

Groton Daily Independent

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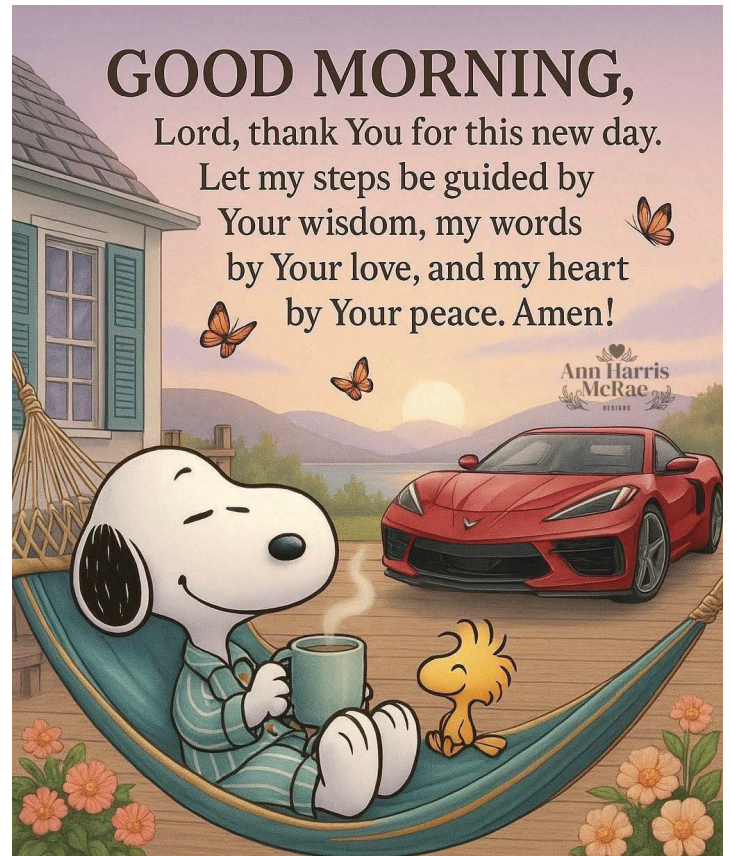
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Sunday, Oct. 19

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School 10:15 a.m.; Choir 6 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Worship with communion at St. John's, 9 a.m., and Zion, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

United Methodist: Worship at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.

Groton CM&A: Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.

2nd Grade GBB Practice, 4 p.m.

Dance Team Practice, 5 p.m.

5th Grade GBB Practice, 4 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 20

Senior Menu: Hot beef combination, mashed potatoes, carrots, mixed fruit.

School Breakfast: Eggs.

School Lunch: Corn dogs, baked beans.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

1st Grade GBB Practice, 3:30 p.m.

Volleyball at Langford Area: (JH-4, JV-6:30, V-7:30)

Senior Citizens meet at the Community Center, 1 p.m.

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We the People

The South Dakota Humanities Council is making available a weekly column -- "We the People" -- that focuses on the U.S. Constitution. It is written by David Adler, who is president of The Alturas Institute, a non-profit organization created to promote the Constitution, gender equality, and civic education.



By David Adler

Trump's Seizure of the Power of the Purse: Striking the Core of the Republic

President Donald Trump's usurpation of the congressional spending power, a seismic blow to the foundational power of the legislature and another in his endless string of constitutional violations, warranted, in the minds of the nation's founders, an impeachable offense for its deadly assault on the republic and its chief weapon to control an arbitrary executive.

The power of the purse, James Madison observed in Federalist 58, represents the "most complete and effectual weapon with which any constitution can arm the immediate representatives of the people, for obtaining a redress of every grievance, and for carrying into effect every just and salutary measure." The framers of the Constitution, in Article 1, Section 9, Clause 7, granted this power to Congress: "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law." In homespun terms that captured the attention of Americans, Madison wrote in Federalist 48, that "the legislative department alone has access to the pockets of the people." How the United States spends its money, the founders declared, was an exclusively legislative, not executive, power.

President Trump, without challenge from the Republican-controlled Congress, has usurped the appropriations power, in violation of this bedrock principle. He has unilaterally cancelled contracts, frozen billions of dollars in congressionally approved funding, and invoked the baseless claim of a "pocket recission" authority to withhold \$5 billion in foreign aid. This authoritarian technique, depriving the representatives of the people from making decisions on the expenditure of tax dollars, was an object of towering concern to those who created and implemented the republic.

In 1793, during a congressional inquiry into the expenditure of funds by Treasury Secretary, Alexander Hamilton, then Rep. James Madison drew from the Federalist Papers and reminded colleagues of the essential security obtained through placement of the spending power in Congress. "Appropriations of money were of a high and sacred character; they were the great bulwark which our Constitution had carefully and jealously established against Executive usurpations." A decade later, an acclaimed commentator, St. George Tucker, wrote in his introduction to Blackstone's Commentaries: "All the expenses of government being paid by the people, it is the right of the people, not only, not to be taxed without their consent, or that of their representatives freely chosen, but to be actually consulted upon the disposal of money which they have brought into the treasury." Which, precisely, is why the Constitution grants to Congress the sole authority to withdraw money from the treasury.

If it were otherwise, Justice Joseph Story, the most scholarly of justices, warned in 1833 of the nightmare that "the executive would possess an unbounded power over the public purse of the nation; and might apply all its monied resources at his pleasure." Story invoked Madison, noting the "salutary" check on "corrupt influence," if the executive controlled the purse. "In arbitrary governments the prince levies what money he pleases, disposes of it as he thinks proper, and is beyond responsibility or reproof." It is for this reason, Story added, "that Congress is made the Guardian" of the treasury.

Trump's baseless assertion of power to impound funds, to freeze spending and cancel programs, particularly those which he disparages as "Democrat programs," reflects his seizure of "unbounded power over the public purse of the nation." His theft of the spending power vitiates the right of the people, through their elected representatives, to be "consulted" on the "disposal" of their tax dollars. It bears reminder that the constitutional allocation of power to one branch bars its exercise by another.

The complicity of the GOP congressional majority in Trump's seizure of the appropriations power is even more galling because the founders agreed that usurpation of the power of purse warranted impeachment.

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The English practice of impeachment was constantly before the eyes of the framers and influenced their drafting of the Impeachment Clause. Trump's usurpation of the spending power reflects, precisely, the historic impeachment in 1680 of Sir Edward Seymour, Speaker of the House of Commons, for applying appropriated funds to public purposes other than those specified.

The framers' deep-seated concerns about executive seizure of the appropriations power, heightened by English history, sharpened their resolve to preclude the president from laying claim to the spending authority. Today, however, the GOP acquiesces in the president's exercise of a monarchical power that the framers of the Constitution rejected.

David Adler is president of The Alturas Institute, a non-profit organization created to promote the Constitution, gender equality and civic education. This column is made possible with the support of the South Dakota Humanities Council, South Dakota NewsMedia Association and this newspaper.

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Groton Goes 4–0 to Win Milbank Tournament Championship

The Groton Area Tigers volleyball team delivered one of their most complete days of the season Saturday, sweeping all four of their matches to capture the Milbank Tournament championship. Groton defeated Beresford, Sisseton, Great Plains Lutheran, and Sioux Valley — never dropping a single set all day.

Head Coach Chelsea Hanson said the performance reflected how far the team has come this fall.

"We talk about peaking at the right time, and today you could see it," she said. "Our girls were loose, confident, and ready to compete from the first serve to the last point."

Groton Sweeps Beresford to Open Milbank Tournament

The Tigers opened play Saturday morning with a convincing 2–0 win over Beresford, never trailing in either set. Groton took the first set 25–18 and closed out the match 25–16 with a steady combination of serving, defense, and balanced scoring.

"It's always good to get tournament wins, especially in the morning," Hanson said. "We're not necessarily morning people, but the energy was there. McKenna brought the speaker, they were singing, and they were ready to play."

Groton finished with 26 kills on 56-of-73 hitting (.356), went 47-of-48 from the service line with four aces, tallied 19 assists, 37 digs, and four total blocks.

Rylee Dunker and Chesney Weber each had six kills, Tevan Hanson added five, Taryn Traphagen had four, McKenna Krause added three, and Jaedyn Penning chipped in two. Weber handed out 13 assists.

Defensively, Jerica Locke led with 11 digs, Sydney Locke added 10, and Penning had seven.

"This group can all score," Hanson said. "You never know who's going to lead us, and that makes us tough to defend."

Tigers Handle Sisseton 2–0

In their second match, Groton defeated Sisseton 25–19 and 25–10, again dominating at the net. The first set was tied six times, with Sisseton's last lead at 11–10 before Groton took control. In the second, the Tigers jumped out to a 4–0 lead and never looked back.

"We just needed to come in and take care of business," Hanson said. "When we play with confidence, it shows."

Groton recorded 30 kills on 66-of-77 hitting (.857), went 44-of-47 serving with seven aces, dished out 29 assists, collected 43 digs, and blocked two total shots.

Weber led with six kills and 22 assists and eight digs, while Penning added four kills and two aces. Dunker had five kills, Traphagen six, Krause three, and Hanson six. Jerica Locke contributed nine digs, Sydney Locke nine, and Tietz five.

"Our serving and first-ball contact have really improved," Hanson said. "That allows Chesney to run the offense smoothly, and the hitters are trusting her placement."

Groton Overpowers Great Plains Lutheran — Season-Low Points for Opponent

Groton's third match of the day was its most explosive, a 25–8, 25–22 sweep over Great Plains Lutheran that featured one of the Tigers' most efficient offensive sets all season.

The Tigers dominated the opening frame with 19 kills, four aces, and one block, holding GPL to just eight points — the fewest points Great Plains Lutheran has scored in a single set this year. Groton jumped to a 6–0 lead and never looked back.

Weber, Penning, Dunker, and Traphagen each had multiple kills in the first set, while Wright and Tietz each landed an ace. The Tigers' hitting rhythm and quick transitions left GPL scrambling throughout the match.

Groton finished with 31 kills on 64-of-73 hitting (.877), went 45-of-47 serving with six aces, totaled 26 assists, 47 digs, and two blocks.

Weber led the way with eight kills, one ace, 16 assists, and eight digs. Penning added six kills and four aces, Dunker had four kills and a block assist, Traphagen six kills, and Hanson five. Jerica Locke collected 12 digs, Tietz had 11, Penning had nine and Sydney Locke chipped in three.

"We played really well. I don't think we made any errors," Hanson said. "Some of the kills we had were unbelievable — we were locked in. They're a good team, so to beat them like that means a lot."

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Championship Match: Groton Defeats Sioux Valley 2–0

In the title match, Groton defeated Sioux Valley by identical scores of 25–18, 25–18, sealing a perfect 4–0 tournament record.

The Tigers recorded 17 kills in each set for 34 total, hitting 78-of-88 (.886) overall. They went 39-of-44 from the service line with one ace, finished with 31 assists, 43 digs, and four total blocks.

Rylee Dunker and Chesney Weber each had 10 kills, Tevan Hanson added six, and both Penning and Traphagen finished with five apiece. Weber tallied 23 assists and three block assists, while Jerica and Sydney Locke combined for 20 digs.

The match included a rare yellow card — a moment Hanson said was unusual but didn't distract the team. "The official said we were asking for too many calls. It is what it is," she said. "But the girls stayed composed. Four-and-oh on the day — it's a big day for us."

She said the offensive output was remarkable.

"We had 17 kills in each set — 34 kills in a two-set match. That's insane. You don't lose matches when you're scoring like that."

Hanson also praised her setter's decision-making:

"Chesney knows when to attack and when to set. She keeps the blockers guessing and puts our hitters in great positions. She's really matured into a leader."

A Statement Day and a Bright Finish Ahead

The 4–0 tournament performance marked Groton's first tournament championship in several years.

"I think the last one was the Redfield Tournament maybe seven or eight years ago," Hanson said. "For us, this is a milestone. We've talked about earning it, not just waiting for mistakes — and this team is doing that. We're scoring our own points."

Groton now sits around 20–4 on the season heading into a busy final stretch: at Langford on Monday, home against Northwestern on Tuesday, and in Redfield on Friday.

"We only have two regular season practices left, which is hard to believe," Hanson said. "But this group is having fun, they support each other, and they're playing for each other. You can just feel the energy they bring — and it's contagious."

The Groton matches were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM with Justin Hanson providing the play-by-play. Sponsors were Agtegra, Avantara, Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Full Circle Ag, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, Groton Legion, Heartland Energy, John Sieh Agency, Jungle Lanes & Lounge and The MeatHouse in Andover.

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Milbank Tournament Results

The bold team won the match.

| <u>Armory (Home team is listed first)</u> | | <u>Elementary (Home team is listed first)</u> | |
|---|-------------|--|-------------------|
| 9:00 Milbank v. Wilmot | 25-15,25-17 | Great Plains Lutheran v. Sisseton | 25-11,25-15 |
| 10:00 Sioux Valley v. Mobridge-Pollock | 25-21,25-18 | Beresford v. Groton | 18-25,16-25 |
| 11:00 Milbank v. Sioux Valley | 14-25,15-25 | Beresford v. Great Plains Lutheran | 23-25,25-23,23-25 |
| NOON Wilmot v. Mobridge-Pollock | 21-25,4-25 | Sisseton v. Groton | 19-25,10-25 |
| 1:00 Milbank v. Mobridge-Pollock | 13-25,13-25 | Groton v. Great Plains Lutheran | 25-8,25-22 |
| 2:00 Wilmot v. Sioux Valley | 7-25,10-25 | Sisseton v. Beresford | 25-23,16-25,18-25 |
| 3:00 Wilmot v. Sisseton | 14-25,14-25 | Milbank v. Beresford | 21-25,18-25 |
| 4:00 Sioux Valley v. Groton | 18-25,18-25 | Mobridge-Pollock v. Great Plains Lutheran | 26-24,21-25,25-21 |
| 1st Groton | 4-0 | | |
| 2nd Sioux Valley | 3-1 | | |
| 3rd Mobridge-Pollock | 3-1 | | |
| 4th Great Plains Lutheran | 2-2 | | |
| 5th Beresford | 2-2 | | |
| 6th Milbank | 1-3 | | |
| 7th Sisseton | 1-3 | | |
| 8th Wilmot | 0-4 | | |

DVC Tournament results:

Main Gym:

Game #1 Estelline/Hendricks over Colman-Egan: 29-27, 23-25, 25-19

Game #2 Colman-Egan over De Smet: 25-8, 25-21

Game #3 Castlewood over Colman-Egan: 25-19, 24-26, 25-23

Game #4 Castlewood over St. Mary's 25-15, 25-19

Game #5 Colman-Egan over St. Mary's 19-25, 25-12, 25-22

Aux Gym:

Game #1 Castlewood over De Smet 25-15, 25-21

Game #2 Estelline/Hendricks over St. Mary's 25-14, 20-25, 25-23

Game #3 St. Mary's over De Smet 25-16, 25-15

Game #4 De Smet over Estelline/Hendricks 25-14, 22-25, 28-26

Game #5 Estelline/Hendrick over Castlewood 25-17, 25-23

Final Standings:

Estelline/Hendricks (3-1) 8 points - (E/H over Castlewood tiebreaker #1 head to head)

Castlewood (3-1) 8 points

Colman-Egan (2-2) 7 points

St. Mary's (1-3) 5 points (St. Mary's over De Smet tiebreaker #1 head to head)

De Smet (1-3) 3 points

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First quarter spark leads Northern State over Southwest Minnesota State

Aberdeen, S.D. – In their lone non-conference contest of the 2025 season, the Northern State University football team ran past Southwest Minnesota State in a commanding win. The 32-point victory saw the Wolves record 269 yards rushing and 257 yards passing for their third 500-yard game of the season.

THE QUICK DETAILS

Final Score: NSU 55, SMSU 23

Records: NSU 5-2 (4-2 NSIC), SMSU 1-6 (1-5 NSIC)

Attendance: 4688

HOW IT HAPPENED

The Wolves scored early and often recording 27 points in the first, 14 in the second, seven in the third, and seven in the fourth, while the Mustangs tallied three points in the first, 13 in the second, and seven in the fourth

Northern notched five receiving touchdowns, two rushing scores, and a special teams blocked punt return and recovery for a touchdown by Blake Clay

The trio of Carter Campbell, Mason Stubbe, and Gavin Giesler tallied offensive receiving touchdowns in the first with Clay capping off the quarter on the first touchdown of his career

Zach Kraft and Cooper Eisenbeisz scored for NSU in the second, giving the Wolves a 41-16 lead at the half

The scoring slowed down in the final two quarters with Stubbe added his second touchdown of the evening in the third, a 5-yard run, and Kimani Quade topped things off in the fourth with his first career touchdown, an 8-yard run

Brock Bagozzi and Daniel Britt combined for a pass completion rate just over 75.0% in the win, averaging 11.7 yards per completion with five touchdowns and 257 total yards

The quarterback duo connected with 14 different receivers in the win, including a 5-yard reception by senior offensive lineman Daniel Porisch

In the rushing game, NSU averaged 8.2 yards per carry with two touchdowns and 269 total yards

The Wolves defense recorded three interceptions by Andrew Ewald, Kyle Thomas, and Cooper Logan, while adding 8.0 tackles for a loss, one forced fumble, one fumble recovery, and six pass breakups

Bagozzi threw for 148 yards, completing 12-of-14 attempts with three touchdowns, while Britt added 99 yards, completing 9-of-13 attempts with a touchdown

The final passing touchdown for NSU came off the hand of Zach Jorgensen to Zach Kraft in the second for ten yards

Wyatt Block led the rushers with 117 yards, averaging 14.6 yards per carry, followed by Britt with 84 yards, averaging 12.0 yards per carry

Carter Cambell and Mason Stubbe led the receiving core with 48 and 43 yards respectively, with Stubbe's 35-yard touchdown being the long of the game for NSU

Jake Adams remained in double figures for the fourth time this season, leading the team with 12 tackles, including eight solo stops and 1.0 tackle for a loss

Javonnee Szymanski and Davion Smith followed with seven tackles apiece, a career high for Smith, while Cordae Jones forced a fumble, Kadyn Turnbow blocked a PAT, and Richard Prescott blocked a punt

Eisenbeisz not only tallied his first career receiving touchdown in the second, but notched 92 kick return yards with a 46-yard long

Jeremey Caruso scored seven points in the win going 7-of-8 in PATs and averaged 57.6 yards per kickoff

NORTHERN STATE STATISTICAL STANDOUTS

Brock Bagozzi: 148 yards passing, 12-of-14, 3 touchdowns

Daniel Britt: 99 yards passing, 9-of-13, 1 touchdown, 84 yards rushing

Wyatt Block: 117 yards rushing, 27 yards receiving

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Mason Stubbe: 43 yards receiving, 17 yards rushing, 2 touchdowns
Jake Adams: 12 tackles, 1.0 tackle for a loss, 1 quarterback hurry
Cooper Eisenbeisz: 31 yards receiving, 1 touchdown, 92 kick return yards

BEYOND THE BOX SCORE

Block's 100-yard game marks the fourth straight of the season for the Wolf who ranks second in the NSIC with 727 total yards, averaging 103.9 yards per game

Eisenbeisz sits second in the league in kick return yards averaging 30.8 yards per game with 401 total yards

Three Wolves tallied their first touchdowns of the season in Clay, Giesler, and Quade

UP NEXT

Northern State returns to Dacotah Bank Stadium for their third straight home game next Saturday, October 23. The Wolves will host MSU Moorhead for a 6 pm kickoff in the annual Blackout Cancer Game.

Lucky For Life Second Prize Winner Purchased in Rapid City

PIERRE, S.D. —A pair of South Dakota Lottery players are big winners after Friday's drawings.

Friday's Lucky for Life drawing resulted in a second prize winner. Lucky for Life's second prize gives the winning player the option of \$25,000 a year for life or a one-time payment of \$390,000.

The winning ticket was purchased at Boyd's Drug Mart in Rapid City, and the winning numbers were 7, 24, 34, 45 and 47 with a Lucky Ball of 11.

The South Dakota Lottery advises the winner to sign the back of the ticket immediately and consult with a financial advisor before claiming the prize. The prize may be claimed by visiting any South Dakota Lottery redemption center.

The prize may be claimed at the South Dakota Lottery's Rapid City validation center is located at 221 Mall Dr., Suite 103. Friday's second prize winner marks the 11th Lucky for Life second prize winner since the game's South Dakota debut in 2017.

Mega Millions also provided excitement among lottery players. The Friday drawing had a \$50,000 winning ticket that was purchased at South C Store in Aberdeen. The prize was multiplied by 5 thanks to the game's build-in multiplier feature.

The big win may just be the tip of the iceberg for Mega Millions players. Tuesday's Mega Millions drawing will feature a \$650 million prize.

The state's General Fund, which supports K-12 schools, state universities and technical institutes, receives 70 percent of net revenue from lotto games such as Lucky for Life. The state's Capital Construction Fund receives the remaining 30 percent. This supports the Water and Environment Fund, the Ethanol Fuel Fund, and the State Highway Fund.

