Gabe King followed with 12 points apiece. Smith recorded a team high six assists, and added six rebounds and two steals. King shot 44.4 percent from the floor and tallied three rebounds.

Bo Fries was the final Wolf in double figures, notching 11 points as well as a team leading eight rebounds. The senior shot 66.7 percent from the floor and 60.0 percent from the 3-point line. He also added four assists and two steals. Justin Decker was third on the team with five defensive boards and added eight points.

Jordan Belka led the Wolves off the bench with eight points, hitting 4-of-7 from the floor. Cole Dahl added five team points, while Mason Stark and Parker Fox each recorded four. Fox and Stark combined four five team rebounds, and Fox notched the lone block for NSU.

The Wolves men will host Concordia-St. Paul on Wednesday, February 27 in the opening round of the NSIC Tournament. Tip-off is set for 6 p.m. from Wachs Arena.

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Pictured are Grady O'Neill, Statistician Kaylin Kucker, Wyatt Locke and Dragr Monson. (Photo from Darin Zoellner's Facebook Page)

Locke takes third, Monson fifth at state

Congratulations to ALL the Groton wrestlers on a very successful year and to the state tournament wrestlers. Wyatt finishes his very successful career with a 3rd place finish. Dragr finishes his sophomore season with a 5th place finish. Grady qualifies for the first time this year and won a match at state as a junior. The future is bright with these wrestlers and all the rest of the tiger wrestlers that came up just short of the state tournament. Thanks for everyone's support and congratulate the wrestlers when you see them.

- Coach Darin Zoellner

B-113: Dragr Monson (41-14) placed 5th and scored 13.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 41-14 won by forfeit over Burk Blasius (Philip Area) 14-8 (For.)
Quarterfinal - Lane Miller (Howard) 43-7 won by decision over Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 41-14 (Dec 9-5)
Cons. Round 2 - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 41-14 won by fall over Dylan Zell (Kingsbury County) 31-17 (Fall 4:16)
Cons. Round 3 - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 41-14 won by decision over Landon Sudbeck (Parkston) 25-15 (Dec 8-1)
Cons. Semi - Jacob Brunner (Custer/Edgemont) 35-10 won by fall over Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 41-14 (Fall 1:30)
5th Place Match - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 41-14 won by decision over Carter Lenz (Kimball/White Lake/Platte-Geddes) 29-21 (Dec 6-3)

B-195: Grady ONEill (17-25) Scored 3.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - EJ Leetch (Howard) 42-6 won by fall over Grady ONEill (Groton Area) 17-25 (Fall 1:57)
Cons. Round 1 - Grady ONEill (Groton Area) 17-25 won by fall over Cody Lone Elk (Red Cloud) 25-20 (Fall 2:28)
Cons. Round 2 - Carter Heinz (Ipswich/Leola/Bowdle) 22-14 won by fall over Grady ONEill (Groton Area) 17-25 (Fall 2:19)

B-285: Wyatt Locke (32-5) placed 3rd and scored 24.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Wyatt Locke (Groton Area) 32-5 won by fall over Caleb Maciejewski (Hot Springs) 12-10 (Fall 1:41)
Quarterfinal - Dawson Lensing (Wagner) 36-9 won by decision over Wyatt Locke (Groton Area) 32-5 (Dec 8-3)
Cons. Round 2 - Wyatt Locke (Groton Area) 32-5 won by fall over Dakota Johnson (Garretson) 28-13 (Fall 3:52)
Cons. Round 3 - Wyatt Locke (Groton Area) 32-5 won by fall over Zach Richardson (Canton) 31-15 (Fall 4:34)
Cons. Semi - Wyatt Locke (Groton Area) 32-5 won by fall over Drake Peed (Elk Point-Jefferson) 42-7 (Fall 4:13)
3rd Place Match - Wyatt Locke (Groton Area) 32-5 won by fall over Achilles Willuweit (Winner Area) 38-10 (Fall 3:29)

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Lana's Annals

**Lana
Greenfield
District 2
State
Representative**

Greetings! We have had a very busy, hectic week as House bills now are finished in respective committees and are either going to the floor or have met their demise. In that respect, there have been peaks and valleys.

Our local government committee heard from proponents who wanted to reduce the number of petition signatures required for district conservation supervisor elections. Most of what was discussed was about the size (and some have combined) of the districts and the availability of people who run. The number of signatures would be reduced from 25 to 15. The personnel from the governing departments thought this idea was suitable and no one objected, so it was passed onto the House floor. Another

was a bill that revised qualifications for sanitary districts. I had reservations on this one and voted accordingly. It would appear that people had to be property owners in the district to serve on the board, but a district could be created out of NO MORE than 100 farms, households, or other entities. So would that be 99 or 12 or 9?? The elected could attend meetings via Skype or conference call. So how many have to be physically there? I will study this one more. It did pass 10-3.

In our education committee, I presented HB1220ka, which discussed taking two student counts per year vs. one count only. I thought it was a fairness act whereas schools that got extra students after the first count should receive half of the per student allocation for educating those unexpected students. The bill met with a lot of pushback from the departments as they said it would be too much work to re-allocate the money and that school budgets had already been set plus it messes with the funding formula. To me, those were weak arguments as departments have enough personnel and computers to do this in a short amount of time. Also schools who now have had an influx of new students had also set THEIR budgets before they knew they would have to accommodate new students. Finally, the departments did not mind crafting a crafty bill four years ago and re-do the funding formula. Even though the department admitted that in excess of 40 percent of the schools would be affected, it did not matter and the vote fell short 6-8.

On the House Floor HB1139 which would have revised the funding formula to repeal provisions regarding maximum taxes levied by a school for capital outlay. It would have gone to 3 percent instead of 2800 per student allocation. Many schools testified in favor, and while it handily passed committee, it lost by a close vote on the floor. After reconsideration, it fell by 3 votes only. It may be something to re-visit next year as many schools are being strapped financially.

HB1132 is on its way to the floor; it is the involuntary commitment bill for persons who suffer addiction. I pooled my efforts with Rep. Haugaard and he was able to get it through Judiciary Committee. I am so hopeful that it will pass the floor and make its way to the Senate...one of the most important bills of the session. (probably second to nursing home funding).

The bill HB1232 will make its way to the floor on Monday. This reduces the age requirement for graduation. I have received some positive and some negative input. I am the messenger, and when a person is asked to carry a bill, one has two options. I chose the tougher road. I have done a lot of study and think this is worthy of discussion. I was surprised to find that even though we mandate staying in school until age 18, dropout rates have risen. Why? Students, on the day they are 18, walk out the door and most do not return. This has cost taxpayers money as schools have included those students in their budgets and are paid then for phantom students. This is not an easy bill, but I realized a long, long time ago that being a Legislator is not for the faint of heart. I have told new people that if their hopes are to make all happy, to be gone the day of important votes, to live in a safe bubble, it would be best to pack up and go home!! I also have told people never to be "married" to a bill. That is too emotionally consuming. Thus, as we continue to go forward in this session, I have hope that we can get some funding for our nursing homes and to keep them afloat.

Until next week, stay warm and healthy!

Rep. Lana Greenfield

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SOUTH DAKOTA GOVERNOR
KRISTI NOEM



Every Child Deserves a Home

Foster care is an issue I've cared about for a long time. Growing up, I had a foster brother who made a big impact on my family and taught my siblings and me a different kind of love, compassion, and strength I don't know if I would have otherwise understood. We learned that family is more about what's in your heart than in your bloodstream. And those lessons have shaped how I live my life and how I now lead South Dakota.

This year, I've committed to using my microphone and my influence to educate people about the need for more foster families. The next generation of South Dakotans will not thrive if they don't have a home. A place to grow up. A family to love them.

Since I began highlighting the needs of our foster system, I've had the opportunity to hear dozens of stories from people who've been deeply impacted by foster care. Just this week, I learned about a family in Aberdeen who adopted a sibling set of five kiddos on Valentine's Day. These kids had been in the foster system for more than three years. With traumatic backgrounds, their newly formed family has had to navigate some difficult situations, but as their dad said, "Family is always worth it." Their family now has a membership of 14 – with seven kids adopted through the foster system. They're a beautiful mosaic of backgrounds, cultures, and most importantly, love.

Another young woman from Rapid City told me about her family. In the last 10 years, she's had 24 foster brothers and sisters. She said this when she talked about foster care: "Being a foster family isn't about feeling good about yourself. It's about planting seeds of love in kids. It's about showing them what a family is like and what love feels like. It's not an easy path, but it is so worth it."

I want more kids in foster care to have testimonies and families like these. I want our state to be an example of strong families who help struggling families to create a better future.

But there's a lot of work to do. Right now in our state, 80 kids are waiting for families to adopt them. In total, 924 children are in foster care.

Sadly, life within the foster care system is difficult for many. More than half of kids in foster care experience at least seven school changes while in the child welfare system. The instability has a tremendous impact on their education, health, and outlook. The good news is that foster kids who are in stable homes are much more likely to graduate from high school, go to college, and have a successful future.

