

Groton Daily Independent

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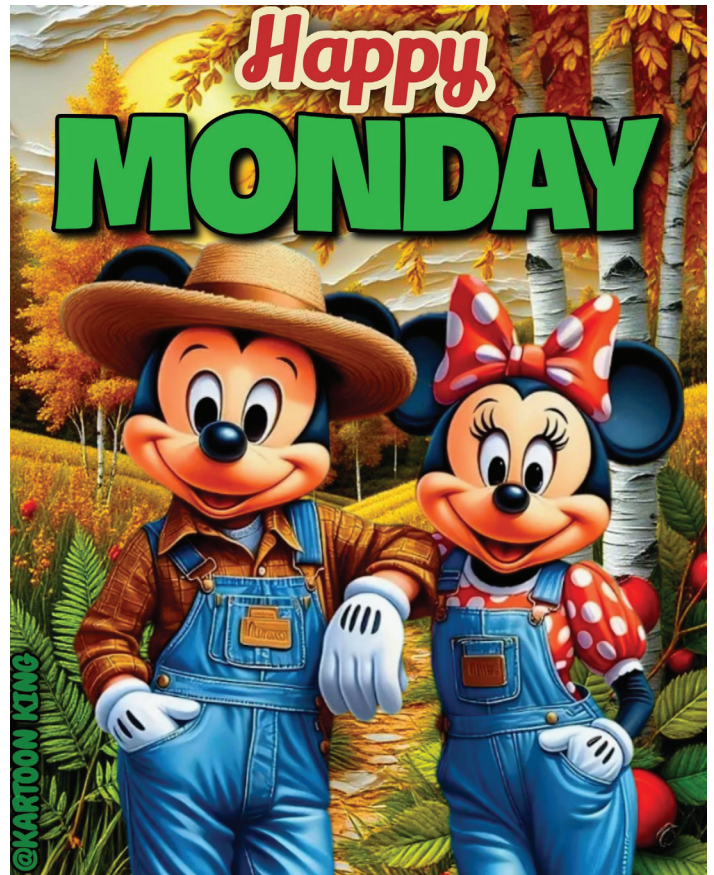
Monday, Sept. 8

School Breakfast: Eggs.
School Lunch: Chef salad at elementary, build your own salad at MS/HS.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.
Groton Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center, 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
School Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
Football at Webster (JH at 4 p.m., JV at 5 p.m.)
3rd-6th GBB Skills, 6 -8 p.m.

Tuesday Sept. 9

School Breakfast: Scones.
School Lunch: Pasta with meat sauce, corn.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Council, 6 p.m.
United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.; Caring Team Meeting, 1 p.m.
Boys Golf at Milbank, 10 a.m.
Cross Country at Britton, 4 p.m.
Boys Soccer at James Valley Christian, 4 p.m.
Volleyball at Webster ((7th-5, 8th-6; C-5, JV-6, V-7:15))

Anyone interested in sponsoring the C and/or JV VB matches with Webster or Roncalli this upcoming week? Text Paul at 605-397-7460



Wednesday, Sept 10

School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza.
School Lunch: Vegetable soup ham sandwich
Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 4 p.m.; League 6:30 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.
United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 5:30 p.m.
Groton C&MA: Kid's Club, Youth Group, Adult Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Sept 11

School Breakfast: Cereal
School Lunch: Chicken tacos.
Groton Lions Club Meeting, 6 p.m., 104 N Main St.
Boys Golf at Olive Grove Golf Course, 10 a.m.
Volleyball at Roncalli ((7th-5, 8th-6; C-5, JV-6, V-7:30))

Groton Daily Independent
PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445
Paul's Cell/Text: 605-397-7460

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1440

Why 1440? The printing press was invented around the year 1440, spreading knowledge to the masses and changing the course of history. More facts: In every day, there are 1,440 minutes. We're here to make each one count.

First Millennial Saint

The Catholic Church recognized its first Millennial saint yesterday, with Pope Leo XIV canonizing English-Italian Carlo Acutis in an open-air ceremony in St. Peter's Square. Pier Giorgio Frassati, a Catholic activist from the early 20th century, also received sainthood.

Known as "God's Influencer," Acutis passed away in 2006 at age 15 from an acute form of leukemia. Increasingly devout and skilled at computer programming from an early age, he developed a worldwide catalog of various miracles and visions recognized as authentic by the church. Millions have flocked to his tomb in the intervening years, and Pope Francis recognized a pair of miracles attributed to his intercession in 2020 and 2024 (a general requirement for sainthood).

The Roman Catholic Church recognizes more than 10,000 people as saints, though the exact number is unknown due to lost historical records.

World's Largest Animal Migration

Wall Street Journal reporters have witnessed the world's largest animal migration—a movement of over 6 million mammals, almost triple the size of the Serengeti wildebeest trek.

The Great Nile Migration occurs largely in South Sudan and has rarely been documented by humans. The migration includes four antelope species—white-eared kob, tiang, Mongalla gazelle, and Bohor reedbuck—often in herds of 100,000 animals or more. The antelopes travel in a U shape around Boma National Park into Ethiopia. Their movement patterns—while not entirely understood—are believed to be largely seasonal, with kob heading north for the dry season (November to March) and south for the wet season (April to October).

The second-largest land migration, the Serengeti wildebeest trek, generates significant revenue for Tanzania and Kenya, with tourism accounting for 17% of Tanzania's gross domestic product. South Sudan's war-torn history has, to date, prevented a similar ecotourism economy.

Internet, Interrupted

Multiple undersea cables were cut this weekend in the Red Sea near Saudi Arabia, slowing internet access for users in the Middle East, Asia, and Europe. The cause of the interruption was not publicly known as of this writing.

There are over 500 undersea fiber-optic cables worldwide serving as the internet's backbone, collectively over 900,000 miles long and responsible for transmitting 95% of global data. Yemen's Houthi rebels have threatened to cut the Red Sea cables, interrupting up to 17% of global internet traffic, in protest of the Israel-Gaza war. They have since backed down, however, last year denying involvement in an incident in which three cables were severed. The vast majority of fiber-optic cable disruptions are attributed to fishing and ship anchoring incidents.

Some users in Dubai and Kuwait reported slower traffic as service providers rerouted to backup cables following the incident.

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Sports, Entertainment, & Culture

Belarus' Aryna Sabalenka tops American Amanda Anisimova to win her second straight US Open. ... and Spain's Carlos Alcaraz beats Italy's Jannik Sinner to win his second US Open and sixth career Grand Slam title.

Lady Gaga wins artist of the year at MTV Video Music Awards; see full list of winners.

"Father Mother Sister Brother" wins the Golden Lion, the top prize at the 82nd Venice Film Festival; see complete list of festival winners.

Carmelo Anthony, Sue Bird, and Dwight Howard headline 2025 class of inductees into the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Davey Johnson, four-time MLB All-Star and manager of 1986 World Series-winning New York Mets, dies at age 82.

Science & Technology

Warner Bros. sues AI startup Midjourney for use of images of Batman, Superman, and other intellectual property; follows recent \$1.5B settlement by Anthropic over pirated books for chatbot training.

Researchers find blue-throated macaws can learn new behaviors by observing third-party interactions between others, a trait previously seen only in humans.

Paleontologists discover pair of baby pterosaur fossils that died roughly 150 million years ago in a violent storm.

Business & Markets

US stock markets close lower Friday (S&P 500 -0.3%, Dow -0.5%, Nasdaq -0.0%) after report showing hiring slowdown, downward revision to June data.

Eight OPEC+ countries agree to boost oil production next month by 137,000 barrels per day; next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 5.

Shares of Tylenol's parent company, Kenvue, fall over 9% Friday on report Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. will release a report potentially linking Tylenol use in pregnancy to autism.

Politics & World Affairs

Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba announces he will resign after less than a year in the role following conservative party's electoral losses in July.

South Korea finalizes a deal with the US to repatriate hundreds of workers detained for alleged immigration violations at a Hyundai plant in Georgia.

Russia unleashes largest-ever drone attack on Ukraine, including striking cabinet building in Kyiv for the first time (More)

Rapid City, SD, Native Graduates from the U.S. Naval Academy

by Dorene Nelson

Grace Blote, Rapid City, SD, successfully completed four years of challenging academic, physical, and professional military training, graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Data Science.

Blote, the daughter of Steve and LaRae Blote, and the granddaughter of Shirley and the late Dennis K. Larson, Groton, graduated from St. Thomas More High School, Rapid City in 2021.

Grace is now attending nuclear power school in Charleston, S.C. and will be serving in the U.S. Navy for a minimum of five years.

Founded in 1845, the U. S. Naval Academy is a prestigious four-year service academy that prepares midshipmen morally, mentally, and physically to be professional officers in the naval service. More than 4,400 men and women representing every state in the U.S. and several foreign countries make up the student body, known as the Brigade of Midshipmen.

Each year approximately 1200 students are admitted to the Naval Academy's incoming class. U.S. News and World Reports has recognized the Naval Academy as the #1 public school, #4 engineering program, and #6 liberal arts college.

Midshipmen learn from military and civilian instructors and participate in intercollegiate varsity sports and extracurricular activities. They also study subjects such as leadership, ethics, small arms, drill, seamanship and navigation, tactics, naval engineering and weapons, and military law.

Upon graduation, midshipmen earn a Bachelor of Science degree in a choice of twenty-six different subject majors and go on to serve at least five years of exciting and rewarding service as commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps.

The academy's alumni include one president, 29 members of Congress, five governors, 73 Medal of Honor recipients, two Nobel Prize winners, 55 astronauts, and 4000 admirals and generals.



Grace Blote receiving diploma from Vice President JD Vance.



Graduation photo with father Steve, graduate Grace, sister Emily, and mother LaRae.



Grace Blote at her U.S. Naval Academy Graduation

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"What Questions Do You Have?"

We have all heard it before. Before the end of the visit, the doctor will usually ask, "Do you have any questions?" That is usually the precise moment that my mind goes completely blank. Every question I can think of seems silly or embarrassing. I know the doctor is busy so I don't want to "bother" him/her by taking up too much of their time. I really do not want to look stupid or ignorant. So, I say nothing, smile and the doctor leaves the room shortly afterwards. As soon as that door closes, the flood gates open and all the questions I should have asked bubble to the surface. Now it feels too late to ask them. Sound familiar?

As we begin our next season of On Call with the Prairie Doc, I encourage all our viewers to come to us with those questions. This show is unique because we ask our audience to engage with the show. We do not want you to just be passive consumers of the knowledge. We want you to be co-creators of the show with us. While we will never replace your primary care physician, we want to answer the questions that you did ask during your last clinic visit. Since you can submit questions anonymously, ask that question you were too embarrassed to ask. Use this show to fact check that health information you saw on social media or heard someone talk about at the local café.

We work hard to find the local experts for each show who can share with us their expertise. At the end of each season, we review our shows and look at what questions were asked. We see how many questions were answered for each show and what topics resonated the most with our viewers. We try to determine what topics you want to hear more about. We also look for emerging topics so you have up to date health information that is based in science and built on trust.

The hardest part of planning this show is narrowing down all the topics we want to discuss with you to fit within our season. This is why we will have several "Ask Anything" shows each season. These shows ensure that you, our viewers, will always have a show where any question not only welcomed, but encouraged. The beautiful part of our show is that each show is fluid and we can pivot our focus based on the information you want most. The more you interact with this show, the better it will become. After twenty-four seasons we have yet to run out of questions to answer. This week and every week to follow, please ask anything. We will be here to answer.

Dr. Jill Kruse is a hospitalist at the Brookings Health System in Brookings, SD. She serves as one of the Prairie Doc Volunteer Hosts during its 24th Season providing Health Education Based on Science, Built on Trust. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok. Prairie Doc Programming includes On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show (most Thursdays at 7pm on SDPB, YouTube and streaming on Facebook), 2 podcasts, and a Radio program (on SDPB, Sundays at 6am and 1pm).



Dr. Jill Kruse

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Corn Moon

The rare Corn Moon shone brightly Sunday night during a total lunar eclipse, creating a dramatic Blood Moon with a reddish-orange glow. The eclipse, one of the decade's longest at 82 minutes of totality, marked a special celestial event as the nearly full moon also passed near Saturn, adding to the striking view in the night sky. The left photo was taken Saturday night and the right photo taken Sunday night by John Aldrich.

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EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: Are any police, fire or EMS departments using electric vehicles today?

-- Patrick James, Reno, NV

Electric vehicles, or EVs, are vehicles run partially or entirely on re-chargeable electric power. The fast-emerging EV market spans a diverse range, including battery electric vehicles, plug-in hybrids, hybrids, fuel cell electric vehicles, and much more. While Tesla dominates the public attention, a wide array of models, such as those from Ford and Hyundai, are being employed in the public sector.

EVs are steadily gaining traction across the U.S., not just with individual buyers, but also through public services sectors such as police, fire and emergency medical services. The adoption of electric vehicles began with smaller testing programs in the early 2010s in cities like Los Angeles and New York City. However, in recent times, the integration of EVs in the public sector has picked up incredible momentum as a result of increasing environmental concerns and improvements in technology. In 2024, the Police Department of South Pasadena City completely replaced its gasoline-powered vehicles with EVs. "This initiative not only ensures the safest vehicles for officers and staff, but also leads to substantial reductions in both fuel and maintenance costs," said South Pasadena Police Chief Brian Solinsky.

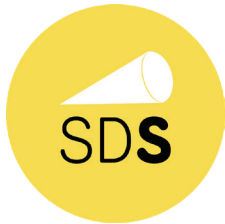
As more departments consider electrifying their fleets, the advantages of EVs in the emergency sector have become increasingly evident. Key benefits include reduced carbon emissions and lowered fuel and maintenance expenses. For police cruisers, impressive acceleration and speed, along with noise-free driving, become major benefits to achieve enhanced performance while avoiding any disruptions. In the case of ambulances, rapid response time and a quieter operating environment can be beneficial, especially during high-stress medical situations. Lastly, for fire trucks, EVs allow for emission-free firefighting in addition to a quick response time. The adoption of EVs seems to be a shift toward a more disaster-resilient, environmentally sustainable, and economically efficient future. "Our sustainable transportation researchers are driving progress on clean energy solutions for entire sectors," said Chris Gearhart, the Director at the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory's Center for Integrated Mobility Sciences, referring to a big push towards electrifying major industries.

However, this change comes with its setbacks, such as limited range due to frequent charging halts. This challenge further exacerbates during high-stakes situations such as criminal pursuits or medical emergencies. Next, since EVs are solely reliant on the power grid, they become highly vulnerable during power outages or face battery strains during extreme weather conditions. Lastly, the initial cost of establishing an effective and available charging infrastructure, along with transforming entire fleets, places a significant financial burden on emergency departments.

While the transition towards EVs in the emergency sector is a promising step toward a cleaner future, it is crucial to address the challenges that come with it. Securing loose ends regarding the infrastructure and grid dependency should be combated with a gradual hybrid transition, allowing emergency departments to adapt slowly while proactively mitigating all potential risks.



The all-electric Chevrolet Blazer EV PPV combines police-specific engineering with the power and capabilities of electric vehicles. Credit: General Motors.



SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

<https://southdakotasearchlight.com>

Trump-China trade dispute heightens harvest anxiety for South Dakota soybean farmers

BY: SETH TUPPER-SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 2:31 PM

RAPID CITY — Jerry Schmitz is rarely at a loss for words about soybeans.

But when asked if farmers have faith in a good outcome from the Trump administration's trade standoff with China, his gaze shifted and his brow creased momentarily as he thought about the best way to answer. "Hope might be the better word over faith," he said.

Schmitz, of rural Vermillion, is the executive director of the South Dakota Soybean Association and the South Dakota Soybean Checkoff. A checkoff is a fee that's collected from soybean sales and used for research and promotion of the crop.

During and after a roundtable discussion Saturday at the Central States Fairgrounds hosted by a nonprofit called Farmers for Free Trade, Schmitz expressed concerns about the effects of trade disputes on farmers.

About 60% of soybeans grown in South Dakota are exported, with China formerly buying about 30%, Schmitz said. China imports soybeans largely for livestock feed to meet the growing demand for meat among its 1.4 billion people.

Now the country is boycotting purchases of U.S. soybeans in retaliation for tariffs on Chinese goods imposed recently by Republican President Donald Trump.

"There is not a bushel sold to China right now, and we're about to harvest," Schmitz said.

Trump has said he's wielding tariffs — taxes on imported goods — as a negotiating tool to correct trade imbalances with other countries.

The Chinese boycott has reduced demand for U.S. soybeans, which has influenced prices. Soybeans sold for about \$10.50 per bushel one year ago in South Dakota, but are now \$1 to \$1.50 lower, and there are fears of further declines without a China trade deal.

Another participant in Saturday's roundtable, South Dakota Republican Congressman Dusty Johnson, put the impact of lower prices in perspective. Noting that South Dakota farmers raise nearly 250 million bushels of soybeans annually, he said a price drop of \$2 per bushel translates to a loss of \$500 million.

Johnson said he's spoken with the Trump administration's U.S. trade representative about the importance of resolving the China trade dispute quickly.

"We need a deal sooner rather than later," Johnson said, "because there is not an unlimited ability in farm country to be able to weather the storm."

Johnson and Schmitz said farmers are planning to store some of the soybeans they'll harvest this fall, in hopes of selling later at a higher price. Schmitz said grain elevators and soybean processors lacking buyers might have to store excess beans on the ground outside their facilities.

Both also stressed the long-term importance of finding additional buyers for U.S. soybeans. That could include developing better trade relationships with countries that have large populations and growing economies, such as India.

It could also include capitalizing on new domestic markets, such as the possibility of converting soybean oil into sustainable aviation fuel. A \$500 million processing plant that will open this fall in Mitchell, for example, will process soybeans and other oilseed crops for uses in renewable fuel, food, livestock feed, lubricants and more.

Those efforts could reduce dependence on Chinese demand but aren't likely to wholly replace it.

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"Although we want to diversify away from China, you simply can't ignore China," Johnson said.

The congressman said many of the farmers he meets are "still backing the president's play" to use tariffs in negotiations that could benefit agriculture in the future, but he said high tariffs "cannot be business as usual on a go-forward basis."

"The president's trying to use them as a tool to get better deals," Johnson said. "I understand that approach, but we do not want to just end with high tariffs."

The roundtable organizer, Farmers for Free Trade, is on a 14-state tour in an RV wrapped with pro-trade messaging. The group advocates for open markets and reduced trade barriers, said its executive director, Brian Kuehl, of Wyoming.

He referenced a statistic indicating exports account for 20% of the value of U.S. agricultural production.

"So if you were to lose all your exports, you're going to lose farms, and you're going to lose farmers. You're going to lose rural America and rural communities," Kuehl said.

Seth is editor-in-chief of South Dakota Searchlight. He was previously a supervising senior producer for South Dakota Public Broadcasting and a newspaper journalist in Rapid City and Mitchell.

COMMENTARY

Trump endorsement of South Dakota senator comes at a high cost for public media and rural America

Republican Mike Rounds' vote was critical in cancellation of Corporation for Public Broadcasting funds
by RICK SNEDEKER

On July 21, President Donald Trump wholeheartedly endorsed South Dakota's junior Republican senator, Mike Rounds, in the lawmaker's quest for a third term in 2026.

But at what cost for Rounds?

Despite calling the senator a "jerk" some years ago and vowing never to support him (because he called the 2020 election "fair"), the president in July praised Rounds, in a 180-degree turnaround, as an "incredibly strong advocate for the wonderful people of South Dakota" and said he was giving Rounds a "complete and total endorsement for re-election—HE WILL NEVER LET YOU DOWN!"

What a difference several years can make.

For Rounds' reelection campaign, the direct support of the authoritarian-minded leader of his party and the nation, and of the free world, was extremely valuable — even critical.

"With Trump's endorsement, Rounds will be a clear favorite to win reelection next year in the solidly conservative-leaning state," according to The Hill, a leading political news source in the U.S. capital.

However, as with many interactions with Trump, it was more transactional than genuinely moral or fairly reciprocal. A deal, in other words. But a very bad deal for rural Americans, it turns out.

For the president's end of the deal, he wanted Rounds to vote "yes" in the Senate on a bill to cut \$9 billion in previously congressionally approved funding that included \$1.1 billion for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The bill, which ultimately passed with Rounds' support, removed all federal financial support for NPR, PBS and their member stations — and roughly \$8 billion in foreign aid.

Trump signed an executive order in May demanding the cuts to the corporation, whose PBS and NPR outlets he has for years controversially complained have been spreading political and cultural views he disagrees with. Congress approved the cuts in July, and the corporation — "a cornerstone of American culture for three generations," PBS fairly noted — was thus forced to shutter.

Initially, Rounds had expressed reservations concerning Trump's desire to cancel the funding, but decided to support the executive action after announcing that he'd negotiated a deal with the administration to transfer \$9.4 million of federal funding to some two dozen Native American radio stations in several states that depend on the subsidies for their survival. Indigenous South Dakotans are a key Rounds political

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constituency, comprising 78,000 people, about 9% of the state's approximately 900,000 residents, many of them members of nine federally recognized tribes.

On his website, Rounds explained: "In order for me to support this legislation, we had to find a way to continue support for these radio stations which offer potentially life-saving information in some of the most rural parts of our nation. These stations play a vital role in South Dakota, delivering critical emergency alerts and public safety information, and they needed to be protected.