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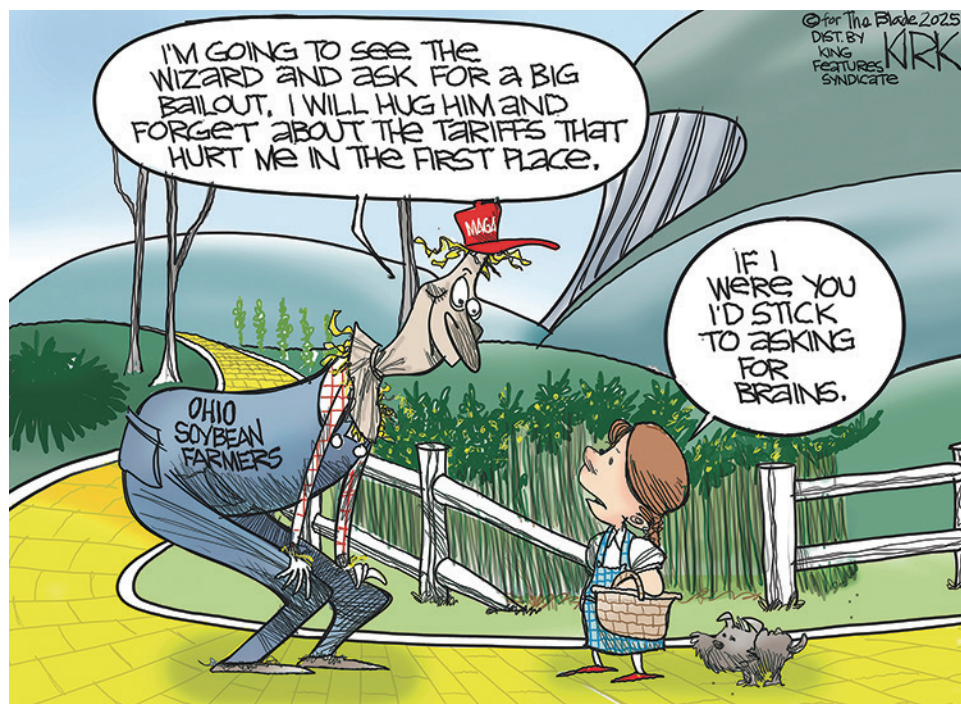


THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*...You will be brought low;
from the earth you will speak,
and from the dust where you
are prostrate your words will come.
Your voice will also be like that of
a spirit from the ground, and your
speech will whisper from the dust.*

ISAIAH 29:4

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BIBLE

TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Romans (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. From Exodus 34, who was frightened of a man who came down a mountain with a shining face? *Laban, Stephen, Aaron, Cornelius*

3. During a famine, who set out with another man to find grass to feed his horses and mules? *Abishag, Ahab, Abner, Agrippa*

4. From Esther 7, who met his death on the gallows he built for another man? *Herod, Haman, Peter, Ezekiel*

5. What charioteer rode to Jezreel to find King Joram? *Jehu, Omri, Naboth, Jethro*

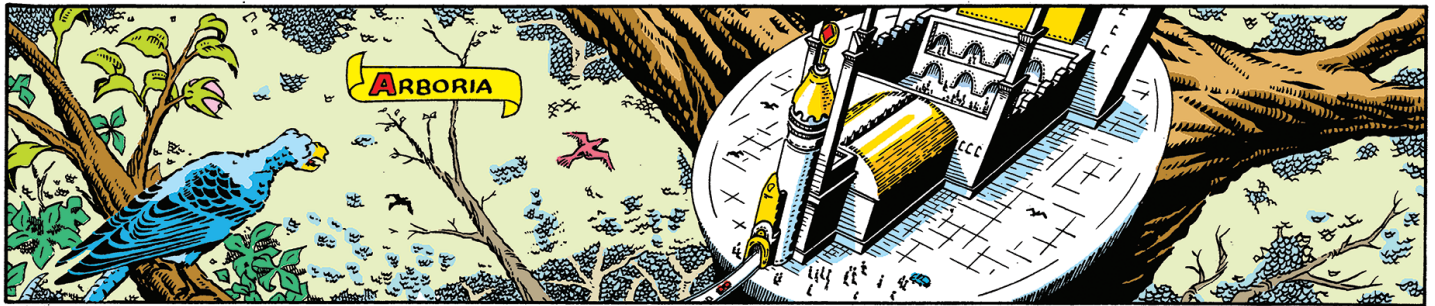
6. From Acts 5, who fell dead after lying about a property deal? *Nehemiah, Shimei, Levi, Ananias*

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Aaron, 3) Ahab, 4) Haman, 5) Jehu, 6) Ananias

Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscribersite at www.patreon.com/triviaguy.

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FLASH GORDON BY JIM KEEFE

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HAVING NARROWLY DEFEATED MING'S FORCES, FLASH AND MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL ALLIANCE REGROUP IN BARIN'S FOREST KINGDOM OF ARBORIA.

MING MUST BE STOPPED...ONCE AND FOR ALL!

EASIER SAID THAN DONE. WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO FIND HIM.

WE DO HAVE ONE LEAD. REDDOL...THE SHAPE-SHIFTER MING SENT TO ASSASSINATE BARIN. HE WAS ONCE A FOLLOWER OF A MADMAN NAMED GARAKAHN...

MY LIEGE, IF FLASH DEFEATED REDDOL, IT'LL LEAD THE EARTHLING RIGHT TO THIS CASTLE!

"...CHANCES ARE WE'LL FIND A CLUE TO MING'S WHEREABOUTS IN GARAKAHN'S OLD ABANDONED FORTRESS."

OF COURSE IT WILL, AND BY THE TIME GORDON ARRIVES...

THE TRAP WILL BE SET!

NEXT TO SUMMON A DEMON!

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS

HITTING GOLF SHOTS LONG AND STRAIGHT REQUIRES BUILDING REAL "SNAP" INTO YOUR SWING. THE EASIEST WAY TO DO THAT IS TO CREATE SPRING-LIKE TORSION BETWEEN YOUR UPPER AND LOWER BODY.

THE TIGHTER YOU COIL ABOVE THE WAIST AGAINST RESISTANCE FROM BELOW THE WAIST, THE MORE TORSION YOU CREATE TO DELIVER AS CLUBHEAD SPEED AT IMPACT.

THAT'S WHY "TURN" IS ALWAYS SUCH A KEY WORD FOR TOP PLAYERS.



Weight Loss Isn't the Cause Behind Odd Globus Sensation

DEAR DR. ROACH: I was recently diagnosed with diabetes and immediately changed my diet and exercise regimen. I was able to lose 17 pounds in about two months but have started to experience a feeling of something being stuck in my throat. Could the sudden weight loss have brought this on? I was sent to get an ultrasound on my thyroid, and it came back negative. -- V.J.

ANSWER: A sensation of something stuck in the throat is common in clinical practice and can have many causes. It is referred to as a "globus" sensation. An ultrasound is a very reasonable test as a large thyroid mass (goiter) can cause a mechanical effect on the esophagus, which then leads

to this sensation. Similarly, abnormalities in the esophagus, oropharynx and larynx may also lead to this sensation. Most experts recommend an evaluation with an endoscopy and a laryngoscopy for people with a persistent globus sensation.

Unintentional weight loss is a red flag in people with a globus sensation because if the cause behind the globus sensation is also leading people to lose weight, this means that it is more likely to be something serious. But this is not the case with you, so I can't think of how losing weight could have been the cause behind your globus sensation.

If the sensation of something in your throat continues, I recommend further evaluation by an ENT physician.

DEAR DR. ROACH: My in-laws are being evaluated for infertility, and my brother-in-law has a varicocele. They say that he needs an operation. Is this necessary in order for them to have children? -- C.F.

ANSWER: A varicocele is a common enlargement of the veins in the male scrotum. There is some evidence that a large varicocele could reduce fertility in men. However, the repair of a varicocele is usually indicated for fertility only when both the varicocele is large and the man has an abnormal semen analysis.

The benefit in fertility is thought to be small; it is estimated that 17 men need to be operated on to produce one pregnancy, so there's roughly a 6% chance that the operation will help the couple conceive.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have high liver enzymes and bilirubin, most likely due to Gilbert syndrome. I've had elevated numbers since at least 2006 when I started to track them. I was recently prescribed a low-dose statin after receiving a slightly elevated coronary calcium score (49).

The statin did great at lowering my cholesterol but seriously elevated my AST and ALT numbers. (My AST and ALT levels were 12 and 20 U/L respectively before treatment, then 41 and 32 U/L while on the statin. Normal is less than 35 U/L.) So, I discontinued its use. Are there any options other than statins to help reduce cholesterol? -- S.M.

ANSWER: Gilbert syndrome is a relatively common liver condition caused by abnormal bilirubin metabolism. People with this condition can get recurrent jaundice and high bilirubin levels.

Statin drugs are generally considered to be safe in people with Gilbert syndrome. Many people (with and without Gilbert's) will have elevations in their liver enzymes (ALT and AST levels) due to statin drugs. Most authorities recommend reducing the dose or stopping the statin treatment if the liver enzymes go over three times the upper limit of normal -- above about 100 U/L -- which yours didn't get close to.

Since the risk to your liver from a statin is small, and the benefit of a statin in a person with even modest coronary calcium is relatively large, there is more benefit than harm for most people in your situation.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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"The Long Walk" (R) -- Based on the 1979 novel written by Stephen King ("It"), this dystopian thriller is led by Cooper Hoffman ("Saturday Night") and David Jonsson ("Industry"). Set

during an alternate reality of the 1970s where a totalitarian regime reigns over the United States, the film follows an annual voluntary competition consisting of 50 boys who must walk nonstop at a pace of 3 miles per hour or face the consequences of death. "The Walk" only ends when there's one boy left, who then receives a cash prize and a wish of his choice. Although they're driven by an insatiable hunger to improve their families' lives, the boys severely underestimate the trauma they're about to put themselves through and whether their choice was ultimately worth the long walk. Judy Greer and Mark Hamill co-star in the film, which is available now to rent at home. (Apple TV+)

"Lazarus" (TV-MA) -- "The Hunger Games" Sam Claflin stars in this new horror series alongside "Pirates of the Caribbean's" Bill Nighy. Only six episodes long, this series picks up as forensic psychologist Laz receives news of his father's (Nighy) death. Although his father's death was ruled to be a suicide, Laz finds certain similarities between this case and the death of his sister 25 years ago. Simultaneously, Laz also begins to experience weird and paranormal instances where his father visits him and speaks to him. Left with no choice but to either succumb to insanity or solve the case, Laz is determined to find out whether his father was murdered. All six episodes premiere Oct. 22. (Amazon Prime Video)

"Chad Powers" (TV-MA) -- Glen Powell's ("Twisters") latest sports-comedy series not only stars the 36-year-old actor, but it was also created by Powell based on the "Eli's Places" segment hosted by former quarterback Eli Manning. In the series, Powell plays Russ Holiday, a washed-up former football star whose career tanked after a championship game gone wrong. Russ has the bright idea to change up his identity so that he can continue to play football, so with the help of prosthetics, a wig, and some (bad?) acting, Russ transforms into Chad Powers. "Chad" then gets signed on to play for a small college that desperately needs some star power. With the whole football program relying on his success, the stakes are greater than ever for Russ/Chad to pull through -- and not get caught while doing so. Four episodes of the six-episode season are out now to stream. (Hulu)

"Steve" (R) -- Since starring in the critical and box-office success of "Oppenheimer," Cillian Murphy seems to be enjoying lead roles in smaller films like "Small Things Like These" and this new drama film, which co-stars Jay Lycurgo ("Titans"). Murphy plays the titular character, the headteacher at a reform college tailored to boys who are experiencing issues behaviorally and societally. One particular boy, Shy (Lycurgo), is having a hard time with acting out violently and is unsure as to where he's headed in life. Even though headteacher Steve also has demons he's working through, he refuses to let Shy continue to live his life alone without the proper help. Out now. (Netflix)



Jay Lycurgo, left, and Cillian Murphy star in "Steve." (Courtesy of Netflix)

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1. Which singer released "Woman in Love"?
2. Name the boy band that released "It's a Sin."
3. Who wrote and released "Let's Stay Together"?
4. Which group released "Macho Man"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Started out this morning feeling so polite, I always thought a fish could not be caught who didn't bite."

Answers

1. Barbra Streisand, in 1980. The song was written by two of the Gibb brothers and spent three weeks at the top of the Hot 100 chart.
2. Pet Shop Boys, in 1987. Songwriter Neil Tennant claims he wrote the song as something of a joke, but it ended up topping charts around the globe in Finland, Ireland, South Africa and elsewhere.
3. Al Green, in 1971. Rolling Stone magazine rated it as the 60th greatest song of all time on the 2004 list of 500 Greatest Songs of All Time. The National Recording Registry then added it to their list of relevant recordings in 2010.
4. The Village People, in 1978.
5. "Afternoon Delight," by Starland Vocal Band, in 1976. The song won the Grammy Award for Best Arrangement for Voices and has been used in several television shows, such as "Arrested Development" and "The Simpsons."

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GRIN and BEAR IT *Wagner*



"They can't stand the drapes!"

Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Cake slice is reversed. 2. Cup is a different shape. 3. Pillow is behind edge of other pillow. 4. Picture is moved. 5. Finger is moved. 6. Nightgown strap is moved.

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* "Here's a fun game to help kids learn their sight words. BINGO! Make your own bingo cards with sight words in all the spaces. Use flash cards to call out the words, and the kids can mark them off as they hear them. We tape the bingo card to a small magnetic dry erase board, and the kids use refrigerator magnets to cover the words. We can use the boards over and over, really reinforcing the lesson. And it's fun!" -- A.J. in Florida

* Glass and chrome will shine if you clean them with newspaper. You can mist the paper with water first, but not too much. Rub, and the shine comes right out -- plus no streaks or lint!

* "Use purified water in your coffeemaker to lengthen its life. Water deposits build up and affect both the flavor and function of your machine. They can be cleaned, but it's much better

if you use purified drinking water from a jug. It's very easy to fill the machine, too." -- M.E. in Wyoming

* If you need to pick up small shards of glass, you can use a cotton ball that's been moistened, or a slice of white bread (insides only) wadded up.

* "That time of the year is almost here for us. You know, the time when running the heater gives the whole house the zaps. To keep our carpets from giving us static shock, we fill a water spray bottle with one part laundry softener and four parts water. Give the air and carpet a spritz, and it kills the zaps." -- A.O. in Canada

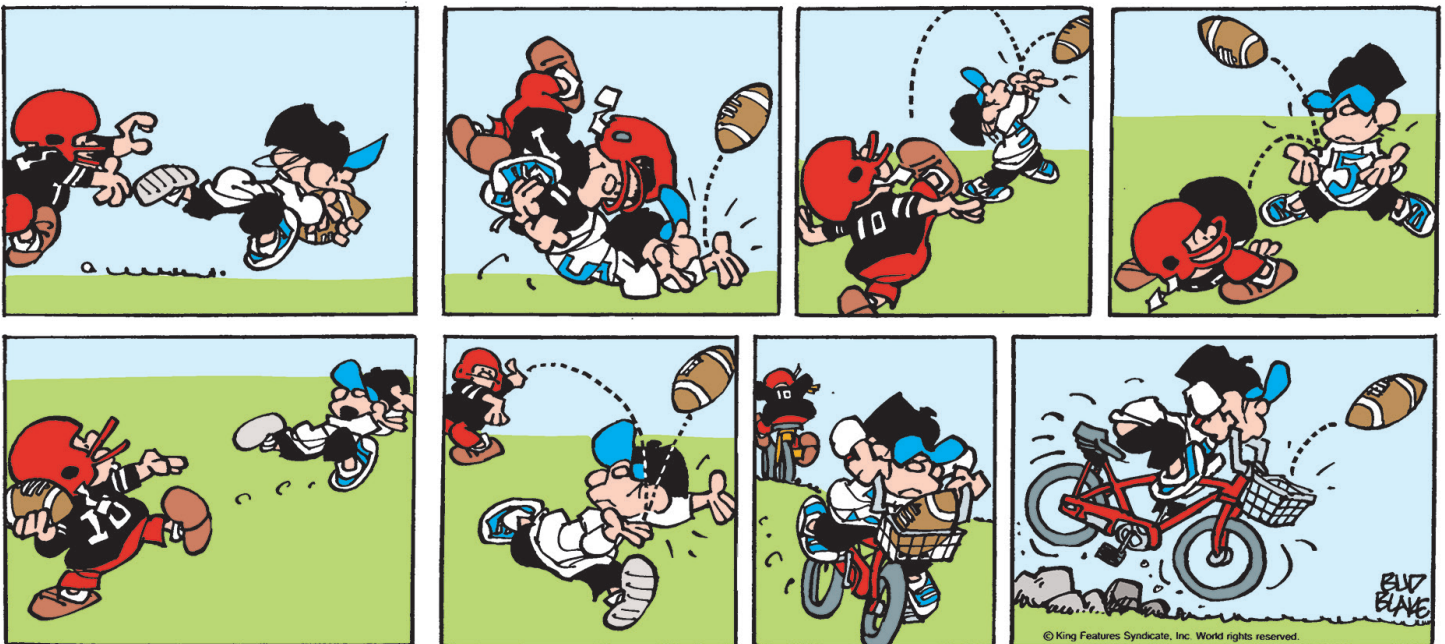
* When you are frying up ground beef, add a tablespoon or two of water. It will help the excess grease pull away from the meat, making it easier to drain off.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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 **TIGER**

by **BUD BLAKE**



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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Animation frame
4 Literary rep
7 Viewed
11 Daring Knievel
13 Singer Lipa
14 Noggin
15 Flintstones' pet
16 Doo follower
17 Gumbo veggie
18 Serengeti grazer
20 Coconut fiber
22 Leg, in slang
24 Tempt
28 Frosty, for one
32 — Martin
33 Had on
34 Thumbs-up
36 Theater award
37 Rainbow-shaped
39 Country star Judd
41 Sealing ring
43 German article
44 Online auction site
46 River of Rome
50 Pottery oven
53 Ref
55 Gospel singer Franklin
56 On the rocks

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- 57 Mac alternatives
58 Ninny
59 Little lice
60 Consume
61 Helium, for one
9 Listening device
10 Secret-protecting doc.
12 Three- or four-day vacations
19 River blocker
21 — pickle
23 Mother's Day month
25 Lay — the line
26 Didi of "Grease"
27 New Age singer
28 Booty
29 Asta's caretaker
30 Tolkien villains
31 Up-to-date
35 Pink Floyd's Barrett
38 Society newbie
40 Court divider
42 Hosiery shade
45 Gym site, for short
47 Ship's jail
48 Austen novel
49 Knocks
50 Family
51 Here, in Dijon
52 Allow
54 Calif. clock setting

DOWN

- 1 Yield
2 Satan's forte
3 Sultry Horne
4 Annex
5 Avocado dip, for short
6 Sierra Nevada lake
7 Writings by Kate Chopin
8 Comics cry

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King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

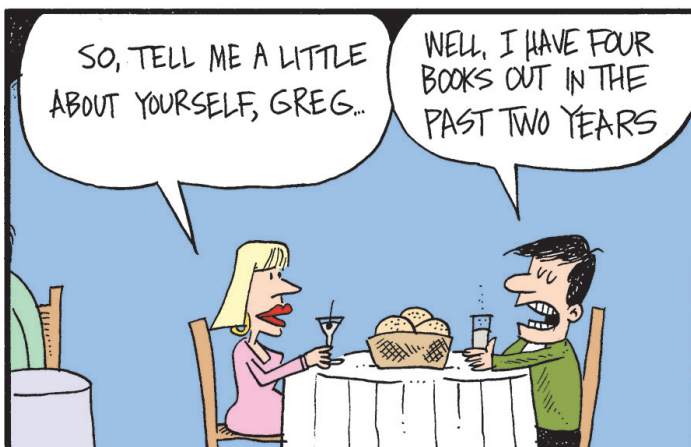
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Olive



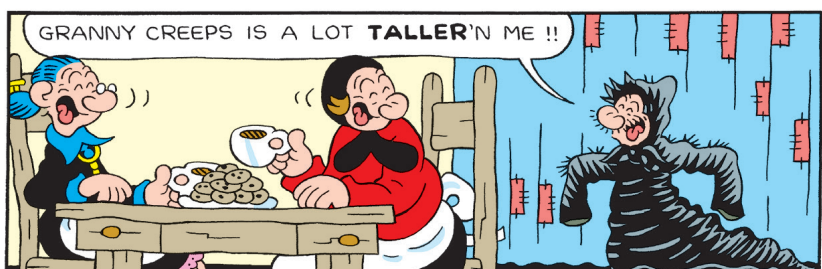
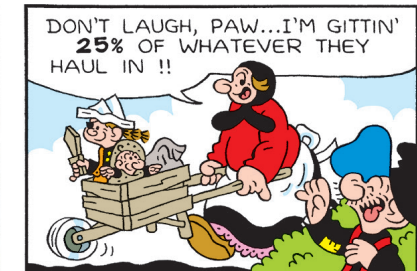
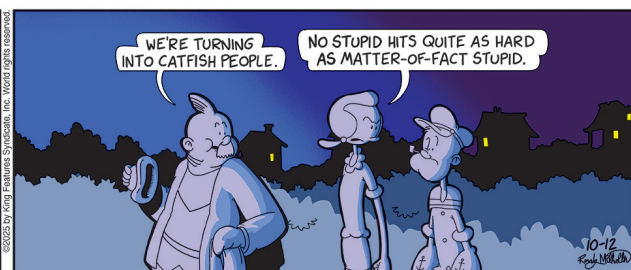
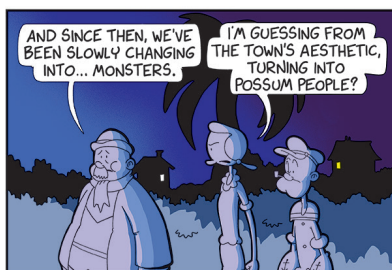
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



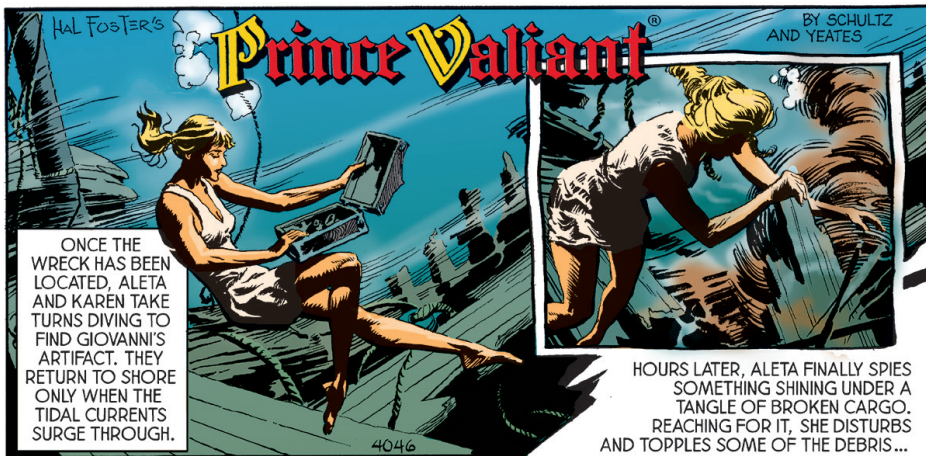
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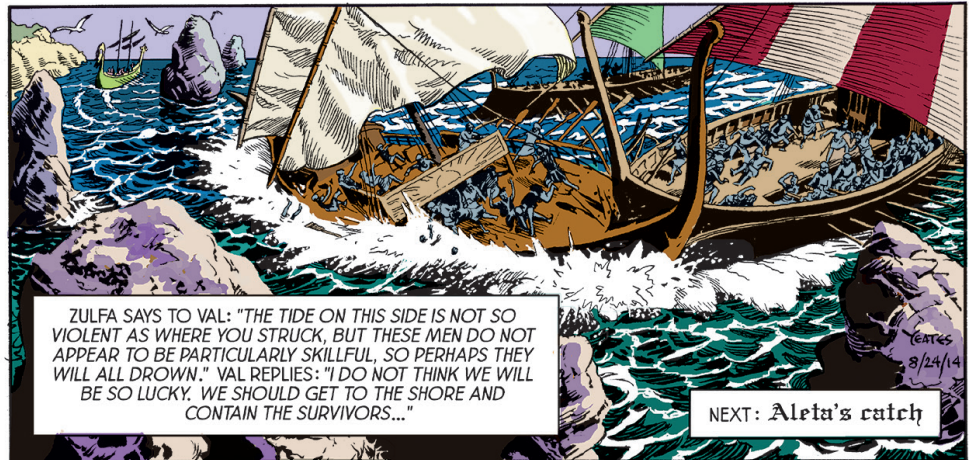


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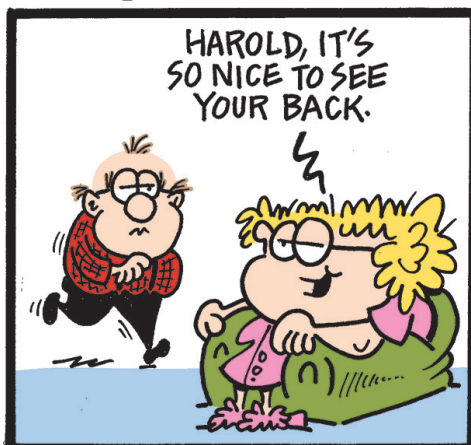


THE PIRATES GROW CLOSE. SUDDENLY, THE SKJALDDIS' CREW DROP THEIR WEAPONS AND JUMP TO THE OARS! THE LIGHT DRAGONSHIP SKIPS AWAY, AND BEFORE THE CORSAIRS CAN REACT, THEIR HEAVIER VESSELS ARE CAUGHT BY THE ISLAND'S TERRIBLE IN-SWEEPING CURRENT!



