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INSIDE, 3A

Argus Leader

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Deaths show Ebola may be spreading fast

Resistance to testing has compounded challenges

Gradel Muyisa, Clement Bonnerot, Emma Farge and Ammu Kannampilly
REUTERS

BUNIA, Congo – At least 30 people have died since the start of May in one camp for displaced civilians in northeastern Congo, a death rate that camp officials said was unprecedented, and, because of the symptoms, could indicate Ebola is spreading fast there.

It was not possible to confirm the causes of death because patients or their relatives in Kigonze camp in Bunia – the epicenter of the Ebola outbreak in Congo – had until June 18 refused testing the living or dead, a camp spokesperson and aid organization Caritas said.

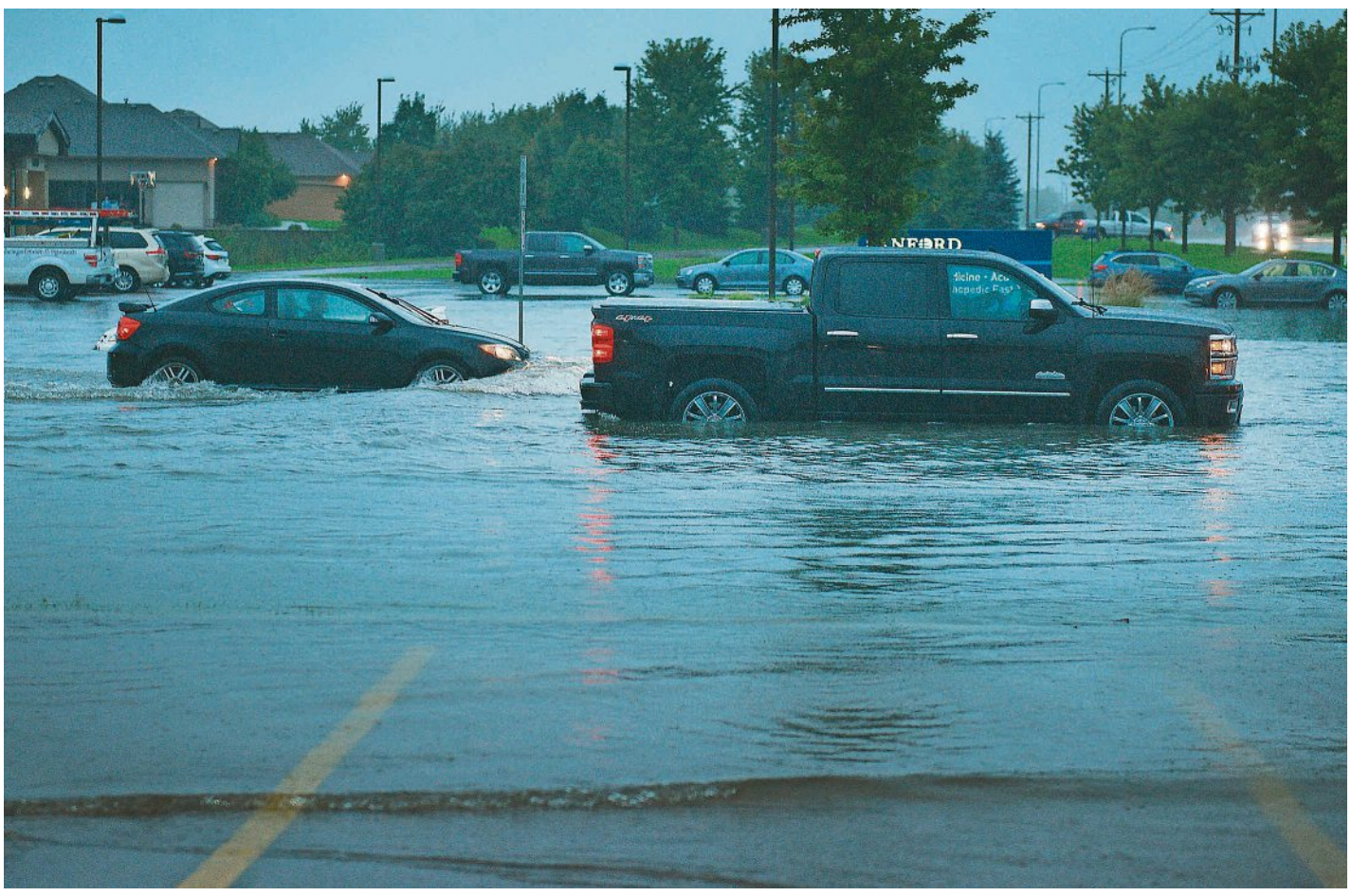
However, all had symptoms including headaches, fever and vomiting, which are associated with Ebola, a camp spokesperson, a bereaved father, three aid sources, and a civil society leader told Reuters.

"People didn't just die like this before," camp spokesperson Desire Grodya Bapi told Reuters.

The deaths in Kigonze, which has more than 15,000 residents, raise fears that Ebola may be circulating undetected among eastern Congo's over 5 million displaced people, with resistance to testing compounding the challenge

See EBOLA , Page 2A

SIOUX FALLS



Drivers in big and small vehicles attempt to make it across the intersection of 69th and Minnesota.
BRIANA SANCHEZ/ARGUS LEADER

City introduces natural solutions to manage stormwater, flooding

Gabriel Brito
Sioux Falls Argus Leader
USA TODAY NETWORK

Two new green infrastructure pilot installations are helping reduce urban flooding and keep waterways clean, Sioux Falls city officials said at a press conference Wednesday morning, June 17.

These natural stormwater management systems use rain gardens and bioretention cells to capture and filter stormwater before it flows into the city's drainage system. Existing stormwater drainage systems are focused on transporting runoff water to city's waterways- mainly the Big Sioux River, but these natural developments will also filter out pollutants like sediments, oils and excess nutrients.

See STORMWATER, Page 2A

Sioux Falls environmental analyst Troy Lambert speaks at a press conference held at the W 28th St. and Covell Ave. S green infrastructure installation. GABRIEL BRITO/ARGUS LEADER

Soccer fans find warm welcome in U.S.

Rosalba O'Brien
REUTERS

NEW YORK – Ahead of the World Cup, many international fans were skeptical of the idea of the United States as co-hosts for soccer's biggest tournament. There were worries over visa access, high costs, gun violence, a lack of local interest in the sport, and more.

While those worries have not been entirely dispelled, as the tournament has gotten underway social media has been flooded with posts from fans visiting the country for the first time and discovering something more positive – a distinctive culture of 24-hour retail, free soda refills, chicken wings dipped in ranch dressing, and a warm welcome from Americans.

"I met these two gorgeous girls from Boston. It was her birthday, she was having cocktails. I bought her another one and they kept saying 'welcome to Boston, Massachusetts!'" said "Tartan Army" Scottish fan Gail Nicholl, in a Boston pub ahead of her team's first game against Haiti. "They loved us, we loved them ... Everyone is so friendly, so nice."

"Something new for me is how friendly and outgoing everyone is," said a Swiss fan from Zurich on a Reddit forum replete with praise from visiting tourists.

Whether such positive press can restore a reputation battered by an often confrontational government that has proudly proclaimed "America First" and angered allies including Canada, Britain, Germany and more remains to be seen.

But it can make a real difference, say sports analytics experts.

"The front porch of your house is the first thing a visitor experiences before they ever step inside," said Darin

See SOCCER , Page 2A

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