"... With nearly \$37 trillion in federal debt, we must preserve essential services but also take meaningful steps to reduce wasteful spending. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will continue working to both rescind unnecessary spending and preserve funding for tribal radio in future appropriations bills."

All well and good. But what about all the other Native (and non-Native) citizens throughout rural America? What about their public TV/radio stations — hundreds of them — that are presumably as critical for their communities and as deserving of federal support as those serving Indigenous South Dakotans?

Republican Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, who voted against the cuts, stressed that "more targeted" means exist to address any alleged bias at PBS and NPR other than cutting all funding, in effect throwing the baby out with the bathwater. It could also be fairly argued that PBS and NPR have long been renowned for fair, balanced reporting and programming, though they arguably lean liberal.

In a perfect world, Rounds would have ultimately voted "no" to the cuts, thus tanking Trump's biased, mean-spirited executive order that will disadvantage millions of rural Americans. As it was, Vice President J.D. Vance had to deliver the tie-breaking vote to begin debate on the bill when Sens. Collins, Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and Mitch McConnell of Kentucky each voted "no."

If Rounds had joined those colleagues on their moral high ground, now-doomed PBS and NPR stations might have survived to serve the underserved another day.

But he regrettably chose self-interest over self-respect — reelection over uprightness.

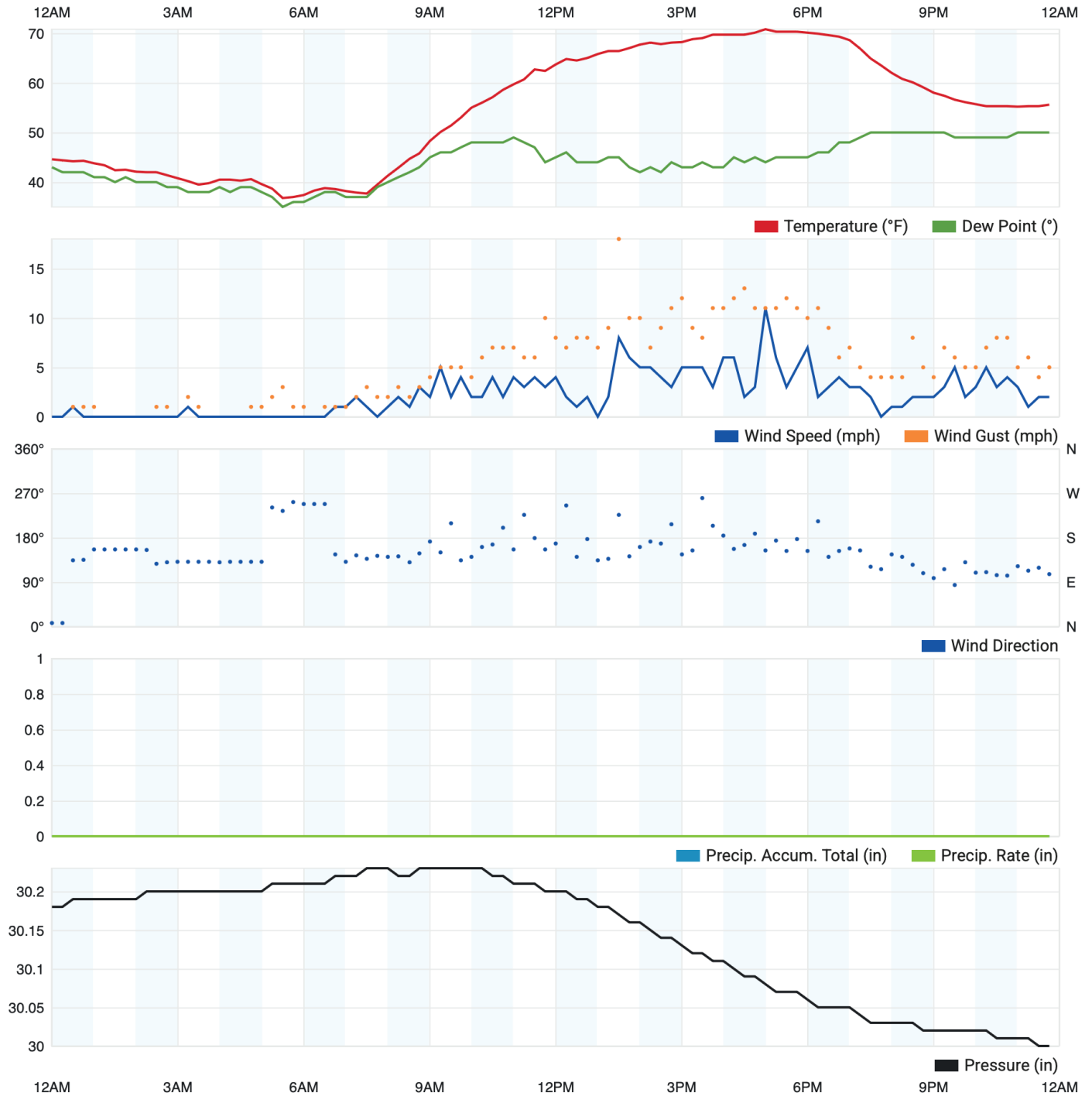
Rick Snedeker, a retired journalist living in Mitchell, is the author of a 2020 memoir about growing up in a Saudi oil camp in the 1950s, "3,001 Arabian Days," and a 2022 historical overview of Christianity's coercive evolution in America, "Holy Smoke."

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

September 7, 2025



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Today



High: 84 °F

Partly Sunny

Tonight



Low: 58 °F

Mostly Cloudy
then Patchy
Fog

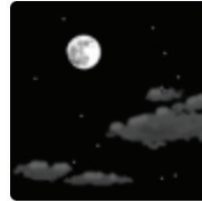
Tuesday



High: 80 °F

Patchy Fog
then Sunny

Tuesday Night



Low: 55 °F

Mostly Clear

Wednesday



High: 81 °F

Sunny

THREAT ASSESSMENT

HIGHEST LOCAL RISK

1

WHAT THIS MEANS:
Isolated Severe Storms
Possible

TIMING

7-11 PM

PRIMARY THREAT



LARGE HAIL
(QUARTER SIZE)

SECONDARY THREATS



DAMAGING
WIND GUSTS OF
60+ MPH

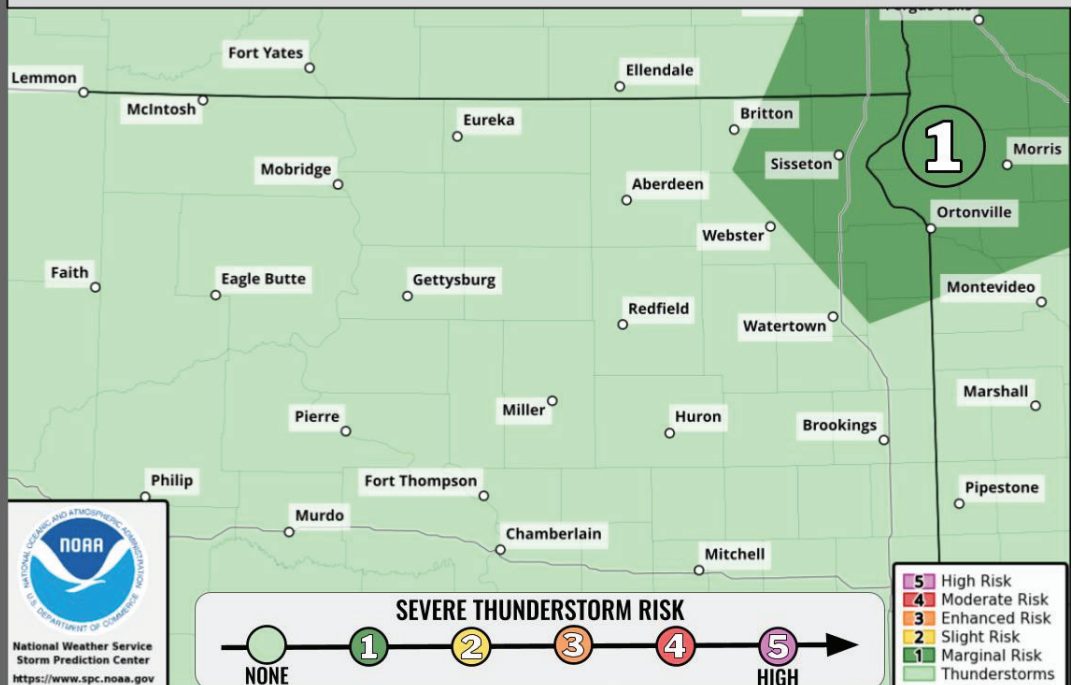


HEAVY
RAIN



National Weather Service
Storm Prediction Center
<https://www.spc.noaa.gov>

Isolated Severe Storms Possible This Evening



Isolated severe storms are possible today mainly in far northeastern SD and west central MN. Therefore, a marginal risk (level 1 out of 5) is in place. The main threat will be hail 1 inch in diameter. Damaging wind gusts of 60 mph and locally heavy rain are also possible

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Smoky Skies Return

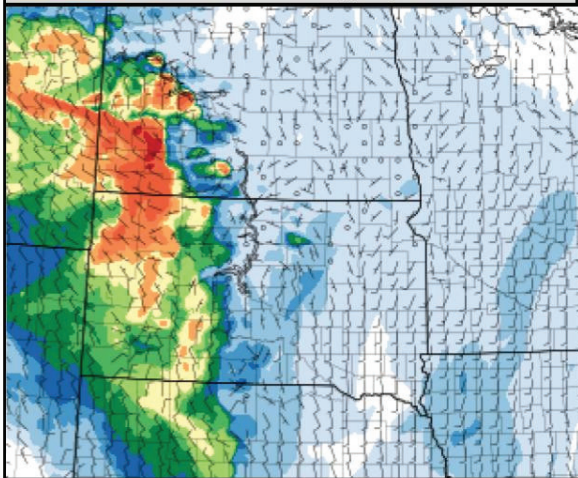
September 8, 2025

3:21 AM

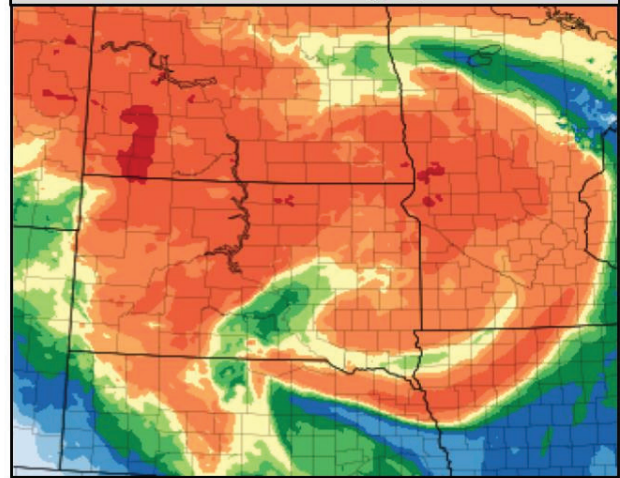
Smoke both near the surface (left graphic) and aloft (right graphic)

- Visibility during the afternoon hours may be reduced as near surface smoke reaches the central portions of South Dakota.
- Elevated smoke will overspread most of central and northeast South Dakota into western Minnesota through the daytime hours today and persist across the region into Tuesday.

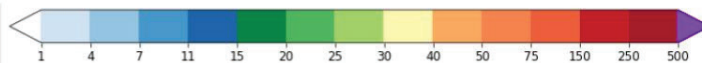
Surface Smoke 7PM Monday, September 8th



Elevated Smoke 7PM Monday, September 8th



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

Wildfire smoke is forecast to return to the area today. Surface smoke will gradually filter into central SD this afternoon, then spread eastward later tonight. Smoke aloft will persist through Tuesday.

Air Quality and Health

Exposure to air pollutants such as particulate matter and ground-level ozone can cause:



Headaches



Difficulty breathing



Irritated eyes,
sinuses



Chest pains,
asthma attacks



Fatigue



Irritated throat,
increased coughing

Poor air quality can be hazardous to anyone, and it can aggravate health problems such as asthma, heart disease, and lung disease.

Seniors, children and those with compromised immune systems are especially at risk.

Air Quality Index values from smoke... <https://fire.airnow.gov/>

weather.gov



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Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 71 °F at 4:59 PM

Low Temp: 37 °F at 5:33 AM

Wind: 18 mph at 1:31 PM

Precip: : 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 101 in 1933

Record Low: 32 in 1992

Average High: 78

Average Low: 50

Average Precip in Sept.: 0.54

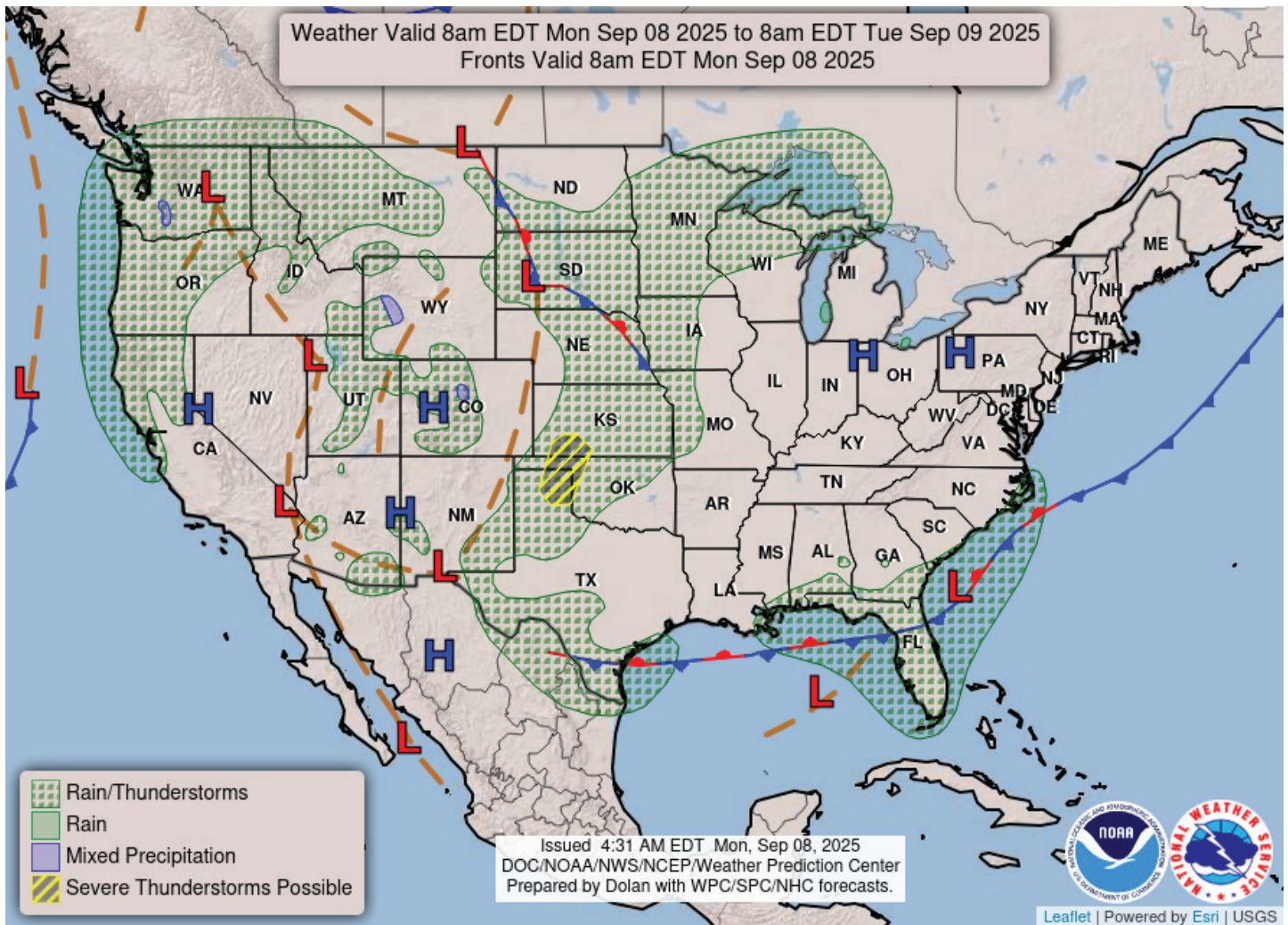
Precip to date in Sept.: 0.02

Average Precip to date: 16.88

Precip Year to Date: 20.32

Sunset Tonight: 7:57 pm

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:04 am



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Today in Weather History

September 8, 1959: High winds and areas of blowing dust occurred across parts of central South Dakota from Walworth to Mellette. During the evening, wind gusts of 40 to 50 mph affected the counties either side of the Missouri River. Low visibility in blowing dust was blamed for a four-car crash near Pierre, injuring five persons, another accident near Mobridge injured one person. Barn buildings were blown over or unroofed near Delmont in Douglas County. Lightning started grass fires and burned several thousand acres of rangeland in Mellette and Lyman counties. In the late afternoon, high winds associated with a cold front gusted to 70 mph and destroyed six buildings on a farm north and east of Reliance. At 500 pm, winds ripped a camper off a pickup truck 12 miles south of Pierre. Winds were measured at 68 mph at Pierre. At 6 pm CDT winds gusting to 70 mph damaged many trees in the Watertown area, power lines, and some buildings. A trailer and truck, twelve miles north of Watertown, were blown over while traveling on Interstate 29. A large oil tank was also destroyed.

1900 - The greatest weather disaster in U.S. records occurred when a hurricane struck Galveston TX. A tide fifteen feet high washed over the island demolishing or carrying away buildings, and drowning more than 6000 persons. The hurricane destroyed more than 3600 houses, and total damage was more than thirty million dollars. Winds to 120 mph, and a twenty foot storm surge accompanied the hurricane. Following the storm, the surf was three hundred feet inland from the former water line. The hurricane claimed another 1200 lives outside of the Galveston area. (8th-9th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1925: In September 1925, South Carolina was in the middle of one of the most widespread and disastrous droughts in the state's history. The NWS Co-op station in Calhoun Falls reported 11 days above 100°F with a maximum temperature of 111°F on this day.

1987 - A tropical depression off the coast of South Carolina brought another round of heavy rain to the Middle Atlantic Coast Region and the Upper Ohio Valley. Showers and thunderstorms produced extremely heavy rain in eastern Pennsylvania, where flooding caused more than 55 million dollars across a seven county area. The afternoon high of 97 degrees at Miami FL was a record for the month of September. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Eighteen cities in the south central and eastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Roanoke VA with a reading of 42 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms developing along a stationary front produced very heavy rain in the central U.S. Thunderstorms during the late morning and afternoon produced five to nine inches of rain around Lincoln NE, with an unofficial total of eleven inches near Holmes Park. Up to six and a half inches of rain soaked northern and western Iowa. Eighty to ninety percent of the homes in Shenandoah IA, where 5.89 inches of rain was received, reported basement flooding. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1998: A severe thunderstorm developed over the southern end of the Las Vegas Valley in Nevada. The storm moved north bringing damaging winds and heavy rain mainly across the eastern half of the metro area. Henderson Executive Airport recorded wind gusts of 80 mph. Air traffic control personnel temporarily evacuated the airport tower. Approximately 15 homes and trailers in Moapa were severely damaged by thunderstorm winds estimated at 80 to 90 mph.

2012: Severe storms impacted the New York City area, forcing a delay of the United States Open. A tornado hit a beach club in Queens, and another brought damage to Canarsie, Brooklyn, New York.

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IN THE NAME OF THE LORD - PEACE

Bee researchers have discovered that there are more than 20,000 species of bees. Each species of bee has its own colony or community, and bees can be found in most parts of the world. Each species has three types of bees: the queen bee, the worker bee and the drone. Bees can see all colors but red and have a strong sense of smell that helps them find flowers to gather pollen that produces honey. The honey that bees produce has been prized for years because it is a source of sweetness and energy. Recently, however, honey has been identified as a resource that may be helpful to contribute to certain types of healing.

While information about bees may be interesting to some, most of us care only about their honey or the fear that we might be stung by one. At least that was the attitude of the Psalmist. When surrounded by his enemies he said, "They swarmed around me like bees, but they were consumed as quickly as burning thorns." Obviously, he was terribly threatened by those who would destroy him, but his faith and trust in God put him at ease. "In the name of the Lord I cut them - my enemies - down."

Each day we face many "enemies." They come at us from every direction. Whether our "enemies" are doubts or fears, a life-threatening disease or the loss of a loved one, financial woes or being abandoned - you name it - enemies come in all sizes and shapes and from every direction.

No one is immune from the "sting" of an enemy. But, thank God, when we Christians are besieged by the hurts that come from the "stings" of life, the Lord will heal them.