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Food recalls

It's impossible to say exactly what's going on, but lately there are problems with our food supply, one after the other. Listeria and salmonella are at the top of the list.

Listeria shows up in water, waste and the soil and ends up in our meat, fresh produce and dairy products. Some say the rising number of cases of listeria are because we're eager to grab ready-to-eat foods like deli meats. Others point to better detection methods that find listeria during inspections. One big concern, however, is that cold doesn't kill listeria. Even if it's stored in the cold (or even frozen), it doesn't die.

When it comes to salmonella, expert fingers want to point to climate change because warm temperatures help salmonella grow. But there is also the problem of large farming facilities where a single sick animal can infect the rest.

But no matter the reason for the increases and their sources, we seniors need to be especially careful. A bad case of listeria or salmonella can put us in the hospital.

What can we do to avoid problems with food contamination?

With salmonella, wash your fruit and vegetables. Cook foods to the correct temperature, especially eggs, meat and poultry. Invest in a thermometer to keep an eye on the temperature in the refrigerator.

Listeria is tougher. Unfortunately, hygiene is part of the problem. The contamination can start at the location where the food is produced -- and spread around the deli counter if slicers aren't washed correctly. Once we have that lunch meat at home, we need to heat it to a high enough temperature. Which means it's not safe to just grab a few slices of cold lunch meat to make a sandwich.

Besides being cautious, pay attention to food recalls. You can sign up for email alerts at www.FoodSafety.gov, www.recalls.gov, www.fda.gov and www.fsis.usda.gov.

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1. The length of the original Olympic stadium in ancient Greece was based on the stadion, a unit of measurement said to equal 600 feet of which mythical hero?

2. What boxing tournament, organized by promoter Don King and airing on ABC TV in the 1970s, was canceled midway through after the discovery that fighters' records and rankings were falsified?

3. The Indianapolis Hoosiers (1913-14) and Chicago Whales (1915) were the only champions of what short-lived "third major league" baseball organization?

4. With a capacity of 45,000 spectators, a stadium in Lahore, Pakistan, is the largest facility in the world built for what sport?

5. Name the NFL cornerback who became the first Black sports analyst to work on national TV when he joined CBS in 1971.

6. What figure skater was the lone gold medal winner for the United States at the 1968 Grenoble Winter Olympics?

7. What Nacogdoches, Texas, university's athletic teams are nicknamed the Lumberjacks (men) and Ladyjacks (women)?



Answers

1. Hercules.

2. The 1977 United States Boxing Championship Series.

3. The Federal League of Base Ball Clubs.

4. Field hockey.

5. Irv Cross.

6. Peggy Fleming.

7. Stephen F. Austin State University.

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Amber Waves



by Dave T. Phipps



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DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My cat "Jonesy" is 11 years old and has suddenly become a very picky eater. He is barely touching his dry kibble, and he will only eat canned pate or fresh chicken, shredded very fine. Is this something to be concerned about? -- Martha Y., Tallahassee, Florida

DEAR MARTHA: Sudden, unexplained changes in a cat's behavior -- especially around food -- often signal a change in their health. Call the veterinarian and describe your cat's symptoms; the vet will likely ask you to bring Jonesy in for a look.

One possible cause is a dental infection. After age 4, more than half of cats begin to experience some degree of dental problems, like gingivitis, tooth infections and tooth resorption. Symptoms of dental disease include

bad breath, excessive drooling, blood-tinged saliva, pawing at the face, dropping food from the mouth, lack of appetite and several more -- all requiring a visit to the vet.

Your cat's vet will give him a complete physical exam to determine if something else is causing his lack of appetite, and will take a close look at his teeth. X-rays may be ordered to determine the extent of the problem.

If Jonesy's issue is an infection, antibiotics will be prescribed. If a tooth is involved, the vet will probably recommend pulling it; this is done under anesthesia, and will provide so much relief to your cat.

Once your cat has recovered, the vet will likely set up a toothbrushing routine -- a finger brush and flavored toothpaste made just for cats work best. They may recommend a dry cat food that helps fight plaque buildup. There are many more preventive treatments available for pets today than in the past, so ask your vet how you can keep Jonesy happy and healthy through his senior years.

Send your tips, comments or questions to ask@pawscorner.com.

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Strange BUT TRUE

* Assembling the International Space Station took more than 200 spacewalks.

* The average freediver can hold their breath for approximately 10 minutes, much longer than the average healthy, fit human but well short of the Guinness World Record time of 22 minutes.

* During the Middle Ages, the majority of western maps placed east rather than north at the top.

* Diamonds are the only gem made of a single element, at

nearly 99.95% carbon, the most commonly found element on Earth.

* After the axle, the first wheels did not appear on any mode of transportation, but on a child's toy. Scholars estimate that it took another three centuries after wheels were used in pottery and toymaking for them to be applied to transportation.

* The Great Pyramid at Giza has over 2 million stone blocks, each with an average weight of more than 2 tons.

* Two days after Alexander Graham Bell died at his summer home in Nova Scotia on Aug. 2, 1922, all telephone service in the United States and Canada was suspended for a full minute at the precise moment when he was lowered into his grave.

* Just 10% of an incandescent light bulb's energy produces light. The remaining 90% produces heat.

* At the 2007 French Open, Venus Williams' serve sent the ball flying at 129 miles per hour, the second fastest serve by a woman ever recorded. It was also the fastest recorded in a main draw match at that time.

* Most people think you gain 5 to 10 pounds over Thanksgiving, but you'll be glad to know the average amount is really just a single pound.

Thought for the Day: "I'd rather attempt to do something great and fail than to attempt to do nothing and succeed." -- Robert H. Schuller

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The
Garden
Bug



Ghost Plant

This low-maintenance succulent from Mexico gets its name from its thick, whitish-green leaves, which can become pink-tinged in hot, dry weather, and blueish when in shade. In spring it forms clusters of small star-shaped flowers that are white with small red dots. It likes full sun to partial shade, and well-drained soil is a must. Once it is established, it is drought tolerant. It does well in rock gardens, containers, as a ground cover or on the patio. It is easily propagated by rooting leaves, division or stem cuttings. - Brenda Weaver

Sources: plants.ces.ncsu.edu, www.smgrowers.com

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by Freddy Groves

Claims error rate: 61%

It's one thing to have a medical condition that neatly slots into the VA's presumptive chart of toxic exposure-related illnesses. If you served at a location at a certain time, your illness is presumed to have been caused by that service under TERA, a toxic exposure risk activity. As the list of presumptives grows (courtesy of the PACT Act), so do the number of veterans who qualify automatically. Disability benefits soon follow -- if all goes well.

But what if you were there, at a certain time, and your toxic exposure illness isn't on the list?

In 2022 when the PACT Act added so many presumptives, veterans submitted their claims, the how-to claims manual increased in size and things became complicated. For one thing, those veterans without a presumptive (listed) illness were required to get a medical exam and a medical opinion. The claims people had to do extra work and request the specific exam as well as the opinion to verify that the veteran did have that illness, and that the exposure did indeed cause that illness.

And there the problems began with the denial of claims.

The VA's Office of Inspector General stepped in and conducted a very long review to investigate whether processors handled those denials correctly.

The results of that investigation showed that 61% of denials for nonpresumptive TERA-related claims had processing errors. In some cases, there was no request for a medical exam and opinion. In other cases there was no research into whether the veteran participated in a toxic exposure activity.

It's not surprising so many mistakes were made. Besides the standard 82-page how-to manual, processors needed to wade through eight policy documents, nine general information documents and 94 webpages of frequently asked questions.

The OIG's recommendations, if followed by the VA, should ease the difficulties in accurately processing the exposure claims. We can only hope they're listening.

Veterans, if you believe your illness was caused by toxic exposure, insist on a TERA exam and medical opinion to bolster your claim.

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Wishing Well®

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HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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1. COMICS: What is Thor's home planet?
2. LITERATURE: Which of Charles Dickens' novels has a character named Miss Havisham?
3. ANATOMY: What is the largest muscle in the human body?
4. MOVIES: In the movie "Zombieland," what sweet treat is Woody Harrelson's character searching for?
5. ASTRONOMY: What is the largest moon of Jupiter?
6. TELEVISION: How does George Costanza's fiancée die on "Seinfeld"?
7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a quahog?
8. GEOGRAPHY: How many countries does the Amazon River and its tributaries flow through?
9. ENTERTAINERS: Where is Elvis Presley's home, Graceland?
10. SCIENCE: What is the study of clouds called?

Answers

1. Asgard.
2. "Great Expectations."
3. Gluteus maximus.
4. Twinkies.
5. Ganymede.
6. Poisoned by licking cheap wedding invitation envelopes.
7. Type of clam.
8. Nine (Peru, Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana).
9. Memphis, Tennessee.
10. Nephology.

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South Dakota Governor



Larry Rhoden



South Dakota: *Under God, the People Rule*

The Opener

For some across the state, it's like Christmas. The opening weekend of pheasant season is full of family traditions. Folks come home from across the country to shoot our state bird, and great times are had by all!

I've always enjoyed pheasant hunting, but growing up West River, pheasants are few and far between. Since serving as Lieutenant Governor, and now as Governor, it's something I've gotten to enjoy more and more!

For over 100 years, pheasant hunting has been a major pastime in our state. Under the Noem-Rhoden Administration, we launched the Second Century Initiative to make sure that the second century of pheasant hunting in South Dakota was as excellent as the first. We've continued that work since I took over as Governor, and the results have been very good.

Last year, over 1.3 million pheasants were harvested in South Dakota, plus another 400,000 birds on licensed shooting preserves. That was our best year in a decade, and this season is shaping up to be as good of – or even better – of a year!

Hunters averaged nine birds apiece last year. Roughly 58,000 resident and 82,000 nonresident hunters shouted "ROOSTER," fired their shotguns, and took down our state birds. These are all phenomenal numbers, and they're indicative of the importance of pheasant hunting to our tourism industry, as well. In fact, South Dakota harvested more birds in two weeks than in all of our neighboring states combined.

Weather conditions, both this year and last, have set the stage for another great season. Between a mild winter and timely rains, circumstances have been very good for our pheasant population. And our focus on both habitat availability and predator control has allowed plenty of opportunities for the birds to reproduce and survive to adulthood.

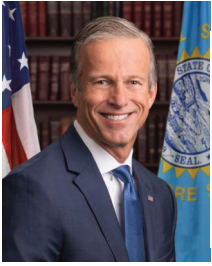
Abundant habitat access is the number one key to pheasant population growth. We've placed a high priority on this through the Second Century Initiative, and those efforts are paying dividends. My Department of Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) has built strong relationships with landowners, and we've greatly expanded the number of acres available for public hunting, as well.

If you're hoping to hunt this weekend or this year, it's pretty easy – use the online or printed version of GFP's "Public Hunting Atlas" to find somewhere near you. And there's plenty of time! The season runs from October 18 through January 31. And you can maximize your time outdoors by bringing a fishing rod, as well. South Dakota has great fall fishing, and fish tend to return to shallower waters when the weather gets cooler.

I'm really looking forward to walking the fields and hunting down our state bird, and I hope to see you out there!

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JOHN THUNE
U.S. SENATOR FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

Why Won't Democrats Take "Yes" for an Answer?

Three weeks into a government shutdown, Democrats are dug in. Their price for reopening the government is \$1.5 trillion in partisan spending. It's a list of so many far-left priorities, one of my Senate colleagues says you need a spreadsheet to keep track of it all. And despite all of the suffering their shutdown strategy has caused, Democrats continue to insist on this costly ransom.

Not even the prospect of military families going without a paycheck was enough for Democrats to relent and reopen the government. We're reading stories about military families lining up at food banks and needy families uncertain about nutrition assistance. There are Americans who can't close on a new home because they can't get flood insurance, and thousands of flights have been delayed because of staffing shortages. But one Democrat senator says, "[for] Democrats, it's so far, so good."

Republicans have offered Democrats in the Senate numerous chances to reopen the government. We've called up a clean, nonpartisan funding extension day after day – legislation that could reopen the government in a matter of hours with just a handful more Democrat votes. Senate Democrats also had a chance to advance a bipartisan, full-year defense funding bill, so we can at least make some progress toward securing paychecks for our troops and supporting our national security while Democrats continue to vote against reopening the entire government. But they rejected that as well.

Democrats defend their funding blockade by complaining that Republicans won't negotiate with them. Negotiation happens when you have two sides each with its own demands, but Republicans have no demands. We've offered Democrats multiple chances to fund the government, and we've offered to have discussions and even hold votes on the issues they have raised after the government is open again. But Democrats insist that we satisfy their \$1.5 trillion in partisan demands.

While hardworking Americans have suffered through this weeks-long shutdown, Democrats seem to be basking in the praise from their far-left base. Our economy is losing billions of dollars, government programs are in jeopardy, and federal workers are working without pay, but it seems that Democrats are fine with having Americans living in uncertainty so long as Democrats' far-left base is satisfied.

It's hard to believe that Democrats have spent the month of October putting the demands of far-left activists ahead of the American people, ahead of American troops and military families. Enough is enough. We need five more Democrats to support the clean funding extension. Then it can go to the White House, be signed into law, and all this needless suffering can come to an end. But I guess Democrats aren't ready for that yet.

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Day 17 of the Government Shutdown

BIG Update

Another week of the government shutdown has come and gone. This shutdown should never have happened and it's even more ridiculous every day it continues. I voted to keep the government open a month ago, and yet some in the Senate are preventing federal employees from being paid and cutting off important services for the American people.

I want to be clear about the counterproposal to the bipartisan funding package we already passed out of the House. The counterproposal includes \$1.5 trillion in new spending while repealing the \$50 billion Rural Hospital Transformation Program. These are not negotiations to have while the government remains shuttered..

BIG Idea

It was recently discovered that some states, South Dakota included, have been issuing non-domiciled commercial driver's licenses (CDL) to visa holders in the U.S. that expire beyond the expiration date of their visa. I'm concerned that allowing these licenses to extend past an individual's legal stay in America could endanger others on our roads and give an individual a government-issued identification that they should not have. The Trump Administration has been leading policy initiatives to correct this error and I'm working on legislation to ensure states are following federal law and strengthen federal requirements to keep our roads safe.

I recently co-sponsored the Non-Domiciled CDL Integrity Act to make sure the Trump Administration's CDL policies are the permanent law of the land. This bill makes sure states verify the lawful immigration status for the license holder and requires the expiration date of the CDL license to be limited to one year or the expiration date of the visa, whichever is shorter. This legislation will ensure states keep roads safe..

BIG News

Yesterday, I hosted a tele-town hall with more than 12,000 South Dakotans to hear their concerns and talk about the government shutdown. I've held dozens of these town halls over the years to hear directly from constituents from across the state. I took questions from across the political spectrum about a variety of topics, like the government shutdown, health care, and the need to support our farmers and ranchers. I really enjoy hopping on the phone and talking to engaged constituents.

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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries

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Oh No, Not Another Day

I thought I got over the problems I had two weeks ago. I thought I stepped onto new ground and everything was going to be fine.

Very few times am I right, and this wasn't one of them.

A couple of weeks ago, I had a terrible day. Our electricity was off for over six hours. My printer died, and I needed to get a new one. A scam artist called and said my daughter was in prison and I needed to give him \$2500 for her bail.

What a day that was. I'm still not fully over it, but I'm slowly getting away from it.

While getting over it, I experienced another terrible day. I don't believe in karma, but I do believe in coincidences.

It was a Sunday, and The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I did our ministry at an assisted living facility, and then on Sunday night, we went to an evening service at another church.

In the middle of the afternoon, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage got hit with one of her famous migraines. She has migraines, ugly headaches, and regular headaches several times a week. For many years, I thought I was her only headache, but as it turns out, I'm not her headache. I guess I'm going to have to try harder.

I was getting ready to go to church, and my wife said that she could not go because she had a terrible migraine headache.

The problem was that when I went out and got in my truck to start it, it wouldn't start. The battery had died on me. There was nothing I could do to get it started.

I sat in the truck for a moment, sighed deeply, and realized that I had only one other option.

I went into the house and told my wife about my truck, saying I would have to take her sissy van to church. I'm not sure, but I think I heard her giggling as I walked out the door with her sissy van keys.

There is nothing I hate doing more than driving that sissy van. After all, I am a fully grown man and that sissy van cannot handle a real man.

To get in on the driver's side, I have to move the seat back as far as it can go. Believe me, it doesn't go back far enough for me. Then, I have to wiggle and wiggle to get into the seat behind the steering wheel. That took almost forever to get seated there.

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The next thing to do was move the steering wheel up as far as I could get it so I could sit in that seat. Then I had to adjust all of the mirrors so I could see behind me and on each side. There are three mirrors, and each is very difficult to rearrange.

It took me quite a while to get everything arranged so that I could drive that sissy van. Finally, after quite a while of frustrating twisting and turning, I got seated behind the steering wheel and was ready to start up the engine. The next challenge was buckling the seat belt.

As I looked at the key, the thought that danced in my head was, "This battery is going to die on me too." Fortunately, that did not happen in the sissy van, which started up right away.

I took a deep sigh and backed out of our driveway and headed down the street toward the church. It's about a 20-minute drive to our church, and so I was a little late, but I would get there in time.

Then I got there, and discovered another problem. Getting into that sissy van was difficult, but now getting out was even more difficult. I couldn't get my legs out under the driving wheel, and it took me a while, giggling and twisting. Finally, I got my legs out.

I stood up, shut the door, locked it, and walked into the church.

After the service, I went out to the sissy van with a heavy heart. I couldn't let anybody see me wiggling and squirming, trying to get into that sissy van. I wasn't quite sure what to do, so I went to the sissy van and unlocked the door.

I took a deep breath, opened the door, and then wiggled and twisted my way in behind the steering wheel. It took several minutes for me to drag my legs in at their proper position. Finally, I got in my seat, started the engine, and was ready to go home.

With a grateful heart, I drove out of the parking lot, thankful that I got this far. Then I remembered that when I got home, I had to get out of that sissy van one more time.

It took me a few minutes to wiggle my way out of that sissy van, but I finally did.

As I recovered from that trip I thought of a Bible verse. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (1 Corinthians 10:13).

There is no problem or struggle in my life that God doesn't make a way to escape. Praise the Lord.