While the staff at the Department of Social Services can raise awareness about the need, get the facts out, and debunk some of the myths people may believe, they can't put children in a home if no one is willing to provide one. There's a significant need.

If you're interested in influencing the next generation through foster care, I encourage you to visit fosterone.sd.gov where you can learn more, ask questions, and start the process of becoming a foster family. And if you are a foster family, I'd love to hear your story. Please consider sharing your journey with me at GovernorNoem@state.sd.us.

I'm confident that South Dakota can be a leader to our nation in how we prioritize families and help kids who are the most vulnerable. Because every child deserves love, and every child deserves a home.

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CONGRESSMAN
DUSTY JOHNSON
Representing **SOUTH DAKOTA** at large



A Week of Firsts

After seven consecutive weeks of session in Washington, DC, I was grateful to spend a full week working back in beautiful South Dakota. My first in-state work week was full of "firsts."

To kick off the week, I spent time at the state legislative session. A number of key agriculture and education leaders wanted to discuss my committee assignments and what issues are on the agenda over the next few months. I also enjoyed speaking with legislators from both chambers and both parties. My message was simple: I look forward to supporting our state's legislators and Governor Noem at the federal level. We need to provide states the additional authority needed to innovate and problem solve.

I strive to be as accessible as possible for my bosses in the state – the people of South Dakota. That is why it was important to me to host a town hall during my first week of work in the district. Q&A's and conversations are crucial to my work. I can't do my job to the best of my ability if I don't know how issues affect individuals and families back home. From trade to food stamps, I heard a variety of questions, concerns and thoughts from the folks in Aberdeen. It was made clear to me South Dakotans are concerned about the uncertainty of ongoing trade negotiations, and this will continue to be a priority for me.

On Thursday, I traveled to Sioux Falls to tour Southeast Technical Institute and meet with students and faculty. There are hundreds of open jobs in South Dakota, many of them skilled worker positions, which is why the education offered at our technical schools is imperative to our state's success. Southeast Tech is one of the nation's top institutions for innovation and automotive technologies and has a range of programs from nursing to law enforcement training. I have to admit, though that I found the robot mannequins used in the nursing labs to be a bit creepy. I left Southeast Tech feeling energized about the potential our state's technical schools have to fill our workforce needs.

In another set of "firsts," we held official ribbon cutting ceremonies for our Rapid City and Aberdeen regional offices. There were packed houses at both openings, and it was great to see so many folks come out and welcome us into their communities. I hope you'll take the opportunity to swing by one of my district offices, say hi and keep us in the loop on news we should be aware of. You can find addresses for my three South Dakota offices on my website (dustyjohnson.house.gov).

To wrap up the first district work week, I spent Friday evening at the Ellsworth Air Force Base Annual Awards Banquet. South Dakota's relationship with the Air Force is at an all-time high with Heather Wilson (former President of the School of Mines and Technology) leading the charge as Secretary of the Air Force. I will continue a close working relationship with the Air Force going forward. I, as well as my Senate colleagues, will enthusiastically advocate for Ellsworth's continued success.

You only get one "first" in-state work week as a Congressman, and I am grateful mine was spent with so many of you back home.

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Today in Weather History

February 24, 2001: Heavy snow of 6 to 14 inches fell across central and northeast South Dakota as well as west central Minnesota. Along with the heavy snow came blizzard conditions across northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota during the morning hours of the 25th as northwest winds increased to 25 to 45 mph. As a result of the heavy snow and blizzard conditions, travel became difficult, if not impossible, resulting in some accidents and stranded motorists. Some snowfall amounts included, 6 inches at Waubay, Onida, Murdo, and Artas, 7 inches at Aberdeen, Faulkton, Ipswich, Kennebec, and Clark, 8 inches at Miller, Castlewood, 23 N Highmore, and Pierre. Nine inches of snow fell at Browns Valley, Wheaton, Clinton, Graceville, Dumont, Roy Lake, Mellette, Blunt, and Watertown. Other snowfall amounts included, 10 inches near Summit, 11 inches at Webster, Ortonville, and Artichoke Lake, and 14 inches at Milbank.

1969: The famous "100-Hour Storm" began in Boston, MA. Snow fell much of the time between early on the 25th through noon on the 28th. The 26.3 inches at Logan Airport is the 2nd greatest snowstorm in Boston's history. 77 inches fell at Pinkham Notch Base Station in New Hampshire bringing their February total to 130 inches. Their snow cover on the 27th was 164 inches. Mt. Washington, NH received 172.8 inches of snow in the month.

2001: Over a dozen tornadoes spawned in central and eastern Arkansas. The strongest tornado (F3) was in Desha County, with parts of a farm shop found six miles away from where it was blown apart. An 18-month-old was killed in Fulton County by an F2 tornado.

1852 - The Susquehanna River ice bridge at Havre de Grace, MD, commenced to break up after forty days of use. A total of 1738 loaded freight cars were hauled along rails laid on the ice. (David Ludlum)

1936 - Vermont and New Hampshire received brown snow due to dust from storms in the Great Plains Region. A muddy rain fell across parts of northern New York State. (24th-25th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A massive winter storm began to overspread the western U.S. In southern California, Big Bear was blanketed with 17 inches of snow, and Lake Hughes reported four inches of snow in just one hour. Snow pellets whitened coastal areas of Orange County and San Diego County, with three inches at Huntington Beach. The storm also produced thunderstorms with hail and waterspouts. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Strong winds produced snow squalls in the Great Lakes Region which created "white-out" conditions in eastern Upper Michigan. Squalls produced up to 14 inches of snow in Geauga County of northeastern Ohio. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - A total of thirty-three cities in the eastern U.S. reported new record low temperatures for the date, and an Atlantic coast storm spread heavy snow from Georgia to southern New England. Snowfall totals in New Jersey ranged up to 24 inches in May County, with 19 inches reported at Atlantic City. Totals in North Carolina ranged up to 18 inches in Gates County, and winds along the coast of North Carolina gusted to 70 mph at Duck Pier. Strong winds gusting to 52 mph created blizzard conditions at Chatham MA. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1990 - Strong northerly winds prevailed from Illinois to the Southern and Central Appalachians. Winds gusted to 68 mph at Sewickley Heights PA. High winds caused considerable blowing and drifting of snow across northern and central Indiana through the day. Wind gusts to 47 mph and 6 to 8 inches of snow created white-out conditions around South Bend IN. Traffic accidents resulted in two deaths and 130 injuries. Sixty-five persons were injured in one accident along Interstate 69 in Huntington County. Wind gusts to 60 mph and 4 to 8 inches of snow created blizzard conditions in eastern and northern Ohio. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2004 - Heavy snows blanket wide areas of northern New Mexico, closing schools and highways. Mountains east of Santa Fe receive 20 inches. Sandia Park, east of Albuquerque, measures 11 inches. 8 inches falls at Los Alamos.

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Winter Weather Advi...

Today



Areas Blowing
Snow and
Blustery

High: 7 °F

Tonight



Partly Cloudy
then Chance
Snow

Low: -12 °F

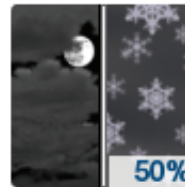
Monday



Snow Likely
then Partly
Sunny

High: 0 °F

Monday
Night



Mostly Cloudy
then Chance
Snow

Low: -11 °F

Tuesday



Chance Snow

High: 7 °F



Cold and Snowy To Start the Week

Today 0 to 10°
Blowing and Drifting Snow
Ground Blizzard east of the
James Valley

Monday -2 to 5°
1 to 3 inches of light snow
with highest amounts
across central SD

Tuesday 5 to 15°
Light morning snow

Published on: 02/24/2019 at 4:29AM

Blowing and drifting snow are expected east of the Missouri River today with ground blizzard conditions along the I-29 corridor east. Winds will diminish from west to east this afternoon and evening. The next system will bring light snow late tonight into Monday with more light snow slated for Monday night and Tuesday.