Prayer: How grateful we are Lord, to know that when we are "swarmed" by the "bees" of life, You will rescue us! We are safe, protected by Your power. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: – They swarmed around me like bees, but they were consumed as quickly as burning thorns; in the name of the LORD I cut them down. Psalm 118:12

We all need the encouragement, comfort, and peace that comes through God's grace. Our daily devotionals, known as Seeds of Hope, have been a means through which thousands of people have experienced this grace. Each devotional comes from God's Word and we pray this good "seed" finds good soil in your heart. Our aim is that the Seeds of Hope will be a great source of daily encouragement to you and that God will use them to draw you near to Him

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Winning numbers

MEGA MILLIONS

WINNING NUMBERS: 09.05.25

6 14 36 58 62 24

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$358,000,000

NEXT DRAW: 1 Days 17 Hrs 6 Mins
58 Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

LOTTO AMERICA

WINNING NUMBERS: 09.06.25

3 9 35 39 48 1

All Star Bonus: 2x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$2,650,000

NEXT DRAW: 16 Hrs 21 Mins 58
Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

LUCKY FOR LIFE

WINNING NUMBERS: 09.07.25

13 29 34 37 40 9

TOP PRIZE:

\$7,000/week

NEXT DRAW: 16 Hrs 36 Mins 58
Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

DAKOTA CASH

WINNING NUMBERS: 09.06.25

6 23 26 31 32

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$20,000

NEXT DRAW: 2 Days 16 Hrs 36
Mins 58 Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

POWERBALL

DOUBLE PLAY

WINNING NUMBERS: 09.06.25

21 29 34 41 65 17

TOP PRIZE:

\$10,000,000

NEXT DRAW: 17 Hrs 5 Mins 59
Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

POWERBALL

WINNING NUMBERS: 09.06.25

11 23 44 61 62 17

Power Play: 2x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$20,000,000

NEXT DRAW: 17 Hrs 5 Mins 58
Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

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Upcoming Groton Events

08/09/2025 Groton Legion 30th Anniversary Celebration
08/07/2025 Groton Firemen Summer Splash in the GHS Parking Lot 7:30-8:30pm
08/11/2025 Vitalant Blood Drive at the Community Center 3:30-6pm
08/23/2025 Glacial Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course
09/05/2025 Homecoming Parade 1pm
09/06/2025 Lion's Club Fall Citywide Rummage Sale 8am-3pm
09/06-07/25 Groton Airport Fly-In/Drive-In, Groton Municipal Airport
09/07/2025 Couples Sunflower Golf Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 10am
09/07/2025 9th Annual Doggie Day at the Swimming Pool 3-5pm
10/10/2025 Lake Region Marching Band Festival 10am
10/11/2025 Pumpkin Fest at the City Park 10am-3pm
10/31/2025 Downtown Trick or Treat 4-6pm
10/31/2025 United Methodist Church Trunk or Treat 5:30-7pm
11/15/2025 Legion Post #39 Turkey Party 6:30pm
11/27/2025 Community Thanksgiving 11:30am-1:30pm Community Center (Thanksgiving)
11/30/2025 Snow Queen Contest, 4 p.m.
12/06/2025 Olive Grove Holiday Party and Silent Live Auction Fundraiser

News from the **AP** Associated Press

Shooting attack at Jerusalem bus stop kills 5

By MELANIE LIDMAN Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Attackers opened fire at a bus stop at a busy intersection in north Jerusalem on Monday, killing five people and injuring another 12 people, according to Israeli police and emergency rescue services.

Police said the attackers shot people waiting at a bus stop, while Israeli media reported the attackers also boarded a crowded bus and opened fire inside.

A security officer and a civilian who were at the scene shot and killed the attackers, police said.

The shooting took place at a major intersection at the northern entrance to Jerusalem, on a road that leads to Jewish settlements located in east Jerusalem.

Footage of the attack showed dozens of people fleeing from a bus stop at the busy intersection during the morning rush hour. Paramedics who responded to the scene said the area was chaotic and covered in broken glass, with people wounded and lying unconscious on the road and a sidewalk near the bus stop.

Hundreds of security forces arrived at the scene to search for additional attackers or explosives that could have been planted around the area. The Israeli military said it is encircling Palestinian villages on the outskirts of the nearby West Bank city of Ramallah as it steps up defense in response to the attack.

Hamas hailed the attack without claiming responsibility, calling it a “natural response to the occupation’s crimes against our people.”

The war in Gaza has sparked a surge of violence in both the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Israel. Palestinian militants have attacked and killed Israelis in Israel and the West Bank, while there has also been a rise in settler violence against Palestinians.

While there have been scattered attacks over the past months in Israel, the last deadly mass shooting attack was in October 2024, when two Palestinians from the West Bank opened fire on a major boulevard and light rail station in the Tel Aviv area, killing seven people and leaving many others wounded. Hamas’ military wing claimed responsibility for the attack.

According to police, the two men opened fire in the Jaffa neighborhood of Tel Aviv, including shooting directly into a light rail carriage crowded with passengers that was stopped at a station.

Data from the U.N.’s humanitarian office says at least 49 Israelis were killed by Palestinians in Israel or the West Bank between the start of the war and July 2025.

In that time, Israeli forces and civilians killed at least 968 Palestinians in Israel and the West Bank. ____

Associated Press writers Julia Frankel in Jerusalem and Samy Magdy in Cairo contributed to this report.

France faces more political upheaval as prime minister’s fate hangs in the balance

By JOHN LEICESTER Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — France risks losing its third prime minister in 12 months on Monday, with incumbent François Bayrou facing a parliamentary confidence vote that he called but is widely expected to lose, heralding more instability for the European Union’s second-largest economy.

The 74-year-old centrist prime minister, appointed by President Emmanuel Macron just under nine months ago, is gambling that the vote will unite lawmakers in the sharply divided National Assembly behind proposed public spending cuts that Bayrou argues are needed to rein in France’s spiraling state deficit and debts.

But opposition lawmakers are vowing to instead use the opportunity to topple Bayrou and his minority government of centrist and right-wing ministers, an upheaval that would force Macron to begin what could be another arduous hunt for a replacement.

A key vote

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The National Assembly of 577 lawmakers is interrupting its summer recess for the extraordinary session that Bayrou requested, starting at 3 p.m. (1300 GMT; 0900 EDT) Monday.

After Bayrou delivers a speech that is expected to argue that belt-tightening is in the national interest, lawmakers will have their say before they vote either for or against his government — likely in the late afternoon or early evening. Lawmakers can also abstain.

Bayrou needs a majority of “for” votes to survive. If a majority votes against, France’s constitution decrees that Bayrou would have to submit his government’s resignation to Macron, plunging France into renewed crisis.

Musical chairs

The 47-year-old president is paying a steep price for his stunning decision to dissolve the National Assembly in June 2024, triggering legislative elections that the French leader hoped would strengthen the hand of his pro-European centrist alliance in parliament’s lower house. But the gamble backfired, producing a splintered legislature with no dominant political bloc in power for the first time in France’s modern republic.

The political uncertainty has largely hobbled Macron’s domestic ambitions in his second and last presidential term that ends in 2027. Shorn of a workable majority in parliament for his centrist alliance, Macron has since rotated through three prime ministers, attempting to build consensus and stave off government collapse.

Macron’s protégé Gabriel Attal departed in September 2024, after the Paris Olympics and just eight months in the job. Attal was briefly followed by former Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier, a conservative who became the shortest-serving prime minister in France’s modern republic when he was toppled by a no-confidence vote in December.

Macron then tapped his centrist ally Bayrou, a wily political veteran who, despite his experience, is now up against the same wall of unfavorable parliamentary mathematics in the National Assembly — where no single political grouping has sufficient seats to govern alone but can still pull the rug from under the government if they team up, targeting Bayrou together despite their sharp political differences.

Bayrou’s frustration

Far-right and left-wing lawmakers who say they’ll vote against Bayrou’s government hold over 320 seats while centrists and allied conservatives have 210, making it seemingly impossible for the prime minister to survive.

Bayrou expressed frustration Sunday that bitter rivals on the opposite ends of the political spectrum in the National Assembly are ganging up against him.

“What’s the point of bringing down the government? These are political groups that not only don’t agree on anything but, far worse than that, are waging open civil war against each other,” he said in an interview with online media outlet Brut.

Pressing problems for France

If Bayrou loses, Macron will again be forced to find a successor who’ll operate in the same precarious environment and face the same pressing budget problems that have dogged Bayrou and his predecessors. Macron himself has vowed to stay in office until the end of his term but risks becoming a lame duck domestically if political paralysis continues.

Under the French political system, the prime minister is appointed by the president, accountable to the parliament and is in charge of implementing domestic policy, notably economic measures. The president holds substantial powers over foreign policy and European affairs and is the commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

Arguing that sharp cuts are needed to repair public finances, Bayrou has proposed to cut 44 billion euros (\$51 billion) in spending in 2026, after France’s deficit hit 5.8% of gross domestic product last year, way above the official EU target of 3%.

France is also faced with a massive debt crisis. At the end of the first quarter of 2025, France’s public debt stood at 3.346 trillion euros, or 114% of GDP. Debt servicing remains a major budget item, accounting for around 7% of state spending.

Bayrou’s plan, which includes removing two public holidays, has been slammed by his political rivals,

who now have a golden opportunity to bring him down.

A New Zealand father who evaded authorities with his 3 children for years is shot dead by the police

By CHARLOTTE GRAHAM-McLAY Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — A man who evaded authorities with his three children in the remote New Zealand countryside for nearly four years was shot and killed by a police officer Monday, law enforcement said.

One child was with Tom Phillips at the time of the confrontation and the other two children were found in the forest hours after the shoot-out, in which an officer was critically injured.

The December 2021 disappearance of Phillips and his children — now about 9, 10 and 11 years old — confounded investigators for years as they scoured the densely forested area where they believed the family was hiding. The father and children were not believed to ever have traveled far from the isolated North Island rural settlement of Marokopa where they lived, but credible sightings of them were rare.

Phillips has not been formally identified, but authorities believed he was the man killed.

Police officer was shot and critically injured

A police officer was shot in the head and critically injured during a confrontation with Phillips after he robbed an agricultural supplies store early Monday morning, New Zealand's Acting Deputy Police Commissioner Jill Rogers told reporters in the city of Hamilton. The child with Phillips at the time of the robbery was taken into custody.

The officer was undergoing surgery at a hospital. His injuries were survivable, Rogers said, but he was shot "multiple times with a high-powered rifle" and further surgeries were expected.

Fugitive's other two children found hours after shoot-out

The whereabouts of Phillips' other two children was unknown immediately after the shooting and authorities held serious concerns for them, Rogers said earlier.

About 13 hours after their father was killed, however, Rogers told reporters that the children had been found unaccompanied at a remote campsite in rugged forest. The child taken into custody Monday had cooperated with the authorities, allowing them to narrow the search area, she said.

The farm supplies store targeted Monday was in a small town in the same sprawling farming region of Waikato, south of Auckland, as the settlement of about 40 people from where the family vanished. The case has fascinated New Zealanders and the authorities made regular unsuccessful appeals for information.

Sightings of Phillips were limited to surveillance footage that showed him allegedly committing crimes in the area. He was wanted for an armed bank robbery while on the run in May 2023, accompanied by one of his children, in which he reportedly shot at a member of the public.

Authorities believed Phillips had help

Phillips did not have legal custody rights for his children, Detective Senior Sgt. Andrew Saunders told reporters in 2024. Authorities said they had not had access to formal education or health care since their disappearance.

Law enforcement always believed that Phillips had help concealing his family and some residents of the isolated rural area expressed support for him. A reward of 80,000 New Zealand dollars (\$47,000), large by New Zealand standards was offered for information about the family's whereabouts last June, but it was never paid.

Family had gone missing before

December 2021 was not the first time Phillips prompted national news headlines after disappearing with his children. The family went missing that September, launching a three-week land and sea search after Phillips' truck was found abandoned on a wild beach near where he lived.

Authorities eventually ended the search, concluding the family might have died, before Phillips and the children emerged from dense forest where he said they had been camping. He was charged with wasting police resources and was due to appear in court in January 2022, but weeks before the scheduled date

he and the children vanished again.

The police did not immediately launch a search because Phillips, who is experienced in the outdoors, had told family he was taking the children on another trip. He never returned.

The search intensified again after several sightings of Phillips in 2023 in the same region where he had vanished. He was last seen on surveillance video in August this year as he robbed a grocery store in the night, accompanied by one of his children.

Children's mother issues a statement

The children's mother issued a statement to Radio New Zealand on Monday in which she said she was "deeply relieved" that the "ordeal" for her children had ended.

"They have been dearly missed every day for nearly four years, and we are looking forward to welcoming them home with love and care," said the woman, who has been identified in New Zealand news outlets only by her first name, Cat.

This story has been updated to correct the rank of police officer Saunders.

Argentina President Milei suffers crushing defeat in Buenos Aires provincial election

By ISABEL DEBRE Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Argentine President Javier Milei suffered a sweeping setback on Sunday in a Buenos Aires provincial election widely viewed as a political test for his libertarian party and a barometer for how it will perform in crucial congressional midterms next month.

Milei's recently formed La Libertad Avanza party captured just 34% of the vote in Argentina's biggest province, losing by a landslide to the left-leaning Peronist opposition, which secured 47% with the majority of ballots counted late Sunday.

Milei conceded that his right-wing party's crushing 13-point loss to his populist rivals represented "a clear defeat."

"We suffered a setback, and we must accept it responsibly," Milei told grim-faced supporters at the party headquarters, his tone reflective, even chastened.

"If we've made political mistakes, we're going to internalize them, we're going to process them, we're going to modify our actions," he said.

Still, he vowed to stick with his sweeping economic overhaul, saying: "There will be no retreat in government policy."

Milei faces a worse-than-expected defeat

With Milei struggling to stabilize a sputtering economy and his close associates embroiled by a graft scandal ahead of congressional midterm elections in late October, the results were being closely scrutinized for their potential to rattle investors and roil jittery global markets.

Analysts expected La Libertad Avanza to lose by a few points to the Peronists, but his allies feared that a worse-than-expected outcome in Buenos Aires province — which makes up nearly 40% of the country's population — would galvanize his rivals at a delicate time.

Peronist leader and former President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner appeared to feel on that she was getting some payback after a corruption conviction and criticism of her economic management, which led to a crisis that Milei inherited.

"Did you see that, Milei?" the two-term former president (2007-2015) wrote on social media platform X. "Get out of your bubble, brother. ... Things are getting heavy."

Stakes are raised for congressional midterms

Milei needs to expand his party's tiny minority in the opposition-dominated Congress in midterms next month to fulfill his radical libertarian reforms and make good on his promise to turn the nine-time defaulter into a country capable of servicing its debts.

The Peronists are now the largest bloc in Argentina's fragmented congress, and have used their numbers

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to pass social spending measures that are testing Milei's efforts to balance Argentina's budget.

"This result is a key data point to understand the social mood — where the opposition stands, the state of Peronism and the level of support for the government in Argentina's most important electoral district," said Juan Cruz Díaz, the head of Cefeidas Group, a consultancy in Buenos Aires.

"While not the main national election in October, it is nonetheless a wake-up call for the government, and how it reacts will be crucial to understanding the evolving political map."

An economy in troubled waters

Although Milei can boast of bringing down Argentina's triple-digit inflation over the last few months and ending the reckless spending of his Peronist predecessors, Argentines have yet to see the economic revival that was supposed to follow his harsh austerity measures.

His government has unwound Argentina's labyrinthine currency restrictions as part of a \$20 billion International Monetary Fund bailout, but has not yet won the trust of international financiers who could bring the investment needed to add jobs and turbocharge economic growth in the country.

"Milei has a very strong ideology, and his vision is that the state has to have a minimal impact and investments have to come from the private sector. But that hasn't materialized yet," said Ana Iparraguirre, an Argentine political analyst and partner at Washington-based strategy firm GBAO.

Consumer confidence is falling, unemployment is rising, and interest rates are soaring to record highs as the government repeatedly intervenes in the currency market to prop up the peso and hold down inflation in hopes of placating cash-strapped voters.

A battered Peronist party basks in its victory

Fernández waved wildly from the balcony of her home in Buenos Aires, where the former president is serving a six-year sentence under house arrest, to massive crowds of supporters celebrating in the streets below.

Despite being barred from politics for life, she remains the most influential leader of Peronism, an ideologically flexible populist movement focused on labor rights that emerged in the 1940s from Buenos Aires province and dominated politics for decades.

Fernández gloated over Milei's agonies on social media, arguing that the bribery scandal engulfing the president's powerful sister would prove "lethal" for his electoral prospects.

"And I won't even start on how the rest (those who still have jobs) are doing. Burdened with debt for food, rent, utilities or medications, and on top of that, with maxed-out credit cards," she added.

The electoral results also cast a spotlight on Fernández's former protege, Axel Kicillof, the left-wing governor of Buenos Aires province and one of Milei's fiercest critics, revealing him as best positioned to take up the mantle of future Peronist leadership.

Kicillof gave an ebullient speech late Sunday in which he rebuked Milei and reminded voters what they've lost by swapping Peronist populism for Milei's brutal spending cuts.

"The ballot boxes told Milei that public works cannot be halted. They explained to him that retirees cannot be beaten, that people with disabilities cannot be abandoned," he told cheering supporters.

"The ballot boxes shouted that education, healthcare, science and culture cannot be defunded."

South Korea will bring home 300 workers detained in massive Hyundai plant raid in Georgia

By HYUNG-JIN KIM Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — More than 300 South Korean workers detained following a massive immigration raid at a Hyundai plant in Georgia will be released and brought home, the South Korean government announced Sunday.

Kang Hoon-sik, chief of staff for President Lee Jae Myung, said South Korea and the U.S. had finalized negotiations on the workers' release. He said South Korea plans to send a charter plane to bring the workers home as soon as remaining administrative steps are completed.

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South Korea's Foreign Ministry said that Seoul and Washington are discussing details on allowing all the detained workers to return on a voluntary basis. It said Foreign Minister Cho Hyun is to leave for the U.S. on Monday afternoon for talks related to the workers' releases.

U.S. immigration authorities said Friday they detained 475 people, most of them South Korean nationals, when hundreds of federal agents raided Hyundai's sprawling manufacturing site in Georgia where the Korean automaker makes electric vehicles. Agents focused on a plant that is still under construction at which Hyundai has partnered with LG Energy Solution to produce batteries that power EVs.

Cho said that more than 300 South Koreans were among the detained.

The operation was the latest in a long line of workplace raids conducted as part of the Trump administration's mass deportation agenda. But the one Thursday is especially distinct because of its large size and because the targeted site has been touted as Georgia's largest economic development project.

The raid stunned many in South Korea because the country is a key U.S. ally. It agreed in July to purchase \$100 billion in U.S. energy and make a \$350 billion investment in the U.S. in return for the U.S. lowering tariff rates. About two weeks ago, U.S. President Donald Trump and Lee held their first meeting in Washington.

Trump said perhaps the U.S. could work out an arrangement with South Korean workers who would train U.S. citizens to do work such as battery and computer manufacturing.

"If you don't have people in this country right now that know about batteries, maybe we should help them along and let some people come in and train our people," Trump said Sunday night at Andrews Air Force Base. He added that "the way you train people is bring people in that know what they're doing, let them stay for a little while and help."

Lee said the rights of South Korean nationals and economic activities of South Korean companies must not be unfairly infringed upon during U.S. law enforcement procedures. South Korea's Foreign Ministry separately issued a statement to express "concern and regret" over the case and sent diplomats to the site.

Video released by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement on Saturday showed a caravan of vehicles driving up to the site and then federal agents directing workers to line up outside. Some detainees were ordered to put their hands up against a bus as they were frisked and then shackled around their hands, ankles and waist.

Most of the people detained were taken to an immigration detention center in Folkston, Georgia, near the Florida state line. None has been charged with any crimes yet, Steven Schrank, the lead Georgia agent of Homeland Security Investigations, said during a news conference Friday, adding that the investigation was ongoing.

He said that some of the detained workers had illegally crossed the U.S. border, while others had entered the country legally but had expired visas or had entered on a visa waiver that prohibited them from working.

Kang, the South Korean presidential chief of staff, said that South Korea will push to review and improve visa systems for those traveling to the U.S. on business trips for investment projects.

Associated Press writers Kim Tong-hyung in Seoul and Seung Min Kim in Washington contributed to this report.

Jury selection begins in the trial of the man accused of attempting to assassinate Trump in Florida

By DAVID FISCHER Associated Press

FORT PIERCE, Fla. (AP) — Jury selection is set to begin Monday in the trial of a man charged with trying to assassinate Donald Trump while he played golf last year in South Florida.

The court has blocked off four weeks for the trial of Ryan Routh, but attorneys are expecting they'll need less time.

Jury selection is expected to take three days, with attorneys questioning three sets of 60 prospective jurors. They're trying to find 12 jurors and four alternates. Opening statements are scheduled to begin Thursday, and prosecutors will begin their case immediately after that.

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U.S. District Judge Aileen Cannon signed off in July on Routh's request to represent himself but said court-appointed attorneys need to remain as standby counsel. Cannon confirmed during a hearing last week that Routh would be dressed in professional business attire for the trial. She also explained to Routh that he would be allowed to use a podium while speaking to the jury or questioning witnesses, but he would not have free rein of the courtroom.

The trial will begin nearly a year after prosecutors say a U.S. Secret Service agent thwarted Routh's attempt to shoot the Republican presidential nominee. Routh, 59, has pleaded not guilty to charges of attempting to assassinate a major presidential candidate, assaulting a federal officer and several firearm violations.

Just nine weeks earlier, Trump had survived another attempt on his life while campaigning in Pennsylvania. That gunman had fired eight shots, with one bullet grazing Trump's ear, before being shot by a Secret Service counter sniper.

Prosecutors have said Routh methodically plotted to kill Trump for weeks before aiming a rifle through the shrubbery as Trump played golf on Sept. 15, 2024, at his West Palm Beach country club. A Secret Service agent spotted Routh before Trump came into view. Officials said Routh aimed his rifle at the agent, who opened fire, causing Routh to drop his weapon and flee without firing a shot.