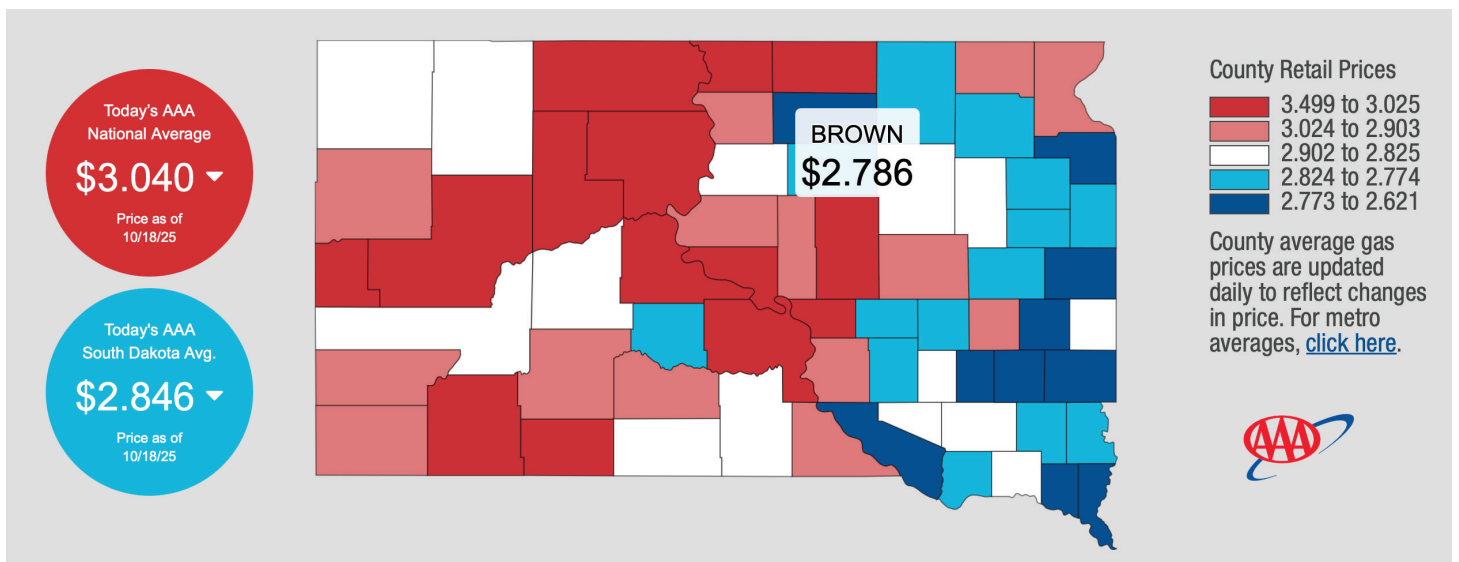
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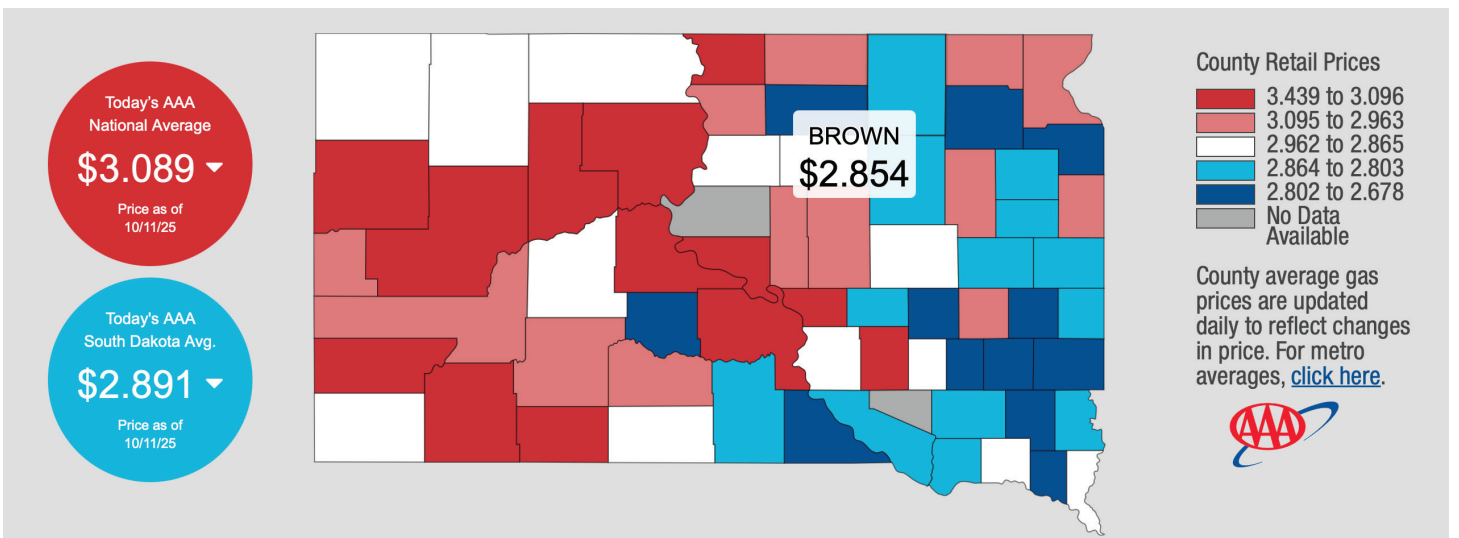
South Dakota Average Gas Prices

| | Regular | Mid-Grade | Premium | Diesel |
|----------------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|
| Current Avg. | \$2.846 | \$3.025 | \$3.496 | \$3.306 |
| Yesterday Avg. | \$2.848 | \$3.044 | \$3.508 | \$3.315 |
| Week Ago Avg. | \$2.891 | \$3.072 | \$3.549 | \$3.323 |
| Month Ago Avg. | \$3.000 | \$3.185 | \$3.644 | \$3.412 |
| Year Ago Avg. | \$3.078 | \$3.283 | \$3.701 | \$3.321 |

This Week



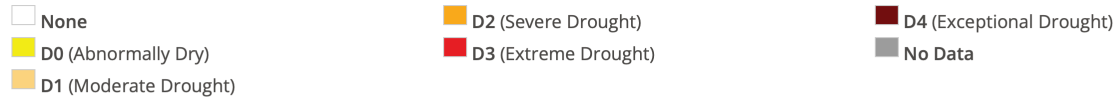
Last Week



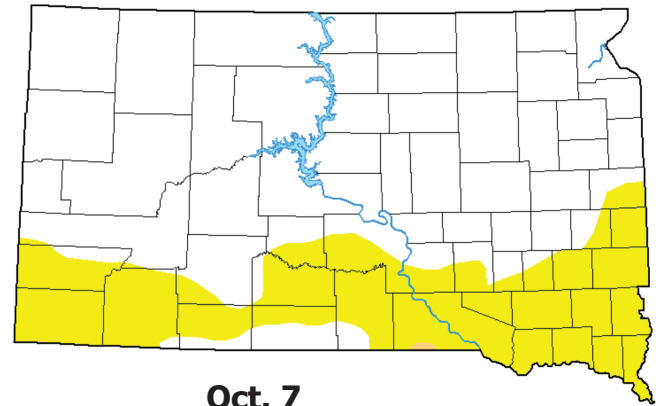
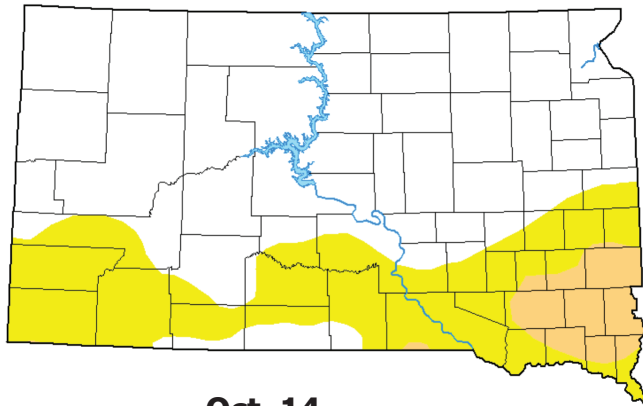
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Drought Classification



Drought Monitor



Heavy to excessive precipitation pounded the higher elevations of Colorado. Most areas from west-central through south-central portions of the state received at least 3 inches of precipitation, with much heavier amounts – approaching 8 inches in spots – falling on the higher elevations of south-central Colorado. This precipitation let to widespread improvements, with some of the wetter areas noting 2-category improvements. Elsewhere light to moderate precipitation (generally 0.5 to 1.5 inches) fell on most of the Plains and Wyoming, with amounts over an inch recorded in isolated sections of central Kansas, eastern North Dakota, and westernmost Wyoming. Significant areas of dryness development or deterioration were limited to eastern Kansas and the southern tier of South Dakota.

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EARTHTALK

Waste Colonialism: U.S. Continues To Export Garbage Overseas

by Shashwat Mishra

Dear EarthTalk: Is the U.S. still sending large barges of trash and recycling overseas? If so, which countries are taking most of it and is this good or bad for the environment? — P.L., via email

In what is called “waste colonialism” the U.S. exports large amounts of trash and recycling overseas, particularly plastic waste. For decades, countries in Asia have received this waste, but growing environmental concerns have led several of them to change their policies.

The biggest shift came in 2018 when China stopped accepting most imported recyclables through its National Sword policy. This left the U.S. scrambling to find new destinations. Since then, countries like Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam have become major importers of American waste. Some of these materials are technically recyclable, but many shipments include contaminated or low-quality plastics that are difficult or impossible to process properly.

These countries are left dealing with the consequences, including pollution, public health risks and damaged ecosystems. Some governments have pushed back. Malaysia has returned containers of waste to sender countries, and Thailand plans to ban plastic imports entirely by 2025. The Philippines has also made headlines for sending back trash shipments to Canada and South Korea.

The environmental and social effects are serious. Much of the waste ends up burned or dumped illegally. This releases harmful chemicals into the air and water, affecting both people and wildlife. In many communities near dumping or processing sites, residents report increased health issues and environmental degradation. Waste also clogs waterways, contaminates soil and reduces air quality.

Supporters of the trade argue it provides economic benefits and supports recycling markets in developing countries. But critics point out that these benefits often come at too high a cost and that real recycling rarely occurs.

To address the issue, U.S. experts and advocates recommend improving domestic recycling infrastructure reducing single-use plastics and enforcing stricter export rules. International agreements like the Basel Convention aim to regulate the waste trade, though the U.S. has not ratified the treaty. In the long term, reducing waste at its source is key. Consumers can help by using less plastic, choosing reusable products and supporting policies that prioritize sustainability and fairness in how waste is managed worldwide.



The U.S. still exports large amounts of trash and recycling overseas, particularly plastic waste. Credit: Pexels.com.

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SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

<https://southdakotasearchlight.com>

No Kings day brings millions into US streets in anti-Trump protests

BY: ASHLEY MURRAY

OCTOBER 18, 2025

WASHINGTON — Millions of Americans packed streets, parks and town squares across the United States Saturday for No Kings day, according to the organizers of the massive day of demonstrations protesting President Donald Trump's administration — from his deployment of troops to cities to his targeting of political opponents.

Thousands upon thousands showed up for the second organized No Kings day in America's largest cities like Atlanta, New York City and Chicago, to smaller metro areas and towns including Greensburg, Pennsylvania; Bismarck, North Dakota; and Hammond, Louisiana. More than 2,600 nonviolent demonstrations were planned.

By Saturday evening, it appeared most protests were peaceful, with a handful of isolated scuffles reported across the country.

In a separate demonstration in Portland, Oregon, federal officers on the roof of the city's U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement building shot pepper balls at protestors. No Kings organizers said they were not involved in activities at the ICE facility, which has been the center of weeks of protests.

The first No Kings day coincided with Trump's military parade that occurred on his 79th birthday in June.

Demonstrators decried Trump's dispatch of National Guard troops to several U.S. cities, as well as ongoing immigration crackdowns in Los Angeles, the nation's capital, Portland, Oregon, and Chicago and where U.S. citizens have been swept up in raids.

Ben Grimes, of Northern Virginia, who said he spent two decades in the U.S. Army piloting helicopters and working as a military lawyer, held a sign bearing the message "I Served America Not Autocracy."

Grimes stood among tens of thousands of demonstrators who stretched down several blocks of Pennsylvania Avenue at the Washington, D.C., No Kings day event.

"We're sliding very rapidly into autocracy and lawlessness," said the 52-year-old veteran, whose career included a deployment to Baghdad.

"Just about everything has worried me, but I am particularly concerned about the use of the deployment of military troops in the U.S. and the apparent lawless killing of civilians in the Caribbean," Grimes said.

Peggy and Ken Greco donned clown costumes, and displayed a sign that read "Elect a Clown Expect a Circus."

The couple drove from Augusta, Georgia, to attend the D.C. rally.

"We came because we feel very powerless about what's going on, and we have to do something," Peggy, 69, said, becoming emotional.

In Chicago, Grant Park filled with thousands of people carrying symbols of repudiation of the Trump administration, particularly U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, from anti-ICE signs to posters satirizing the president.

Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker, a Democrat, also called on the crowd to be united and speak out.

"Democracy requires your courage, and tyranny requires good people doing nothing ... and it fails when ordinary people refuse to cooperate and they say, 'no kings' and mean it," Pritzker said.

Thousands of people gathered in Times Square in Manhattan for New York City's No Kings day peaceful 1.6-mile march down 7th Avenue.

Silas Perez, 21, who lives in the Bronx, said she "wants to fight for our rights while we still have them."

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"They want to say 'Make America Great Again.' It was better before," Perez said. "This is worse."

Jacob Chansley, known to most as the "Q Shaman," spoke to the Arizona Mirror about why he was at Saturday's No Kings event at the state capitol in Phoenix.

"For me it has always been about protecting the American people," Chansley said, dressed in the same garb and holding the spear he had at the Capitol on January 6.

He denied the events of January 6 were an insurrection and said it was "staged by the government" and pointed to a sign he was holding when asked what brought him out to the rally. His sign made references to the Epstein files and criticisms of Israel.

In Lexington, Kentucky, protester Gracia O'Brien, 71, said, "I'm old, and I've never been scared for our democracy. I am now."

In Fargo, North Dakota, Ken Opheim showed up in a red hat but with an anti-Trump message: Quid Pro Quo Trump Must Go. "Everything he does, he gets something back for himself," Opheim said.

Lawmakers, activists and celebrities spoke at rallies across the country — Democratic Sen. Raphael Warnock in Atlanta, actor John Cusack in Chicago, Bill Nye "the Science Guy" in Washington, D.C. Sens. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Chris Murphy of Connecticut also spoke to the massive crowd in the nation's capital.

"He has not won yet, the people still rule in this country," Murphy, a Democrat, said. "Trump thinks that he's a king, and he thinks he can act more corruptly when the government is shut down."

The protesters took to the streets during the ongoing government shutdown to question Trump's actions since he took office for his second presidential term on Jan. 20.

Trump revamped his legally questionable mass firing of federal workers on Oct. 10, this time against the backdrop of the nearly three-week government funding lapse.

Amid the shutdown, Trump this past week authorized a \$40 billion bailout for Argentina. The administration also continues to amass defense resources along the coast of Venezuela and carry out extrajudicial strikes on alleged drug running boats in the Caribbean Sea, killing dozens.

Repeatedly, Trump has threatened to use the shutdown as an opportunity to permanently cut "Democrat programs that aren't popular with Republicans" by canceling funding already appropriated by Congress.

A member of his own party, GOP Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, said the Government Accountability Office should sue the for his administration's illegal impoundment of funds already written into law — something he began to do long before the shutdown.

Since January, Trump has canceled billions in foreign aid, medical research, natural disaster assistance, and funding for museums and libraries, early childhood education and energy efficiency programs for K-12 schools.

Trump's use of power was on full display when he invoked the Alien Enemies Act in March and defied a federal judge's order by sending hundreds of immigrants, many without due process, to a mega-prison in El Salvador. The mistakenly deported Kilmar Arego Garcia became the face of Trump's mass deportation campaign.

Nearly 300 partner organizations signed on to the nonviolent No Kings day, from local- and state-level groups to large national liberal advocacy bodies and labor unions, including the ACLU, Common Cause, Indivisible, the League of Women Voters and SEIU.

Trump was not in Washington during the rally. He left the White House Friday afternoon to spend the weekend at his Florida residence and was at his golf course on Saturday, according to the White House press corps traveling with the president.

Republicans have characterized the No Kings event as anti-American. House Speaker Mike Johnson of Louisiana recently described the event on Fox News as a "hate America rally," claiming "it's all the pro-Hamas wing and the antifa people."

Trump declared "antifa" as a "domestic terrorist organization" last month, despite the fact that such a group does not exist. "Antifa," shorthand for anti-fascist, is an ideology disapproving of fascist governance. He also issued a directive targeting progressive organizations, including Indivisible, according to a list the White House provided to Reuters.

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IN THE STATES

West Virginia

Protesters turn out en masse against Trump during No Kings protest at West Virginia Capitol, West Virginia Watch reports.

Hundreds of protesters descended on the West Virginia capitol to speak out against detainments by ICE, potential federal cuts to health care programs, social safety nets and more that would largely impact already vulnerable people.

Oklahoma

Over 1,000 gather in Oklahoma City as part of nationwide No Kings protests, the Oklahoma Voice reports.

More than 1,000 people braved the rain in Oklahoma City, donning ponchos and inflatable costumes to join a protest outside City Hall. Many signs and speakers focused on anger with Trump's deportation campaign, failure to release evidence in the Department of Justice's investigation into Florida sex offender Jeffrey Epstein and the conflict in Gaza.

Arkansas

Hundreds gather in Little Rock for second No Kings rally, annual LGBTQ+ Pride festivities, the Arkansas Advocate reports.

In downtown Little Rock, the No Kings protest coincided with annual Pride celebrations. Hundreds of Arkansans marched down Capitol Avenue to protest Trump's administration and to celebrate LGBTQ+ Arkansans.

New Hampshire

Second No Kings protest draws thousands in New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Bulletin reports.

Granite Staters who took to the streets in Concord said concerns about health care, immigration, racism, disability rights, free speech and more motivated them to join the capital's No Kings protest.

Chicago

Alongside Pritzker in Grant Park, Mayor Brandon Johnson condemned Trump over recent immigration enforcement and compared the president's deployment of troops to the city to the Civil War, Stateline reported.

"There are those in this country that have decided, at the behest of this president, to declare war on Chicago and American cities across this country," Johnson, a Democrat, said. "They have clearly decided that they want a rematch of the Civil War."

Johnson vowed that he would stand committed and would not bend to what he described as authoritarian moves by the administration.

Virginia

Thousands flood Richmond streets for No Kings rally in protest of Trump administration, the Virginia Mercury reports.

Organizers said over 10,000 people participated in the Richmond event. Families of all ages and backgrounds held signs, donned costumes, and sang pro-America songs at the Capitol before marching down Broad Street.

The Richmond protest featured speakers highlighting federal workers' interrupted paychecks because of the shutdown, as well as their fear of the rise of fascism.

Indiana

'Not pawns': Thousands of Hoosiers turn out for No Kings protests, the Indiana Capital Chronicle reports.

A thick sea of Hoosiers flooded the Indiana Statehouse's lawn for hours on Saturday — raising defiant fists and signs. Among the issues the crowd focused on were deportation policy, health care cuts and the belief that Trump is an authoritarian.

New York City

As in other cities, many demonstrators wore inflatable animal and fruit costumes, Stateline reports. Many also held elaborate handmade signs with messages such as "Trump must go now!" Others banged on drums or played music to rally the crowd.

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Democratic New York City Comptroller Brad Lander told Stateline that state and local lawmakers need to stand up to a government that isn't abiding by one of its founding principles — no taxation without representation.

"The federal government is collecting our taxes and not giving it back to us for services or infrastructure," Lander said. "So one thing state legislatures can be thinking about is 'where are we pooling our money, before we give it to Washington?'"

Tennessee

Across Tennessee, No Kings protesters push back on Trump administration policies, the Tennessee Lookout reports.

Rallies occurred in 33 Tennessee towns and cities, including Memphis, where National Guard troops and agents from a federal task force have deployed. The Memphis demonstration took place one day after Shelby County officials, including Mayor Lee Harris, and state lawmakers from Memphis filed suit against Gov. Bill Lee over what they allege is unconstitutional deployment of Tennessee National Guard troops to the city.

Iowa

Iowans criticize GOP representatives, Trump at Des Moines No Kings demonstration, the Iowa Capital Dispatch reports.

Democratic state lawmakers, union organizers, immigrant advocates and teachers in Des Moines decried Trump's and Republicans' policies. Speakers also emphasized Iowa will play a vital role in putting a check on Trump's power in the 2026 election, and encouraged Iowans to vote and stay politically engaged.

Maine

Thousands across Maine protest against Trump administration in second No Kings day, the Maine Morning Star reports.

Exactly 250 years to the day after the British attacked what is now Portland, Maine, during the Revolutionary War, thousands gathered in the city and across the state to declare the same thing Americans fought for then: no kings.

In Portland, participation nearly doubled Saturday from June's protest. New attendees said they decided to show up because they feel the country has reached an untenable state, but speeches at the protests showed continued hope for change.

Florida

Florida crowds throng to denounce Trump, 'fascism' on No Kings Day, the Florida Phoenix reports.

In Miami, an estimated 5,000 people clad in American flags, golden crowns, and frog and Sasquatch costumes flooded Bayfront Park to chant against Trump. The event was held in front of the Torch of Friendship, a 1960 monument built as a beacon to welcome immigrants.

One disruption hit the Miami gathering when Barry Ramey and another member of the far-right group the Proud Boys briefly showed up to counter-protest. Ramey was one of the men sentenced for rioting at the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. City police quickly formed an escort to safely lead them out, as angry anti-Trump protesters screamed Spanish expletives at them.

New Mexico

Thousands protest in Santa Fe, Albuquerque for No Kings day, Source New Mexico reports.

Marchers in Santa Fe chanted a variety of messages, including: "No Kings/No ICE" and "This is what democracy looks like." One man played the David Bowie/Queen song "Under Pressure" repeatedly from a small speaker.

Idaho

Thousands of Idahoans turn out for Boise's anti-Trump No Kings protest at state Capitol building, the Idaho Capital Sun reports.

Thousands of people protested against Trump and government overreach at the Idaho capitol in Boise. American Civil Liberties Union of Idaho board member Sam Linnet spoke out against what he said is a government that is using fear to divide the American people.

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Rhode Island

No Kings but lots of people with something to stand for outside Rhode Island State House, the Rhode Island Current reports.

A diversity of animal costumes was among the crowd in Providence, as were a variety of people from all ages and backgrounds.

Three teenagers perched at the feet of Nathanael Greene, a general in George Washington's army who, in statue form, continues to look over the city from the base of the State House steps. The Democratic Socialists of America had set up an information booth underneath a tree's shade. A woman who declined to be interviewed sported an outfit with Beanie Baby cats attached, and a sign that read "Cat ladies against Trump."

Ohio

Thousands of No Kings protesters stage peaceful demonstration at Ohio Statehouse, the Ohio Capital Journal reports.