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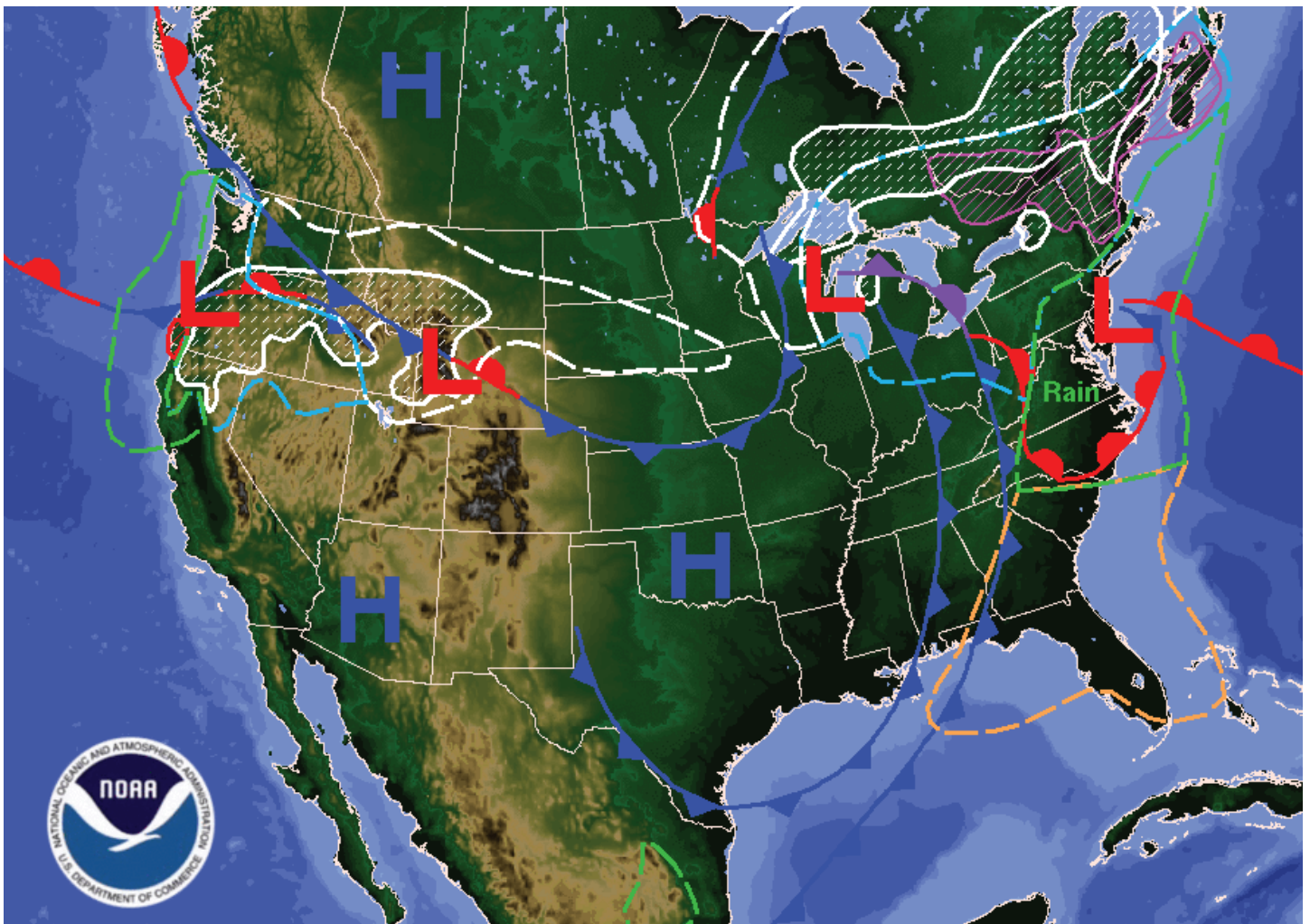
Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 22 °F at 1:19 AM

Low Outside Temp: 10 °F at 9:35 PM

High Gust: 25 mph at 10:18 PM

Precip:



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Feb 24, 2019, issued 4:40 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

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

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FINDING FAVOR WITH GOD AND MAN

Most everybody wants to be somebodys favorite. It seems only natural. We want to believe that someone, somewhere, thinks that there is something about us that makes us special or unique or significant. A distinctiveness that makes us stand out from and above the crowd.

Bringing together a few simple words, Solomon gives us a formula that will make us a favorite of both God and man. It does not include wealth, education, status, or our ancestors. But it does include two critical principles: love and faithfulness. He wrote: Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man."

Faithfulness cannot be separated from love. For if we love someone, we naturally - even automatically, though sometimes with difficulty - demonstrate that love by being faithful to them.

This love is not a sentimental, emotional or feeling type of love. It is a love that demands, even forces us, to live in agreement with the character of the one we profess to love. If we say we love God, we are obligated to be steadfast and true to the teachings, laws, and direction that come from Gods Word. When there are choices and decisions to be made and problems to be resolved, our lives are to be consistent with the Word of God. If not, we are not in love with Him.

So, it is important that we bind them to our hearts. Faithfulness and love are to be planted so deeply in our hearts that we practice them without even thinking about them.

Prayer: What a challenge it is, Lord, to be so deeply in love with You, that whatever we do proves our love for You and pleases You! In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 3:3 Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.

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2019 Groton SD Community Events

- 01/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 03/17/2019 Groton American Legion Spring Fundraiser
- 04/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 04/27/2019 Fireman's Stag
- 05/04/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 05/27/2019 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program
- 06/13/2019 Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- 06/14/2019 SDSU Golf Tournament at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 06/15/2019 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 06/21/2019 Best Ball Golf Tourney
- 07/04/2019 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 07/14/2019 Summer Fest
- 08/22/2019 First Day of School
- 09/07/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 09/08/2019 Sunflower Classic at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2019 Trunk or Treat/Halloween on Main
- 11/09/2019 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/07/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course 2019 Holiday Party
- 12/07/2019 Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services

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News from the Associated Press

Saturday's Scores

By The Associated Press

BOYS PREP BASKETBALL

Brandon Valley 62, St. Thomas More 52
Britton-Hecla 59, Hamlin 44
Brookings 51, Huron 50
DeSmet 73, Deubrook 43
Edgemont 52, New Underwood 49
Edmunds Central 72, Tiospaye Topa 51
Faith 63, Philip 33
McIntosh 68, Wakpala 61
Pierre 56, Mitchell 53
Rapid City Christian 66, Gregory 52
Warner 68, Waverly-South Shore 45
Waubay/Summit 60, Webster 48
White River 79, Lyman 70
Yankton 68, Douglas 41

GIRLS PREP BASKETBALL

Huron 71, Pierre 64
St. Thomas More 66, Brandon Valley 58
Yankton 64, Douglas 33

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

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press undefined

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

Dakota Cash

02-03-14-29-32

(two, three, fourteen, twenty-nine, thirty-two)

Estimated jackpot: \$119,000

Lotto America

06-10-21-25-48, Star Ball: 2, ASB: 2

(six, ten, twenty-one, twenty-five, forty-eight; Star Ball: two; ASB: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$15.69 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$245 million

Powerball

04-06-14-20-32, Powerball: 13, Power Play: 2

(four, six, fourteen, twenty, thirty-two; Powerball: thirteen; Power Play: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$304 million

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De Blasio tells Iowans he's considering a presidential run

SIoux CITY, Iowa (AP) — New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio is telling Democrats in Iowa that he has not ruled out a run for president.

The Sioux City Journal reports that de Blasio told voters at a Sioux City bar on Saturday that the Democratic Party must return to its progressive roots.

He said working people will "answer the call of the Democratic Party" if they hear that the party is "resolute in defense of their interests."

The prospect of a de Blasio White House run has not been warmly received in the mayor's hometown.

Seven candidates attending a debate for New York City public advocate on Wednesday all said de Blasio was not qualified to run for president. Assemblyman Ron Kim, a Democrat from Queens, called de Blasio "completely delusional."

Daum tops 3,000, helps South Dakota State rally, 94-89

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Mike Daum came on late, scoring 25 points as South Dakota State rallied past South Dakota 94-89 Saturday, giving him 3,006 for his career.

Daum is among just 10 players to score 3,000 points in Division I college basketball history.

Upset-minded South Dakota scored 55 points in the first half and held onto the lead halfway through the final period until Daum scored seven in an 11-2 South Dakota State run. He converted a 3-point play to lift the league-leading Jackrabbits into a 75-74 leads with 8:15 remaining.

The teams swapped one-point leads twice more before Daum's leaper in the paint bounced off the back iron and in, giving South Dakota State (23-7, 13-2 Summit League) the lead for good at 86-85 and lifting him to 3,000 points. He ended the game with six straight free throws.

SDSU's three seniors — Daum, Tevin King and Skyler Flatten — combined for 65 points, King with a career-high 22 and Flatten with 18 and four of five 3-pointers.

Cody Kelley led the Coyotes (11-16, 5-9) with 21 points, 19 in the first half when the team shot 65 percent from the floor and made 11 3-pointers. Triston Simpson added 19 points.

Tornado death confirmed as violent storms smack the South

COLUMBUS, Miss. (AP) — The full extent of the damage was coming into view Sunday after a tornado smashed into a commercial district in a small Mississippi city, killing at least one person and shattering businesses as severe storms raked the South on a weekend of drenching rains and a rising flood threat.

The tornado Saturday afternoon in Columbus was confirmed on radar, said meteorologist Anna Wolverton with the National Weather Service in Jackson. She told The Associated Press that experts would be headed Sunday to the east Mississippi city of about 23,000 people to gauge the tornado's intensity.

A woman died after a building collapsed on her and three other people, the Columbus mayor's office said Sunday in a statement on Facebook, citing information from Lowndes County Coroner Greg Merchant. The statement said 41-year-old Ashley Glynell Pounds of Tupelo was with three other people in a building that collapsed in the storm Saturday evening. The statement gave no information on the condition of the other three people.