Law enforcement obtained help from a witness who prosecutors said informed officers that he saw a person fleeing. The witness was then flown in a police helicopter to a nearby interstate where Routh was arrested, and the witnesses confirmed it was the person he had seen, prosecutors have said.

The judge last week unsealed the prosecutor's 33-page list of exhibits that could be introduced as evidence at the trial. It says prosecutors have photos of Routh holding the same model of semi-automatic rifle found at Trump's club.

Routh was a North Carolina construction worker who in recent years had moved to Hawaii. A self-styled mercenary leader, Routh spoke out to anyone who would listen about his dangerous, sometimes violent plans to insert himself into conflicts around the world, witnesses have told The Associated Press.

In the early days of the war in Ukraine, Routh tried to recruit soldiers from Afghanistan, Moldova and Taiwan to fight the Russians. In his native Greensboro, North Carolina, he was arrested in 2002 for eluding a traffic stop and barricading himself from officers with a fully automatic machine gun and a "weapon of mass destruction," which turned out to be an explosive with a 10-inch fuse.

In 2010, police searched a warehouse Routh owned and found more than 100 stolen items, from power tools and building supplies to kayaks and spa tubs. In both felony cases, judges gave Routh either probation or a suspended sentence.

In addition to the federal charges, Routh also has pleaded not guilty to state charges of terrorism and attempted murder.

Ariana Grande and Lady Gaga shine at the MTV VMAs with wins and performances

By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr. AP Entertainment Writer

Ariana Grande and Lady Gaga set the tone at the MTV Video Music Awards on Sunday night with career-defining moments of their own.

Grande scored two honors — video of the year and best pop video — and had the audience buzzing when she thanked her "therapists and gay people" during her acceptance speech.

Gaga, the night's top nominee, kicked things off by winning artist of the year before later delivering on her promise to perform. She hit the stage at Madison Square Garden after her acceptance speech, which sent the audience into a frenzy at the UBS Arena where the VMAs were being held.

In her earlier remarks, Gaga stressed the deeper meaning of artistry.

"Being an artist is an attempt to connect the souls of people all over the world," said Gaga, who performed "Abracadabra" and "The Dead Dance," a single from the Netflix series "Wednesday." "Being an artist is a discipline and craft into reaching someone's heart where it grows its roots, reminding them to

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dream. Being an artist is a responsibility to smile, dance, cry."

She dedicated the award to her fans and paid homage to her fiancé, Michael Polansky, who co-executive produced her latest album, "Mayhem."

"Creating with you has been a beautiful thing," she said.

Tributes to Mariah Carey and Ozzy Osbourne

Mariah Carey basked in the love of her fans and reflected on her storied career as she accepted the Video Vanguard Award. Grande presented the honor with a heartfelt tribute, calling Carey "the soundtrack of our lives."

Grande then added "As a vocalist, there's only one queen. And that's Mariah."

While taking the stage in a satin gold robe that gave way to a glittering bodysuit and matching heels, Carey delivered a career-spanning medley of hits from "Fantasy" to "We Belong Together" to "Obsessed." The performance also spotlighted tracks from her landmark 10th album, "The Emancipation of Mimi," which recently turned 20.

"I can't believe I'm getting my first VMA tonight," Carey said before she jokingly asked. "I have one question: What in the Sam Hill were you waiting for? I'm just kidding. Thank you. I love you."

The late Ozzy Osbourne was celebrated in fitting fashion when some of rock's biggest names took the stage in his honor. Aerosmith's Steven Tyler and Joe Perry, British firebrand YUNGBLUD and Nuno Bettencourt united to deliver a medley of Osbourne's greatest hits including "Crazy Train," "Changes" and "Mama, I'm Coming Home."

Osbourne's son, Jack and several of his children, shared a video message to viewers about the beloved musician.

"I know for sure it would make him incredibly happy to see these great musicians carry on his legacy and help inspire the next generation of rockers," Jack Osbourne said.

"In the words of our papa, 'Let's go crazy,'" Ozzy Osbourne's grandkids added, referring to his popular song "Crazy Train."

Osbourne became a household name on MTV — also the home of the VMAs — with his family's hit reality series "The Osbournes," which ran from 2002 to 2005. That same year, the Prince of Darkness cemented his legacy with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

As the tribute ended, the performers yelled "Ozzy forever, man!"

Busta Rhymes and Ricky Martin shout out MTV history

Busta Rhymes was honored with the first ever MTV VMA Rock the Bells Visionary Award during the show and performed several of his hits including "Gimme Some More," "Scenario," "Put Your Hands Where My Eyes Could See" and "Pass the Courvoisier, Part II." He was also joined by Joyner Lucas, Papoose and GloRilla as they helped perform the songs with him.

During his speech, Rhymes paid tribute to the late Ananda Lewis, the former MTV and BET host who became a beloved television personality in the 1990s with her warmth and authenticity.

"An incredible woman that loved me and she loved us," he said of Lewis, who died in June after being diagnosed with breast cancer. "She loved the culture very much. I miss her very much. The late, great, incredible Royal Empress, Ananda Lewis."

Ricky Martin received the first-ever Latin Icon Award following an electric performance on the main stage. He spoke about his 40-year career in music, dedicating the award to his four kids.

Martin's set served as an anniversary tribute coming 25 years after his breakout VMAs debut in 1999, when he made history as the first male Latin artist to win best pop video.

"I started when I was a baby working and we're still here," he marveled, adding: "We just want to unite countries, we just want to break boundaries, and we just want to keep music alive."

Doja Cat kicks off energetic VMAs

The VMAs, hosted by LL Cool J, kicked off with a freewheeling spirit. During Cool J's opening monologue, a video of Doja Cat mimicking '80s MTV personality Max Headroom interrupted him. Her message transitioned seamlessly into a performance that kicked off with a solo by Kenny G.

Doja Cat, who was seen casually chewing on her lipstick on the red carpet, pranced across the stage

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performing "Jealous Type" to raucous applause.

Going into the show, history was on the line with Taylor Swift and Beyoncé vying to become the most awarded artist in VMAs history. Each have 30 and were only nominated in the artist of the year category, so Gaga's win will leave them tied for another year.

Other performers included Conan Gray, Tate McRae, Jelly Roll, Post Malone, Alex Warren, J Balvin, Sabrina Carpenter and sombr.

The 2025 MTV VMAs was broadcast by CBS for the first time.

Undersea cables cut in the Red Sea, disrupting internet access in Asia and the Mideast

By JON GAMBRELL Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Undersea cable cuts in the Red Sea disrupted internet access in parts of Asia and the Middle East, experts said Sunday, though it wasn't immediately clear what caused the incident.

There has been concern about the cables being targeted in a Red Sea campaign by Yemen's Houthi rebels, which the rebels describe as an effort to pressure Israel to end its war on Hamas in the Gaza Strip. But the Houthis have denied attacking the lines in the past.

Undersea cables are one of the backbones of the internet, along with satellite connections and land-based cables. Typically, internet service providers have multiple access points and reroute traffic if one fails, though it can slow down access for users.

Multiple cables cut off Saudi Arabia

Microsoft announced via a status website that the Mideast "may experience increased latency due to undersea fiber cuts in the Red Sea." The Redmond, Washington-based firm did not immediately elaborate, though it said that internet traffic not moving through the Middle East "is not impacted."

NetBlocks, which monitors internet access, said "a series of subsea cable outages in the Red Sea has degraded internet connectivity in multiple countries," which it said included India and Pakistan. It blamed "failures affecting the SMW4 and IMEWE cable systems near Jeddah, Saudi Arabia."

The South East Asia–Middle East–Western Europe 4 cable is run by Tata Communications, part of the Indian conglomerate. The India-Middle East-Western Europe cable is run by another consortium overseen by Alcatel Submarine Networks. Neither firm responded to requests for comment.

Pakistan Telecommunications Co. Ltd., a telecommunication giant in that country, noted that the cuts had taken place in a statement on Saturday.

Saudi Arabia did not acknowledge the disruption and authorities there did not respond to a request for comment.

In Kuwait, authorities also said the FALCON GCX cable running through the Red Sea had been cut, causing disruptions in the small, oil-rich nation. GCX did not respond to a request for comment.

In the United Arab Emirates, home to Dubai and Abu Dhabi, internet users on the country's state-owned Du and Etisalat networks complained of slower internet speeds. The government did not acknowledge the disruption.

Undersea lines can be cut in accidents and attacks

Subsea cables can be cut by anchors dropped from ships, but can also be targeted in attacks. It can take weeks for repairs to be made as a ship and crew must locate themselves over the damaged cable.

The cuts to the lines come as Yemen's Houthi rebels remain locked in a series of attacks targeting Israel over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. Israel has responded with airstrikes, including one that killed top leaders within the rebel movement.

In early 2024, Yemen's internationally recognized government in exile alleged that the Houthis planned to attack undersea cables in the Red Sea. Several were cut, possibly by a ship attacked by the Houthis dragging its anchor, but the rebels denied being responsible. On Sunday morning, the Houthis' al-Masirah

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satellite news channel acknowledged that the cuts had taken place, citing NetBlocks.

Moammar al-Eryani, the information minister with Yemen's internationally recognized government that opposes the Houthis and is based in southern Yemen, issued a statement saying the cable cuts "cannot be isolated from the series of direct attacks carried out by the Houthi militia."

"What is happening today in the Red Sea should serve as a wake-up call for the international community, which must take a firm stance to stop these escalating threats and protect the digital infrastructure that serves as the lifeline of the modern world," al-Eryani said.

From November 2023 to December 2024, the Houthis targeted more than 100 ships with missiles and drones over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. In their campaign so far, the Houthis have sunk four vessels and killed at least eight mariners.

The Iranian-backed Houthis stopped their attacks during a brief ceasefire in the war. They later became the target of an intense weeklong campaign of airstrikes ordered by U.S. President Donald Trump before he declared a ceasefire had been reached with the rebels. The Houthis sank two vessels in July, killing at least four on board, with others believed to be held by the rebels.

The Houthis' new attacks come as a new possible ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war remains in the balance. Meanwhile, the future of talks between the U.S. and Iran over Tehran's battered nuclear program is in question after Israel launched a 12-day war against the Islamic Republic in which the Americans bombed three Iranian atomic sites.

Carlos Alcaraz beats rival Jannik Sinner at the U.S. Open for a 6th Slam title and the No. 1 ranking

By HOWARD FENDRICH AP Tennis Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — So maybe the first U.S. Open final between young, elite rivals Carlos Alcaraz and Jannik Sinner wasn't as long, riveting and dramatic as their matchup to decide the championship at the French Open. Perhaps it wasn't as seemingly meaningful and plot-driven as their showdown for the Wimbledon trophy.

Still, what the No. 2-seeded Alcaraz's 6-2, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 victory over No. 1 Sinner on Sunday did do was significant. Alcaraz reasserted his superiority over the defending champion, wrested away the top spot in the ATP rankings and left tennis fans eager for whenever their next clash will come.

They are the first two men in the sport's history to face each other in three consecutive Grand Slam finals within a single season.

"I'm seeing you more than my family," Alcaraz joked during the trophy ceremony, eliciting a grin from Sinner. "It's great to share the court, to share the locker rooms, everything."

This 2-hour, 42-minute win gave Alcaraz, a 22-year-old from Spain, leads over Sinner, a 24-year-old from Italy, of 10-5 in their head-to-head series, 6-4 in total Grand Slam trophies, and 2-1 in U.S. Open championships.

"I give lots of credit to him, because he handled the situation better than I did," said Sinner, who lamented that his own play was too predictable. "He raised his level when he had to."

The match's start was delayed for about a half-hour while thousands of fans were stuck outside Arthur Ashe Stadium going through extra security because President Donald Trump sat in a sponsor's suite.

Under a closed roof because of rain earlier in the day, Alcaraz was stronger, faster, more well-equipped for the occasion.

"You were better than me," Sinner said. "I tried my best today. I couldn't do more."

Alcaraz finished with twice as many winners, 42-21, and his coach, 2003 French Open champ Juan Carlos Ferrero, called the performance "perfect." Alcaraz's view of that assessment? "He's right. I think I played perfect. ... If I want to beat Jannik, I have to play perfect."

This hard-court matchup followed Alcaraz's victory over Sinner across 5 1/2 hours after erasing a trio of match points on the red clay at Roland-Garros in June, and Sinner's victory over two-time reigning champ Alcaraz on the grass at the All England Club in July.

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"The things ... I did well in London," Sinner said, "he did better today."

Alcaraz took a week off after Wimbledon and then immediately got to work, spending 15 days with Ferrero focusing on one thing and one thing only: beating Sinner.

"I studied that match," Alcaraz said.

During his defeat at Wimbledon, Alcaraz was caught by a camera telling his team in Spanish: "From the back of the court, he's much better than me."

Perhaps that's why Alcaraz was so aggressive Sunday with his sledgehammer of a forehand. Whenever the smallest opening presented itself, Alcaraz barged through with that shot.

Sinner had dropped a total of one service game in his preceding three matches, but Alcaraz broke right away Sunday and five times in all.

These guys have combined to collect the past eight Slam trophies — four each — and 10 of 13. Novak Djokovic, the 24-time major champ eliminated by Alcaraz on Friday, took the other three.

Both Sinner, who had won his past 27 hard-court matches at majors, and Alcaraz offered glimpses Sunday of why they are so good, although it was rare that both were at a peak simultaneously.

An hour and 20 minutes in, it was a set apiece, after Alcaraz ceded one for the first time all tournament.

As Sinner worked his way into things, he would celebrate points by pumping a fist toward his guest box, which included Olympic champion ski racer Lindsey Vonn.

Ah, but it was Alcaraz who appeared to have more ticket-buyers on his side.

They regaled him with standing ovations. For one particularly magical volley at a hard-to-believe angle struck just before the ball hit the court — even Alcaraz himself liked that one, saying "Wow!" and breaking into a wide grin. For one special overhead smash to a corner with the tailing movement of a firefly.

And so on.

Sinner, needless to say, wasn't as pleased by those sorts of strokes.

He bounced his racket off the ground and caught it after one lost point. He exhaled and shook his head after another.

Sinner simply doesn't see that sort of stuff from anyone else.

And these numbers say as much about Alcaraz as they do Sinner: Over the last two seasons, Sinner is 1-7 against Alcaraz — and 109-4 against everyone else.

That one win for Sinner over Alcaraz came at Wimbledon.

Less than two months later, Alcaraz reversed the result to cap what he called "the best tournament so far that I have ever played."

Howard Fendrich has been the AP's tennis writer since 2002. Find his stories here: <https://apnews.com/author/howard-fendrich>. More AP tennis: <https://apnews.com/hub/tennis>

In rare ruling, Israeli Supreme Court says Israel deprives Palestinian prisoners of food

By NATALIE MELZER Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — In a highly rare exercise of wartime legal restraint, Israel's Supreme Court ruled Sunday that the Israeli government has deprived Palestinian detainees of even a minimum subsistence diet and ordered authorities to increase the amount and improve the quality of food served to deprived Palestinian inmates.

Although it's the job of the Supreme Court to advise the government of the legality of its policies, the Israeli judiciary has seldom taken issue with its actions in the 23-month Israel-Hamas war.

Since Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack on southern Israel that killed 1,200 people, mostly civilians, Israel has largely rejected growing international criticism of its conduct by arguing that it was doing what was necessary to defeat Hamas.

The Israeli army has detained large numbers of Palestinians in Gaza and the occupied West Bank on

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suspicion of militant ties. Thousands have been released from months of detention in camps and jails without charge to tell of brutal conditions, including overcrowding, scant food supplies, inadequate medical attention and scabies outbreaks.

As Israel's highest tier of accountability, the Supreme Court hears complaints from individuals and organizations against Israeli government actions, such as its practice of restricting food and medical supplies to Gaza or, in this case, what two Israeli human rights groups described in their complaint as the security establishment's "systemic policy" of depriving Palestinian prisoners of food.

The three-judge panel ruled unanimously that the Israeli government had a legal duty to provide Palestinian prisoners with three meals a day to ensure "a basic level of existence" and ordered authorities to fulfill that obligation.

In an unexpected 2-1 decision, the court furthermore accepted the petition filed last year by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, or ACRI, and the Israeli rights group Gisha, siding with their allegations that the government's deliberate restriction of prisoners' food in Israeli detention facilities has caused Palestinians to suffer malnutrition and starvation during the Israel-Hamas war.

"We are not speaking here of comfortable living or luxury, but of the basic conditions of survival as required by law," the ruling said. "Let us not share in the ways of our worst enemies."

Palestinian authorities have recorded the deaths at least 61 Palestinians in Israeli custody since the war started. In March, a 17-year-old Palestinian in Israel prison died of what doctors said was likely starvation.

Israeli National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, who oversees the prison system, boasted last year that he degraded the conditions of security prisoners to the bare minimum required by Israeli law.

Ben-Gvir, who leads a small far-right ultranationalist party, lashed out at the court ruling Sunday.

"Are you from Israel?" he asked the judges, arguing that while Israeli hostages in Gaza have no one to help them, Israel's Supreme Court defends Hamas "to our disgrace." He vowed the policy of providing prisoners with "the most minimal conditions stipulated by law" would continue unchanged.

ACRI called on authorities to implement the verdict immediately. In a post on social media platform X, the rights group said Israel's prison service has "turned Israeli prisons into torture camps."

"A state must not starve people," it said. "People must not starve people — no matter what they have done."

A Houthi drone strikes an Israeli airport in a rare hit as Israel steps up Gaza City attacks

By MELANIE LIDMAN and SAMY MAGDY Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — A drone fired by Yemen's Houthi rebels breached Israel's multilayered air defenses on Sunday and slammed into the country's southern airport, the Israeli military said, blowing out glass windows, wounding one person and briefly shutting down commercial airspace.

The damage to Ramon Airport appeared limited and flights resumed within hours. The Houthis claimed responsibility for the strike.

The attack follows Israeli strikes on Yemen's rebel-held capital that killed the Houthi prime minister and other top officials in a major escalation of the nearly 2-year-old conflict between Israel and the Iran-backed militant group in Yemen.

In Gaza City, the Israeli military on Sunday leveled another high-rise tower that housed hundreds of displaced Palestinians and urged people to move south as it intensified its offensive on the city.

Meanwhile, a breakthrough Israeli Supreme Court decision ruled that Israel was not providing Palestinian detainees in its custody with enough food to ensure basic sustenance. It ordered the state to "guarantee basic living conditions in accordance with the law" for the thousands of Palestinians in its detention facilities.

Sunday's ruling, made in response to a petition by Israeli human rights groups alleging starvation among Palestinians in the country's prisons, marked a rare instance of Israeli legal restraint on its own war policies that have drawn indignation and outrage abroad.

Yemen's Houthi rebels escalate attacks on Israel

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After Israel's killing of Houthi Prime Minister Ahmed al-Rahawi last Thursday, the militants vowed to escalate their attacks targeting Israel and merchant ships navigating the vital Red Sea trade route.

One of several Houthi drones launched from Yemen on Sunday slipped through Israel's sophisticated defense system and crashed into the passenger terminal at the Ramon International Airport near the resort city of Eilat, the Israeli Airports Authority said, diverting flights over southern Israel and inflicting light shrapnel wounds on a 63-year-old man.

Houthi military spokesperson Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree said the group had fired eight drones at Israel to signal that the rebels "will escalate their military operations and not back down from their support for Gaza." He warned that Israeli airports "are unsafe and will be continuously targeted."

The Israeli military said it intercepted three Houthi drones near Israel's border with Egypt and was investigating why it failed to identify the fourth drone that struck Ramon Airport as a threat.

The Houthis have stepped up their aerial attacks on Israel in recent months, including by deploying warheads with cluster munitions that scatter smaller bomblets over a large area and can evade Israeli air defenses.

Saying that they were acting in solidarity with the Palestinians, the Houthis began firing missiles and drones into Israel after Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023 attack on Israel ignited the Israeli military's devastating campaign in Gaza. Hamas militants killed 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducted over 250 in their assault on southern Israel.

While frequent, the aerial attacks from Yemen have not caused significant damage in Israel.

Before Sunday's assault, the most damaging Houthi attack was in May, when a Houthi missile struck near Israel's main Ben Gurion Airport, prompting international airlines to cancel flights to Tel Aviv for months.

Israel destroys another high-rise in Gaza City

The Israeli military said it razed another high-rise building in Gaza City on Sunday, shortly after military spokesperson Avichay Adraee ordered the evacuation of people from a seven-story building in a southern Gaza City neighborhood and nearby tents. Al-Ra'iya Tower crumbled in a flash, its facade cascading down into a heap of rubble and sending people scrambling for cover.

Israel said the building targeted on Sunday had been used by Hamas for intelligence-gathering activities. Hamas denied the accusation. It was unclear how many people had been killed or wounded in the attack.

It's the third Gaza City high-rise leveled in as many days as Israel ramps up its offensive to take control of what it portrays as Hamas' last remaining stronghold, urging Palestinians to flee parts of Gaza City for a designated humanitarian zone in the territory's south.

Many Palestinians, exhausted from being displaced multiple times during the war, have opted to stay put rather than uproot themselves for jam-packed, increasingly unsanitary tent encampments that are unprepared to handle the influx. Others reluctantly fled even as past Israeli attacks on humanitarian zones have reinforced the feeling that nowhere is safe in the enclave.