Alabama

'We've got to do something:' Thousands attend 'No Kings' protests in Alabama, the Alabama Reflector reports.

About 15 protests were scheduled around Alabama. Speakers and participants criticized the administration's seizure of power, its arrest and detention of immigrants and its health care policies. Others said Trump administration policies were hurting members of their families. Crowd sizes varied, from about 40 people in Selma to up to 2,000 in Birmingham.

New Jersey

Thousands protest Donald Trump at New Jersey No Kings rallies, the New Jersey Monitor reports.

New Jersey residents took their rage — and ridicule — to the streets, with some wearing silly costumes to push back on critics' claims that protesters are violent, anti-American extremists.

Minnesota

Thousands gather in downtown Minneapolis for anti-Trump rally, the Minnesota Reformer reports.

People told the Reformer they were there to fight for democracy against the threat of what they say is Trump's overreach, including deploying the National Guard to cities, deporting immigrants without due process and cutting off federal funds to Democratic states.

Protestors carried signs decrying authoritarianism — "No Kings, No Fascists" — and condemning U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement — "I like my democracy neat. Hold the ICE."

North Carolina

Thousands gather for No Kings protest in Raleigh to condemn Trump, North Carolina Newsline reports.

From noon to 3 p.m., cars and trucks in Raleigh were honking their support for a No Kings protest that lined both sides of a divided highway, drawing thousands of demonstrators frustrated with the Trump administration. The mood was light despite the serious issues raised, with many wearing colorful costumes and playing cheery tunes.

Montana

Small towns in Montana rally for 'No Kings,' the Daily Montanan reports.

Montanans turned out in traditionally red communities, such as Dillon, population roughly 4,000, and they gathered in tiny outposts such as Polebridge, on the edge of Glacier National Park, which almost saw more demonstrators than full-time residents. Most of the people who turned out to demonstrate appeared to be those who had already opposed Trump.

Demonstrators said they rallied to show support for democracy, for the U.S. Constitution, for civil liberties, for federal workers, for immigrants, for their own grandchildren, for health care, for the proper use of military troops, and for science and research.

Kansas

Small No Kings event puts love ahead of politics in rural Kansas town where immigrants are detained, the Kansas Reflector reports.

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Kay Krause of Cottonwood Falls hosted a "love in action" rally at her house. The gathering of 13 in the rural town of about 800 people was among the smallest of the 42 No Kings events that were planned across the state as part of a nationwide uprising.

Krause's event was different because it focused on kindness rather than the anger toward the Trump administration. Trump won about 75% of the Chase County votes in last year's election.

Nebraska

Protesters gather around Nebraska Capitol for No Kings protest, the Nebraska Examiner reports.

Protesters held anti-Trump signs criticizing the callousness of the administration's immigration enforcement efforts and cuts to federal services. Some chanted for Trump "to go." Some protesters said they were happy with the turnout, citing frustrations over the president's deployment of the National Guard to Democratic-led cities and attacks on transgender rights as frustrations.

Missouri

No Kings rallies draw thousands across Missouri, bolster initiative petition campaigns, the Missouri Independent reports.

Thousands gathered in cities and towns all over Missouri Saturday at No Kings demonstrations to speak up against the many ways they believe Trump's and Republican Gov. Mike Kehoe's administrations are a threat to democracy.

A St. Louis protester said he was appalled by Missouri's new congressional map, which he called nothing but a "power grab."

Michigan

Demonstrators amplify growing fear of Trump autocracy during Michigan-wide No Kings rallies, the Michigan Advance reports.

More than 100 communities from southeast Michigan to the westernmost part of the Upper Peninsula joined in a show of might to advocate for civil rights, democracy and the rule of law.

In Lansing, security for the protest was pronounced, with several state police in tactical gear and road patrol uniforms on the lookout for threats. As the crowd grew, cars and trucks driving by honked in support throughout the event. Some waved flags, held up signs or played loud music, and most were met with cheers and applause from demonstrators along North Capitol Avenue.

Maryland

On Eastern Shore, in Baltimore, across the state, thousands turn out for No Kings, Maryland Matters reports.

Rallies in Baltimore and Centreville were just two of more than 60 events scheduled in Maryland, from Ocean City to LaVale and from Northeast to Lexington Park and scores of points in between.

They were in big cities like Baltimore and small towns like Centreville. They were in deep blue counties like Montgomery, which had more than a dozen events scheduled, to deep red counties like Carroll, where one event was scheduled for the County Government Building in Westminster for those willing to brave it.

South Carolina

Thousands rally at SC Statehouse during nationwide No Kings protest, South Carolina Daily Gazette reports.

In Columbia, protesters' top issues included recent waves of deportations, federal cuts to health care research and what they considered moves away from democracy. Attention turned to statewide issues as well.

Alex Baumhardt, Jerold MacDonald-Evoy, Shalina Chatlani, Robbie Sequeira, Jeff Beach and Jamie Lucke contributed to this report.

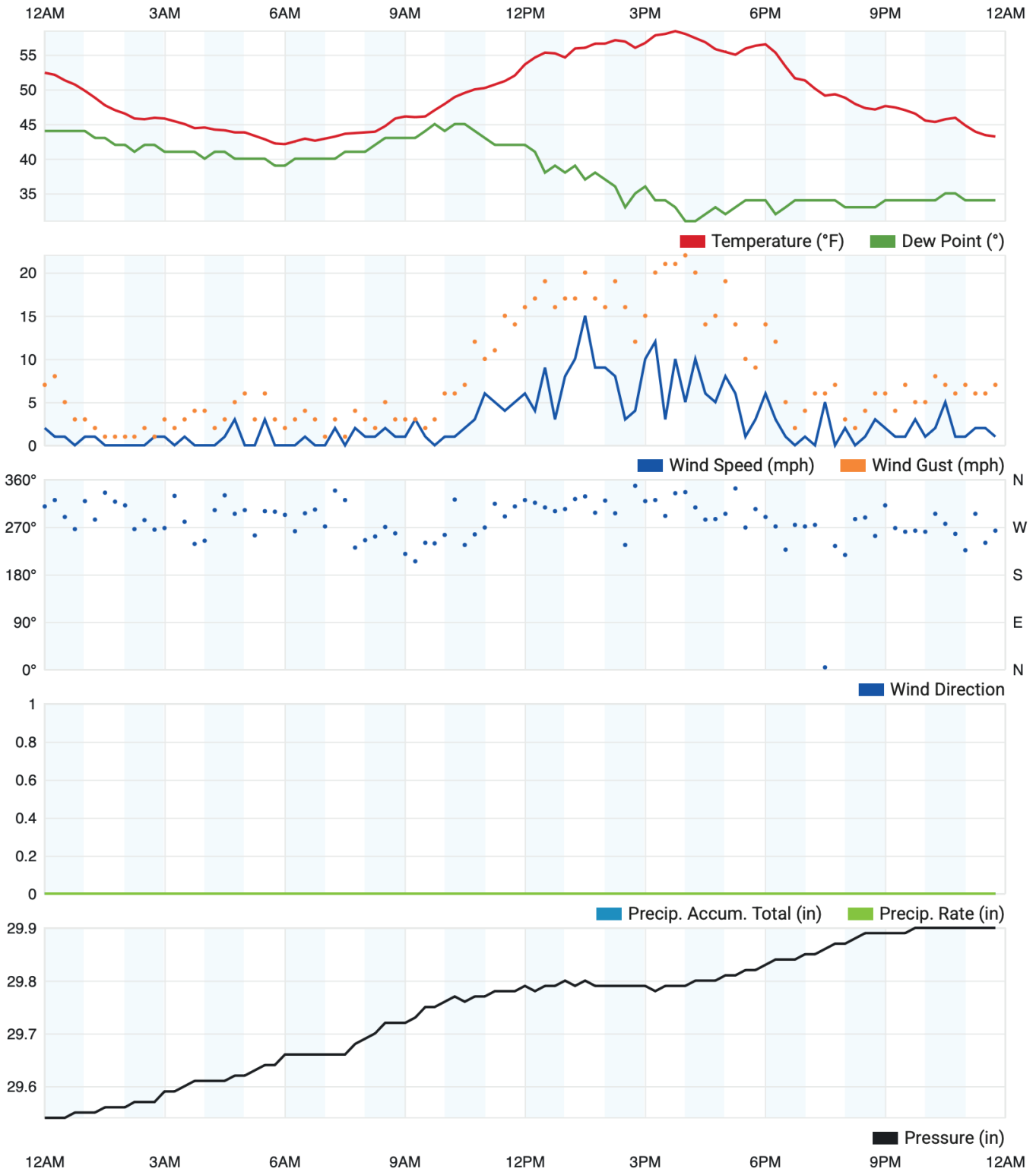
Ashley Murray covers the nation's capital as a senior reporter for States Newsroom. Her coverage areas include domestic policy and appropriations.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

October 18, 2025



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Today



High: 61 °F

Sunny

Tonight



Low: 41 °F

Increasing
Clouds

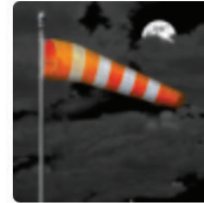
Monday



High: 58 °F

Decreasing
Clouds and
Breezy

Monday Night



Low: 38 °F

Mostly Cloudy
and Breezy

Tuesday



High: 50 °F

Mostly Sunny
and Breezy



Cool, but Seasonal Start to the Week

www.weather.gov/abr
October 19, 2025 4:42 AM

Today



57-65°

Mon



51-60°

Tues



46-55°

Wed



51-59°

Thurs



52-60°

Gusty NW Winds 35-55 mph
Elevated Fire Weather Conditions

Freezing
Temps

The new week will feature temperatures either side of seasonal normals. Daytime readings should normally range in the mid to upper 50s for highs this time of year. The first half of the week looks to be a bit agitated, especially when it comes to the wind. Today will be a bit breezy at times, but much stronger winds are expected on Monday. This will lead to high to very high fire danger for most of central South Dakota thanks to wind gusts ranging between 45-55 mph. After a bit of cool down Tuesday and Tuesday night, which includes some of the coolest temperatures seen so far this season, a slow warming trend is expected the second half of the week.

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Strong Winds & Elevated Fire Danger

October 19, 2025
5:06 AM

Near Critical Conditions Across Central SD Expected Monday



- Gusts between 35-55 mph Monday
- Increasingly dry conditions
 - Erratic Fire Behavior Possible Monday!
 - Avoid outdoor burning, have water handy for farm equipment
 - Report any fires to local authorities

| | Mon | | | | | | | | Tue | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|--|
| | 12am | 3am | 6am | 9am | 12pm | 3pm | 6pm | 9pm | 12am | 3am | 6am | 9am | 12pm | 3pm | 6pm | |
| Aberdeen | 18 | 18 | 21 | 31 | 37 | 39 | 36 | 32 | 32 | 33 | 35 | 36 | 32 | 30 | 22 | |
| Britton | 21 | 18 | 17 | 30 | 36 | 39 | 38 | 35 | 36 | 38 | 39 | 39 | 36 | 35 | 25 | |
| Clark | 28 | 28 | 25 | 35 | 40 | 41 | 39 | 36 | 35 | 38 | 38 | 38 | 37 | 36 | 26 | |
| Eagle Butte | 26 | 33 | 35 | 43 | 49 | 52 | 48 | 39 | 37 | 36 | 33 | 31 | 29 | 25 | 15 | |
| Ellendale | 16 | 16 | 20 | 32 | 38 | 40 | 38 | 35 | 35 | 37 | 36 | 37 | 33 | 31 | 22 | |
| Eureka | 20 | 21 | 25 | 38 | 46 | 47 | 44 | 41 | 39 | 40 | 39 | 36 | 35 | 31 | 21 | |
| Gettysburg | 22 | 26 | 29 | 38 | 44 | 46 | 44 | 37 | 36 | 37 | 33 | 32 | 31 | 30 | 18 | |
| Kennebec | 28 | 35 | 36 | 45 | 51 | 54 | 49 | 38 | 38 | 38 | 36 | 37 | 37 | 36 | 21 | |
| McIntosh | 18 | 26 | 33 | 44 | 51 | 54 | 51 | 39 | 37 | 35 | 32 | 30 | 28 | 25 | 14 | |
| Milbank | 18 | 18 | 17 | 28 | 32 | 33 | 32 | 31 | 31 | 33 | 33 | 36 | 36 | 33 | 26 | |
| Miller | 25 | 29 | 32 | 39 | 43 | 45 | 40 | 35 | 35 | 37 | 37 | 37 | 35 | 32 | 22 | |
| Mobridge | 18 | 23 | 28 | 38 | 44 | 46 | 45 | 37 | 36 | 36 | 33 | 31 | 30 | 26 | 15 | |
| Murdo | 30 | 35 | 33 | 41 | 48 | 51 | 47 | 36 | 33 | 33 | 31 | 30 | 30 | 29 | 16 | |
| Pierre | 22 | 30 | 32 | 39 | 43 | 47 | 46 | 38 | 37 | 36 | 35 | 32 | 30 | 29 | 18 | |
| Redfield | 24 | 23 | 25 | 36 | 41 | 44 | 38 | 32 | 32 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 36 | 33 | 23 | |
| Sisseton | 18 | 17 | 16 | 29 | 32 | 35 | 33 | 31 | 32 | 36 | 37 | 38 | 35 | 32 | 26 | |
| Watertown | 25 | 26 | 24 | 33 | 37 | 39 | 37 | 35 | 35 | 38 | 38 | 38 | 37 | 36 | 28 | |
| Webster | 24 | 23 | 21 | 33 | 38 | 39 | 37 | 35 | 35 | 38 | 38 | 39 | 37 | 36 | 26 | |
| Wheaton | 20 | 21 | 20 | 25 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 28 | 30 | 33 | 35 | 35 | 33 | 30 | 25 | |

Maximum Wind Gust Forecast (mph)

10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 60 70 80 100 120 140



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

National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

Strong northwest winds will develop on Monday on the backside of a low pressure system that will track across the region. Gusts will range between 35-55 mph with the highest gusts expected across central South Dakota. This also is where elevated fire danger will develop. High to Very High Fire Danger conditions are expected across most of central South Dakota. These types of winds will create erratic behavior to any fires that start. Avoid outdoor burning and have an adequate supply of water on hand if doing any farm or field work.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 58 °F at 3:35 PM

Low Temp: 42 °F at 5:48 AM

Wind: 22 mph at 3:55 PM

Precip: : 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 86 in 1958

Record Low: 10 in 1917

Average High: 58

Average Low: 32

Average Precip in Oct.: 1.44

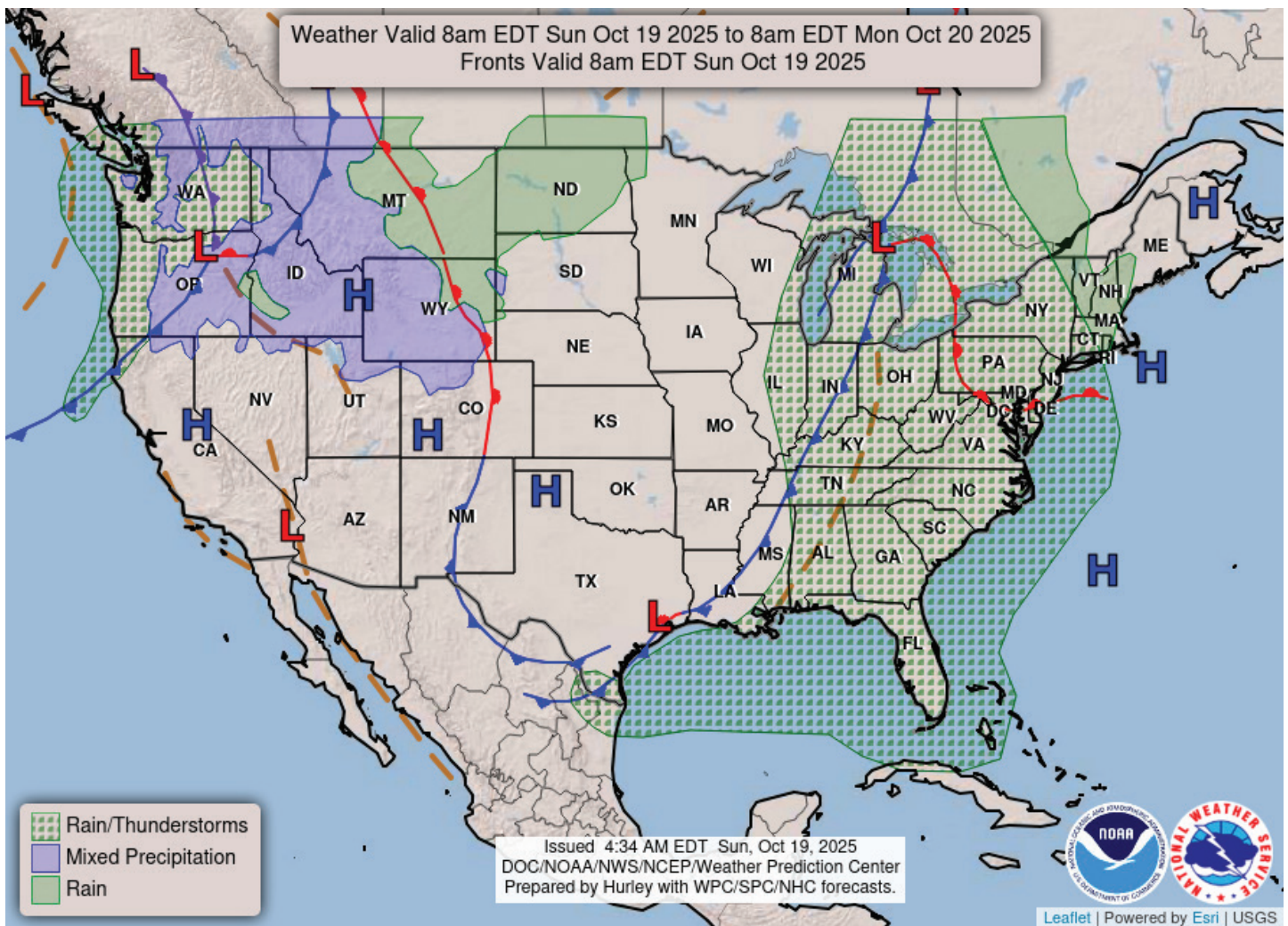
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.48

Average Precip to date: 19.77

Precip Year to Date: 23.40

Sunset Tonight: 6:40 pm

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:55 am



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Today in Weather History

October 19, 1982: An early fall snowstorm dropped 3 to 12 inches of wet snow over the southeastern corner of South Dakota. The wet snow combined with the gusty winds of 20 to 40 mph dropped wind chills to around zero. Numerous trees snapped downing power lines. Power outages were extensive from Vermillion to Mitchell. Thunder rumbled, and lightning flashed amidst the height of the snowstorm. Almost a foot of snow fell in northern Union and southern Lincoln counties. High wind gusts knocked out television and radio transmitters in Sioux Falls. The weight of the snow collapsed a panel on the covered stadium at the University of South Dakota at Vermillion.

1844 - The famous "Lower Great Lakes Storm" occurred. Southwesterly winds were at hurricane force for five hours, driving lake waters into downtown Buffalo NY. The storm drowned 200 persons. (David Ludlum)

1961 - Rain changed to a record early season, heavy wet snow over the southern mountains of West Virginia. Leaves were still on trees, resulting in the worst forest disaster since the fires of 1952 and 1953. One to two feet of snow fell near Summersville and Richwood. (19th-20th) (The Weather Channel)

1984 - Thunderstorms deluged the town of Odem, TX (located 15 miles northwest of Corpus Christi) with 25 inches of rain in just three and a half hours. Most businesses in Odem were flooded, as were 1000 homes in nearby Sinton. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A cold front brought rainshowers to parts of the central U.S., and ushered cool Canadian air into the Great Plains Region. Daytime highs were only in the 30s in North Dakota and eastern Montana. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Thunderstorms produced high winds in eastern Colorado, with gusts to 63 mph reported at La Junta. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Record breaking snows fell across northern and central Indiana. Totals ranged up to 10.5 inches at Kokomo, and 9.3 inches was reported at Indianapolis. The 8.8 inch total at South Bend was a record for the month as a whole. Up to seven inches of snow fell in extreme southern Lower Michigan, and up to six inches fell in southwestern Ohio. The heavy wet snow downed many trees and power lines. Half the city of Cincinnati OH was without electricity during the morning hours. Temperatures dipped below freezing across much of the Great Plains Region. Twenty cities, including fourteen in Texas, reported record low temperatures for the date. North Platte NE reported a record low of 11 degrees. In Florida, four cities reported record high temperatures for the date. The record high of 92 degrees at Miami also marked a record fourteen days of 90 degree weather in October, and 116 such days for the year.

1996: The opening game of World Series between the Braves and Yankees in New York was postponed by heavy rains and high wind from a major storm system affecting the East Coast, marking the third time in history that the World Series opener had been postponed. Overall, nine of the 22 games that have been canceled in Series history were scheduled in New York or Brooklyn.

2007: A total of 87 tornadoes were reported in the United States from Oct. 17-19, a new record outbreak for the month, according to NOAA's Storm Prediction Center in Norman, Oklahoma. The outbreak also contributed to the monthly total of 105 tornado reports – the second highest for October, behind the 117 tornadoes in October 2001. Records date back to 1950.

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Daily Devotion

Alone With God

When we make prayer a priority, we'll be ready for the day ahead.

Mark 1:35-39: Jesus Prays in a Solitary Place

35 Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. 36 Simon and his companions went to look for him, 37 and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!"

38 Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." 39 So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

Is prayer part of your daily schedule? In thinking about your answer, don't include times when your attention is divided; consider only the occasions when you're fully focused on Him. While prayer at any time is good, we also need to have a set time and place where we meet with the Lord each day.

Even though Jesus was the Son of God, He knew the importance of solitary prayer time. He didn't do anything on His own initiative but lived in dependence on the Father. In today's reading, we don't know exactly what Jesus prayed. But when the disciples interrupted His morning prayer time, it was obvious that in communicating with His Father, He'd received direction for that day—to "go somewhere else" to preach.