Lee Lawrence, who said he has been selling used cars for decades in Columbus, told The AP that four buildings on his car lot had been destroyed. He said trees toppled across vehicles and car windows had been blown out. And he said he had no idea about how badly his collection of antique cars fared. A 1923 Studebaker and a 1930 Chevrolet were among the cars parked amid wind-tossed building debris.

Lawrence said he was at home getting ready to take a bath when the storm struck.

"The wind all of a sudden just got so strong and it was raining so much you could hardly see out the door, and I could hear a roaring. Evidently it came close," he said, speaking with AP in a phone interview. He said someone called him soon after about the damage to his business and he rushed over.

"It will be a start-over deal," Lawrence said. "I can't say it will come back better or stronger, but we'll come back."

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A photographer working for The AP in Columbus said some antique cars on Lawrence's lot were parked among the damage and a nearby pet grooming business appeared now to be mostly twisted piles of metal. A printing shop had been speared by a pipe with great force and what seemed to be a vacant commercial building nearby appeared heavily damaged.

Firefighters and law enforcement officers had cordoned off the area, making it difficult to determine the extent of damage after nightfall. Power was out in the area.

Elsewhere around the South, homes, highways, parks and bridges were flooded or put out of commission amid the heavy rains and severe storms. News outlets report that water rescues have been performed in some Middle Tennessee counties. Flash flood warnings and watches remained in place throughout the South and one Mississippi community reported large hail.

Interstate 40 near the Tennessee line with North Carolina was closed by a rockslide, one of the dozens of roads and highways shut down throughout the region, transportation officials said.

Tennessee Department of Transportation spokesman Mark Nagi said on Twitter that a "full scale detour" was in place, with traffic being diverted to Interstate 81 and Interstate 26.

High water threatened property in Tennessee, which, like many other areas of the South, has been soaked by several inches of rain over the past week. Officials said a mudslide destroyed a Subway restaurant in Signal Mountain, Tennessee. No injuries were reported.

In Bruce, Mississippi, rivers broke flood stage and flash floods poured into homes and businesses. News outlets report that officials in Grenada, Mississippi, declared a local state of emergency after dozens of streets and homes flooded. A 6-mile (9-kilometer) stretch of the Natchez Trace Parkway was closed in Mississippi after water covered part of the road.

The National Weather Service had issued a flash flood warning for northwestern Lafayette County in Mississippi after emergency officials reported that a local dam was at risk of failing. Meteorologist Kole Fehling says emergency officials reported the threat involved the Audubon Dam, which blocks a creek on the north side of Oxford and a subdivision.

Weather officials said the storm's impact stretched from eastern Arkansas to northern Georgia and beyond. Alabama's governor declared a state of emergency in several counties, hoping to speed recovery in event of damages.

Kentucky announced Friday that it was closing the U.S. 51 bridge over the Ohio River to Cairo, Illinois, because of flooding on the southern approach. The bridge, which carries 4,700 vehicles a day, is likely to stay closed until Thursday, and possibly longer.

Near Jamestown, Kentucky, the Army Corps of Engineers said it was increasing releases from the Wolf Creek Dam on the Cumberland River. Areas downstream of the dam, from Rowena to Burkesville, could be affected by flooding as a result, officials said.

The Ohio River at Cairo is predicted to crest Sunday at its third-highest level ever recorded, and stay that high into next week. The Tennessee River near Savannah, Tennessee, also is forecast to crest at near-record levels.

Associated Press writers Adrian Sainz in Memphis, Tennessee and Jay Reeves in Birmingham, Alabama, contributed to this story, along with freelance photographer Jim Lytle working in Columbus, Mississippi.

Fire, fury, love? The mythology behind the Trump-Kim summit

By CALVIN WOODWARD and KIM TONG-HYUNG Associated Press

Fire, fury, love.

Between the two of them, President Donald Trump and North Korea's Kim Jong Un have created a mythology about the U.S.-North Korean relationship that could gain another chapter when they meet in Hanoi this week for their second summit.

According to that mythology, the U.S. came to the brink of war (says Trump) with a rising nuclear power able to rain destruction on U.S. soil (says Kim). Talk (by Kim and Trump) of nuclear buttons on desks

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evolved into some kind of "love" (says Trump) and now the two are on the road to a nuclear-free and even prosperous North. Trump tweeted cheerily in anticipation of the summit: "North Korea will become a different kind of Rocket - an Economic one!"

The reality is more prosaic, though still historic: Two hostile nations — one wealthy, one impoverished, both bristling with weapons — are talking at the highest level.

Trump came back from the first summit last June claiming the marquee achievement of getting North Korea on board with "total denuclearization" and maintaining that process was immediately underway.

But Kim has never renounced nuclear weapons development. The Pentagon last month called the North an "extraordinary threat." Dan Coats, Trump's national intelligence director, earned the president's ire when he told senators the North is taking actions inconsistent with denuclearization and that the North considers its nuclear arsenal critical to its survival.

The next chapters are yet to be written by Trump and Kim. Their story so far has been marked by overwrought accounts of the perils at hand and over-the-top pronouncements of progress.

A look at myths and reality on their past rhetoric:

THE PERILS

MYTH: The U.S. and North Korea were about to go to war when Trump came to office.

—"When I came in, North Korea was — it looks like it was going to war. You know that. It was going to happen, bad things." — Trump at rally in El Paso, Texas, Feb. 11.

—"If I had not been elected president of the United States, we would right now, in my opinion, be in a major war with North Korea with potentially millions of people killed." — Trump in State of the Union speech, Feb. 5.

—Previous presidents left Trump "with a major war ready to start." — Trump tweet Jan. 24.

REALITY: Trump cites no evidence to support what he sometimes states as a fact and other times as his opinion. The idea that war was close rings false through the foreign policy establishment and is disputed by people who served under President Barack Obama, such as Ben Rhodes, who was deputy national security adviser, and John Brennan, Obama's CIA chief.

To the extent that belligerence is a harbinger of war, the risk increased under Trump.

Agitated by North Korea's provocative nuclear and missile tests in 2017, Trump engaged with Kim in an escalating war of words as each man bragged about the nuclear buttons within reach. Insults flew about the U.S. "dotard" and the North's "rocket man."

Trump departed from recent predecessors in openly warning of war with the North, telling reporters in August 2017 that if the North Koreans continued to make threats, "They will be met with fire and fury like the world has never seen." And he told the United Nations that if the U.S. is "forced to defend itself or its allies, we will have no choice but to totally destroy North Korea. Rocket Man is on a suicide mission for himself and for his regime."

North Korea's aggressive testing and the ferocious rhetoric of the two leaders that year triggered war fears among South Koreans, who over the decades had grown stoic in the face of threats from their bellicose neighbor.

Obama is known to have pointed to North Korea as a vexing problem in a postelection meeting with Trump, not necessarily as one about to erupt into warfare.

MYTH: North Korea can mount a nuclear attack striking anywhere in the U.S.

—"It's not a mere threat but a reality that I have a nuclear button on the desk in my office. All of the mainland United States is within the range of our nuclear strike." — Kim, Jan. 1, 2018.

—North Korea no longer needs to test intermediate and intercontinental missiles, or to conduct nuclear tests, because "the work for mounting nuclear warheads on ballistic rockets was finished" and "whole processes of developing nuclear weapons were carried out in a scientific way." — North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency, summarizing Kim's remarks at a central party meeting in April 2018.

REALITY: Kim is inflating the North's nuclear and missile capabilities.

The North did demonstrate advanced weapons capability during its torrent of nuclear and missile tests in 2017. It flew two new intermediate-range missiles over Japan and threatened to fire those weapons

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toward the U.S. territory of Guam. It also tested three developmental ICBMs, including the Hwasong-15 that demonstrated potential range to reach deep into the U.S. mainland.

But the ICBM tests showed no clear sign that the North perfected the technology needed to ensure that a warhead could survive the harsh conditions of atmospheric re-entry. While experts said North Korea needed additional flight tests to determine the reliability and accuracy of its ICBMs and establish a capable re-entry protection system, the North has performed no known test of these weapons since the Hwasong-15 launch in November 2017.

THE PROGRESS

MYTH: Trump is the only president to make any progress with North Korea.

—“This isn’t the past. This isn’t another administration that never got it started and, therefore, never got it done.” — Trump after the June 2018 summit.

—The North Koreans in “one case, they took billions of dollars during the Clinton regime. ... Took billions of dollars and nothing happened.” He said of President Bill Clinton: “He spent \$3 billion and got nothing.” — after June summit.

—On past presidents: “They’ve been talking about this for many, many years, and no administration has done anything.” — remarks Wednesday.

REALITY: He’s wrong in suggesting his administration is the first to start work on denuclearization with North Korea. The Clinton and George W. Bush administrations both did so. And his numbers are off. The Clinton and Bush administrations combined to provide some \$1.3 billion in food and energy assistance from 1995 to 2008, according to the Congressional Research Service, a nonpartisan arm of Congress.