"Every time we move to a place, we get displaced from it," said Shireen Al-Lada', who fled south from eastern Gaza City after her house in the once-bustling urban neighborhood of Zeitoun was destroyed.

Officials at Gaza City's Shifa Hospital reported that Israeli strikes on a school-turned-shelter and on tents and apartment buildings killed at least 13 Palestinians, including six children and three women.

The Israeli military said it was targeting militants near the school and had warned civilians to evacuate.

In central Gaza, Al-Awda Hospital said it had received five dead bodies, including that of a young girl, after Israel struck a gathering in the U.N.-administered Nuseirat refugee camp. The Israeli army did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the strike.

Over 64,000 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip since the war began, according to the Gaza Health Ministry that does not distinguish between civilians and combatants. It says that more than half the casualties are women and children.

Trump claims Israel accepted his ceasefire terms; Israel is silent

U.S. President Donald Trump claimed on social media on Sunday that Israel accepted his terms for a ceasefire in Gaza and urged Hamas to do the same. It was not clear precisely what those terms were.

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"I have warned Hamas about the consequences of not accepting," Trump wrote. "This is my last warning, there will not be another one!" Trump has previously issued similar such ultimatums to Hamas.

There was no immediate Israeli confirmation of his claim, which came as preparations for the Israeli military's advance on Gaza City move ahead and negotiations remain at an impasse. The Israeli prime minister's office did not respond to a request for comment.

Hamas confirmed it "received through intermediaries some ideas from the U.S." and said it "welcomed any initiative" to end the war that involved the release of Israeli hostages in Gaza for Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.

But the group said it had not dropped its insistence on a full-scale Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and formation of an independent Palestinian committee to administer Gaza's civil affairs — conditions that Israel has rejected in the past. It also gave no indication it would disband its armed wing.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has insisted on Hamas' full disarmament as a condition for a comprehensive ceasefire.

The Hostages and Missing Families Forum, a group representing many families of hostages, called on the Israeli government to "declare its unequivocal support for the emerging agreement."

Netanyahu's plan to take control of Gaza City has outraged families of hostages and their supporters, who fear the ground offensive will further imperil the 20 out of 48 hostages in Gaza still thought to be alive.

Defying criticism at home and abroad, Netanyahu vowed at his Cabinet meeting earlier Sunday to press ahead with the assault, saying he'd rather "a victory over our enemies" than one "over anti-Israel propaganda."

Magdy reported from Cairo. Associated Press writers Sally Abou Aljoud in Beirut, Natalie Melzer in Tel Aviv, Israel, and Isabel DeBre in Buenos Aires, Argentina, contributed to this report.'

Chicago churches urge calm resistance ahead of expected federal intervention

By SOPHIA TAREEN Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — The Rev. Marshall Hatch urged congregants of a prominent Black church on Chicago's West Side to carry identification, stay connected to family and protest as the city readied for an expected federal intervention.

"You need to start telling people about your whereabouts, so you don't disappear," Hatch said during Sunday services at New Mount Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church. "We're not going to despair. We're not going to feel threatened. We're not going to give up and give in to fascism and authoritarianism."

As Chicago braced for an immigration enforcement crackdown and a possible National Guard deployment, churches across the city turned up their response from the pulpit. Some worked to quell fears about detention and deportation while others addressed the looming possibility of more law enforcement on the streets of the nation's third-largest city.

President Donald Trump has threatened federal intervention in Democratic strongholds, most recently warning apocalyptic force could be used in Chicago to fight crime and step up deportations. He's repeatedly cited the expected plans over fierce objections from local leaders and many residents who call it unnecessary and unwanted.

While fears have been high in immigrant circles since Trump took office the second time, the threat of more federal agencies and troops has also inflamed tensions, particularly in Black and Latino communities where trust in police is fragile.

Among the church attendees was Lester Burks, a 74-year-old U.S. Army veteran who said a military presence in Chicago would be threatening.

"I don't want soldiers here," he said. "They are trained to fight."

Sanctuary cities targeted

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Details on the expected intervention have been sparse, including its focus and when it's expected to begin. Trump's border czar Tom Homan said Sunday on CNN's "State of the Union" that federal law enforcement action will come to Chicago this week. He also promised more worksite enforcement operations like the massive one at a Hyundai plant in Georgia.

"You can expect action in most sanctuary cities across the country," he said.

The Trump administration has repeatedly targeted, and unsuccessfully sued, over Chicago's sanctuary laws, which are among the strongest in the nation. His administration launched a nationwide immigration enforcement operation in the city in January.

There is no official definition for sanctuary policies or sanctuary cities. The terms generally describe limits on local cooperation with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. ICE enforces U.S. immigration laws nationwide but sometimes seeks state and local help.

This time, the Department of Homeland Security plans to use a military base north of the city and has alerted leaders of another suburb that they'll use a federal immigration processing center there for an operation that'll potentially last 45 days. Meanwhile, Trump has said he might send National Guard troops to New Orleans before Chicago.

Trump has already deployed the National Guard into Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., where he's also federalized the police force. A federal judge has ruled the Los Angeles deployment is illegal.

"We don't need another level of law enforcement and their presence to pretend they're going to solve problems related to violence," U.S. Rep. Danny Davis, a Democrat, said at a Sunday news conference with other Black elected leaders on the city's West Side.

Most of Chicago's nearly 3 million people are Black or Latino. New Mount Pilgrim is located in the city's West Garfield Park neighborhood, a largely Black neighborhood which has faced persistent crime and years of disinvestment, including five schools near the church that closed in 2013 as part of the largest mass public closure in U.S. history.

The church has often called for action against street violence even as Chicago's rates of violent crime have dropped substantially in recent years as part of a national trend. Its large stained glass art installations depict the lives of slaves and memorialize Black people killed by violence. On Sunday, the church celebrated the groundbreaking of a nearby arts and activism center it said was part of the solution.

"We're not calling for military, we're calling for resources," Hatch told congregants. "We know that there is a correlation between resources and violence."

Chicago on edge

Elsewhere in the city, other churches worked to remind people of their rights when it comes to interactions with immigration agents, urging them to carry necessary documents.

The feeling of being on edge was familiar to many in Chicago, and the expected operation put a damper on the city's usually festive Mexican Independence Day celebrations. Church leaders said the January immigration operation in Chicago had a chilling effect on attendance at immigrant-heavy and Latino churches as people stayed home.

Clergy said they were preparing for the same in the weeks ahead.

"It feels like anything can happen at any moment," said the Rev. Paco Amador of New Life Community Church in the predominantly Mexican Little Village neighborhood. "It would be irresponsible not to talk about this."

Associated Press writer Calvin Woodward contributed to this report from Washington.

Pilot and influencer Ethan Guo left Antarctic air base after 2 months

PUNTA ARENAS, Chile (AP) — An American social media influencer who was stuck in a Chilean airbase in Antarctica for two months and initially charged for submitting a false flight plan, on Saturday returned to the mainland.

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Ethan Guo, who was 19 years old when he began his fundraising mission for cancer research, was attempting to become the youngest person to fly solo to all seven continents.

But he was briefly detained after Chilean authorities said he lied to officials by providing authorities with "false flight plan data." Prosecutors said he had been authorized to only fly over Punta Arenas in southern Chile, but that he kept going south, heading for Antarctica in his Cessna 182Q — a single-engine light aircraft known for its versatility.

Authorities said that they authorized him to land in a Chilean airbase in Antarctica only because he reported an emergency.

After he landed in Chile's Antarctic territory on June 28, he was briefly arrested and later released. He remained at the Chilean Air Force base, however. He was not forced to stay there, only to remain in Chilean territory, but because of the severe winter in that part of the southern hemisphere, no flights were available. He was also unable to fly his small plane.

Guo, who is originally from Tennessee and turned 20 in July, spent two months living in the base with limited communications and freezing Antarctic winter temperatures plunging below zero.

A Chilean judge dropped the charges against him after reaching an agreement to avoid a trial, which included that he give a \$30,000 donation to a children's cancer foundation within 30 days and leave the country as soon as possible. He is also banned from entering Chilean territory for three years.

The influencer's lawyer, Jaime Barrientos, told The Associated Press that Guo landed because he had to divert his aircraft due to poor weather conditions, and that he did receive authorization from Chilean authorities.

"To his surprise, when he was about to take off back to Punta Arenas he was arrested, in a process that from my perspective was a total exaggeration," Barrientos said.

Barrientos said he was happy with the agreement struck with authorities.

Guo arrived Saturday at Punta Arenas aboard a navy ship wearing a Chilean national soccer team jersey and appeared friendly with the press after disembarking, describing his detention as a "mundane" experience with "limited freedoms."

"The Chilean people have been incredibly hospitable, they've been fantastic people. They've taken care of me. They've taught me Spanish, and they've treated me like family," he said.

This story was first published on Sept. 6, 2025. It was updated on Sept. 7, 2025 to correct that American pilot and influencer Ethan Guo was not ordered by a Chilean judge to pay \$30,000 in penalties. In fact, he had agreed to give a \$30,000 donation to a children's cancer foundation within 30 days to avoid a trial."

Trump's US Open visit sparks boos and long security lines

By WILL WEISSERT Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — President Donald Trump was loudly booed at the men's final of the U.S. Open on Sunday, where extra security caused by his visit led to lines long enough that many people missed the start of play, even after organizers delayed it.

Wearing a suit and long, red tie, Trump briefly emerged from his suite about 45 minutes before the match started and heard a mix of boos and cheers from an Arthur Ashe Stadium that was still mostly empty. No announcement preceded his appearance, and it was brief enough that some in the crowd missed it.

Trump appeared again to more boos before the National Anthem. Standing in salute, the president was shown briefly on the arena's big screens during the anthem, and offered a smirk that briefly made the boos louder.

When the anthem was over, the Republican pointed to a small group of supporters seated nearby, then sat on the suite's balcony to watch the match intently. He mostly didn't applaud, even following major points that energized the rest of the crowd as Spain's Carlos Alcaraz bested Jannik Sinner of Italy.

Trump was shown on the big screen again after the first set ended, and elicited a roar of louder boos and some piercing whistles. He raised his left fist in salute as the noise continued in the stadium, which

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with a capacity of 24,000 is one of the largest in tennis.

The president later moved back inside the suite, where he was seen seated at a table with family members and appeared to be eating, but he was back in his seat shortly before match point. Cameras briefly flashed on Trump as Alcaraz celebrated, but his reaction to the conclusion was as muted as it had been throughout most of the match. This time, there was little crowd reaction, too.

Organizers pushed the start of the match back half an hour to give people more time to pass through enhanced screening checkpoints reminiscent of security at airports. Still, thousands of increasingly frustrated fans remained in line outside as the match got underway. Many seats, especially those in upper rows, stayed empty for nearly an hour.

The Secret Service issued a statement saying that protecting Trump "required a comprehensive effort" and noting that it "may have contributed to delays for attendees."

"We sincerely thank every fan for their patience and understanding," it said.

Trump attended the final as a guest of Rolex, despite imposing steep tariffs on the Swiss watchmaker's home country. The U.S. Tennis Association also tried to limit negative reaction to Trump's attendance being shown on ABC's national telecast, saying in a statement before play began: "We regularly ask our broadcasters to refrain from showcasing off-court disruptions."

The reactions to Trump didn't ultimately constitute big disruptions, though.

Going to the U.S. Open was the latest example of Trump having built the bulk of his second term's domestic travel around attending major sports events rather than hitting the road to make policy announcements or address the kind of large rallies he so relished as a candidate.

Since returning to the White House in January and prior to Sunday's U.S. Open swing, Trump has gone to the Super Bowl in New Orleans and the Daytona 500, as well as UFC fights in Miami and Newark, New Jersey, the NCAA wrestling championships in Philadelphia and the FIFA Club World Cup final in East Rutherford, New Jersey. Some of those crowds cheered him, but people booed him at other events.

The president accepted Rolex's invitation despite his administration imposing a whopping 39% tariff on Swiss products. That's more than 2 1/2 times higher than levies on European Union goods exported to the U.S. and nearly four times higher than on British exports to the U.S.

The White House declined to comment on Trump accepting a corporate client's invitation at the tournament, but the president has had few qualms about blurring lines between political and foreign policy decisions and efforts to boost the profits of his family business. He's tirelessly promoted his cryptocurrency interests and luxury golf properties, and even announced that the U.S. will host the Group of 20 summit in December 2026 at his Doral golf resort in Florida.

No large street protests against Trump could be seen from the tournament's main stadium on Sunday. But attendees also steered clear of wearing any of the the Republican's signature "Make America Great Again" caps.

A 58-year-old tennis fan originally from Turin, Italy, came from her home in the Boston area to watch the final and said that when she bought a U.S. Open cap, she went with a fuchsia-hued one so it wouldn't be mistaken for the signature darker color of MAGA hats.

"I was careful not to get the red one," said the fan, who declined to give her name because of her employer's rules about being publicly quoted.

Among those attending with Trump were White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt, Attorney General Pam Bondi, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, special envoy Steve Witkoff and Susie Wiles, the White House chief of staff. Trump spent various portions of the match engaged in conversation with many of those around him.

Elsewhere in the crowd were a slew of celebrities — some of whom publicly backed then-Vice President Kamala Harris during last year's election. Among them were Pink, Bruce Springsteen and Shonda Rhimes. In pre-match interviews shown on large stadium screens with the likes of Martha Stewart and Jon Hamm, the questions asked stuck to tennis and pop culture — not Trump and politics.

The president nonetheless was excited enough about his trip to tell reporters on Air Force One during

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the flight to New York when the plane flew over Ashe stadium — though the covered roof kept those inside from reacting.

Trump was once a U.S. Open mainstay, but hadn't attended since he was booed at a quarterfinals match in September 2015, months after launching his first presidential campaign.

The Trump Organization once controlled its own U.S. Open suite, which was adjacent to the stadium's television broadcasting booth, but suspended it in 2017, during the first year of Trump's first term. The family business is now being run by Trump's sons with their father back in the White House.

Trump was born in Queens, home of the U.S. Open, and for decades was a New York-area real estate mogul and, later, a reality TV star. Attending the tournament before he was a politician, he usually sat in his company's suite's balcony during night matches and was frequently shown on the arena's video screens.

SEC matchups are set to headline next week's AP Top 25 college football poll rankings

By MAURA CAREY Associated Press

The third week of the AP Top 25 college football poll showed Ohio State, Penn State and LSU retaining their slots as the top three teams as Oregon slid into No. 4 and No. 18 South Florida ranked for the first time in seven years.

The Bulls, who were eight spots out of the Top 25 last week, became the biggest upward mover thanks to their 18-16 win over then-No. 13 Florida. That came after a home win over then-No. 25 Boise State.

Follow live updates from The Associated Press below for game recaps, poll predictions, ranking analyses and answers to fan questions, all in one place.

Here's the latest:

What's next?

Next weekend features more eye-catching games as several SEC teams go head-to-head and Notre Dame returns to action within the Top 25.

No. 6 Georgia begins conference play against No. 15 Tennessee. The Bulldogs enter the matchup as 6.5-point favorites, but shouldn't overlook transfer QB Joey Aguilar, who has had a strong start for the Volunteers.

No. 8 Notre Dame takes on No. 16 Texas A&M after falling just short against Miami in their season opener and then having a week to reassess.

The stakes are high for both Georgia Tech and Clemson as they go head-to-head. The Yellowjackets get a chance to prove they're Top 25 worthy, while Clemson looks to return to the top 10 with a signature win

Michigan slides eight spots

Michigan slid from No. 15 to No. 23 after losing 24-13 to Oklahoma on Saturday night.

The Wolverines cut into Oklahoma's lead in the third quarter with a pair of field goals, but Oklahoma put the game out of reach with a late fourth quarter field goal.

The Wolverines are down nine spots from where they started the season, having ranked No. 14 in the preseason poll.

How the conferences stack up

With Auburn and Missouri making their presence known, the AP Top 25 now has a record-high 11 SEC teams on the list: LSU (3), Georgia (6), Texas (7), South Carolina (11), Oklahoma (13), Tennessee (15), Texas A&M (16), Ole Miss (17), Alabama (19), Auburn (24) and Missouri (25).

The Top 25 features six Big Ten names: Ohio State (1), Penn State (2), Oregon (4), Illinois (9), Indiana (22) and Michigan (23).

By comparison, the ACC and Big 12 are down to three Top 25 teams apiece after SMU and Arizona State tumbled out of the rankings.

The ACC teams are: Miami (5), Florida State (10) and Clemson (12). From the Big 12 there are: Iowa State (14), Utah (20) and Texas Tech (21).

Notre Dame (8) is independent, and South Florida (18) is the sole American Conference team.

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Arizona State, Florida, SMU fall out of the Top 25

The Gators went from knocking on the door of the top 10 to falling out of the Top 25 entirely after losing to South Florida.

Florida ranked No. 15 in the preseason poll and improved to No. 13 after a 55-0 win over LIU in Week 1.

SMU, previously ranked No. 17, fell out of the poll after losing in double overtime to Baylor. The Bears had momentum after climbing back from a 38-24 deficit in the fourth quarter. Baylor turned heads with the win, receiving seven votes in this week's poll.

Arizona State unexpectedly lost to Mississippi State 24-20, dropping out of the Top 25 as a result. The Sun Devils entered the weekend at No. 12, a slight dip from their eleventh-seeded preseason ranking.

No. 12 Clemson drops out of the top 10

Preseason ranked No. 4 Clemson has yet to meet the expectations of poll voters.

The Tigers fell to No. 8 after a close loss to the talented LSU team in Week 1.

While Clemson entered the win column again on Saturday, it was far from the outing most expected. The team climbed back to beat Troy after trailing 16-3 at the half.

Cade Klubnik led four scoring drives in the second half, carrying Clemson to a 24-16 win after entering the game as 31-point favorites, according to BetMGM.

Illinois, Florida State jump into the top 10

Illinois broke into the top 10 after knocking on the door for the past two weeks.

Illinois ranked No. 12 in the preseason poll and improved to No. 11 in the first regular season poll after beating Western Illinois 52-3. The Fighting Illini beat Duke 45-19 on Saturday, moving up to No. 9 as a result.

Florida State's hot streak continued, surpassing East Texas A&M 77-3. The Seminoles cracked the Top 25 after a Week 1 31-17 win over Alabama, jumping from unranked to No. 14. One week later, Florida State sits at No. 10.

Oregon, Georgia swap spots

Georgia and Oregon swapped spots in this week's poll.

Oregon moved up two places to No. 4 in the AP Top 25 after routing Oklahoma State 69-3.

Georgia didn't get quite the start Kirby Smart envisioned against FCS Austin Peay. The Bulldogs ultimately came out on top 28-6, but it wasn't enough to convince voters they should rank in the top five. Georgia fell to No. 6 as a result.

South Florida is ranked

South Florida jumped into the AP Top 25 at No. 18.

The list of unranked teams to open a season 2-0 with both wins coming against AP-ranked opponents is short:

1. USF did it this year vs. No. 25 Boise State and No. 13 Florida.

2. Oregon State opened 2012 with wins vs. No. 13 Wisconsin and No. 19 UCLA.

3. East Carolina managed the feat in 2008 against No. 17 Virginia Tech and No. 8 West Virginia.

4. And North Carolina started its 1976 season with wins against No. 20 Miami (Ohio) and No. 18 Florida.

USF, which visits Miami this weekend, is bidding to become the fifth team to open a season with three wins over ranked opponents. Miami did it in 1987, Michigan in 1985, Iowa in 1960 and Oklahoma in 1954.

The Bulls, coming into this season, were 2-29 in their last 31 games against ranked opponents. They're 2-0 in such games this season.

Ohio State, Penn State, LSU remain Top 3

The Top 25 saw plenty of movement this week, but the top three didn't budge after outscoring opponents by a combined 127-7.

Ohio State remained No. 1 after a 70-0 victory over Grambling State. Penn State overcame a slow start to beat FIU 34-0 and remain at No. 2, while LSU held firm at No. 3 after a 23-7 win over Louisiana Tech.

AP Top 25 college football poll rankings

1. Ohio State

2. Penn State

3. LSU

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4. Oregon
5. Miami (Fla.)
6. Georgia
7. Texas
8. Notre Dame
9. Illinois
10. Florida State
11. South Carolina
12. Clemson
13. Oklahoma
14. Iowa State
15. Tennessee
16. Texas A&M
17. Ole Miss
18. South Florida
19. Alabama
20. Utah
21. Texas Tech
22. Indiana
23. Michigan
24. Auburn
25. Missouri

Slow starts for Georgia, Penn State, Clemson

No. 2 Penn State, No. 4 Georgia and No. 8 Clemson got off to unexpectedly slow starts on Saturday.

Penn State struggled to find offensive momentum in the first half, leading 10-0 at halftime in an eventual 34-0 win over FIU.

Georgia scored just 14 points in the first half against Austin Peay, heading into halftime with a 14-3 lead. The Bulldogs scored two touchdowns in the second half to solidify a 28-6 win.

Clemson quarterback Cade Klubnik helped dig the Tigers out of a hole after trailing 16-3 to Troy at halftime. Clemson scored three touchdowns, a field goal and notched two interceptions in the second half to win 27-16.

Georgia entered the game as 46.5-point favorites, according to BetMGM Sportsbook. The Nittany Lions were 41.5-point favorites. Clemson was favored by 33.5 points.