Jesus was the perfect example of a Spirit-led life. Since we are to follow in His footsteps, wouldn't it make sense for us to meet with God in preparation for the day (Psalm 5:3)? This is the time to lay our concerns at His feet, seek His guidance, trust Him for provision and protection, and intercede for others.

Although many things demand our time and attention, we should strive to make prayer a regular part of our daily routine. When that is our priority, we'll have a firm foundation for the day, no matter what it brings.

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: 10.17.25

9 21 27 48 56 10

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$650,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LOTTO AMERICA

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.18.25

12 26 27 32 35 2

All Star Bonus: 2x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$5,060,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LUCKY FOR LIFE

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.18.25

13 20 24 31 45 12

TOP PRIZE:

\$7,000/week

NEXT DRAW: 15 Hrs 43 Mins 39
Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

DAKOTA CASH

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.18.25

3 8 9 21 34

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$55,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

DOUBLE PLAY

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.18.25

2 9 10 14 36 23

TOP PRIZE:

\$10,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.18.25

3 11 27 40 58 10

Power Play: 3x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$304,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[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

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News from the **AP** Associated Press

Smith's 2 TDs, Lee's 2 interceptions lead South Dakota State to 35-14 win over Murray State

MURRAY, Ky. (AP) — Jack Smith caught two touchdown passes, Jalen B. Lee had two interceptions, and the South Dakota State defense forced four turnovers in a 35-14 win over Murray State on Saturday.

Smith had 10-yard and 46-yard touchdown catches on either side of halftime, tallying 91 yards on five catches. Alex Bullock led the FCS No. 2 Jackrabbits (7-0, 4-0 Missouri Valley Football Conference) with 99 yards on eight catches.

Lee secured his first interception on the opening possession. Joe Ollman and Jayden Oliver also had interceptions.

Chase Mason was 5-of-6 passing for 56 yards and scored a rushing touchdown for the Jackrabbits, while starter Luke Marble was 13 of 21 for 189 yards, two touchdowns to Smith, and an interception.

The Racers (0-7, 0-3 MVFC) went 0-for-3 in the red zone.

Jim Ogle was 20-of-32 passing for 327 yards, two touchdowns and four interceptions. Both of his touchdowns were long-range scores. He had a 65-yard connection to Darius Cannon in the first quarter and a 60-yard strike to Jordan Washington in the fourth quarter.

Bouman-to-Fenner connection leads South Dakota in 17-14 win over Northern Iowa

CEDAR FALLS, Iowa (AP) — Aidan Bouman threw two touchdown passes to Lorenzo Fenner and South Dakota defeated Northern Iowa 17-14 on Saturday.

Zeke Mata's school-record 58-yard field goal on the final play of the first half gave the Coyotes a 10-7 lead and Bouman's 67-yard hookup with Fenner made it 17-7 midway through the third quarter.

Northern Iowa scored with less than a minute left in the game when Matthew Schecklman threw a 7-yard TD pass to Bill Jackson but South Dakota recovered the ensuing onside kick.

Bauman completed 16 of 24 passes for 202 yards and Fenner had 84 yards on three receptions for the Coyotes (5-3, 3-1 Missouri Valley Football Conference).

Schecklman had two touchdown passes and was 22-for-40 passing for 189 yards. He led the Panthers (2-5, 0-3) with 60 yards rushing and JC Roque Jr. was the top receiver with 91 yards on seven catches.

Afghanistan and Pakistan pledge to respect ceasefire after more than a week of deadly fighting

By RIAZAT BUTT Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Afghanistan and Pakistan, embroiled in fighting that has killed dozens of people and injured hundreds, pledged on Sunday to respect a ceasefire.

The truce, mediated by Qatar and Turkey, came into effect immediately and is intended to pause hostilities.

Violence has escalated between the neighbors since earlier this month, with each country saying they were responding to aggression from the other. Afghanistan denies harboring militants who carry out attacks in border areas.

Pakistan is grappling with militancy that has surged since 2021, when the Taliban seized control of Afghanistan and returned to power.

The Taliban government's chief spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, gave a positive response to the outcome of the talks that took place in the Qatari capital, Doha, a day earlier.

He said both countries had signed a bilateral agreement.

"It has been decided that neither country will undertake any hostile actions against the other, nor will

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they support groups carrying out attacks against Pakistan. Both sides will refrain from targeting each other's security forces, civilians or critical infrastructure."

A mechanism would be established in the future, "under the mediation of intermediary countries," to review bilateral claims and ensure the effective implementation of this agreement.

Pakistani Defense Minister Khawaja Asif posted confirmation of the deal on X.

"Cross-border terrorism from Afghan territory will cease immediately," Asif wrote. "Both countries will respect each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity. A follow-up meeting between the delegations is scheduled to take place in Istanbul on October 25 to discuss the matters in detail."

Top officials from both countries thanked Qatar and Turkey for their role in facilitating the talks that led to the ceasefire.

The fighting between Afghanistan and Pakistan has severely disrupted people's lives.

The two countries share a 2,611-kilometer (1,622-mile) long border known as the Durand Line, which Afghanistan has never recognized. They have just two main trade routes.

Worsening security has forced locals to leave their homes and also left thousands of people and vehicles stranded for a week at border points.

The Chaman crossing in southwest Pakistan is only open for Afghan refugees to leave as part of a nationwide crackdown on foreigners living in Pakistan illegally. Entry from Afghanistan, including trade and pedestrian movement, remains suspended.

The Torkham crossing, which straddles Pakistan's northwest and Afghanistan's east, is totally closed.

Afghanistan and Pakistan have agreed to an immediate ceasefire, Qatar says

By RIAZAT BUTT Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Afghanistan and Pakistan, embroiled in more than a week of fighting that has killed dozens of people and injured hundreds, have agreed to an immediate ceasefire, Qatar's Foreign Ministry said Sunday. It is the deadliest crisis between the two countries in several years.

The sides agreed to establish mechanisms to consolidate lasting peace and stability, and to hold follow-up talks in the coming days to ensure the sustainability of the truce, the Qatari statement said. Qatar and Turkey mediated the negotiations, the statement added.

Violence has escalated between the neighbors since earlier this month, with each country saying they were responding to aggression from the other. Afghanistan denies harboring militants who carry out attacks in border areas.

Pakistan is grappling with militancy that has surged since 2021, when the Taliban seized control of Afghanistan and returned to power.

The fighting threatened to further destabilize a region where groups including the Islamic State group and al-Qaida are trying to resurface.

Michael Kugelman, a South Asia analyst, said the ceasefire gave the two sides "more breathing room" to think about what to do next.

But the problem was that the core driver of the crisis remained, Kugelman warned.

"The Taliban are not addressing Pakistan's concerns about cross-border terrorism," he said. "And they're denying they're even a part of the problem."

Aerial strikes trigger condemnation, boycott

A 48-hour ceasefire intended to pause hostilities expired Friday evening. Hours later, Pakistan struck across the border.

Pakistani security officials confirmed to The Associated Press that there were attacks on two districts in Afghanistan's eastern Paktika province.

The targets were hideouts of the militant Hafiz Gul Bahadur group, according to the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media. One said the operation was a direct response to the suicide bombing of a security forces compound in Mir Ali, in Pakistan's Khyber

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Pakhtunkhwa province a day earlier.

The Pakistani Air Force raids killed dozens of armed fighters and there were no civilian deaths, they said. But Afghan officials said the aerial assaults killed at least 10 civilians, including women, children and local cricketers who had been competing in a match nearby.

The attacks prompted the national cricket board to boycott an upcoming series in Pakistan. Cricket's global governing body, the International Cricket Council, said it was "saddened and appalled by the tragic deaths of three young and promising Afghan" players.

On Saturday, several thousand people attended funeral prayers in Paktika. They sat in the open air as loudspeakers broadcast sermons and condemnation.

Zabihullah Mujahid, the Taliban government's chief spokesman, had earlier criticized the "repeated crimes of Pakistani forces and the violation of Afghanistan's sovereignty."

Such acts were deemed provocative and viewed as "deliberate attempts" to prolong the conflict, he added.

The two countries share a 2,611-kilometer (1,622-mile) border known as the Durand Line, but Afghanistan has never recognized it.

Pakistan's army chief, Asim Munir, urged Afghans to choose "mutual security over perpetual violence and progress over hardline obscurantism."

"The Taliban must rein in the proxies who have sanctuaries in Afghanistan," he told an audience at the Pakistan Military Academy in Kakul, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, as high-level delegations from both countries arrived in the Qatari capital on Saturday for the negotiations.

'No Kings' protests against Trump bring a street party vibe to cities nationwide

By MIKE PESOLI, MATT BROWN and GARY FIELDS Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Large crowds of protesters marched and rallied in cities across the U.S. Saturday for "No Kings" demonstrations decrying what participants see as the government's swift drift into authoritarianism under President Donald Trump.

People carrying signs with slogans such as "Nothing is more patriotic than protesting" or "Resist Fascism" packed into New York City's Times Square and rallied by the thousands in parks in Boston, Atlanta and Chicago. Demonstrators marched through Washington and downtown Los Angeles and picketed outside capitols in several Republican-led states, a courthouse in Billings, Montana, and at hundreds of smaller public spaces.

Trump's Republican Party disparaged the demonstrations as "Hate America" rallies, but in many places the events looked more like a street party. There were marching bands, huge banners with the U.S. Constitution's "We The People" preamble that people could sign, and demonstrators wearing inflatable costumes, particularly frogs, which have emerged as a sign of resistance in Portland, Oregon.

It was the third mass mobilization since Trump's return to the White House and came against the backdrop of a government shutdown that not only has closed federal programs and services but is testing the core balance of power, as an aggressive executive confronts Congress and the courts in ways that protest organizers warn are a slide toward authoritarianism.

In Washington, Iraq War Marine veteran Shawn Howard said he had never participated in a protest before but was motivated to show up because of what he sees as the Trump administration's "disregard for the law." He said immigration detentions without due process and deployments of troops in U.S. cities are "un-American" and alarming signs of eroding democracy.

"I fought for freedom and against this kind of extremism abroad," said Howard, who added that he also worked at the CIA for 20 years on counter-extremism operations. "And now I see a moment in America where we have extremists everywhere who are, in my opinion, pushing us to some kind of civil conflict."

Trump, meanwhile, was spending the weekend at his Mar-a-Lago home in Florida.

"They say they're referring to me as a king. I'm not a king," the president said in a Fox News interview that aired early Friday, before he departed for a \$1 million-per-plate MAGA Inc. fundraiser at his club.

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A Trump campaign social media account mocked the protests by posting a computer-generated video of the president clothed like a monarch, wearing a crown and waving from a balcony.

Nationwide demonstrations

In San Francisco hundreds of people spelled out "No King!" and other phrases with their bodies on Ocean Beach. Hayley Wingard, who was dressed as the Statue of Liberty, said she too had never been to a protest before. Only recently she began to view Trump as a "dictator."

"I was actually OK with everything until I found that the military invasion in Los Angeles and Chicago and Portland — Portland bothered me the most, because I'm from Portland, and I don't want the military in my cities. That's scary," Wingard said.

Tens of thousands of people gathered in Portland for a peaceful demonstration downtown. Later in the day, tensions grew as a few hundred protesters and counterprotesters showed up at a U.S. Immigration and Customs enforcement building, with federal agents at times firing tear gas to disperse the crowd and city police threatening to make arrests if demonstrators blocked streets.

The building has been the site of mostly small nightly protests since June — the reason the Trump administration has cited for trying to deploy National Guard troops in Portland, which a federal judge has at least temporarily blocked.

About 3,500 people gathered in Salt Lake City outside the Utah State Capitol to share messages of hope and healing after a protester was fatally shot during the city's first "No Kings" march in June.

And more than 1,500 people gathered in Birmingham, Alabama, evoking and the city's history of protests and the critical role it played in the Civil Rights Movement two generations ago.

"It just feels like we're living in an America that I don't recognize," said Jessica Yother, a mother of four. She and other protesters said they felt camaraderie by gathering in a state where Trump won nearly 65% of the vote last November.

"It was so encouraging," Yother said. "I walked in and thought, 'Here are my people.'"

Organizers hope to build opposition movement

"Big rallies like this give confidence to people who have been sitting on the sidelines but are ready to speak up," Democratic U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy said in an interview with The Associated Press.

While protests earlier this year — against Elon Musk's cuts and Trump's military parade — drew crowds, organizers say this one is uniting the opposition. Top Democrats such as Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and Independent Sen. Bernie Sanders are joining what organizers view as an antidote to Trump's actions, from the administration's clampdown on free speech to its military-style immigration raids.

More than 2,600 rallies were planned Saturday, organizers said. The national march against Trump and Musk this spring had 1,300 registered locations, while the first "No Kings" day in June registered 2,100.

"We're here because we love America," Sanders said, addressing the crowd from a stage in Washington. He said the American experiment is "in danger" under Trump but insisted, "We the people will rule."

Republican critics denounce the demonstrations

Republicans sought to portray protesters as far outside the mainstream and a prime reason for the government shutdown, now in its 18th day.

From the White House to Capitol Hill, GOP leaders called them "communists" and "Marxists." They said Democratic leaders including Schumer are beholden to the far-left flank and willing to keep the government shut to appease those liberal forces.

"I encourage you to watch — we call it the Hate America rally — that will happen Saturday," said House Speaker Mike Johnson of Louisiana.

"Let's see who shows up for that," Johnson said, listing groups including "antifa types," people who "hate capitalism" and "Marxists in full display."

Many demonstrators, in response, said they were meeting such hyperbole with humor, noting that Trump often leans heavily on theatrics such as claiming that cities he sends troops to are war zones.

"So much of what we've seen from this administration has been so unserious and silly that we have to respond with the same energy," said Glen Kalbaugh, a Washington protester who wore a wizard hat and

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held a sign with a frog on it.

New York police reported no arrests during the protests.

Democrats try to regain their footing amid shutdown

Democrats have refused to vote on legislation that would reopen the government as they demand funding for health care. Republicans say they are willing to discuss the issue later, only after the government reopens.

The situation is a potential turnaround from just six months ago, when Democrats and their allies were divided and despondent. Schumer in particular was berated by his party for allowing an earlier government funding bill to sail through the Senate without using it to challenge Trump.

"What we are seeing from the Democrats is some spine," said Ezra Levin, a co-founder of Indivisible, a key organizing group. "The worst thing the Democrats could do right now is surrender."

Plan to fire artillery over a highway during Vance visit irks California's Newsom

By SARAH RAZA Associated Press

A plan to fire live artillery shells over a major Southern California highway as part of a military showcase attended Saturday by Vice President JD Vance drew strong objections from Gov. Gavin Newsom, who said safety concerns forced him to close a portion of the busy interstate.

"The President is putting his ego over responsibility with this disregard for public safety," the Democratic governor said in a statement. "Firing live rounds over a busy highway isn't just wrong — it's dangerous."

But U.S. Marine officials said there was nothing unsafe about the exercise at Camp Pendleton, where firing off artillery is a routine occurrence, and that it was unnecessary to disrupt traffic on Interstate 5, which is the main highway along the Pacific coast between San Diego and Los Angeles.

Republicans castigated the highway shutdown.

U.S. Rep. Darrell Issa, who represents a district east of the base, called it "a spiteful publicity stunt" by Newsom.

Vance, a Republican, and Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth visited the base in north San Diego County to celebrate the Marine Corps' 250th anniversary, and watch troops put on a show of amphibious vehicles and Marines demonstrating a beach assault. Vance, a Marine Corps veteran, and his wife, Usha, watched as aircraft shot across the sky and columns of smoke rose from munitions strikes.

The state had considered closing the freeway earlier in the week, but the U.S. Marines said Thursday that the event would occur on approved training ranges and comport with established safety protocols.

State transportation officials ultimately made the decision to close the freeway after practice firings Friday evening and a request from event organizers for signage along the road stating "Overhead fire in progress."

The California Highway Patrol closed a 17-mile (27 kilometers) stretch of the highway for periods before and during the Saturday exercise. Severe traffic delays were reported Saturday morning and early afternoon. No mishaps were reported related to the artillery fire.

"This is all because of the White House-directed military event, that for the safety of the public, we need to shut down the freeway since they're sending live ordinances over the freeway," California Department of Transportation spokesperson Matt Rocco said.

U.S. Marines Capt. Gregory Dreibelbis said in a statement that there is artillery fire at the base nearly every week and that the exercises didn't endanger motorists.

"Weeks of deliberate planning and rehearsals ensured success at every phase of execution," he said.

In a statement to The New York Times, a spokesperson for Vance, William Martin, said Newsom misled the public about the safety risk.

"If Gavin Newsom wants to oppose the training exercises that ensure our Armed Forces are the deadliest and most lethal fighting force in the world, then he can go right ahead," Martin said.

Rocco said the I-5 closure could cost up to another two hours of trip time for those commuting between

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San Diego and Los Angeles. The freeway carries 80,000 travelers and \$94 million in freight through the corridor daily, according to the governor's office. Passenger rail services running parallel to the I-5 have also been canceled for the afternoon.

Israel says Hamas hands over '2 coffins of deceased hostages' from Gaza

By TOQA EZZIDIN, SAM MEDNICK and SAMY MAGDY Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Israel said Hamas handed over "two coffins of deceased hostages" from Gaza late Saturday, while Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu increased pressure on the militant group to share the rest more quickly under their ceasefire.

No names were immediately released. The bodies were in Israel and were being taken to the country's National Institute of Forensic Medicine.

Israel announced earlier Saturday that Gaza's sole crossing with the outside world, Rafah, would stay closed "until further notice," tying it to Hamas' release of remains. On Thursday it had said the crossing likely would reopen Sunday.

Hamas has now handed over the remains of 12 of the 28 dead hostages in Gaza, a key step in the week-old ceasefire process meant to end two years of war. The militant group says devastation and Israeli military control of certain areas of Gaza have slowed the handover.

The statement by Netanyahu's office on the Rafah crossing came shortly after the Palestinian embassy in Egypt said it would reopen Monday for people returning to Gaza. Hamas called Netanyahu's decision a violation of the ceasefire deal.

The Rafah crossing has been closed since May 2024, when Israel took control of the Gaza side. A fully reopened crossing would make it easier for Gazans to seek medical treatment, travel or visit family in Egypt, home to tens of thousands of Palestinians.

Anxiety on both sides over remains

Israel has been returning the bodies of Palestinians with no names, only numbers. Gaza's Health Ministry posts photos of them online, hoping families will come forward.

"Just like they took their captives, we want our captives. Bring me my son, bring all our kids back," said a tearful Iman Sakani, whose son went missing during the war. She was among dozens of anxious families waiting at Nasser hospital.

One woman knelt, crying over a body after identifying it.

As part of the ceasefire agreement, Israel on Saturday returned 15 bodies of Palestinians to Gaza, bringing the total it has returned to 135.

Meanwhile, Gaza's ruins were being scoured for the dead. Newly recovered bodies brought the Palestinian toll above 68,000, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. Thousands of people are still missing, according to the Red Cross.

The ministry, part of the Hamas-run government, doesn't distinguish between civilians and combatants in its count. But the ministry maintains detailed casualty records that are seen as generally reliable by U.N. agencies and independent experts. Israel has disputed them without providing its own toll.

Hamas-led militants killed around 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducted 251 people in the attack on southern Israel that sparked the war on Oct. 7, 2023.

A push for hostages' remains

Israel also said the remains of a 10th hostage that Hamas handed over Friday were identified as Eliyahu Margalit. The 76-year-old was abducted from kibbutz Nir Oz during the Oct. 7 attack. His remains were found after bulldozers plowed areas in the southern city of Khan Younis.

U.S. President Donald Trump has warned that he would greenlight a resumption of the war by Israel if Hamas doesn't return the remains of all dead hostages.

Hamas has said it is committed to the ceasefire deal, but that the retrieval of remains is also hampered by the presence of unexploded ordnance in the territory's vast ruins.

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The U.S. State Department on Saturday said it had credible reports of an imminent planned attack by Hamas against residents of Gaza.

"This planned attack against Palestinian civilians would constitute a direct and grave violation of the ceasefire agreement and undermine the significant progress achieved through mediation efforts," it said in a statement. "The guarantors demand Hamas uphold its obligations under the ceasefire terms.

"Should Hamas proceed with this attack, measures will be taken to protect the people of Gaza and preserve the integrity of the ceasefire" forged by Trump to end the two-year war between Israel and Hamas, it added. There were no additional details.

The Israeli organization supporting families of those abducted said it will continue holding weekly rallies in Tel Aviv until all are returned.

"We don't want to go back to fighting, God forbid, but this whole ordeal must end, and all the hostages must be returned," said Ifat Calderon, aunt of freed hostage Ofer Calderon.

Aid remains limited

Hamas has urged mediators to increase the flow of aid into Gaza as closures of crossings and Israeli restrictions on aid groups continue.

"Vast parts of the city are just a wasteland," U.N. humanitarian chief Tom Fletcher said Saturday while visiting Gaza City, where international food security experts declared famine earlier this year.

U.N. data on Friday showed 339 trucks have been offloaded for distribution in Gaza since the ceasefire began. Under the agreement, about 600 aid trucks per day should be allowed to enter.

COGAT, the Israeli defense body overseeing aid in Gaza, reported 950 trucks — including commercial trucks and bilateral deliveries — crossing on Thursday and 716 on Wednesday, the U.N. said.

Israel has said it let in enough food and accused Hamas of stealing much of it, which the U.N. and other aid agencies deny.

Hamas accuses Israel of violations

Hamas again accused Israel of continuing attacks and violating the ceasefire, asserting that 38 Palestinians had been killed since it began. There was no immediate response from Israel, which still maintains control of about half of Gaza.

On Friday, Gaza's Civil Defense, first responders operating under the Hamas-run Interior Ministry, said nine people were killed, including women and children, when their vehicle was hit by Israeli fire in Gaza City. The Civil Defense said the car crossed into an Israeli-controlled area in eastern Gaza.