Clinton reached an aid-for-disarmament deal in 1994 that halted North Korea’s plutonium production for eight years, freezing what was then a very small atomic arsenal. Bush took a tougher stance toward North Korea, and the 1994 nuclear deal collapsed because of suspicions that the North was running a secret uranium program. But Bush, too, ultimately pursued negotiations. That led to a temporary disabling of some nuclear facilities, but talks fell apart because of differences over verification.

MYTH: North Korea has substantially retracted its nuclear weapons capability.

—“Accordingly, we declared at home and abroad that we would neither make and test nuclear weapons any longer nor use and proliferate them, and we have taken various practical measures.” — Kim in his Jan. 1 address this year.

REALITY: Kim’s description of the outcome of his summits with Washington and Seoul in 2018 doesn’t match what actually happened in past months.

In his three meetings with South Korean President Moon Jae-in and his first with Trump, Kim signed vague statements pledging the “complete denuclearization” of the Korean Peninsula, without describing how and when it would occur. The North for decades has been pushing a concept of denuclearization that bears no resemblance to the American definition. It has vowed to pursue nuclear development until the U.S. removes its troops from South Korea and retracts its “nuclear umbrella,” which assures South Korea and Japan that America will defend them from an attack, using nuclear weapons if necessary.

The North did suspend its nuclear and long-range missile tests and unilaterally dismantled its nuclear testing ground and parts of a rocket launch facility, without the presence of outside experts. But those measures were not seen as material steps toward reducing the North’s nuclear capability.

The North never did declare it would not make nuclear weapons.

In fact, Kim has never formally withdrawn the order he gave in his New Year’s speech in 2018, when he said the North’s “nuclear weapons research sector and the rocket industry should mass-produce nuclear warheads and ballistic missiles.”

What to make of these nuances? Some analysts see Kim hinting at an agreement that falls short of full disarmament, but that could still limit the North Korean threat — essentially keeping the North’s rudimentary nuclear capability from growing or advancing further. Or his comments may disguise a lack of intent

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to back down on nuclear weapons development.

The Pentagon said in a report last month that “while a possible new avenue to peace now exists with North Korea, it continues to pose an extraordinary threat.”

MYTH: South Korea is doubling its payment for the U.S. troops stationed on its soil to defend against attack from the North.

—“They were paying about \$500 million for \$5 billion worth of protection. And we have to do better than that. So they’ve agreed to pay \$500 million more.” — Trump at Cabinet meeting Feb. 12.

—“They agreed to pay, yesterday, \$500 million more toward their defense. Five-hundred million, with a couple of phone calls. I said, ‘Why didn’t you do this before?’ They said, ‘Nobody asked.’ — El Paso rally Feb. 11.

REALITY: Trump’s numbers bear almost no resemblance to those in a cost-sharing deal worked out this month by negotiators from the two countries.

South Korea agreed to pay about 8 percent more, not 100 percent more. Its contribution in the one-year deal increases to about \$924 million (1 trillion won) from about \$854 million (960 billion won).

PARTIAL MYTH: The remains of U.S. soldiers have been brought home from North Korean territory, thanks to the first summit.

—“We got back our great fallen heroes, the remains sent back today, already 200 have been sent back.” — Trump at Minnesota rally in June 2018, days after the summit.

—“In a short 15 months, relationships built, hostages & remains ... back home where they belong.” — Trump tweets Thursday Jan. 24.

REALITY: Trump has persistently misrepresented progress in retrieving the remains of U.S. soldiers from the war after securing Kim’s agreement to cooperate on the matter.

When he told the Minnesota rally that the remains of 200 were already back in the U.S., none were.

In August, the North sent to the U.S. 55 boxes that were said to contain American war remains from North Korea. The U.S. does not yet know for sure how many U.S. soldiers are in those boxes. The lead scientist in the identification work, John Byrd, told The Associated Press last week that it appears the boxes contain between 50 and 100 sets of remains, and that roughly 80 percent of them are likely to prove to be Americans. The rest probably are South Korean soldiers. Just three sets of remains have been positively identified, but Byrd said several more may be announced within a few weeks. Meanwhile, North Korea balked at negotiating with the Pentagon on terms for recovering any of the thousands of additional remains.

Nearly 7,700 American service members are listed as unaccounted for from the Korean War, of which an estimated 5,300 were lost in North Korea.

Between 1996 and 2005, despite hostile relations, joint U.S.-North Korea military search teams conducted 33 joint recovery operations and recovered 229 sets of American remains.

As for his reference to “hostages,” Trump is correct that Kim agreed to return several Americans detained in the North.

Calvin Woodward reported from Washington and Kim Tong-hyung from Seoul, South Korea. Associated Press writers Foster Klug in Seoul and Robert Burns in Washington contributed to this report.

Follow all of AP’s summit coverage at <https://apnews.com/Trump-KimSummit>

Venezuela standoff turns deadly as troops block aid delivery

By **CHRISTINE ARMARIO** and **LUIS ANDRES HENAO** Associated Press

CUCUTA, Colombia (AP) — A U.S.-backed drive to deliver foreign aid to Venezuela met strong resistance as troops loyal to President Nicolas Maduro blocked the convoys at the border and fired tear gas on protesters in clashes that left two people dead and some 300 injured.

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As night fell Saturday, opposition leader Juan Guaido refrained from asking supporters to continue risking their lives trying to break through the government's barricades at the Colombian and Brazilian borders. Instead, he said he would meet U.S. Vice President Mike Pence on Monday in Bogota at an emergency meeting of mostly conservative Latin American governments to discuss Venezuela's crisis.

But he did make one last appeal to troops to let the aid in and urged the international community to keep "all options open" in the fight to oust Maduro given Saturday's violence.

"How many of you national guardsmen have a sick mother? How many have kids in school without food," he said, standing alongside a warehouse in the Colombian city of Cucuta where 600 tons of mostly U.S.-supplied boxes of food and medicine have been stockpiled. "You don't owe any obedience to a sadist ... who celebrates the denial of humanitarian aid the country needs."

Earlier, Maduro, who considers the aid part of a coup plot and has refused to let it in, struck a defiant tone, breaking diplomatic relations with Colombia, accusing its "fascist" government of serving as a staging ground for a U.S.-led effort to oust him from power and possibly a military invasion.

"My patience has run out," Maduro said, speaking at a rally of red-shirted supporters in Caracas and giving Colombian diplomats 24 hours to leave the country.

Throughout a turbulent Saturday, as police and protesters squared off on two bridges connecting Venezuela to Colombia, Guaido made repeated calls for the military to join him in the fight against Maduro's "dictatorship." Colombian authorities said more than 60 soldiers answered his call and deserted their posts, though most were lower in rank and didn't appear to dent the higher command's continued loyalty to Maduro's socialist government.

At one point, a group of activists led by exiled lawmakers managed to escort three flatbed trucks of aid past the halfway point into Venezuela, but they were repelled by security forces. In a flash the cargo caught fire, with some eyewitnesses claiming the National Guardsmen doused a tarp covering the boxes with gas before setting it on fire. As a black cloud rose above, the activists — protecting their faces from the fumes with vinegar-soaked cloths — unloaded the boxes by hand in a human chain stretching back to the Colombian side of the bridge.

"They burned the aid and fired on their own people," said 39-year-old David Hernandez, who was hit in the forehead with a tear gas canister that left a bloody wound and growing welt. "That's the definition of dictatorship."

For weeks, U.S. President Donald Trump's administration and its regional allies have been amassing emergency food and medical supplies on three of Venezuela's borders with the aim of launching a "humanitarian avalanche." It comes exactly one month after Guaido, in a direct challenge to Maduro's rule, declared himself interim president at an outdoor rally.

The 35-year-old lawmaker has won the backing of more than 50 governments around the world, but he's so far been unable to cause a major rift inside the military — Maduro's most important remaining plank of support in a country ravaged by hyperinflation and widespread shortages.

Late Saturday, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo called on Venezuelan security forces to "do the right thing" by allowing humanitarian assistance into the country.

The clashes started well before Guaido straddled a semi-truck and waved to supporters in a ceremonial send-off of the aid convoy from Cucuta. In the Venezuelan border town of Urena, residents began removing yellow metal barricades and barbed wire blocking the Santander bridge. Some were masked youth who threw rocks and later commandeered a city bus and set it afire.

"We're tired. There's no work, nothing," Andreina Montanez, 31, said as she sat on a curb recovering from the sting of tear gas used to disperse the crowd.

The single mom said she lost her job as a seamstress in December and had to console her 10-year-old daughter's fears that she would be left orphaned when she decided to join the protest.

At the Simon Bolivar bridge, a group of aid volunteers in blue vests calmly walked up to a police line and shook officers' hands, appealing for them to join their fight.

But the goodwill was fleeting and a few hours later the volunteers were driven back with tear gas, trig-

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gering a stampede.