Ohio State, Penn State and LSU stand firm

The Top 25 saw plenty of movement this week, but the top three teams didn't budge after outscoring opponents by a combined 127-7.

Ohio State remained No. 1 after a 70-0 victory over Grambling State. Penn State overcame a slow start to beat FIU 34-0 and remain at No. 2, while LSU held firm at No. 3 after a 23-7 win over Louisiana Tech.

Florida State keeps foot on the gas

Florida State kept the momentum rolling after a 31-17 upset victory over Alabama in Week 1, rising from unranked to No. 14 in the AP Top 25.

The Seminoles delivered a whopping 77-3 win over East Texas A&M on Saturday. Quarterback Thomas Castellanos completed eight of 11 passes for 237 yards and three touchdowns. Two of Castellanos' touchdowns went to Duce Robinson on back-to-back drives in the first quarter.

Robinson led the Seminoles with five receptions for 173 yards and two touchdowns.

Alabama bounces back with 73-0 win

Pressure was mounting for Alabama after losing 31-17 to Florida State in the season opener and falling 13 spots in the poll as a result.

The Crimson Tide bounced back in Week 2 with a 73-0 win over Louisiana-Monroe. Quarterback Ty

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Simpson completed all 17 of his passes for 226 yards and three touchdowns.

Austin Mack and Keelon Russell also saw time at signal-caller and threw two touchdowns apiece.

John Mateer leads Oklahoma to big win over Michigan

No. 15 Michigan traveled to No. 18 Oklahoma for the sole matchup headlining two ranked teams this week.

John Mateer's strong start continued for the Sooners, as the transfer quarterback delivered 21 of 34 passes for 270 yards, a touchdown and an interception while also leading the team with 74 rushing yards and two rushing scores.

Growing pains were evident for Michigan quarterback Bryce Underwood, who completed just nine of 24 passes for 124 yards. Running back Justice Haynes had another productive game, running the ball for 124 yards and a touchdown on nine carries.

Oklahoma opened the season at No. 18 and didn't budge after a 35-3 Week 1 win over Illinois State. Michigan dropped from No. 14 to No. 15 in the first regular season poll after a 34-17 win over New Mexico.

MS State, South Florida, Baylor deliver key upsets

South Florida is now 2-0 against Top 25 teams.

A week after defeating Boise State 34-7, pushing the Broncos out of the Top 25, the Bulls outscored the Florida Gators 18-16 on the road. South Florida quarterback Byrum Brown excelled in both the passing and running games, completing 23 passes for 263 yards and a touchdown and adding 66 yards on 17 carries.

Florida entered the Week 2 outing at No. 13 after a 55-0 win over LIU in Week 1. The Bulls' shocking road win wasn't the sole upset of the week. Mississippi State beat No. 12 Arizona State 24-20, an effort spearheaded by quarterback Blake Sharpen. Senior receiver Brenen Thompson caught the game-winner, a 58-yard touchdown pass, with 30 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter.

Over in Dallas, an unranked Baylor team overthrew No. 17 SMU with a 48-45 win in second overtime.

Who votes in the poll, and how does it work?

No organization has been ranking teams and naming a major college football national champion longer than The Associated Press, since 1936.

AP employees don't vote themselves, but they do choose the voters. AP Top 25 voters comprise around 60 writers and broadcasters who cover college football for AP members and other select outlets. The goal is to have every state with a Football Bowl Subdivision school represented by at least one voter.

There is a 1-25 point system, with a team voted No. 1 receiving 25 points down to 1 point for a 25th-place vote. After that, it's simple: The poll lists the teams with the most points from 1 to 25, and others receiving votes are also noted.

Voting is done online, and the tabulation is automated.

☐ Read more about the history of the AP Top 25 poll and how it works.

Ohio State enters Week 2 as No. 1

Ohio State tops the poll for the first time in the regular season since 2015.

The Buckeyes jumped from No. 3 to No. 1 following a 14-7 Week 1 victory against the then-top-seeded Texas Longhorns.

Ohio State is poised to keep the top spot in this week's poll after a thumping 70-0 win over Grambling State on Saturday, answering any potential questions about the reigning national champs' offense.

In one DC neighborhood after federal intervention, the notion of more authority is a mixed bag

By GARY FIELDS Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a swath of the nation's capital that sits across the tracks, and the river, residents can see the Washington Monument, the Waldorf Astoria — formerly the Trump Hotel — and the U.S. Capitol dome.

What the people of Anacostia cannot see are the National Guard units patrolling those areas. And they don't see them patrolling on this side of the Anacostia River, either.

In this storied region of Washington, home to Frederick Douglass, the crime that President Donald Trump

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has mobilized federal law enforcement to address is something residents would like to see more resources dedicated to. But it's complicated.

"We do need protection here," said Mable Carter, 82. "I have to come down on the bus. It's horrifying."

There might be military units patrolling Union Station and public spaces where tourists often come, she said, but "none of them over here. They are armed — on the Mall. Ain't nobody doing nothing on the Mall. It's for show."

Carter wants to see more police in this area — the city's own police, under the direction of Chief Pamela Smith. "I'd rather see them give her a chance. She has the structure in place."

The Pentagon, when asked if there were plans to deploy the National Guard to higher crime areas like Anacostia and who determines that, sent a list of stations where the military units were present as of late last month. None of those deployments included stations east of the Anacostia River.

In response to a question of whether those deployments had been extended, or whether there were plans to do so White House spokeswoman Taylor Rogers said that federal law enforcement members have been working the wards east of the river, including involvement in the arrests of several suspects wanted for violent crimes, including a first-degree murder warrant.

"As we have said since the beginning of the operation, National Guard troops are not making arrests at this time, but federal law enforcement officers will continue getting criminals off the streets and making the communities safer," Rogers said.

A neighborhood caught in the middle

Over the course of two weekends east of the river, in conversations with groups and individuals, including a senior's gathering at Union Temple Baptist Church, a theme emerged.

Like Carter, people would like more law enforcement resources, but they distrust the motives behind the surge and how it has usurped the authority of the mayor and local officers. And while they acknowledge crime is more serious here than most other areas of the district, it is nowhere near the levels of three decades ago, when the D.C. National Guard worked with the Metropolitan Police to address the violence.

This year's homicides in the district, as of Friday, were at 104, a 17% decrease from 126 as of Sept. 5 last year. But, more than 60% of them are in the two wards that are almost exclusively east of the Anacostia River, including 38 in Ward 8, according to the Metropolitan Police Department crime mapping tool. That proportion is about the same as it was in 2024 when there were 187 homicides citywide for the year. One of the most notable murders was a double homicide that left two teens lying dead on the street and a third man wounded.

"I just called the police the other night," said Henny, 42, who owns NAM's Market.

He said a group of teenagers attempted to rob his store after casing it throughout the day. He called police and said they asked him if they were armed. "I didn't see a weapon," he said, adding that no patrol officers responded.

The store owner said he has been here about 10 years and been victimized multiple times but thinks it is getting worse now. He does not give his last name out of fear.

"What worries me is to make sure they're not coming back," he said. "There are a lot of things going on." Asked if he feels safe he said, "Absolutely not."

He has pepper spray but has been told by authorities not to use it, he said. When he heard of the federal law enforcement and National Guard arrival, "To be honest, I said that's good — but that's not over here. It's getting worse. The city says crime is down but I don't see it."

'The rampage with guns is nothing new'

A block away, Rosie Hyde's perspective is different. The ashes of one of the 75-year-old widow's sons are spread around her property. Samuel Johnson was killed about three miles away on April 20, 1991. The case is still open.

Hyde, a retired probation officer for the city, said her son died during that epidemic of gun violence. "That was 35 years ago," she said. "That tells you the rampage with guns is nothing new."

Homicides topped 400 annually in 1989 and stayed there through 1996, according to the district's Office

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of the Chief Medical Examiner. Aggravated assaults were also at record totals.

Hyde believes Trump is after the optics in areas where he will get attention — at the train station, on the Mall, in areas with a concentration of tourists. “They haven’t been over here like that,” she said.

The majestic home of Frederick Douglass is here, offering a panoramic view of other parts of the city west of the river. Farther east is the Smithsonian’s Anacostia Community Museum. The plaque outside says as much about this moment as it does about history: The museum, it says, “aspires to illuminate and share the untold and often overlooked stories of people furthest from opportunity in the Greater Washington, D.C. region.”

Federal agents are in this area working with local authorities, including FBI agents and Border Patrol, as well as Metro Transit Authority police. Along Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, a major thoroughfare in Anacostia, new buildings mix with older ones and small groups of people mill about, drinking from bottles and with the occasional smell of marijuana. But it is relatively quiet.

At one point, a large group of National Guard members climbs out of a van at the Anacostia Metro station, but they catch the train heading west back beneath the river. While troops are stationed at 18 stops, the last one on the green line is the Navy Yard-Ballpark station, the final one west of the river.

Guard presence has precedent in this neighborhood

There was a time when the Guard was here — or, more precisely, above it. During the high crime years, the D.C. National Guard worked with District police; officers flew aboard the Guard’s helicopters directing patrol units to crime scenes.

Norm Nixon, an associate pastor at Union Temple Baptist Church, said there are federal agents around, but their presence is not constant and no military uniforms are seen on the streets. He said local officers who try to push community policing — communicating with residents and acknowledging their concerns — will probably get blowback because of the federal presence.

He, like others, questions why Trump decided to federalize the city when violence is present virtually everywhere, including in rural areas where drugs and economic hardships have created fertile ground for lawlessness.

“The president needs to have these initiatives to make it seem like something is happening, almost like he’s got to make news,” Nixon said, adding that he is also concerned about the focus on rousting the homeless population. “What happened to those people? Are they receiving services?”

Vernon Hancock, a church elder and trustee attending a senior’s day party, said he believes Trump’s actions are a test. “Washington, D.C., is easy because it is federal and he has the authority to do what he’s doing,” Hancock said. “It is a federal city so he can just take over. But he wants to take this to other cities and spread this.”

Associated Press writer Konstantin Toropin contributed to this report.

Oregon would give the Big Ten 3 of the top 4 seeds in AP Top 25-based CFP bracket

By ERIC OLSON AP College Football Writer

The Big Ten would claim three of the top four seeds in the College Football Playoff based on Sunday’s Associated Press Top 25 poll while Miami, Georgia, Texas and Notre Dame would host first-round games.

Ohio State and Penn State remain the Nos. 1 and 2 seeds on the projected bracket and conference mate Oregon would be No. 4. LSU would be the No. 3 seed. The top four receive first-round byes.

The Big Ten would have four teams in the 12-team field, the Southeastern Conference three, the Atlantic Coast Conference two and the Big 12 and American one each. South Florida would be in as the highest-ranked Group of Five conference champion. Notre Dame would be in as an independent.

Based on the AP Top 25, the CFP would open like this:

- No. 9 seed Illinois at No. 8 Notre Dame. Winner vs. No. 1 Ohio State.
- No. 12 seed South Florida at No. 5 seed Miami. Winner vs. No. 4 Oregon.

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— No. 10 seed Florida State at No. 7 seed Texas. Winner vs. No. 2 Penn State.

— No. 11 seed Iowa State at No. 6 Georgia. Winner vs. No. 3 LSU.

The first three teams outside the bracket: South Carolina, Clemson, Oklahoma.

The Gamecocks are ranked No. 11 by the AP but would get bumped by automatically qualifying conference champions, in this case Iowa State of the Big 12 and South Florida of the American.

The five highest-ranked conference champions automatically qualify for the CFP, but no longer do the four highest-ranked champions receive a first-round bye. The 12-team bracket is now seeded directly based on the CFP's final rankings in early December.

The top four seeds will be assigned to quarterfinals in ranking order and in consideration of current bowl relationships. This year, quarterfinal winners advance to the semifinals at the Fiesta Bowl and the Peach Bowl. The No. 1 seed would receive preferential placement based on geography.

Teams ranked Nos. 5-12 by the CFP will play in the first round, with the higher seeds hosting the lower seeds either on campus or at other sites designated by the higher-seeded school. First-round games are Dec. 19 and 20, quarterfinals Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, semifinals Jan. 8 and 9 and the championship game is Jan. 19 at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida.

The AP will publish brackets based on the weekly Top 25 until the CFP selection committee unveils its initial rankings Nov. 4.

Get poll alerts and updates on the AP Top 25 throughout the season. Sign up here. AP college football: <https://apnews.com/hub/ap-top-25-college-football-poll> and <https://apnews.com/hub/college-football>

Florida's plan to drop school vaccine rule won't start for 90 days, won't cover all diseases

By ED WHITE Associated Press

Florida's plan to drop school vaccine mandates likely won't take effect for 90 days and would include only chickenpox and a few other illnesses unless lawmakers decide to extend it to other diseases, like polio and measles, the health department said Sunday.

The department responded to a request for details, four days after Florida's surgeon general, Dr. Joseph Ladapo, said the state would become the first to make vaccinations voluntary and let families decide whether to inoculate their children.

It's a retreat from decades of public policy and research that has shown vaccines to be safe and the most effective way to stop the spread of communicable diseases, especially among children. Despite that evidence, U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has expressed deep skepticism about vaccines.

Florida's plan would lift mandates on school vaccines for hepatitis B, chickenpox, Hib influenza and pneumococcal diseases, such as meningitis, the health department said.

"The Department initiated the rule change on September 3, 2025, and anticipates the rule change will not be effective for approximately 90 days," the state told The Associated Press in an email. The public school year in Florida started in August.

All other vaccinations required under Florida law to attend school "remain in place, unless updated through legislation," including vaccines for measles, polio, diphtheria, pertussis, mumps and tetanus, the department said.

Lawmakers don't meet again until January 2026, although committee meetings begin in October.

Ladapo, appearing Sunday on CNN, repeated his message of free choice for childhood vaccines.

"If you want them, God bless, you can have as many as you want," he said. "And if you don't want them, parents should have the ability and the power to decide what goes into their children's bodies. It's that simple."

Florida currently has a religious exemption for vaccine requirements. Vaccines have saved at least 154 million lives globally over the past 50 years, the World Health Organization reported in 2024. The majority of those were infants and children.

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Dr. Rana Alissa, chair of the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, said making vaccines voluntary puts students and school staff at risk.

This is the worst year for measles in the U.S. in more than three decades, with more than 1,400 cases confirmed nationwide, most of them in Texas, and three deaths.

Whooping cough has killed at least two babies in Louisiana and a 5-year-old in Washington state since winter, as it too spreads rapidly. There have been more than 19,000 cases as of Aug. 23, nearly 2,000 more than this time last year, according to preliminary CDC data.

Oregon jumps to No. 4 in AP Top 25 behind Ohio St, Penn St, LSU; Illinois, Florida State into top 10

By ERIC OLSON AP College Football Writer

Ohio State, Penn State and LSU remained the top three teams in The Associated Press Top 25 college football poll Sunday, Oregon is back in the top five and South Florida is ranked for the first time in seven years.

There was some movement inside the top 10, but the biggest changes came from Nos. 11 to 25.

Ohio State, whose 70-0 win over Grambling was among a bevy of weekend blowouts, received 57 of the 65 first-place votes from the media panel. Penn State got five first-place votes and LSU two.

No. 4 Oregon, which thrashed Oklahoma State, received the other first place-vote and flip-flopped with Georgia. The Bulldogs' uninspired win over FCS foe Austin Peay caused them to slip to No. 6 behind Miami.

Texas, Notre Dame, Illinois and Florida State round out the top 10, with the latter two teams in the top 10 for the first time this season.

Oklahoma earned a five-rung promotion to No. 13, its highest ranking in two years, after its win over Michigan. The Wolverines dropped to No. 23. Tennessee jumped seven spots to No. 15, and No. 16 Texas A&M and No. 17 each moved up three.

The biggest upward mover was No. 18 South Florida, which was eight spots out of the Top 25 last week. The Bulls pulled the upset of the day with their 18-16 win over then-No. 13 Florida. That followed their 34-7 home win over then-No. 25 Boise State.

In and out

No. 24 Auburn and No. 25 Missouri cracked the rankings along with USF.

Auburn followed a two-touchdown win at Baylor with an easy victory over Ball State and are in the Top 25 for the first time under third-year coach Hugh Freeze.

Missouri, which appeared in all but two polls last season, is back in after a win over Border War rival Kansas.

Arizona State (12), Florida (13) and SMU (17) are out.

The Sun Devils erased a 17-point deficit and led in the final minute before losing at Mississippi State. Florida's loss put heat back on coach Billy Napier. SMU also blew a lead in the last minute and lost to Baylor in two overtimes.

Poll points

— The Bulls' ascent under third-year coach Alex Golesh is more of a revival than breakthrough. They have their first ranking since 2018 under Charlie Strong. Jim Leavitt had the 2008 team as high as No. 10, and his 2007 team spent three straight weeks in the top 10 and was No. 2 after a 6-0 start.

— No. 10 Florida State, up four spots, has its highest ranking since it was No. 10 in the 2024 preseason poll.

— No. 9 Illinois has its first top-10 ranking since it was No. 7 in December 2001.

— Clemson, which trailed Troy 16-0 midway through the second quarter before winning 27-16, slipped from No. 8 to No. 12.

— Until Sunday, Alabama and Auburn had not appeared in the Top 25 at the same time since November 2021.

— The 16-team Southeastern Conference is the first league to have 11 teams in the Top 25.

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Conference call

SEC — 11 ranked teams (Nos. 3, 6, 7, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 24, 25).

Big Ten — 6 (Nos. 1, 2, 4, 9, 22, 23).

ACC — 3 (Nos. 5, 10, 12).

Big 12 — 3 (Nos. 14, 20, 21).

American — 1 (No. 18).

Independent — 1 (No. 8).

Ranked vs. ranked

No. 18 South Florida at No. 5 Miami: Bulls will try to become the fifth team, and first since Miami in 1987, to open a season with three wins over ranked opponents.

No. 6 Georgia at No. 15 Tennessee: First big test for Volunteers QB Joey Aguilar. Bulldogs go for ninth straight win in the series.

No. 16 Texas A&M at No. 8 Notre Dame: Irish out to avoid second 0-2 start in four years. Jeremiyah Love scored late tie-breaking touchdown for Notre Dame in last year's season-opening meeting in College Station.

AP Sports Writer Tim Reynolds in Miami contributed to this report.

Get poll alerts and updates on the AP Top 25 throughout the season. Sign up here. AP college football: <https://apnews.com/hub/ap-top-25-college-football-poll> and <https://apnews.com/hub/college-football>

This story has been updated to correct the number of SEC teams.

Italian fashion, political and sports figures among thousands bidding farewell to Giorgio Armani

By COLLEEN BARRY AP Fashion Writer

MILAN (AP) — Thousands of admirers paid their last respects over the weekend to Giorgio Armani, remembered by Milan's mayor as a "man of extraordinary elegance" who left an indelible mark on the city and the global fashion world.

Armani died Thursday at 91 at his home in Italy's fashion capital surrounded by loved ones, having worked until his final days, according to his fashion house. One of his final projects was a runway show marking 50 years of his signature Giorgio Armani brand, which is due to close Milan Fashion Week later this month.

More than 15,000 mourners filed over two days through the Armani theater normally dedicated to previewing runway collections. They included top names in fashion, politics, film and sports — worlds with which Armani was closely entwined.

Donatella Versace left a bouquet of white flowers on Saturday, and her brother Santo Versace was in tears Sunday.

Inside the theater, where Armani took countless bows, his casket was positioned amid rows of candlelit paper lanterns that cast a shimmering light. Piano music by Italian composer Ludovico Einaudi played softly in the background and the scent of incense filled the air.

The closed coffin was adorned with a bouquet of long-stem white roses, and flanked by carabinieri honor guards in ceremonial dress. An alabaster sculpture of the crucifix dear to Armani was placed next to the casket.

Prominent mourners

Other designers who paid their respects included Dean and Dan Caten, the Canadian twin designers behind the Dsquared2 label; Ferrari creative Rocco Iannone; British designer Neil Barrett and Italian designer Andrea Incontri.

The world of sport was represented by Olympic gold medal-winning swimmer Federica Pellegrini, retired AC Milan star Paolo Maldini and the president of the Italian Olympic Committee, Giovanni Malagò.

Two former premiers, Mario Monti and Matteo Renzi, paid their respects on Sunday.

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Italian film directors Giuseppe Tornatore and Gabriele Salvatores, the composer Einaudi and Italian fashion chamber president Carlo Capasa with his brother, Costume National designer Ennio Capasa also bade Armani farewell.

A remembrance

Milan Mayor Giuseppe Sala was among the first to arrive, offering condolences to Leo Dell'Orco, Armani's longtime collaborator and the head of menswear, who stood near the coffin.

"A man of extraordinary elegance," Sala told reporters outside. "Milan is full of signs of Armani. It will be impossible to forget him."

Sala remembered a phone call from Armani in early August, when news of a corruption scandal in the city broke.

"He said, 'I understand this is a difficult moment. There is always something positive in difficult moments. True friends show themselves. I am your true friend.' This I will always remember," Sala said.

Armani tributes

Many mourners brought flowers to leave in remembrance, or wore pieces of Armani plucked from their wardrobes. Annamaria Longo Dorni traveled more than two hours from Lago Maggiore, north of Milan, to pay her last respects wearing an Armani midnight blue jacket.

"You put it on, and you're perfect," she said in tribute. "It's always up to date, even after 20 years."