Israel's army said it saw a "suspicious vehicle" crossing the so-called yellow line and approaching troops. It said it fired warning shots, but the vehicle continued to approach in a manner that posed an "imminent threat." The army said it acted in accordance with the ceasefire.

US will send survivors of strike on suspected drug vessel back to Ecuador and Colombia, Trump says

By KONSTANTIN TOROPIN and CHRIS MEGERIAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The two survivors of an American military strike on a suspected drug-carrying vessel in the Caribbean will be sent to Ecuador and Colombia, their home countries, President Donald Trump said Saturday.

The military rescued the pair after striking a submersible vessel Thursday, in what was at least the sixth such attack since early September.

"It was my great honor to destroy a very large DRUG-CARRYING SUBMARINE that was navigating towards the United States on a well known narco trafficking transit route," Trump said in a social media post. "U.S. Intelligence confirmed this vessel was loaded up with mostly Fentanyl, and other illegal narcotics."

After Trump's announcement, the Pentagon posted on X a brief black-and-white video of the strike. In the clip, a vessel can be seen moving through the waves, its front portion submerged inches below the water's surface. Then, several explosions are seen, with at least one over the back of the vessel.

The Republican president said two people onboard were killed — one more than was previously reported

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— and the two who survived are being sent to their home countries “for detention and prosecution.” Colombian President Gustavo Petro confirmed Saturday on X that the Colombian man who was detained aboard what he called a “narco submarine” was home.

“We are glad he is alive, and he will be prosecuted according to the law,” Petro wrote in a brief post.

The press office for Ecuador’s government said Saturday it was not immediately aware of plans for repatriation.

With Trump’s statement on his Truth Social platform of the death toll, that means U.S. military action against vessels in the region have killed at least 29 people.

The president has justified the strikes by asserting that the United States is engaged in an “armed conflict” with drug cartels. He is relying on the same legal authority used by the George W. Bush administration when it declared a war on terrorism after the Sept. 11 attacks, and that includes the ability to capture and detain combatants and to use lethal force to take out their leadership. Trump is also treating the suspected traffickers as if they were enemy soldiers in a traditional war.

The repatriation avoids questions for the Trump administration about what the legal status of the two would have been in the U.S. justice system. It may also sidestep some of the legal issues that arose out of the detention of enemy combatants in the global war on terrorism as well as challenges to the constitutionality of the current operation.

To some legal scholars, Trump’s use of such military force against suspect drug cartels, along with his authorization of covert action inside Venezuela, possibly to oust President Nicolás Maduro, stretches the bounds of international law.

On Friday, Trump seemed to confirm reports that Maduro has offered a stake in Venezuela’s oil and other mineral wealth in recent months to try to stave off mounting pressure from the United States. Venezuelan government officials have also floated a plan in which Maduro would eventually leave office, according to a former Trump administration official. That plan was also rejected by the White House, The Associated Press reported.

The strikes in the Caribbean have caused unease among members of Congress from both parties and complaints about receiving insufficient information on how the attacks are being conducted. But most Republican senators backed the administration last week on a measure that would have required Trump’s team to get approval from Congress before more strikes.

Meanwhile, another resolution to be considered would prevent Trump from outright attacking Venezuela without congressional authorization.

US Embassy issues warning to Americans in Trinidad and Tobago as tensions with Venezuela escalate

By ANSELM GIBBS Associated Press

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad (AP) — The U.S. Embassy in Trinidad and Tobago cautioned Americans on Saturday to stay away from American government facilities on the twin-island nation.

It was an unusual warning that came as tensions grow between the United States and Venezuela over deadly U.S. strikes in Caribbean waters targeting suspected drug traffickers.

The embassy didn’t specify why it issued the warning, saying only that, “due to a heightened state of alert, please avoid and refrain from visiting all U.S. government facilities through the holiday weekend,” as it urged people to “be aware of your surroundings.” Monday is a holiday to celebrate Diwali, a Hindu festival of lights widely celebrated in Trinidad and Tobago, where 35% of its 1.4 million people identify as East Indian.

Venezuela is located just miles away from Trinidad, where people in one coastal community are mourning the disappearance of two local fishermen believed killed in a U.S. strike on Tuesday.

The alert is based on threats directed at American citizens in the Caribbean nation, with U.S. authorities saying “it could be linked” to ongoing tensions in the region, Trinidad and Tobago’s minister of homeland security, Roger Alexander, told The Associated Press. However, local authorities declined to share specific

details about the reported threats.

Authorities in Trinidad and Tobago have responded to the threats by implementing security measures to deal with any situations that may arise, Alexander said.

With six strikes killing at least 29 people since early September, the tense situation in the region was mentioned by U.S. officials in a briefing with authorities in Trinidad and Tobago, Alexander said.

Following the most recent attack, the U.S. government took survivors into custody, after the military struck a suspected drug-carrying vessel in the Caribbean, officials said Friday.

The Trump administration has said it considers alleged drug traffickers as unlawful combatants who must be met with military force.

US warns Hamas planning attack on Palestinian civilians in apparent violation of Gaza ceasefire

By CHRISTOPHER MEGERIAN Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — The U.S. State Department said Saturday that it has “credible reports” that Hamas could violate the ceasefire with an attack on Palestinian civilians in Gaza.

If the attack takes place, it “would constitute a direct and grave violation” of the agreement forged by President Donald Trump to end the two-year war between Israel and Hamas, the statement said.

No further details were disclosed about the potential attack.

“Should Hamas proceed with this attack, measures will be taken to protect the people of Gaza and preserve the integrity of the ceasefire,” the State Department said.

Trump previously warned on social media that “if Hamas continues to kill people in Gaza, which was not the Deal, we will have no choice but to go in and kill them.”

The U.S. president later clarified he won’t send U.S. troops into Gaza after launching the threat against Hamas.

“It’s not going to be us,” he told reporters. “We won’t have to. There are people very close, very nearby that will go in and they’ll do the trick very easily, but under our auspices.”

Trump’s hostile rhetoric represented a shift after initially expressing nonchalance about Hamas killings, saying they had taken out “a couple of gangs that were very bad.”

Music could help ease pain from surgery or illness. Scientists are listening

By CHRISTINA LARSON AP Science Writer

Nurse Rod Salaysay works with all kinds of instruments in the hospital: a thermometer, a stethoscope and sometimes his guitar and ukulele.

In the recovery unit of UC San Diego Health, Salaysay helps patients manage pain after surgery. Along with medications, he offers tunes on request and sometimes sings. His repertoire ranges from folk songs in English and Spanish to Minuet in G Major and movie favorites like “Somewhere Over the Rainbow.”

Patients often smile or nod along. Salaysay even sees changes in their vital signs like lower heart rate and blood pressure, and some may request fewer painkillers.

“There’s often a cycle of worry, pain, anxiety in a hospital,” he said, “but you can help break that cycle with music.”

Salaysay is a one-man band, but he’s not alone. Over the past two decades, live performances and recorded music have flowed into hospitals and doctors’ offices as research grows on how songs can help ease pain.

Scientists explore how music affects pain perception

The healing power of song may sound intuitive given music’s deep roots in human culture. But the science of whether and how music dulls acute and chronic pain — technically called music-induced analgesia

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— is just catching up.

No one suggests that a catchy song can fully eliminate serious pain. But several recent studies, including in the journals *Pain* and *Scientific Reports*, have suggested that listening to music can either reduce the perception of pain or enhance a person's ability to tolerate it.

What seems to matter most is that patients — or their families — choose the music selections themselves and listen intently, not just as background noise.

How music can affect pain levels

"Pain is a really complex experience," said Adam Hanley, a psychologist at Florida State University. "It's created by a physical sensation, and by our thoughts about that sensation and emotional reaction to it."

Two people with the same condition or injury may feel vastly different levels of acute or chronic pain. Or the same person might experience pain differently from one day to the next.

Acute pain is felt when pain receptors in a specific part of the body — like a hand touching a hot stove — send signals to the brain, which processes the short-term pain. Chronic pain usually involves long-term structural or other changes to the brain, which heighten overall sensitivity to pain signals. Researchers are still investigating how this occurs.

"Pain is interpreted and translated by the brain," which may ratchet the signal up or down, said Dr. Gilbert Chandler, a specialist in chronic spinal pain at the Tallahassee Orthopedic Clinic.

Researchers know music can draw attention away from pain, lessening the sensation. But studies also suggest that listening to preferred music helps dull pain more than listening to podcasts.

"Music is a distractor. It draws your focus away from the pain. But it's doing more than that," said Caroline Palmer, a psychologist at McGill University who studies music and pain.

Scientists are still tracing the various neural pathways at work, said Palmer.

"We know that almost all of the brain becomes active when we engage in music," said Kate Richards Geller, a registered music therapist in Los Angeles. "That changes the perception and experience of pain — and the isolation and anxiety of pain."

Music genres and active listening

The idea of using recorded music to lessen pain associated with dental surgery began in the late 19th century before local anesthetics were available. Today researchers are studying what conditions make music most effective.

Researchers at Erasmus University Rotterdam in the Netherlands conducted a study on 548 participants to see how listening to five genres of music — classical, rock, pop, urban and electronic — extended their ability to withstand acute pain, as measured by exposure to very cold temperatures.

All music helped, but there was no single winning genre.

"The more people listened to a favorite genre, the more they could endure pain," said co-author Dr. Emy van der Valk Bouman. "A lot of people thought that classical music would help them more. Actually, we are finding more evidence that what's best is just the music you like."

The exact reasons are still unclear, but it may be because familiar songs activate more memories and emotions, she said.

The simple act of choosing is itself powerful, said Claire Howlin, director of the Music and Health Psychology Lab at Trinity College Dublin, who co-authored a study that suggested allowing patients to select songs improved their pain tolerance.

"It's one thing that people can have control over if they have a chronic condition — it gives them agency," she said.

Active, focused listening also seems to matter.

Hanley, the Florida State psychologist, co-authored a preliminary study suggesting daily attentive listening might reduce chronic pain.

"Music has a way of lighting up different parts of the brain," he said, "so you're giving people this positive emotional bump that takes their mind away from the pain."

It's a simple prescription with no side effects, some doctors now say.

Cecily Gardner, a jazz singer in Culver City, California, said she used music to help get through a serious

illness and has sung to friends battling pain.

"Music reduces stress, fosters community," she said, "and just transports you to a better place."

Passenger bus crash in northeastern Brazil leaves 17 dead

SAO PAULO (AP) — A passenger bus in northeastern Brazil crashed into a sand embankment and flipped on its side, killing at least 17 people, authorities said Saturday.

The bus was carrying about 30 passengers, police said. The number of injured, who were taken to nearby hospitals, was not immediately clear. The vehicle crashed in Saloá, a city in the state of Pernambuco, and was bound for the city of Brumado, in the neighboring state of Bahia.

Police said the driver lost control of the bus, crossed into the opposite lane and hit rocks on the roadside. He then returned to the correct lane but crashed into a sand embankment, causing the vehicle to overturn.

The cause of the crash is under investigation. The driver suffered minor injuries and tested negative for alcohol, police said.

Bahia Gov. Jerônimo Teixeira said on X that his administration was supporting rescue efforts and the identification of victims. "I am following the situation with my team and deeply mourn the loss of lives, the injuries and the suffering of all the families," he wrote.

More than 10,000 people died in traffic accidents in Brazil in 2024, according to the Ministry of Transportation.

In April, 11 people died, including two children, after a passenger bus flipped on its side in southeastern Brazil. In February, a bus carrying university students and a truck collided on a highway in Sao Paulo state, killing 12 passengers.

Last September, a bus carrying the Coritiba Crocodiles football team flipped on a road, killing three people. The team has since drawn inspiration from the NFL to rebuild.

Trump's immigration crackdown weighs heavy on the US labor market

By PAUL WISEMAN and GISELA SALOMON Associated Press

Maria worked cleaning schools in Florida for \$13 an hour. Every two weeks, she'd get a \$900 paycheck from her employer, a contractor. Not much — but enough to cover rent in the house that she and her 11-year-old son share with five families, plus electricity, a cellphone and groceries.

In August, it all ended.

When she showed up at the job one morning, her boss told her that she couldn't work there anymore. The Trump administration had terminated President Joe Biden's humanitarian parole program, which provided legal work permits for Cubans, Haitians, Venezuelans as well as Nicaraguans like Maria.

"I feel desperate," said Maria, 48, who requested anonymity to talk about her ordeal because she fears being detained and deported. "I don't have any money to buy anything. I have \$5 in my account. I'm left with nothing."

President Donald Trump's sweeping crackdown on immigration is throwing foreigners like Maria out of work and shaking the American economy and job market. And it's happening at a time when hiring is already deteriorating amid uncertainty over Trump's erratic trade policies.

Immigrants do jobs — cleaning houses, picking tomatoes, painting fences — that most native-born Americans won't, and for less money. But they also bring the technical skills and entrepreneurial energy that have helped make the United States the world's economic superpower.

Trump is attacking immigration at both ends of spectrum, deporting low-wage laborers and discouraging skilled foreigners from bringing their talents to the United States.

And he is targeting an influx of foreign workers that eased labor shortages and upward pressure on wages and prices at a time when most economists thought that taming inflation would require sky-high interest rates and a recession — a fate the United States escaped in 2023 and 2024.

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"Immigrants are good for the economy," said Lee Branstetter, an economist at Carnegie-Mellon University. "Because we had a lot of immigration over the past five years, an inflationary surge was not as bad as many people expected."

More workers filling more jobs and spending more money has also helped drive economic growth and create still-more job openings. Economists fear that Trump's deportations and limits on even legal immigration will do the reverse.

In a July report, researchers Wendy Edelberg and Tara Watson of the centrist Brookings Institution and Stan Veuger of the right-leaning American Enterprise Institute calculated that the loss of foreign workers will mean that monthly U.S. job growth "could be near zero or negative in the next few years."

Hiring has already slowed significantly, averaging a meager 29,000 a month from June through August. (The September jobs report has been delayed by the ongoing shutdown of the federal government.) During the post-pandemic hiring boom of 2021-2023, by contrast, employers added a stunning 400,000 jobs a month.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, citing fallout Trump's immigration and trade policies, downgraded its forecast for U.S. economic growth this year to 1.4% from the 1.9% it had previously expected and from 2.5% in 2024.

'We need these people'

Goodwin Living, an Alexandria, Virginia nonprofit that provides senior housing, health care and hospice services, had to lay off four employees from Haiti after the Trump administration terminated their work permits. The Haitians had been allowed to work under a humanitarian parole program and had earned promotions at Goodwin.

"That was a very, very difficult day for us," CEO Rob Liebreich said. "It was really unfortunate to have to say goodbye to them, and we're still struggling to fill those roles."

Liebreich is worried that another 60 immigrant workers could lose their temporary legal right to live and work in the United States. "We need all those hands," he said. "We need all these people."

Goodwin Living has 1,500 employees, 60% of them from foreign countries. It has struggled to find enough nurses, therapists and maintenance staff. Trump's immigration crackdown, Liebreich said, is "making it harder."

The ICE crackdown

Trump's immigration ambitions, intended to turn back what he calls an "invasion" at America's southern border and secure jobs for U.S.-born workers, were once viewed with skepticism because of the money and economic disruption required to reach his goal of deporting 1 million people a year. But legislation that Trump signed into law July 4 — and which Republicans call the One Big Beautiful Bill Act — suddenly made his plans plausible.

The law pours \$150 billion into immigration enforcement, setting aside \$46.5 billion to hire 10,000 Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents and \$45 billion to increase the capacity of immigrant detention centers.

And his empowered ICE agents have shown a willingness to move fast and break things — even when their aggression conflicts with other administration goals.

Last month, immigration authorities raided a Hyundai battery plant in Georgia, detained 300 South Korean workers and showed video of some of them shackled in chains. They'd been working to get the plant up and running, bringing expertise in battery technology and Hyundai procedures that local American workers didn't have.

The incident enraged the South Koreans and ran counter to Trump's push to lure foreign manufacturers to invest in America. South Korean President Lee Jae Myung warned that the country's other companies might be reluctant about betting on America if their workers couldn't get visas promptly and risked getting detained.

Sending Medicaid recipients to the fields

America's farmers are among the president's most dependable supporters.

But John Boyd Jr., who farms 1,300 acres of soybeans, wheat and corn in southern Virginia, said that

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the immigration raids — and the threat of them — are hurting farmers already contending with low crop prices, high costs and fallout from Trump's trade war with China, which has stopped buying U.S. soybeans and sorghum.

"You got ICE out here, herding these people up," said Boyd, founder of the National Black Farmers Association. "(Trump) says they're murderers and thieves and drug dealers, all this stuff. But these are people who are in this country doing hard work that many Americans don't want to do."

Boyd scoffed at U.S. Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins' suggestion in July that U.S.-born Medicaid recipients could head to the fields to meet work requirements imposed this summer by the Republican Congress. "People in the city aren't coming back to the farm to do this kind of work," he said. "It takes a certain type of person to bend over in 100-degree heat."

The Trump administration itself admits that the immigration crackdown is causing labor shortages on the farm that could translate into higher prices at the supermarket.

"The near total cessation of the inflow of illegal aliens combined with the lack of an available legal workforce," the Labor Department said in an Oct. 2 filing the Federal Register, "results in significant disruptions to production costs and (threatens) the stability of domestic food production and prices for U.S. consumers."

"You're not welcome here"

Jed Kolko of the Peterson Institute for International Economics said that job growth is slowing in businesses that rely on immigrants. Construction companies, for instance, have shed 10,000 jobs since May.

"Those are the short-term effects," said Kolko, a Commerce Department official in the Biden administration. "The longer-term effects are more serious because immigrants traditionally have contributed more than their share of patents, innovation, productivity."

Especially worrisome to many economists was Trump's sudden announcement last month that he was raising the fee on H-1B visas, meant to lure hard-to-find skilled foreign workers to the United States, from as little as \$215 to \$100,000.

"A \$100,000 visa fee is not just a bureaucratic cost — it's a signal," Dany Bahar, senior fellow at the Center for Global Development, said. "It tells global talent: 'You are not welcome here.'"

Some are already packing up.

In Washington D.C., one H-1B visa holder, a Harvard graduate from India who works for a nonprofit helping Africa's poor, said Trump's signal to employers is clear: Think twice about hiring H-1B visa holders.

The man, who requested anonymity, is already preparing paperwork to move to the United Kingdom. "The damage is already done, unfortunately," he said.

Shutdown impact: What it means for workers, federal programs and the economy

By KEVIN FREKING Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal government shutdown is quickly approaching the second longest on record with no end in sight. Some lawmakers are predicting it could become the longest, surpassing the 35 days from President Donald Trump's first term.

The Trump administration is using the current shutdown to buttress priorities it favors while seeking to dismantle those it doesn't. Nevertheless, Democrats are insisting that any funding bill include help for millions of Americans who will lose health insurance coverage or face dramatically higher monthly premiums if Congress does nothing.

The shutdown began Oct. 1. Here's a look at its impact so far on workers, the economy and the services the government provides.

Furloughs and firings

The federal government employed nearly 2.3 million civilian employees as of March 31. The Congressional Budget Office estimated that about 750,000 of those employees would be furloughed each day during a shutdown. That means they don't report to work until the shutdown ends. Others are considered

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"excepted" and do go to work, helping to protect life and property and perform other essential services.

Both groups of workers will get paid, but on a retroactive basis. That means they are facing the prospect of missing a full paycheck later this month after receiving a partial one earlier for work performed in late September.

The nation's 1.3 million active-duty service members got a temporary reprieve. They were looking at missing a paycheck on Wednesday. But Trump directed the Pentagon to redirect money. A second reprieve looks unlikely.

Of note for taxpayers, the government tab for paying furloughed workers while they are at home comes to roughly \$400 million a day, according to a CBO estimate provided at the request of Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa.

The administration is also trying to fire thousands of federal workers in agencies that don't align with its priorities. Republican leaders in Congress have said that's part of the fallout from a shutdown. Past presidents, however, did not use shutdowns to engage in mass firings.

The Republican administration has announced one reduction in force affecting 4,100 workers, with the biggest cuts happening at the departments of Treasury, Health and Human Services, Education and Housing and Urban Development.

White House budget chief Russ Vought said in an interview on "The Charlie Kirk Show" that many more are planned.

"I think we'll probably end up being north of 10,000," Vought said.

"We want to be very aggressive where we can be in shuttering the bureaucracy," Vought said. "Not just the funding, but the bureaucracy, that we now have an opportunity to do that."

A federal judge has temporarily blocked the firings, saying the cuts appeared to be politically motivated and were being carried out without much thought. White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said Thursday that the administration was "100%" confident that it will prevail on the merits in subsequent legal action.

Lawmakers acknowledge that many federal workers live paycheck to paycheck and will face some financial stress during the shutdown. Food banks in some communities have boosted efforts to help them. The Capital Area Food Bank, for example, said it would hold additional food distributions in the Washington region beginning Monday to support federal workers and contractors.

Economic Impact

Past shutdowns have had slight impacts on the economy, reducing growth in the quarter during which the shutdown occurs, but growth increases slightly in the following three months to help make up for it.

One estimate from Oxford Economics said a shutdown reduces economic growth by 0.1 to 0.2 percentage points per week. A shutdown that lasts the entire quarter, which has never occurred, would reduce growth for those three months by 1.2 to 2.4 percentage points.

Some industries are hurt worse than others.

The U.S. Travel Association said the travel economy is expected to lose \$1 billion a week as travelers change plans to visit national parks, historic sites and the nation's capital, where many facilities such as Smithsonian Institution museums and the National Zoo are now closed to visitors.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce noted that the Small Business Administration supports loans totaling about \$860 million a week for 1,600 small businesses. Those programs close to new loans during the shutdown. The shutdown also has halted the issuance and renewal of flood insurance policies, delaying mortgage closings and real estate transactions.

The Federal Aviation Administration has reported air controller shortages in cities across the United States, from airports in Boston and Philadelphia, to control centers in Atlanta and Houston. Flight delays have spread to airports in Nashville, Tennessee, Dallas, Newark, New Jersey and more.