At least 60 members of security forces, most of them lower-ranked soldiers, deserted and took refuge inside Colombia, according to migration officials. One was a National Guard major. Colombian officials said 285 people were injured, most left with wounds caused by tear gas and metal pellets that Venezuelan security forces fired.

A video provided by Colombian authorities showed three soldiers at the Simon Bolivar bridge wading through a crowd with their assault rifles and pistols held above their heads in a sign of surrender. The young soldiers were then ordered to lie face down on the ground as migration officials urged angry on-lookers to keep a safe distance.

"I've spent days thinking about this," said one of the soldiers, whose identity was not immediately known. He called on his comrades to join him: "There is a lot of discontent inside the forces, but also lots of fear."

Guaido, who has offered amnesty to soldiers who join the opposition's fight, applauded their bravery, saying it was a sign that support for Maduro was crumbling. Later, he greeted five of the military members, who in turn offered a salute, calling the opposition leader Venezuela's "constitutional president" and their commander in chief.

"They aren't deserters," Guaido said. "They've decided to put themselves on the side of the people and the constitution. ... The arrival of liberty and democracy to Venezuela can't be detained."

Analysts say that there may be no clear victor and humanitarian groups have criticized the opposition as using the aid as a political weapon.

"Today marked a further blow to the Maduro regime, but perhaps not the final blow that Guaido, the U.S. and Colombia were hoping for," said Michael Shifter, president of the Inter-American Dialogue in Washington. "Threats and ultimatums from Washington directed to the generals may not be the best way to get them to flip. In fact, they are likely to have the opposite effect."

International leaders including U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres are appealing for the sides to avoid violence. But at least two people were killed and another 21 injured in the town of Santa Elena de Uairen, near the border with Brazil, according to local health officials.

Amid the sometimes-chaotic and hard-to-verify flow of information, opposition lawmakers and Guaido said the first shipment of humanitarian aid had crossed into Venezuela from Brazil — although reports from the ground revealed that two trucks carrying the aid had only inched up to the border itself.

Late Saturday, Guaido tweeted that the day's events had obliged him to "propose in a formal manner to the international community that we keep all options open to liberate this country which struggles and will keep on struggling."

Henao reported from Urena, Venezuela. AP Writers Joshua Goodman and Scott Smith contributed to this report from Caracas, Venezuela.

Hanoi summit nightmare scenario: Bad deals and little change

By FOSTER KLUG Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — The nightmare scenario heading into the second summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un isn't so much "fire and fury" and millions dead. Rather, some experts fear the meeting could result in an ill-considered deal that allows North Korea to get everything it wants while giving up very little, even as the mercurial leaders trumpet a blockbuster nuclear success.

There's little argument that just sitting down together again in the same room this week in Hanoi is a positive sign for two men who seemed to be flirting with a second Korean War in 2017, and there is, as the White House trumpeted ahead of the summit, "a tremendous opportunity" here to address a monumental problem that's flummoxed generations of policymakers.

But with the stakes so high, a growing chorus of experts highlight a particular risk: that Trump, burned by criticism that the results of his June meeting with Kim in Singapore were vague at best and an outright

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failure at worst, will ignore his more cautious aides and try to strike a deal that's cobbled together on the fly with little preparatory work.

Why is this potentially dangerous? Because when it comes to North Korean nuclear diplomacy, all deals are not created equal.

A look at some of the anxieties that are swirling ahead of the Hanoi summit:

WORRY NO. 1: A PIECEMEAL DEAL

South Korean papers have been filled with unidentified government sources suggesting that Trump and Kim might strike a deal that stops far short of the road map for the full denuclearization of the North that the United States has long insisted on.

Instead, Kim could agree to give up only part of his arsenal — his intercontinental missiles aimed at America, for instance, or his main nuclear reactor — in return for an easing of harsh sanctions. There's also fear that Trump will eventually orchestrate some sort of drawdown of U.S. troops from South Korea or an extended halt to U.S.-South Korean military drills.

For Trump, such a deal could generate a much-needed rush of "breakthrough" headlines to help distract from swirling investigations in Washington while helping assure his supporters that he's protecting the American mainland.

Kim, for his part, would be taking a huge step toward cementing the North as a nuclear weapons state and, as a bonus, driving a wedge in the U.S.-South Korea alliance that the North maintains is aimed at the overthrow of the Kim family — all without addressing the North's arsenal of short- and mid-range nuclear armed missiles aimed at Seoul, Tokyo and other parts of Asia.

Those in favor of this kind of piecemeal deal say it's simply a matter of accepting reality: North Korea won't give up nukes it sees as crucial to deterring what it calls U.S. hostility, so the wise move is to work to first limit or freeze the program's most worrisome aspects and then work toward total denuclearization.

Skeptics say this would give the North too much in return for too little. They want instead something that first forces Pyongyang to list the particulars of its nuclear program, then allows outsiders to verify the list and see the program demolished.

"Ad hoc deals or piecemeal negotiations absent an agreed-on road map would allow Pyongyang to dictate the terms, pace and duration of the diplomatic process without making a dent in North Korea's nuclear arsenal," Duyeon Kim, a Korea expert at the Center for a New American Security, recently wrote.

"There is a serious risk of Trump ad-libbing his way into a bad deal, as he did in Singapore in June 2018, by relinquishing vital bargaining chips that disadvantage U.S. interests and Asian allies' security," she added.

WORRY NO. 2: KIM AND TRUMP ARE TOO ALIGNED

There's a joke being shared by some North Korea experts: Did you hear that Kim Jong Un and Donald Trump both want the same thing from their Hanoi summit? The United States out of South Korea.

Funny or not, the dark humor gets at serious doubts churned up by Trump's repeated public expressions of a deep wariness about the U.S.-South Korea alliance that many in Seoul and Washington see as a lynchpin of Northeast Asian security.

The best example may be Trump's stunning announcement in Singapore of the suspension of annual military drills by Seoul and Washington that North Korea rails against as "invasion preparation."

Trump called the drills "very provocative," mirroring North Korean language.

Although his lieutenants say the removal of American troops isn't on the agenda in Hanoi, Trump has said that he wants to eventually bring home the 28,500 troops stationed in the South. Just this month Trump said: "South Korea — we defend them and lose a tremendous amount of money. Billions of dollars a year defending them."

WORRY NO. 3: NORTH KOREA HASN'T CHANGED

There's also alarm that Trump and South Korea's dovish president are misreading North Korea.

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"Kim is not going to unilaterally surrender his nuclear weapons," Vipin Narang, a North Korea nuclear expert at MIT, said in an interview. "It is now pretty clear that Trump doesn't care that Kim isn't going to unilaterally disarm, so long as he doesn't embarrass Trump by visibly flight testing missiles or openly testing nuclear weapons."

Despite the positive spin on North Korean intentions by the liberal government in Seoul, critics say, Pyongyang, as it has since the Korean War, still claims to be the sole legitimate Korean government, and is therefore working to split South Korea from its U.S. protector and enshrine its nuclear program, even if partially, as a way to eventually coerce Seoul into doing its bidding.

North Korea has famously called its nuclear arsenal a "treasured sword." And a senior North Korean official said last year that dialogue won't continue "if the U.S. is trying to drive us into a corner to force our unilateral nuclear abandonment."

Asked at a recent press briefing if the North was negotiating in good faith, a senior U.S. official who refused to give his name under White House rules said: "I don't know if North Korea has made the choice yet to denuclearize. But the reason why we're engaged in this is because we believe there's a possibility that North Korea can make the choice to fully denuclearize."

Trump tweeted Sunday that he and Kim "both expect a continuation of the progress made at first Summit in Singapore. Denuclearization?"

Still, there are big doubts about the North's intentions.

When the two leaders meet in Hanoi, Kim "will further ensnare Trump on his march toward full nuclearization, compelling Trump to make more concessions like a peace agreement and drawdown of military support for South Korea," said Sung-Yoon Lee, a Korea expert at Tufts University. "'Peace' sounds very pleasant, even hypnotically alluring, but a peace agreement between the U.S. and North Korea and allowing Kim Jong Un to buy more time only increases the chance of war."

Foster Klug is the AP's bureau chief in South Korea and has covered the Koreas since 2005. Follow him at www.twitter.com/apklug

R. Kelly met underage girl while on trial for child porn

By MICHAEL TARM Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — While on trial for child pornography in 2008, R. Kelly still found time to talk to fans, give autographs and to meet an underage girl he later invited to his home, according to prosecutors who depicted the R&B star as manipulative and sometimes violent.

Other accusers included a girl who met Kelly at her 16th birthday party and a hairdresser who expected to braid the singer's hair only to find that he wanted oral sex instead, court documents said.

The accounts emerged Saturday as Kelly made his first court appearance since being accused of sexually abusing four people in a case that could produce another #MeToo reckoning for a celebrity.