The outpouring by many ordinary Milanese reflected Armani's close ties to his adopted city.

"Armani is Milan. He was a beautiful person inside who always gave a lot to Milan, in every moment. It is correct to be here to pay homage," said Silvana Proglia. "He was a great person with a capital G."

Armani and Milan

Milan's Armani landmarks include his Armani/Teatro show space and the Armani/Silos museum in the heart of the city's design district, as well as his residence and historic offices in the city center, and his flagship stores and hotel.

He was also a major supporter of cultural institutions, like Milan's Teatro alla Scala, and owned the Olympia Milan basketball team.

A prominent permanent Emporio Armani billboard greets passengers arriving at Milan's Linate Airport, and Armani has long occupied a permanent billboard in the city's Brera district, emblematic of his mastery of visual communication and brand presence.

Final farewells

Armani missed Milan Fashion Week in June 2025 for the first time during the previews of Spring-Summer 2026 menswear to recover from an undisclosed condition.

Condolences have poured in from friends and admirers around the world, including Ralph Lauren, Julia Roberts, Anna Wintour and Leonardo DiCaprio.

Armani left a final message for mourners, projected in the theater next to a photo of the designer smiling and waving: "The mark I hope to leave is one of commitment, respect and genuine care for people and for reality. That's where everything truly begins."

Following the public mourning, Armani will be buried Monday in a private ceremony in his hometown of Piacenza province, southeast of Milan.

Ukraine government building damaged in Kyiv in the largest Russian attack since the war began

By SAMYA KULLAB Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Russia hit Ukraine's capital with drone and missiles Sunday in the largest aerial attack since the war began, killing four people across the country and damaging a key government building.

Russia attacked with 810 drones and decoys, Ukraine's air force said, adding it shot down 747 drones and four missiles.

Associated Press reporters saw a plume of smoke rising from the roof of Kyiv's government headquarters. It was not immediately clear if the smoke was the result of a direct hit or debris, which would mark

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an escalation in Russia's air campaign, which has so far spared government buildings in the city center. The building is the home of Ukraine's Cabinet and its ministers. Police blocked access to the building as fire trucks and ambulances arrived.

Yuriy Ihnat, an air force spokesperson, confirmed to The Associated Press that Sunday's attack was the largest Russian drone strike since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Russia also launched 13 missiles. Hits from nine missiles and 54 drones were recorded at 33 locations across Ukraine.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that four people were killed and 44 wounded. He said he spoke on the phone with French President Emmanuel Macron about the attack.

"Together with France, we are preparing new measures to strengthen our defense," Zelenskyy said.

Macron earlier on Sunday accused Russia of "striking indiscriminately" and said Moscow "is locking itself ever deeper into the logic of war and terror."

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer also condemned the attack. "These cowardly strikes show that Putin believes he can act with impunity. He is not serious about peace. Now, more than ever, we must stand firm in our support for Ukraine and its sovereignty," Starmer said in a statement.

Multiple locations hit in Kyiv

In the Ukrainian capital, the attack killed two people and wounded 20 others, according to city officials. Those killed were a mother and her 3-month-old child, whose bodies were dug out of the rubble, said Tymur Tkachenko, the head of Kyiv's city administration. At least 10 locations in Kyiv were damaged, he added. Direct drone hits struck a nine-story residential building in Kyiv's Sviatoshynskiy district and a four-story residential building in Darnytskyi district.

"I just have no more words left to express what I feel towards Russia," said Olha, a 77-year-old Kyiv resident whose apartment was damaged. She didn't give her last name. "Although I'm an ethnic Russian myself, from outside Moscow. And I've never thought my people would be capable of this."

Zelenskyy called for sanctions on Russia and for strengthening Ukraine's air defenses.

"Such killings now, when real diplomacy could have started long ago, are a deliberate crime and a prolongation of the war," he said. "The world can force the Kremlin criminals to stop killing; only political will is needed."

Ukraine's Prime Minister Yulia Svyrydenko posted a video of herself inside the damaged government building, where she said a fire covering 800 square meters (8,600 square feet) was put out.

"For the first time since the start of full-scale invasion, Russians struck our government headquarters in the center of Kyiv," she said.

"It looks like Russia is not seeking peace and is not ready for negotiations. We call our partners to help close our sky. Let's strengthen sanctions against Russia. Let's create the security guarantees system that will help stop the enemy," she said.

Russia insists it targeted military infrastructure

The Russian Defense Ministry said Sunday that it used "high-precision weapons" and drones to strike drone assembly and storage sites, military air bases in central, southern and eastern Ukraine, an industrial facility and a logistics facility on the outskirts of Kyiv.

The ministry said that "all designated objects were hit" and claimed that "no strikes were carried out on other objects within the borders of Kyiv," in what could be a reference to the damaged government building.

Sunday's attack is the second mass Russian drone and missile attack to target Kyiv in the span of two weeks, as hopes for peace talks wane.

It comes after European leaders pressed Russian leader Vladimir Putin to work to end the war after 26 of Ukraine's allies pledged to deploy troops as a "reassurance force" for the war-torn country once the fighting ends.

Zelenskyy has said he is ready to meet Putin to negotiate a peace agreement, and has urged U.S. President Donald Trump to put punishing sanctions on Russia to push it to end the war.

Moscow has repeatedly objected to any Western troop deployments to Ukraine and pushed back against a Putin-Zelenskyy summit, saying lower-level talks must take place first.

Ukrainian drones hit an oil refinery in Russia

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Russia's Defense Ministry said its air defenses intercepted a total of 100 Ukrainian drones over Russian regions, the annexed Crimean peninsula and the Azov Sea between 8 p.m. Saturday and 6:30 a.m. Sunday.

Most were downed over the Belgorod, Voronezh and Krasnodar regions near the border with Ukraine, according to the statement.

In the Krasnodar region, falling drone debris sparked a brief fire at an oil refinery, local authorities said. In the Belgorod and the Voronezh regions, two people were injured, officials said.

The Russian Defense Ministry also said Sunday that its troops seized the village of Khoroshe in the Dnipropetrovsk region. There was no immediate confirmation from Ukraine.

An earlier version of this story incorrectly reported that drone debris struck a four-story building in Sviahynskyi District. It was a nine-story building.

Associated Press journalists Volodymyr Yurchuk and Susie Blann in Kyiv, John Leicester in Paris, and Jill Lawless in London contributed to this report.

Max Verstappen claims dominant victory at Italian Grand Prix for 1st win since May

By DANIELLA MATAR AP Sports Writer

MONZA, Italy (AP) — Max Verstappen claimed a dominant victory at the Italian Grand Prix on Sunday ahead of McLaren's title contenders Lando Norris and Oscar Piastri, after a dramatic start and end to the race at Monza.

It was a first win since May for Verstappen — and only his third of the season — and capped a memorable weekend at Monza for Red Bull's four-time world champion, who had posted the fastest lap in Formula 1 history at the track on Saturday to claim pole position.

"That was unbelievable guys! Well done everyone," Verstappen said on team radio. "We executed that really well. What an unbelievable weekend. We can be really proud of that."

Norris was second, nearly 20 seconds behind Verstappen, to trim the gap to Piastri in the title race to 31 points, with eight races remaining. He had started the day 34 points behind the Australian driver, who was not happy after he was ordered to let his teammate past toward the end of the race.

The switch came after Norris had a slow pit stop, which appeared to put his title chances further in jeopardy when he came out behind his teammate but McLaren ordered Piastri to let the British driver past, which he did despite grumbling about the decision on team radio.

"I felt like I was there for quite a long time," Norris said. "Every now and then we make mistakes as a team and this was one of them."

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc and Lewis Hamilton had solid performances at the team's home race. Cheered on by the passionate, red-clad tifosi, Leclerc finished fourth while Hamilton surged through the field at the start to cross the line in sixth — after starting from 10th following a five-place grid penalty.

Norris was desperate to rebound from a disastrous Dutch GP where he retired with a rare engine problem. Starting from second at Monza, he tussled with Verstappen from the start and was forced off into the grass at the first corner.

"I always know it is going to be a good fight with Max and it was," Norris said. "One of those weekends where we are a bit slower but a good fight and I enjoyed it."

Verstappen was told to give the place back and duly did so but the Red Bull driver reclaimed the lead at the start of lap four, diving past Norris into turn one.

From there, it was almost a procession to victory for Verstappen.

"It was a great day for us. Of course lap 1 was a bit unlucky, but after that we were flying and that was for me really enjoyable," said Verstappen, who is third in the standings but 94 points behind Piastri and will almost certainly see his run of four straight titles ended this year.

"Fantastic execution by everyone from the whole team. I think the whole weekend we were on it and

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it's super enjoyable to win here ... We'll go step by step, race by race, but for us this of course was an unbelievable weekend."

Verstappen briefly found himself behind the McLarens after pitting on lap 38 but retook the lead when Piastri was brought in on lap 46, followed by Norris a lap later.

"We went so long so the soft tires seemed like a good tire to put on," Piastri said. "We were staying out for safety cars if we got any. A little incident at the end but it's okay."

Hamilton was just behind his former Mercedes teammate George Russell, with Alex Albon, Gabriel Bortoleto, Kimi Antonelli and Isack Hadjar rounding out the top 10.

Antonelli had crossed the line in eighth but the Italian teenager dropped a place because of a five-second penalty for contact with Albon.

AP auto racing: <https://apnews.com/hub/auto-racing>

'The Conjuring: Last Rites' creeps its way to another box office win for horror genre

By ITZEL LUNA Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — It's the year for horror and "The Conjuring: Last Rites" was no exception. Its opening weekend tipped the genre over \$1 billion in earnings for this year's domestic box office.

The horror sequel raked in \$83 million domestically in 3,802 theaters, making it the third-highest domestic opening for a horror movie, behind "It" and "It: Chapter Two." It's now the largest horror opening internationally, with \$104 million in earnings outside of North American theaters.

The film also broke records for the "Conjuring" universe, securing the biggest opening weekend in the franchise. The movie's performance is a testament to the franchise's success in producing classic horror movies since the first film released in 2013, said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for the data firm Comscore.

"Audiences know when they go in to see 'The Conjuring,' the minute this scary, ominous music comes up with the Warner's logo, you know you're in for a wild ride," Dergarabedian said.

The film has received mixed reviews from critics, carrying a 55% on Rotten Tomatoes and a "B" CinemaScore.

Patrick Wilson and Vera Farmiga return to the big screen in the ninth installment of "The Conjuring" as the paranormal investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren who attempt to vanquish a demon from a family's home.

"Last Rites" also handed Warner Bros. Pictures yet another opening weekend box office win, becoming the distributor's eighth No. 1 debut win this year and the studio's seventh film in a row to debut with over \$40 million domestically.

The movie's opening weekend numbers are nearly double that of other successful horror movies this year, including Zach Cregger's August sleeper hit "Weapons," "Final Destination: Bloodlines" and "Sinners" — all of which are Warner Bros. releases.

"It just shows how arguably more than any other genre, horror has stood the test of time," Dergarabedian said. "That's because there's nothing quite like seeing a horror movie in a darkened room full of strangers."

The horror genre last crossed the \$1 billion mark in 2023. Meeting that threshold this early in the year is unprecedented, Dergarabedian said, "because usually you need a full year of horror movie box office to bank that much cash."

Upcoming horror films like "Black Phone 2" and "Five Nights at Freddy's 2" are likely to boost that number, Dergarabedian said.

"Last Rites" blew past other titles at the box office this weekend. Disney's filmed version of "Hamilton" landed in second place with \$10 million domestically. The film was "perfect counterprogramming" to "Last Rights," Dergarabedian said.

The rest of the top spots were taken by several holdover titles. "Weapons" secured third place during its fifth weekend, bringing in \$5.4 million in earnings in North American theaters. The movie's debut partner,

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"Freakier Friday" took fourth place with \$3.8 million.

The crime caper "Caught Stealing," which debuted last weekend, rounded out the top five with \$3.2 million in domestic earnings.

Top 10 movies by domestic box office

With final domestic figures being released Monday, this list factors in the estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Comscore:

1. "The Conjuring: Last Rites," \$83 million.
2. "Hamilton," \$10 million.
3. "Weapons," \$5.4 million.
4. "Freakier Friday," \$3.8 million.
5. "Caught Stealing," \$3.2 million.
6. "The Roses," \$2.8 million.
7. "The Fantastic Four: First Steps," \$2.8 million.
8. "The Bad Guys 2," \$2.5 million.
9. "Light of the World," \$2.4 million.
10. "Superman," \$1 million.

Court of Dreams gives people with disabilities an opportunity to play tennis at US Open

By ALYCE BROWN AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Long before Aryna Sabalenka and Amanda Anisimova began play in the U.S. Open women's final Saturday, there were different players on the courts.

Earlier that morning, while the grounds were still quiet, children and adults with disabilities were the ones in the spotlight at Flushing Meadows. They learned the basics of tennis, from how to volley to how to hit a backhand, and put them on display at the Court of Dreams clinic.

The clinic is put on through a partnership between the USTA and the Beautiful Lives Project, an organization dedicated to providing people with disabilities opportunities to participate in sports and activities.

"If you watch them, they're getting better and better with each shot," said Tony Gionfriddo, executive director of the Beautiful Lives Project. "And they probably never had this opportunity before. Now they know when they go home that they can say, 'I played tennis.' And maybe this will push them to the next step and to continue learning."

It was the group's third year hosting this event, and interest continues to grow. Gionfriddo said there were around 100 participants this year, up substantially from previous attendance of about 50.

And for many, that access to tennis has a big impact. Twin 8-year-olds Skarlett and Skylar Scott have recently begun playing tennis, and their family is seeing a difference in their behavior.

"I have seen so much improvement in their motor function, their ability to follow multistep directions and their ability just to follow through on a task," said their mother, Natasha Scott. "I love this clinic."

The Beautiful Lives Project was founded by Bryce Weiler and Anthony Iacovone in 2017. Weiler, who is blind, was inspired to create something like this after his own experience with the University of Evansville men's basketball team greatly affected his life.

"It gave me the opportunity to be around college basketball and to be surrounded by people who believed in me and wanted to help me have success in life," Weiler said. "I wanted to help other individuals with disabilities to be able to live their dreams, to create lifelong friendships with others and to show that all people with disabilities need in life is an opportunity."

AP tennis: <https://apnews.com/hub/tennis>

The 2025 Venice Film Festival is over. Here's everything you need to know

By LINDSEY BAHR AP Film Writer

The 82nd Venice Film Festival may be over, but the conversations on the films that premiered, the things people said, the clothes they wore, and how it affects the Oscar race are still going.

Here's a rundown of the big moments and takeaways from this year's edition.

What won big at the Venice Film Festival?

Jim Jarmusch's quiet film "Father Mother Sister Brother" took the top prize, the Golden Lion. It was a surprise to many who expected that honor to go to "The Voice of Hind Rajab," which ended up with the runner up award, or "No Other Choice."

Aside from Benny Safdie's best director win for "The Smashing Machine," Hollywood players were largely shut out of the awards in favor of a diverse, international selection. Chinese actor Xin Zhilei won best actress for Cai Shangjun's "The Sun Rises on Us All," Italian icon Toni Servillo won best actor for "La Grazia" and Swiss actor Luna Wedler took the up-and-comer prize, the Marcello Mastroianni Award, for "Silent Friend."

Who might be an Oscars player?

The awards didn't give many hints, but Venice has been known to launch several best actor campaigns including Joaquin Phoenix in "Joker," Brendan Fraser in "The Whale" and Adrien Brody in "The Brutalist." This year the most obvious heavyweight to follow is Dwayne Johnson for his turn as MMA fighter Mark Kerr in "The Smashing Machine."

Emma Stone and Jesse Plemons were also strange and fierce as kidnapped and kidnapper in Yorgos Lanthimos's provocative "Bugonia." Oscar Isaac portrayed Victor Frankenstein as a romantic madman and Jacob Elordi was naïve and raw as the monster. Amanda Seyfried put a human, feminist, face to the religious sect the shakers in "The Testament of Ann Lee," and Julia Roberts flexed her acting muscles as a Yale philosophy professor in the midst of a misconduct accusation against a colleague in "After the Hunt."

Filmmakers like Kathryn Bigelow and previous Golden Lion winners Guillermo del Toro and Yorgos Lanthimos will also likely be in the conversation for months to come.

Why was Seth Rogen everywhere?

There's always some unexpected Hollywood person at the Venice Film Festival who doesn't seem to be associated with any one film. Sometimes they've come in for amfAR, sometimes they've been invited by one of the festival's sponsors. But text chains started blowing up when Seth Rogen started popping up everywhere: Red carpets, press conferences, parties. Don't be surprised if there's a Venice episode of "The Studio" in the works: This trip was research, and maybe even a little more.

Julia Roberts and Amanda Seyfried's sisterhood of the traveling Versace?

In a cute, unexpected (possibly highly staged) moment during the festival, Amanda Seyfried commented on Julia Roberts' Instagram asking to "please let me wear the same outfit." Three days later, Seyfried was also rocking the Versace blazer, jeans, button up and belt, just with different shoes. It helps that they share a stylist, Elizabeth Stewart.

There was a record standing ovation

First, let's just make clear that entertainment trade publications only started tracking Venice standing ovations recently. This year, audiences at the premiere of "The Voice of Hind Rajab" applauded for 22-minutes, surpassing the 18-minute record set last year by "The Room Next Door," which went on to win the Golden Lion. Even with a limited data set, that's a long time to clap after a movie.

Other standing ovation times from the 82nd festival: "After the Hunt" ((tilde)5 minutes), "Bugonia" ((tilde)6 minutes), "No Other Choice" ((tilde)7 minutes), "Jay Kelly" ((tilde)9 minutes), "The Wizard of the Kremlin" ((tilde)10 minutes), "A House of Dynamite" ((tilde)11 minutes), "Frankenstein" ((tilde)14 minutes), "The Testament of Ann Lee" ((tilde)15 minutes), "The Smashing Machine" ((tilde)15 minutes).

Politics and war on the big screen

The festival might not take political stances, but politics, and filmmakers grappling with the state of the

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world, from the Israel-Hamas conflict to nuclear weapons, were clearly top of mind. Kathryn Bigelow set off a warning shot about nuclear weapons and the apparatus of decision making with her urgent, and distressingly realistic, thriller "A House of Dynamite." Tunisian filmmaker Kaouther Ben Hania made an essential document of the human toll in Gaza with "The Voice of Hind Rajab." And Olivier Assayas charted the rise of Vladimir Putin in "The Wizard of the Kremlin."

Gaza also dominated conversations off screen too, from a protest that drew an estimated 10,000 people, to awards speeches.

Best quotes from the 2025 Venice Film Festival

"The real monsters are the men in suits." — Jacob Elordi, who plays Frankenstein's monster in a big budget Netflix film.

"I've been very fortunate to have the career that I've had and make the films that I have, but there was just this voice inside of me, this little voice, like what if I can do more." — Dwayne Johnson on his transformative, serious turn as MMA fighter Mark Kerr in "The Smashing Machine."

"I consider pretty much all corporate money is dirty money." — Filmmaker Jim Jarmusch, when asked about Mubi's relationship with Sequoia Capital.

"How is annihilating the world a good defensive measure? I mean, what are you defending?" — Filmmaker Kathryn Bigelow on the nuclear stockpiles.

"Humanity is facing a reckoning very soon. People need to choose the right path, otherwise, I don't know how much time we have." — Filmmaker Yorgos Lanthimos on the relevance of "Bugonia."

"Everyone comes out with all these different feelings and emotions and points of views. And you realize what you believe in strongly and what your convictions are because we stir it all up for you. So, you're welcome." — Julia Roberts on the debates stirred by "After the Hunt."

"It's time at the end of your life to put the puzzle pieces together and make them fit." — Kim Novak, 92, on receiving the festival's lifetime achievement award.

For more coverage of the Venice Film Festival, visit <https://apnews.com/hub/venice-film-festival>.

Japan's prime minister resigns after his party suffered a historic defeat in a summer election

By MARI YAMAGUCHI Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba announced Sunday that he will resign, following growing calls from within his party to take responsibility for a historic defeat in July's parliamentary election.

Ishiba, who took office in October, said he was stepping down as prime minister and as the head of his conservative Liberal Democratic Party.

Ishiba, a 68-year-old centrist, had resisted demands from opponents further to the right within his own party to resign. He argued that he wanted to avoid a political vacuum at a time when Japan faces key domestic and international challenges, including U.S. tariffs, rising prices and growing tensions in the Asia-Pacific.

Ishiba explained at a news conference Sunday night that he had intended for some time to take responsibility for his party's summer election loss, but was first determined to make progress in tariff negotiations with the United States. He described it as matter of the national interest.

"Who would seriously negotiate with a government whose leader says he is stepping down?" Ishiba said. He said the moment had arrived with an order by U.S. President Donald Trump on Friday to lower tariffs on Japanese cars and other products from 25% to 15%.

"Having reached a milestone in the U.S. tariff negotiations, I decided now is the time to make way for a successor," Ishiba said.

Pressure from the party

The resignation came one day before Ishiba's party was to decide whether to hold an early leadership

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election, which would have amounted to a virtual no-confidence motion against him if approved.

He said he made the "painful decision to resign" to avert that step because "it would cause a critical division within the party, and that is absolutely not my intention."

Ishiba said he would instead start a process to hold a party leadership vote to choose his replacement, which is expected to be held in October. He is to remain as prime minister until a new leader is elected and endorsed by the parliament.

Ishiba's leadership that lasted only one year underscores the instability of Japan's minority government.

A maverick who won the leadership in his fifth attempts, Ishiba said he regrets he could not live up to voters' expectations for change. "As a result, I failed to go my own way, and I wonder how I could have done better," he said.

He said he is not going to run in the next leadership race, even though he regrets leaving behind unfinished business, such as measures for salary increases, agricultural reforms and further strengthening Japan's security. He asked his future successor to tackle the issues he cherished.

Loss after loss

In July, Ishiba's ruling coalition failed to secure a majority in the 248-seat upper house in a crucial parliamentary election, weakening his government. The loss followed a defeat in the more powerful lower house, where the party-led coalition lost its majority in October, only two weeks after Ishiba took over.

Liberal Democratic lawmakers who support the prime minister said those who lost seats were largely ultra-conservatives who were linked to corruption scandals before Ishiba took office. Public polling showed that pressure on Ishiba to resign had the reverse effect and caused his support to grow.

Calls for Ishiba to step down grew after the Liberal Democratic Party last week called for a "complete overhaul" of the party following its losses.

Taro Aso, a conservative heavyweight known for his anti-Ishiba stance, and a minister and several deputy ministers in the Ishiba Cabinet requested an early vote, prompting others to follow suit.

Former Health Minister Norihisa Tamura said on a talk show of the public broadcaster NHK earlier Sunday that the best way to heal party divisions and move forward is for Ishiba "to settle" the dispute before Monday's vote. The party has already been distracted from necessary work on economic measures and on figuring out ways to gain opposition support in the next parliamentary session, Tamura said.

Possible candidates to replace Ishiba include Agriculture Minister Shinjiro Koizumi, as well as ultra-conservative former economic security minister Sanae Takaichi and Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi, a moderate and the protégé of former Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.

Lacking a majority in both houses, the next party leader will have to work with the main opposition parties to get bills passed, experts say, or else face constant risks of no-confidence motions.

The opposition parties, however, are too splintered to form a coalition to topple the government.

Voters say they want to see the party move forward and get down to work but they worry about uncertainty.

Office worker Takahiro Uchi welcomed Ishiba's resignation, as he hopes for change, "but at the same time, there is also uncertainty and concern about who will take over next." Masataka Nishioka, who works for a dental equipment company, said, "I really hope for a kind of politics that makes life easier for everyone."

AP video journalist Ayaka McGill in Tokyo contributed.

Mark Volman, who co-founded The Turtles and performed with Flo & Eddie, has died at 78

By TRAVIS LOLLER Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Mark Volman, a founding member of the 1960's pop group The Turtles, whose hits include "Happy Together" and "Elenore," died in Nashville, Tennessee, on Friday after a brief, unexpected illness, according to his publicist, Ame Van Iden. He was 78.

Volman was known for his exuberant stage presence and distinctive vocals. In a 1967 performance of

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"Happy Together" posted to YouTube, Volman wears bright orange and dances around with a French horn that he doesn't appear to play, but does place on bandmate Howard Kaylan's head.

His significant other, Emily Volman, posted to his official Instagram account that Volman had joked he wanted news of his death to read, "'Teen Idol Dead, Drugs Suspected'."

"I messed up!" she posted. "Sorry, honey."

She called him a "magical man" who was "goofy and happy and funny and smart and generous and kind and talented and gentle and creative and thoughtful and hardworking and tough and unique."

The Turtles broke up in 1970 during an acrimonious split with their label, and a contract clause would not allow the members to perform under their own names. So Volman and Kaylan reinvented themselves as the duo Flo & Eddie, earning a reputation for their humor and versatility. They toured with Frank Zappa's Mothers of Invention, created background vocals for Bruce Springsteen, and wrote music for television shows like Strawberry Shortcake.

"Always funny, always upbeat, and a spirited and inventive performer, we will miss him greatly," Evan Cohen, Volman's attorney and longtime friend, posted to Facebook. He wrote that Volman and Kaylan set an example by advocating for the rights of musicians in owning their recordings and band names. They eventually regained control of The Turtles' music and name and began touring again.

During a "Happy Together" tour in 2011, Volman told The Daily Republic that he constantly heard stories from people about what the hit song meant to them, including many people who played the tune at their weddings.

"That one song changed our entire future forever," Volman said. "We were very fortunate to be part of a song that has such staying power. That song has really become part of the American life of so many people."

A "borderline C" student in high school who figured he would do sheet-metal work like his father if his band didn't take off, Volman enrolled in college at age 45 after visiting a school with his older daughter. He eventually earned a master's degree and started teaching music business, landing at Belmont University in Nashville in 2005. He would even take students on tour with him as part of his classes, giving them firsthand experience in tour management, stage management, audio engineering and tour accounting.

Speaking about the decision to teach, Volman told the Nashville Scene at the time, "Successful artists are few and far between, and I wanted to attach an element of reality to things. Failure is an option, a good option because it teaches you to pick yourself up. Just because you put out a record that doesn't succeed, that doesn't make it a bad record."

In 2023, he published his memoir, "Happy Forever: My Musical Adventures With The Turtles, Frank Zappa, T. Rex, Flo & Eddie, and More."

Volman was diagnosed in 2020 with Lewy body dementia, but he continued to perform on annual "Happy Together" tours in the years that followed. He publicly revealed his diagnosis in 2023.

He is survived by Emily Volman; his ex-wife, Pat Volman; and their daughters, Hallie Volman and Sarina Miller; and his brother, Phil Volman.

Sejal Govindarao contributed from Phoenix.

'Never seen anything like it' — what Trump's favorite phrase says about his presidency

By CHRIS MEGERIAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As President Donald Trump tells it, never-before-seen things are happening with stunning regularity.

The United States is going to build a new missile defense system "the likes of which nobody's ever seen before."

His aggressive use of the military in Washington has reduced crime to "numbers that we haven't seen

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here ever.”

And when it comes to economic growth under his leadership, “we’ve never seen anything like it.”

It’s the president’s favorite form of hyperbole, whether he’s talking about something he likes or dislikes. Nothing is ever getting little bit better or a little bit worse — it’s always so good or so bad that it’s never before been recorded in the annals of human history.

The phrase, which Trump is using with increasing frequency, is not just a rhetorical signature. It’s also a reflection of how Trump views the world and approaches the presidency. Almost everything is black and white, with himself as the hero and his political opponents as the villains. His successes are legendary in his eyes, and the country’s problems are urgent crises that require him to consolidate power and take drastic action.

“The way he talks translates into the way he governs,” said Brian Ott, a communication professor at Missouri State University who focuses on political rhetoric. “For extreme responses, everything demands an extreme context.”

Liz Huston, a White House spokesperson, said “repetition is the key to any good messaging and President Trump is the greatest communicator in the history of American politics.”

Trump’s grandiosity is growing along with his power

It’s not hyperbole to say that Trump is deploying his trademark phrase at levels never been seen in his political career. And he’s doing it at a time when he’s less restrained — by Congress, the Supreme Court, members of his own administration and his own hesitancy — than in his first term.

Trump has used some version of the phrase 194 times this year, according to Roll Call Factbase, a database of presidential remarks. (And that’s not counting Thursday, when Trump said “there’s never been anything like” the technological advancements during his term, or Friday, when he boasted about economic investments by saying “nobody’s ever seen numbers like this.”)

The total falls short of Trump’s use of the phrase during his last two campaigns, when grandiose statements were typical of his political rallies, but it far outpaces any previous year that he was in office.

Only 90 examples were recorded in 2019, 77 in 2018 and 48 in 2017.

Factbase used artificial intelligence and other methods to identify versions of the phrase in recordings of Trump’s public comments. Bill Frischling, who oversees the database, said Trump’s phrasing appears to be something of a verbal tic, since it rarely shows up in social media posts over the years.

Nor is the phrase included in the text of prepared speeches since Trump took office in January. (The White House has released nearly two dozen this term.)

Trump’s hyperbole isn’t always backed up with facts

Trump’s loose relationship with facts is well documented, all the way back to his bestselling book “The Art of the Deal” in 1987.

“People want to believe that something is the biggest and the greatest and the most spectacular,” the book said. “I call it truthful hyperbole. It’s an innocent form of exaggeration — and it’s a very effective form of promotion.”

Tony Schwartz, Trump’s ghost writer, has said that he coined the phrase “truthful hyperbole,” but the future president loved it.

The routine was on full display last year when Trump spoke at the Republican National Convention.

He promised to “lead America to new heights of greatness like the world has never seen before,” and he said the national debt will come down “with numbers that nobody has ever seen.”

Then he unleashed his anger at Democrats.

Rising inflation? “They’ve never seen anything like it.” Illegal immigration? “Nobody’s ever seen anything like it.”

(Inflation has been higher before, particularly in the 1970s and early 1980s, but border crossings were setting records under President Joe Biden.)

Now the phrase is a fixture of Trump’s events, including his recent meeting with the new Polish president. Sometimes his claims are accurate, other times not.

Regarding the war between Russia and Ukraine, Trump said “they’re losing soldiers at levels that nobody

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has seen since the Second World War.” (Indeed, it’s Europe’s deadliest conflict in that time period.)

He said “they have crime that’s at levels that nobody’s ever seen before in Baltimore,” a pretext for a potential deployment of the National Guard over local objections. (The city has historically struggled with crime but violence has been declining in recent years.)

And Trump said his tax legislation would help the middle class and it’s the “first time they’ve ever seen anything like this.” (Wealthy people will get the largest benefits, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office.)

The phrase is spreading through the administration

Trump’s top advisers ape his language, as several did during last week’s three-hour-long Cabinet meeting.

Steve Witkoff, a diplomatic envoy, told the president that people around the globe “have never really seen the world change in this way” because of his peace negotiations.

Secretary of State Marco Rubio praised Trump’s work on controlling migration, saying they’re “getting cooperation from countries that we’ve never seen before.”

Sometimes Trump even likes to put the phrase in other people’s mouths.

In an Aug. 15 interview with Fox News’ Sean Hannity, Trump claimed that Russian President Vladimir Putin had been impressed with his leadership.

“Vladimir said just a little while ago, he said, ‘I’ve never seen anybody do so much so fast,’” Trump said.

White House’s review of Smithsonian content could reach into classrooms nationwide

By MAKIYA SEMINERA Associated Press

High school history teacher Katharina Matro often pulls materials from the Smithsonian Institution website as she assembles her lessons. She trusts its materials, which don’t require the same level of vetting as other online resources. She uses documents and other primary sources it curates for discussions of topics like genocide and slavery.

As the White House presses for changes at the Smithsonian, she’s worried she may not be able to rely on it in the same way.

“We don’t want a partisan history,” said Matro, a teacher in Bethesda, Maryland. “We want the history that’s produced by real historians.”

Far beyond museums in Washington, President Donald Trump’s review at the Smithsonian could influence how history is taught in classrooms around the country. The institution is a leading provider of curriculum and other educational materials, which are subject to the sweeping new assessment of all its public-facing content.

Trump is moving to bring the Smithsonian into alignment with his vision of American history. In a letter last month to the Smithsonian Institution, the White House said its review is meant to “assess tone, historical framing, and alignment with American ideals.” It’s part of Trump’s agenda to “celebrate American exceptionalism” by removing “divisive or partisan narratives,” it said.

Those opposed to the changes fear they will promote a more sanitized version of American history.

In celebration of the country’s 250th anniversary next year, the Education Department recently launched the White House’s Founders Museum in partnership with PragerU, a conservative nonprofit that produces videos on politics and history. Visitors to the museum in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, as well as the White House website, can read biographies on the signers of the Declaration of Independence and watch videos that depict them speaking.

“Real patriotic education means that just as our founders loved and honored America, so we should honor them,” Education Secretary Linda McMahon said in a PragerU video introducing the project.

The project mentions some signers favoring abolition and includes Phillis Wheatley, an enslaved woman who became the first published Black female poet in the U.S. But critics say it brushes over some of the nation’s darker past.

“Those are the kinds of things that teachers are really leery of because they don’t see partisanship in

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the sources that we're using as being good educational practice," said Tina Ellsworth, president of the National Council for the Social Studies.

History teachers use supplemental resources over textbooks

Like many other history teachers, Matro said she turns to materials from the Smithsonian because she doesn't have the time to create lessons from scratch or the budget to buy the latest books. She favors the museum's digitized collections to guide her classes.

"I don't have to figure out 'is this real? Is this not real?' I can trust the descriptions of the artifact," she said.

More than 80% of history teachers report using free resources from federal museums, archives and institutions including the Smithsonian, according to an American Historical Association survey last year.

The federal institutions' materials have been widely trusted partly because they are thoroughly examined by professionals, said Brendan Gillis, the historical association's director of teaching and learning. Some teachers have out-of-date history textbooks, and online resources from institutions like the Smithsonian can fill the gaps, he said.

"That's been one of the most influential and profoundly important ways that the federal government has invested in social studies education over the last couple of decades," Gillis said.

While education always has been part of the Smithsonian's mission, developing materials specifically for classrooms became more prevalent after World War II, said William Walker, a State University of New York, Oneonta, professor who has researched the Smithsonian's history. The museum organizes professional development workshops for teachers and offers materials ranging from worksheets to videos.

Russell Jeung, an Asian-American studies professor at San Francisco State University and co-founder of Stop AAPI Hate, took part in a Smithsonian video series in 2020 meant to educate high schoolers and adults on racism and discrimination against Asians during the COVID-19 pandemic and other points in American history.

Jeung said he expects the project will be shelved by the White House review.

"I think the story will be told," Jeung said. "But the tragedy again and the loss is that we won't get the national recognition that we deserve."

In recent years, many states have passed laws adopting guidelines on how schools can address topics including racism, sexism and other topics. And professional groups say teachers will continue to adapt and find resources to put historical events in due context, regardless of what happens at the Smithsonian.

"Education is always political, so we know that as social studies teachers, it's our job to navigate that terrain, which we do and we do well," Ellsworth said.

Educators worry students will be turned off on history

Michael Heiman, a longtime social studies teacher in Juneau, Alaska, said he typically had his students do a scavenger hunt of artifacts in a virtual Smithsonian tour.

He said the exhibits always have been culturally inclusive and if that changes, he worries it would affect students of color he's taught, including Native American children. It could discourage them from pursuing careers in museum sciences or engaging with history at all, he said.

"We are further quieting voices that are important to our country," Heiman said. "We are also restricting certain kids in those underrepresented populations to really understand more about their past."

About a decade ago, graduate students of history professor Sam Redman at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, had the opportunity to collaborate with the Smithsonian National Museum of American History for a blog series commemorating the Americans with Disabilities Act. The exercise connected objects in the Smithsonian collection to the civil rights law. The experience for his students was "really incredible," he said.

Each year, he's heard students say they want to get a job in the federal government or work at the Smithsonian after graduation. But not this year. Redman said he hasn't heard a single student express interest.

"This is a pressing concern, no doubt about it," he said.

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Police arrest almost 900 at London protest supporting banned group Palestine Action

By SYLVIA HUI and JILL LAWLESS Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British police said Sunday that they arrested almost 900 people demonstrating in London against a ban on the group Palestine Action, which has been deemed a terrorist organization by the government.

Almost 1,600 people have now been detained, many for silently holding signs supporting the group, since it was outlawed two months ago. Protesters say the ban on Palestine Action is an unwarranted curb on free speech and the right to protest.

The Metropolitan Police force said 890 people were arrested at Saturday's demonstration, the vast majority, 857, under the Terrorism Act for supporting a proscribed organization. Some 33 were detained for other offenses, including 17 for assaulting police officers.

Defend Our Juries, the campaign group organizing the protest, said 1,500 people took part in the demonstration outside Parliament, sitting down and holding signs reading "I oppose genocide, I support Palestine Action."

Within minutes, police began arresting the demonstrators, as bystanders chanted "Shame on you," and "Met Police, pick a side, justice or genocide." There were some scuffles and angry exchanges as officers dragged away demonstrators who went limp as they were removed from the crowd.

"In carrying out their duties today, our officers have been punched, kicked, spat on and had objects thrown at them by protesters," said Deputy Assistant Commissioner Claire Smart, who called the abuse directed at police "intolerable."

Defend Our Juries said aggression had come from police officers and dismissed claims that protesters had been violent as "frankly laughable."

More than 700 people were arrested at earlier protests, and 138 have been charged under the Terrorism Act.

Mike Higgins, 62, who is blind and uses a wheelchair, was arrested last month but returned to demonstrate on Saturday.

"And I'm a terrorist? That's the joke of it," he said. "I've already been arrested under the Terrorism Act and I suspect I will be today."

"Of course I'll keep coming back. What choice do I have?"

Direct action protests

The government proscribed Palestine Action in July, after activists broke into a Royal Air Force base and vandalized planes to protest against what they called Britain's support for Israel's offensive against Hamas in Gaza. The activists sprayed red paint into the engines of two tanker planes and caused further damage with crowbars.

Proscription made it a crime to publicly support the organization. Membership of, or support for, the group is punishable by up to 14 years in prison.

Palestine Action has carried out direct action protests in the U.K. since it formed in 2020, including breaking into facilities owned by Israeli weapons manufacturer Elbit Systems UK, and has targeted other sites in Britain that participants believe have links with the Israeli military.

The group has targeted defense companies and national infrastructure, and officials say their actions have caused millions of pounds in damage that affect national security.

Banning the group, then-Home Secretary Yvette Cooper said, "The assessments are very clear, this is not a nonviolent organization."

Palestine Action has won approval from the High Court to challenge the ban, a ruling the government is seeking to overturn. The case is ongoing, with a hearing scheduled for Sept. 25.

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Supporters say the ban stifles free speech

The U.N. human rights chief has criticized the British government's stance, saying the new law "misuses the gravity and impact of terrorism."

The decision to designate Palestine Action as a terrorist group "raises serious concerns that counterterrorism laws are being applied to conduct that is not terrorist in nature, and risks hindering the legitimate exercise of fundamental freedoms across the UK," Volker Türk warned.

He added that according to international standards, terrorist acts should be confined to crimes such as those intended to cause death or serious injury or the taking of hostages.

Huda Ammori, Palestine Action's co-founder, has condemned the government's decision to ban it as "catastrophic" for civil liberties, leading to a "much wider chilling effect on freedom of speech."

The group has been supported by prominent cultural figures including bestselling Irish author Sally Rooney, who said she planned to use the proceeds of her work "to keep backing Palestine Action and direct action against genocide."

Israel — founded in part as a refuge in the wake of the Holocaust, when some 6 million European Jews were murdered — vehemently denies it is committing genocide.

Britain's government stressed that proscribing Palestine Action as a terrorist group does not affect other lawful groups — including pro-Palestinian or pro-Israel voices — campaigning or peacefully protesting.

About 20,000 people, by a police estimate, attended a separate pro-Palestinian march in London on Saturday.

Today in History: September 8, Ford pardons Nixon

By The Associated Press undefined

Today in History

Today is Monday, Sept. 8, the 251st day of 2025. There are 114 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On Sept. 8, 1974, one month after taking office, President Gerald R. Ford granted a "full, free, and absolute pardon" to former President Richard Nixon for any crimes committed during Nixon's presidency.

Also on this date:

In 1504, Michelangelo's towering marble statue of David was unveiled to the public in Florence, Italy.

In 1565, a Spanish expedition established the first permanent European settlement in North America at present-day St. Augustine, Florida.

In 1664, the Dutch surrendered New Amsterdam to the British, who renamed it New York.

In 1900, Galveston, Texas, was struck by a hurricane that killed an estimated 8,000 people; it remains the deadliest natural disaster in U.S. history.

In 1935, Sen. Huey P. Long, D-La., was fatally shot in the Louisiana State Capitol building.

In 1941, the 900-day Siege of Leningrad by German forces began during World War II.

In 1951, a peace treaty with Japan was signed by 49 nations in San Francisco.

In 1957, Althea Gibson became the first Black tennis player to win the U.S. National Championships, now known as the U.S. Open.

In 1964, public schools in Prince Edward County, Virginia, reopened after being closed for five years by officials attempting to prevent court-ordered racial desegregation.

In 1986, "The Oprah Winfrey Show" began the first of 25 seasons in national syndication.

In 2016, California and federal regulators fined Wells Fargo a combined \$185 million, alleging the bank's employees illegally opened millions of unauthorized accounts for their customers in order to meet aggressive sales goals.

In 2022, Queen Elizabeth II, who spent more than seven decades on the British throne, died at age 96; her then 73-year-old son became King Charles III.

Today's Birthdays: Former Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Georgia, is 87. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vermont, is 84. Civil rights activist Ruby Bridges is 71. Author Terry Tempest Williams is 70. Basketball Hall of Famer Maurice

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Cheeks is 69. Actor Heather Thomas is 68. Singer Aimee Mann is 65. Actor Thomas Kretschmann is 63. Alternative country singer Neko (NEE'-koh) Case is 55. TV personality Brooke Burke is 54. Actor Martin Freeman is 54. Actor David Arquette is 54. TV-radio personality Kennedy is 53. Actor Larenz Tate is 50. Singer-songwriter Pink is 46. Actor Jonathan Taylor Thomas is 44. Rapper Wiz Khalifa is 38. MLB pitcher Gerrit Cole is 35. Actor Gaten Matarazzo (TV: "Stranger Things") is 23.