A judge gave Kelly a chance to go free while awaiting trial, setting bond at \$1 million. That means the 52-year-old Grammy winner must post \$100,000 to be released or remain behind bars until he is tried on the allegations that date back as far as 1998 and span more than a decade.

The prosecution released four detailed documents — one for each accuser — outlining the basis for the charges.

The 16-year-old girl who attended Kelly's trial got his autograph after a court session. He later invited her to his home in the Chicago suburb of Olympia Fields, where they had sex multiple times, according to the documents, which said he also slapped, choked and spit on her.

In 1998, another girl reported meeting Kelly at a restaurant where she was having a 16th birthday party. Kelly's manager gave her the singer's business card and suggested she call Kelly. The girl's mother heard the exchange, took the card and told the manager her daughter was 16.

But her daughter later retrieved the card from her purse. She contacted Kelly, who gave her instructions and money that she assumed was for the taxi fare to his studio, where they had sex periodically for a

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year, the documents said.

In early 2003, a Chicago hairdresser told prosecutors that she thought she was going to braid Kelly's hair, but he pulled down his pants and instead tried to force her to give him oral sex. The woman, who was 24, was able to pull away, but Kelly ejaculated on her and spit in her face, the documents said.

Prosecutors also described a witness who had access to videotapes showing Kelly having sex with a 14-year-old girl. The witness turned a tape over to authorities and identified the girl, who repeatedly stated her age on the footage, according to the documents.

Kelly's DNA was found in semen on one of the accuser's shirts, and semen found on a shirt worn by another was submitted for DNA testing, Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx said. It was not clear when the accusers turned the shirts over to authorities, whether it was shortly after the abuse or more recently.

At the bond hearing, Kelly's attorney, Steve Greenberg, said his client is not a flight risk. He told the judge, "Contrary to the song, Mr. Kelly doesn't like to fly." One of Kelly's best-known hits is "I Believe I Can Fly."

Greenberg said Kelly "really doesn't have any more money," suggesting that others had mismanaged his wealth. Still, he said he expected that Kelly would be able to come up with enough money for bail.

The judge called the allegations "disturbing." The singer-songwriter looked down at the floor as the judge spoke.

After the hearing, Greenberg told reporters that Kelly did not force anyone to have sex.

"He's a rock star. He doesn't have to have nonconsensual sex," Greenberg said.

The judge ordered Kelly to surrender his passport, ending his hopes of doing a tour of Europe in April. Kelly defiantly scheduled concerts in Germany and the Netherlands despite the cloud of legal issues looming over him. Greenberg denied that any tour was planned.

The recording artist, whose legal name is Robert Kelly, has been trailed for decades by allegations that he violated underage girls and women and held some as virtual slaves. He was charged with 10 counts of aggravated sexual abuse.

Kelly, who was acquitted of child pornography charges in 2008, has consistently denied any sexual misconduct. He broke into the R&B scene in 1993 with his first solo album, "12 Play," which produced such popular sex-themed songs as "Bump N' Grind" and "Your Body's Callin'."

He rose from poverty on Chicago's South Side and has retained a sizable following. Kelly has written numerous hits for himself and other artists, including Celine Dion, Michael Jackson and Lady Gaga. His collaborators have included Jay-Z and Usher.

The jury in 2008 acquitted Kelly of child pornography charges that centered on a graphic video that prosecutors said showed him having sex with a girl as young as 13. He and the young woman allegedly seen with him denied they were in the 27-minute video, even though the picture quality was good and witnesses testified it was them, and she did not take the stand. Kelly could have gotten 15 years in prison.

Charging Kelly now for actions that occurred in the same time frame as the allegations from the 2008 trial suggests the accusers are cooperating this time and willing to testify.

Because the alleged victim 10 years ago denied that she was on the video and did not testify, the state's attorney's office had little recourse except to charge the lesser offense under Illinois law, child pornography, which required a lower standard of evidence.

Each count of the new charges carries up to seven years in prison, and the sentences could be served consecutively, making it possible for him to receive up to 70 years. Probation is also an option.

The walls began closing in on Kelly after the release of a BBC documentary about him last year and the multipart Lifetime documentary "Surviving R. Kelly," which aired last month. Together they detailed allegations he was holding women against their will and running a "sex cult."

#MeToo activists and a social media movement using the hashtag #MuteRKelly called on streaming services to drop Kelly's music and promoters not to book any more concerts. Protesters demonstrated outside Kelly's Chicago studio.

Check out the AP's complete coverage of the investigations into R. Kelly.

Pope vows to end cover-ups, fight sex abuse with God's wrath

By NICOLE WINFIELD Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis closed out his extraordinary summit on preventing clergy sex abuse by vowing Sunday to confront abusers with “the wrath of God,” end the cover-ups by their superiors and prioritize the victims of this “brazen, aggressive and destructive evil.”

Francis delivered his remarks at the end of Mass before 190 Catholic bishops and religious superiors who were summoned to Rome after more abuse scandals sparked a credibility crisis in the Catholic hierarchy and in Francis' own leadership.

The Jesuit pope noted that the vast majority of sexual abuse happens in the family. And he offered a global review of the broader societal problem of sexual tourism and online pornography, in a bid to contextualize what he said was once a taboo subject.

But he said the sexual abuse of children becomes even more scandalous when it occurs in the Catholic Church, “for it is utterly incompatible with her moral authority and ethical credibility.”

“We need to recognize with humility and courage that we stand face-to-face with the mystery of evil, which strikes most violently against the most vulnerable, for they are an image of Jesus,” he said.

Francis summoned the bishops from around the world to the four-day meeting to impress upon them that clergy sex abuse and cover-ups aren't just a problem in some countries but a global problem that threatens the very mission of the Catholic Church.

“Brothers and sisters, today we find ourselves before a manifestation of brazen, aggressive and destructive evil,” the pope said.

He offered an eight-point pledge of priorities going forward, calling for a change in the church's defensive mentality and a vow to never again cover-up cases. Victims, he said, must take center stage while priests must undergo a continuing path of purity with the “holy fear of God” guiding the examination of their own failures.

“In people's justified anger, the church sees the reflection of the wrath of God, betrayed and insulted by these deceitful consecrated persons,” he said.

A stern memo about Manafort says he 'brazenly violated' law

By CHAD DAY and ERIC TUCKER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort committed crimes that cut to “the heart of the criminal justice system” and over the years deceived everyone from bookkeepers and banks to federal prosecutors and his own lawyers, according to a sentencing memo filed by special counsel Robert Mueller's office.

In the memo, submitted Saturday in one of two criminal cases Manafort faces, prosecutors do not yet take a position on how much prison time he should serve or whether to stack the punishment on top of a separate sentence he will soon receive in a Virginia prosecution. But they do depict Manafort as a longtime and unrepentant criminal who committed “bold” crimes, including under the spotlight of his role as campaign chairman and later while on bail, and who does not deserve any leniency.

“For over a decade, Manafort repeatedly and brazenly violated the law,” prosecutors wrote. “His crimes continued up through the time he was first indicted in October 2017 and remarkably went unabated even after indictment.”

Citing Manafort's lies to the FBI, several government agencies and his own lawyer, prosecutors said that “upon release from jail, Manafort presents a grave risk of recidivism.”

The 25-page memo, filed in federal court in Washington, is likely the last major filing by prosecutors as Manafort heads into his sentencing hearings next month and as Mueller's investigation approaches a conclusion. Manafort, who has been jailed for months and turns 70 in April, will have a chance to file his own sentencing recommendation next week. He and his longtime business partner, Rick Gates, were

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the first two people indicted in the special counsel's investigation. Overall, Mueller has produced charges against 34 individuals, including six former Trump aides, and three companies.

Manafort's case has played out in stark contrast to those of other defendants in the Russia investigation, such as former national security adviser Michael Flynn, who prosecutors praised for his cooperation and left open the possibility of no jail time.

Manafort pleaded guilty to two counts of conspiracy arising from his Ukrainian political consulting work and his efforts to tamper with witnesses. As part of that plea, he agreed to cooperate with Mueller's team, a move that could have helped him avoid a longer prison sentence. But within weeks, prosecutors say he repeatedly lied to investigators, including about his interactions with Konstantin Kilimnik, a business associate who the U.S. says has ties to Russian intelligence. That deception voided the plea deal.

The sentencing memo comes as Manafort, who led Donald Trump's 2016 campaign for several critical months, is already facing the possibility of spending the rest of his life in prison in a separate tax and bank fraud case in Virginia. Mueller's team endorsed a sentence of between 19.5 and 24.5 years in prison in that case.

Prosecutors note that the federal guidelines recommend a sentence of more than 17 years, but Manafort pleaded guilty last year to two felony counts that carry maximum sentences of five years each.

Prosecutors originally filed a sealed sentencing memo on Friday, but the document was made public on Saturday with certain information still redacted, or blacked out.

In recent weeks, court papers have revealed that Manafort shared polling data related to the Trump campaign with Kilimnik. A Mueller prosecutor also said earlier this month that an August 2016 meeting between Manafort and Kilimnik goes to the "heart" of the Russia probe. The meeting involved a discussion of a Ukrainian peace plan, but prosecutors haven't said exactly what has captured their attention and whether it factors into the Kremlin's attempts to help Trump in the 2016 election.

Like other Americans close to the president charged in the Mueller probe, Manafort hasn't been accused of involvement in Russian election interference.

Read the sentencing memo: <http://apne.ws/8MYWHdV>

Southern storms, flooding, tornado in east Mississippi city

COLUMBUS, Miss. (AP) — A tornado smashed into a commercial district in the small Mississippi city of Columbus on Saturday afternoon, shattering businesses as severe storms raked the South amid days of drenching rains and a rising flood threat.

The tornado struck about 5 p.m. in the east Mississippi city and was confirmed on radar, said meteorologist Anna Wolverton with the National Weather Service in Jackson. She said by phone with The Associated Press that a team would go to the city of about 23,000 people Sunday to gauge the tornado's intensity.

There were no immediate reports of any deaths or injuries.

Lee Lawrence, who said he has been selling used cars for decades in Columbus, told The AP that four buildings on his car lot had been destroyed. He said trees toppled across vehicles and car windows had been blown out. And he said he had no idea about how badly his collection of antique cars fared.

He said he was at home getting ready to take a bath when the storm struck.

"The wind all of a sudden just got so strong and it was raining so much you could hardly see out the door, and I could hear a roaring. Evidently it came close," he said, speaking with AP in a phone interview. He said someone called him soon after about the damage to his business and he rushed over.

"It will be a start-over deal," Lawrence said. "I can't say it will come back better or stronger, but we'll come back."

A photographer working for The AP in Columbus said some antique cars on Lawrence's lot were parked among the damage and a nearby pet grooming business appeared now to be mostly twisted piles of metal. A printing shop had been speared by a pipe with great force and what seemed to be a vacant commercial building nearby appeared heavily damaged.

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Firefighters and law enforcement officers had cordoned off the area, making it difficult to determine the extent of the damage after nightfall. Power also was blacked out in the area.

Elsewhere around the South, homes, highways, parks and bridges have been flooded or put out of commission amid the heavy rains and severe storms. News outlets report that water rescues have been performed in some Middle Tennessee counties. Flash flood warnings and watches remained in place throughout the South and one Mississippi community reported large hail.

Interstate 40 near the Tennessee line with North Carolina was closed by a rockslide, one of the dozens of roads and highways shut down throughout the South region, transportation officials said.

Tennessee Department of Transportation spokesman Mark Nagi said on Twitter that a "full scale detour" was in place, with traffic being diverted to Interstate 81 and Interstate 26.

In Bruce, Mississippi, rivers broke flood stage and flash floods poured into homes and businesses. News outlets report that a local state of emergency was declared by officials in Grenada, Mississippi, after dozens of streets and homes flooded. A six-mile (nine-kilometer) stretch of the Natchez Trace Parkway was closed in Mississippi after water covered part of the road.

The National Weather Service had issued a flash flood warning for northwestern Lafayette County in Mississippi after emergency officials reported that a local dam was at risk of failing.

Meteorologist Kole Fehling says emergency officials reported the threat involved the Audubon Dam, which blocks a creek on the northside of Oxford and a subdivision. Emergency management officials were not immediately available for comment Saturday.

High water also threatened property in Tennessee, which, like many other areas of the South, has been soaked by several inches of rain over the past week. Officials said a mudslide destroyed a Subway restaurant in Signal Mountain, Tennessee. No injuries were reported.

Weather officials said the storm system threatened areas from eastern Arkansas across the South to Alabama. Alabama's governor declared an emergency in several counties as a measure to speed any recovery.

Kentucky announced Friday that it was closing the U.S. 51 bridge over the Ohio River to Cairo, Illinois, because of flooding on the southern approach. The bridge, which carries 4,700 vehicles a day, is likely to stay closed until Thursday, and possibly longer.

Near Jamestown, Kentucky, the Army Corps of Engineers said it was increasing releases from the Wolf Creek Dam on the Cumberland River. Areas located downstream of the dam, from Rowena to Burkesville, could be affected by flooding as a result, officials said.

The Ohio River at Cairo is predicted to crest Sunday at its third-highest level ever recorded, and stay that high into next week. The Tennessee River near Savannah, Tennessee, also is forecast to crest at near-record levels.

Associated Press writers Adrian Sainz in Memphis, Tennessee and Jay Reeves in Birmingham, Alabama, contributed to this story, along with freelance photographer Jim Lytle working in Columbus, Mississippi.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Feb. 24, the 55th day of 2019. There are 310 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 24, 1942, the SS Struma, a charter ship attempting to carry nearly 800 Jewish refugees from Romania to British-mandated Palestine, was torpedoed by a Soviet submarine in the Black Sea; all but one of the refugees perished.

On this date:

In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII issued an edict outlining his calendar reforms. (The Gregorian Calendar is the calendar in general use today.)

In 1761, Boston lawyer James Otis Jr. went to court to argue against "writs of assistance" that allowed

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British customs officers to arbitrarily search people's premises, declaring: "A man's house is his castle." (Although Otis lost the case, his statement provided early inspiration for American independence.)

In 1868, the U.S. House of Representatives impeached President Andrew Johnson by a vote of 126-47 following his attempted dismissal of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton; Johnson was later acquitted by the Senate.

In 1920, the German Workers Party, which later became the Nazi Party, met in Munich to adopt its platform.

In 1955, the Cole Porter musical "Silk Stockings" opened at the Imperial Theater on Broadway.

In 1961, the Federal Communications Commission authorized the nation's first full-scale trial of pay television in Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1983, a congressional commission released a report condemning the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II as a "grave injustice."

In 1988, in a ruling that expanded legal protections for parody and satire, the Supreme Court unanimously overturned a \$150,000 award that the Rev. Jerry Falwell had won against Hustler magazine and its publisher, Larry Flynt.

In 1989, a state funeral was held in Japan for Emperor Hirohito, who had died the month before at age 87.

In 1994, entertainer Dinah Shore died in Beverly Hills, California, five days before turning 78.

In 1996, Cuba downed two small American planes operated by the group Brothers to the Rescue that it claimed were violating Cuban airspace; all four pilots were killed.

In 2008, Cuba's parliament named Raul Castro president, ending nearly 50 years of rule by his brother Fidel.

Ten years ago: In the first prime-time speech of his term, President Barack Obama appeared before Congress to sketch an agenda that began with jobs, then broadened quickly to include a stable credit system, better schools, health care reform, reliable domestic sources of energy and an end to the war in Iraq. Earlier in the day, President Obama held an 80-minute private talk with Japanese Prime Minister Taro Aso.

Five years ago: Despite Western pressure, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni signed an anti-gay bill that punished gay sex with up to life in prison. Writer-director-actor Harold Ramis, 69, died in Glencoe, Illinois. "Late Night with Seth Meyers" premiered on NBC.

One year ago: The U.N. Security Council unanimously demanded a 30-day cease-fire across Syria to deliver humanitarian aid and evacuate the wounded, as the death toll reached 500 from a Syrian bombing campaign in the rebel-held suburbs of Damascus. (The cease-fire failed to take hold.) The body of the Rev. Billy Graham arrived at the library bearing his name in Charlotte, North Carolina, where Graham would lie in repose for two days. At the Winter Olympics in South Korea, American men won the gold medal in curling in a decisive upset of Sweden; it was only the second curling medal in U.S. history.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-singer Dominic Chianese (kee-uh-NAY'-see) is 88. Opera singer-director Renata Scotto is 85. Singer Joanie Sommers is 78. Actress Jenny O'Hara is 77. Former Sen. Joseph Lieberman, I-Conn., is 77. Actor Barry Bostwick is 74. Actor Edward James Olmos is 72. Singer-writer-producer Rupert Holmes is 72. Rock singer-musician George Thorogood is 69. Actress Debra Jo Rupp is 68. Actress Helen Shaver is 68. News anchor Paula Zahn is 63. Baseball Hall of Famer Eddie Murray is 63. Country singer Sammy Kershaw is 61. Actor Mark Moses is 61. Actress Beth Broderick is 60. Actor Emilio Rivera is 58. Singer Michelle Shocked is 57. Movie director Todd Field is 55. Actor Billy Zane is 53. Actress Bonnie Somerville is 45. Jazz musician Jimmy Greene is 44. Boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr. is 42. Rhythm-and-blues singer Brandon Brown (Mista) is 36. Rock musician Matt McGinley (Gym Class Heroes) is 36. Actor Wilson Bethel is 35. Actor Alexander Koch is 31. Actor Daniel Kaluuya (Film: "Get Out") is 30. Rapper-actor O'Shea Jackson Jr. is 28.

Thought for Today: "The house of every one is to him as his castle and fortress, as well for his defence against injury and violence as for his repose." — Sir Edward Coke, English jurist (1552-1634).

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