Political fallout

The party that insists on conditions as part of a government funding bill generally doesn't get its way. That was the case in 2013 and 2018 for Republicans. It remains to be seen how things will shake out this

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time, but neither side appears to be budging.

So far, the public is rather split on who is to blame for the impasse. Roughly 6 in 10 U.S. adults say Trump and Republicans in Congress have "a great deal" or "quite a bit" of responsibility for the shutdown, while 54% say the same about Democrats in Congress, according to the poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Perceptions could change depending upon how much the White House uses the shutdown to eliminate Democratic priorities and Democratic-leaning states and cities.

The administration has put on hold roughly \$18 billion to fund a new rail tunnel beneath the Hudson River between New York City and New Jersey and an extension of the city's Second Avenue subway. It canceled \$7.6 billion in grants that supported hundreds of clean energy projects in 16 states, all of which voted for Democrat Kamala Harris in last year's presidential election. The administration cited reasons apart from the shutdown for the funding changes.

In the end, there does not appear to be an easy way out of the shutdown. Republicans insists any negotiations on health care occur after the government is fully open for business. "We're not conducting negotiations in a hostage situation," said Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D.

Across the Capitol, House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries of New York said Democrats "are not going to bend and we're not going to break because we are standing up for the American people."

Ukrainians disappointed after Trump-Zelenskyy meeting fails to immediately secure Tomahawk missiles

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainians shared their disappointment Saturday that the U.S. may not provide Kyiv with long-range Tomahawk missiles, while work to repair the damaged power supply to the country's Zaporizhzhia power plant soothed other concerns surrounding Europe's largest nuclear plant.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy met with President Donald Trump at the White House on Friday, after the U.S. leader signaled that Washington could provide Ukraine with the long-range missiles Kyiv believes will help bring Russian President Vladimir Putin to the negotiating table.

Yet Zelenskyy ultimately left empty-handed — an outcome that dismayed, but did not surprise, many in the streets of the Ukrainian capital, who maintained their determination to end Russia's 3 1/2-year invasion of their country.

One Ukrainian military serviceman, Roman Vynnychenko, told The Associated Press that he believed the prospect of Tomahawk missiles for Ukraine was a political "game." "Ukraine won't get those missiles," he said.

Vynnychenko said Ukraine still needed to procure new weapons with or without American help, particularly as Russian drones and missiles continued to hit civilian infrastructure.

"Every day civilians and soldiers die, buildings collapse, our streets and cities are being destroyed," Vynnychenko said.

Russia invaded its smaller neighbor in February 2022, sparking a 3 1/2-year conflict that has become a grinding war of attrition across a 1,250-kilometer (780-mile) frontline in Ukraine's east and south.

Trump's frustration with the conflict has surfaced repeatedly in the nine months since he returned to office. In recent weeks, he had shown growing impatience with Putin and expressed greater openness to helping Ukraine win the war, including with the sale of Tomahawks.

But Trump's tone shifted again after he held a lengthy phone call with Putin on Thursday and announced that he planned to meet with the Russian leader in Budapest, Hungary, in the coming weeks.

The talks raise new hopes that diplomatic progress could be made to end the war. But after multiple failed starts, Ukrainians are reluctant to believe that a significant breakthrough will take place soon.

"To tell you the truth, I look at the news, but nowadays I read only the headlines. And even those make me sad," Victoria Khramtsova, a psychologist, told the AP. "We have been at war for more than three years. We just want peace."

In the meantime, Russia continued its aerial bombardment of Ukraine, launching three missiles and 164

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drones overnight, Ukraine's Air Force said Saturday. It said that Ukrainian forces shot down 136 of the drones.

Two people were injured after Russian drones targeted a gas station in the Zarichny district of Sumy in northeast Ukraine, local officials said Saturday. They were two women aged 51 and 53, according to regional Gov. Oleh Hryhorov.

'Crucial for nuclear safety'

Elsewhere, work has begun to repair the damaged power supply to Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, the head of the U.N.'s nuclear watchdog said Saturday. The repairs are hoped to end a precarious four-week outage that saw it dependent on backup generators.

Russian and Ukrainian forces established special ceasefire zones for repairs to be safely carried out, said the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Rafael Grossi. He hailed the restoration of off-site power as "crucial for nuclear safety and security."

"Both sides engaged constructively with the IAEA to enable the complex repair plan to proceed," Grossi said in a statement.

Work is due to be carried out in two phases, first on the Ferosplavna-1 power line, then the Dniprovsk power line, the IAEA said. She also said that it was the 42nd time since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022 that power lines to the plant had to be restored.

The Zaporizhzhia plant, Europe's largest nuclear power station, has been operating on diesel backup generators since Sept. 23 when its last remaining external power line was severed in attacks that Russia and Ukraine each blamed on the other.

The plant is in an area under Russian control since early in Moscow's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and is not in service, but it needs reliable power to cool its six shutdown reactors and spent fuel, to avoid any catastrophic nuclear incidents.

Grossi said Saturday that emergency diesel generators were designed to be the "last line of defense" to help nuclear power plants cool their reactors, but that their use was now "an all too common occurrence."

"As long as this devastating conflict goes on, nuclear safety and security remains under severe threat. Today, we had some rare positive news to report, but we are far from being out of the woods yet," Grossi said.

One scandal too many forces UK monarchy to sideline Prince Andrew after years of tabloid fodder

By DANICA KIRKA Associated Press

It was one scandal too many.

After emails emerged this week showing that Prince Andrew remained in contact with the convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein longer than he previously admitted, the House of Windsor finally moved to insulate the monarchy from years of tawdry headlines about Andrew's dodgy friends and suspicious business deals.

Buckingham Palace on Friday released a statement from Andrew saying that he had agreed to give up use of his last remaining royal titles so that continued allegations about him "don't distract from the work of His Majesty."

This week's revelations demonstrated that Andrew had committed the unforgivable sin of misleading the British public, said Craig Prescott, an expert on the monarchy and constitutional law at Royal Holloway University of London.

"To say something which is proven not to be true, I think, is the straw that broke the camel's back," he said.

Signs of a new direction

The move comes as Charles, who is 76 and undergoing treatment for an undisclosed form of cancer, works to ensure the long-term stability of the monarchy under his son and heir Prince William.

William recently gave an interview in which he set out his vision for the monarchy, saying that the institution needed to change to make sure that it is a force for good.

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"In some ways, Prince Andrew has been the exact opposite of that," Prescott said. "And there is no space for that in the modern monarchy."

Andrew, 65, is the second son of the late Queen Elizabeth II. He spent more than 20 years as an officer in the Royal Navy before leaving to take up his royal duties in 2001.

Following Friday's announcement, Andrew will no longer use his remaining royal titles, including the Duke of York, though he technically retains them. Formally stripping him of those titles would be a time-consuming process requiring an act of Parliament.

A long time coming

Andrew's banishment completes a process that began in November 2019, when he gave up all of his public duties and charity roles.

That was triggered by a disastrous interview Andrew gave to the BBC as he sought to counter media reports about his friendship with Epstein and deny allegations that he had sex with a 17-year-old girl, Virginia Giuffre, who was trafficked by Epstein in 2001. The prince was widely criticized for failing to show empathy for Epstein's victims and for offering unbelievable explanations for his friendship with the disgraced financier.

The interview also sowed the seeds of this week's upheaval, when Andrew told the BBC that he had cut off contact with Epstein in December 2010.

British newspapers on Sunday revealed that Andrew wrote an email to Epstein on Feb. 28, 2011. Andrew wrote the note after renewed reporting on the Epstein scandal, telling him they were "in this together" and would "have to rise above it."

Andrew has recently faced another round of grimy stories as newspapers release excerpts of Giuffre's posthumous memoir, which will be published on Tuesday. Giuffre died by suicide in April at the age of 41.

Andrew in 2022 reached an out-of-court settlement with Giuffre after she filed a civil suit against him in New York. While he didn't admit wrongdoing, Andrew did acknowledge Giuffre's suffering as a victim of sex trafficking.

While Andrew said he continues to "vigorously deny" the accusations, Giuffre's family saw the surrender of the use of his titles as validation for her memoir's claims that the prince acted like sex was his birthright.

"We've shed a lot of happy and sad tears today," her brother, Sky Roberts, told the BBC. "In a lot of ways this vindicates Virginia."

Front-page fodder for wrong reasons

The prince has been the subject of tabloid stories stretching back to at least 2007, when he sold his house near Windsor Castle for 20% over the 15 million pound asking price. The buyer was reported to be Timur Kulibayev, son-in-law of Nursultan Nazarbayev, then-president of Kazakhstan, raising concerns that the deal was an attempt to buy influence in Britain.

Last year, a court case revealed Andrew's relationship with a businessman and suspected Chinese spy who was barred from the United Kingdom as a threat to national security. Authorities were concerned that the man could have misused his influence over Andrew, according to court documents.

While the palace said Andrew had decided to give up his royal titles, royal historian Sally Bedell Smith said the king, Prince William and the entire family exerted enormous pressure on him.

"I think he was absolutely forced into this," said Smith, author of "Prince Charles: The Passions and Paradoxes of an Improbable Life."

"He's had many opportunities to fall on his sword, and he hasn't. So I think he was given a pretty stark choice: Either do this voluntarily or we're going to have to do this the hard way."

Insulating the monarchy at a delicate time

While the cumulative weight of Andrew's scandals demanded a response from the royal family, this week's revelations came at a particularly sensitive moment for the king as he prepares for a state visit to the Vatican, where he is expected to pray beside Pope Leo XIV.

The visit is very important to Charles, who has made the bridging of faiths an important part of his "mantra," said George Gross, an expert on theology and the monarchy at King's College, London.

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"I think this was the speediest, really the quickest way of lowering his status even more without having to go to Parliament," Gross said. "Even if Parliament would have approved, it takes time."

Charles may also have been motivated by a desire to protect the work of Queen Camilla, who has made combating domestic violence one of her signature issues, and the Duchess of Edinburgh, who has sought to combat sexual violence in war zones such as Congo.

The king will hope that this move finally draws a line between Andrew and the rest of the royal family, Prescott said.

"If there are allegations, or further stuff comes out, it will all be on Prince Andrew," he said. "They've severed the connection between Prince Andrew and the monarchy as an institution."

'Filipino Towns' around the US preserve history and raise community's visibility

By TERRY TANG Associated Press

It was over four centuries ago to the day Saturday that Filipinos set foot on the North American continent for the first time. Now, Filipino Americans are working to sustain a cultural footprint.

During celebration of October's Filipino American History Month, many Filipinos are seeking their cities' acknowledgment of "Filipino Towns" — a cultural district designation similar to Chinatowns, Japantowns and Koreatowns that highlights the contributions of expat and immigrant populations to a major city's overall identity.

That recognition can be through landmarks, event support or even permanent signage. Three years ago, Los Angeles' Historic Filipinotown — first designated as a neighborhood in 2002 — constructed a gateway arch, and Little Manila in New York City's Queens borough debuted an official street sign. Now, Las Vegas has joined the club.

An official "Filipino Town Cultural District" street sign was unveiled last week to great fanfare — six months after Clark County commissioners unanimously passed a resolution affirming the distinction.

"That was a great day," Rozita Lee, the original Filipino Town Las Vegas board president, recalled about the county's approval. "A great day because we realized that the government actually recognized us Filipinos as a valid, solid entity here in Nevada. We were all so happy."

Making the case for Filipino Towns

Lee, 90, has lived in Las Vegas for nearly 50 years. She has seen a 1.2-mile (1.6-kilometer) corridor east of the Strip blossom with Filipino small businesses, a radio station and chains like Seafood City supermarket and Jollibee. Last year, the Filipino Town board's first step was to gather data to bolster their proposal. Filipinos are the largest Asian group in metro Las Vegas with over 200,000.

They also spread the word among business owners.

"We visited the people that were in the area because we had to knock on doors and let them know of the possibility of this area being named Filipino Town, and would they support," Lee said. "Everybody said yes."

Now resigned from the board, Lee is currently planning a Filipino American Museum.

Current board president Bernie Benito is looking forward to making Filipino Town a site that tourists will consider.

"What we're going to try to do is just to promote it culturally. We're going to entice developers, investors to come into the area in order to set up their businesses," Benito said.

Filipino Towns were few compared to other ethnic 'towns'

Filipino scouts on a Spanish galleon — a heavy, square-rigged sailing ship — landed on Oct. 18, 1587, in Morro Bay, California, likely making them the first known Asian people to reach the U.S. It would be nearly 200 years until Filipinos settled here starting in Louisiana and the West Coast.

Pre-World War II, there were some Filipino enclaves made up mostly of single men. They were not as prevalent as Chinatowns and Japantowns. A lot of them either were demolished or floundered as some men moved away, said Joseph Bernardo, an adjunct professor in Asian Pacific American Studies at Loyola Marymount University.

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U.S. colonial rule over the Philippines from 1898 to 1946 led to Filipinos studying English and assimilating to Western culture.

"They have a command of English that doesn't necessarily tie them to an ethnic economy to survive in the United States," Bernardo said. "They can get jobs as nurses and accountants and lawyers and doctors, et cetera, with greater ease than other Asian immigrants."

The U.S. Census estimates 4.5 million Filipino people live in the U.S. and less than half are immigrants. Registered nurse is the most common occupation, according to AAPI Data, a research and policy organization.

"More Filipino Americans care about cultural pride and want a community space to reflect that," said Bernardo.

Today, there are several Filipino Towns, some more active than others. Stockton, California's once vibrant Little Manila was torn down by a crosstown freeway in the 1970s. But there are historic walking tours hosted by advocacy group Little Manila Rising. In San Francisco, an artist-driven Filipino Cultural Heritage District known as SOMA Pilipinas includes a community center and public art works. Toronto, Canada, also has an active Little Manila.

Why cultural markers and landmarks matter

Over two dozen residents excitedly posed for pictures in May in front of a brand new Seattle Streetcar outfitted in a "Filipinotown"-branded wrap. For them, it was a concrete symbol of their Filipinotown, which the Seattle City Council formally recognized in 2017. Devin Cabanilla, executive director of Filipinotown Seattle, applied to get the special streetcar.

"I think having that streetcar has really jump-started us because I mean to some extent the general public doesn't care. So what if you have some law that says you're Filipinotown? What are the visible markers of it?" Cabanilla said. "People do want something tangible."

Cabanilla's great aunt and uncle, Dorothy and Fred Cordova, are credited with creating Filipino American History Month in 1992 through their organization, the Filipino American National Historical Society.

Filipinotown is part of Seattle's Chinatown-International District. Besides restaurants and shops, Cabanilla hopes visitors stop to appreciate landmarks like the Dr. Jose Rizal Bridge, named after the writer who advocated for Filipino independence. Or Uncle Bob's Place, an affordable apartment building named for local Filipino American civil rights activist Bob Santos.

Future goals for Filipinotown include an official sign, events like poetry sessions and a summer block party.

"Our primary vision is to bring back the solidarity that we had when the International District was in its heyday and it was a multicultural place," Cabanilla said. "I need white people to understand it is not just Chinese, Japanese, East Asian stuff. It has always included Filipinos supporting and living in the district."

GOP's immigration pitch to New Jersey Latinos aims for some distance from Trump in governor's race

By MIKE CATALINI and ADRIANA GOMEZ LICON Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — At a Spanish-speaking town hall, the Republican candidate for New Jersey governor assured two young Mexican immigrants who were brought to the United States as children that people without criminal records would not face deportation. Three nights later, Jack Ciattarelli headlined a "Make America Great Again"-style event where a far-right commentator joked about building a detention center like Florida's "Alligator Alcatraz" in the Garden State.

"How about the Boardwalk Brig?" Jack Posobiec said with a laugh as he spoke later that evening at the rally.

Ciattarelli, an unabashed ally of Donald Trump, recently gave the Republican president an "A" grade for his performance in the White House. But as Ciattarelli courts Latino voters in a hard-fought race against Democrat Mikie Sherrill, the former business owner and state legislator has put some distance from Trump on the president's signature issue of immigration.

Expressing support for issuing driver's licenses and Social Security numbers to people who are in the U.S.

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illegally, Ciattarelli has tried to strike a balance between supporters of Trump's mass deportation strategy and Latino voters that the GOP nominee thinks could be persuaded to support him.

In recent appearances in a Univision forum and in the final debate of the campaign, Ciattarelli promoted not a path to citizenship, as immigration advocates have pushed for years, but what he called a "pathway to recognition," which he later described as a first step toward citizenship.

It's a high-stakes gambit in one of two states with governor's races this year — Virginia is the other — but it's rooted in Trump's improved performance among Latino voters last year. In New Jersey, for example, Trump flipped two Hispanic-majority towns where he had lost by more than 30 percentage and 50 percentage points, respectively, in 2016. While the state typically votes Democratic in Senate and presidential election years, and Trump has lost it in all three of his White House runs, it has swung back and forth between parties in odd-year contests for governor.

Ciattarelli's more lenient stance toward some immigrants emerges amid Trump's all-out effort to increase deportations, even among those with no criminal record beyond violating immigration laws. Ciattarelli has softened his position in some respects, but he also has made clear that he wants New Jersey law enforcement officers to cooperate with federal immigration officials.

Sherrill, a congresswoman in her fourth term, has hammered Trump throughout the race, casting herself as a bulwark against the administration. But she has not made immigration a campaign emphasis.

Ciattarelli navigates the delicate politics of immigration

Ciattarelli, who served in the state Assembly and in local office before that, had been critical of Trump during the run-up to the 2016 election. While serving in the Legislature, he supported a bill that provided for in-state tuition for certain immigrants without lawful status.

In the governor's race, he has aligned himself with Trump on at least some of the president's immigration policies. Ciattarelli has also said that, if elected, his first executive order would be to repeal the state's Immigrant Trust Directive, which prohibits police from cooperating on civil immigration enforcement matters. He also has expressed opposition to giving birthright citizenship to children born to immigrants who are living in the U.S. illegally.

During a debate with Sherrill last week, Ciattarelli said he agreed with Trump that anyone with a "history of criminality" should be deported, as well as anyone who "committed a crime or scam." But he broke with Trump slightly when he said: "I believe that everyone else should be put on a pathway to recognition."

In front of Spanish-speaking audiences, Ciattarelli has boasted of supporting in-state tuition to students without lawful status, a practice that has been targeted by the Trump administration.

"I do not believe that anyone should be living in the shadows. If we're giving you a pathway to recognition, that to me starts with some form of government issued ID including driver's license," Ciattarelli said in the Univision forum, fielding translated questions in Spanish from New Jersey residents, which he answered in English.

Why does it matter?

Ciattarelli is hoping to reach a key constituency in the state, where Trump cut into Democrats' edge with Latino voters in 2024, as he did across the board in New Jersey. Voter unease about the economy is sure to be central to that effort.

New Jersey Democrats, too, have largely shifted their focus to the economy and driving down costs with polls showing inflation was a top concern among Hispanics. About 1 in 5 residents in New Jersey are Hispanic, according to the census.

Trump lost New Jersey last November to Democrat Kamala Harris by just 6 percentage points — a shift from his nearly 13-point deficit to Democrat Hillary Clinton in 2016. Among Latino voters, Trump's support went from 28% in 2020 to 43% in 2024, according to AP VoteCast, a wide-ranging survey of the 2024 electorate.

How the shift sits with Republicans

Republicans who enthusiastically embraced the president's crackdown on illegal immigration may disagree with Ciattarelli's views, but many still back him.

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"There are certain people it might deter," said Ed Durr, a former state senator and Ciattarelli's primary foe who now backs him. "There are hard-liners who are going to see that as acquiescent to the Democrats."

Still other Republicans say his policy looks good compared with the position taken by leading New Jersey Democrats. Mario Kranjac, another former primary opponent in the governor's race who has embraced Trump, invoked Sherrill, U.S. Sens. Andy Kim and Cory Booker and U.S. Rep. Josh Gottheimer.

"Mikie, Cory, Andy, Josh and their fellow Democrats support sanctuary cities and illegal immigration which foster crime and unnecessary expense," he said. "While Jack doesn't."

The White House did not respond to a request for comment on claims by Ciattarelli that he would be able to work with the Trump administration to exempt deportations of people without criminal records.

Outside a campaign stop at a pizzeria earlier this week, Ciattarelli repeated that some people should not be deported and should instead be brought out "from the shadows." A request to the campaign to clarify how he reconciles his position with the president's was not answered.

'He is pretending to care'

Sherrill reacted to Ciattarelli's "pathway to recognition" with skepticism.

"That's not really a real thing. That doesn't confer any status to anyone," she said during the debate. She has promoted her background as a former assistant U.S. attorney who prosecuted criminals, in addition to her work on federal legislation to create opportunities for citizenship.

She summed up their difference this way: "At the end of the day, he's always going to do what Trump tells him to do."

Asked repeatedly if she would keep the Immigrant Trust Directive in place, Sherrill has said only that she would enforce the law.

Patricia Campos-Medina, a labor activist who is advising Sherrill, said Ciattarelli is trying to "sound compassionate" toward Latinos who are increasingly worried the Trump administration is scaling up its actions against immigrants and affecting Hispanic businesses as a result.

"He is pretending to care about immigrants and be compassionate, but he is not giving you facts," Campos-Medina said. "We all should be asking, 'How are you going to protect data from the Donald Trump machine? New Jersey already recognizes immigrants. How are you going to keep that promise?'"

The champion Dodgers are dominating October again. There's more behind their success than money

By GREG BEACHAM AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — During the Los Angeles Dodgers' October rampage to the NL pennant, the defending World Series champions have actually been the dark eminence that many baseball people have long feared they would become.

The Dodgers are 9-1 in the postseason — and they've looked like a juggernaut while doing it, with near-flawless starting pitching and a deep, resilient lineup producing key hits and electrifying highlights. They swept the Milwaukee Brewers out of the NL Championship Series with a 5-1 victory Friday night featuring an iconic three-homer, 10-strikeout performance by Shohei Ohtani, their \$700 million superstar.

The Dodgers beat the Yankees to win it all last year, and they're headed back to the World Series on Friday with a chance to become MLB's first repeat champions in a quarter-century. They're in the Fall Classic for the fifth time in nine seasons during a streak of 13 consecutive postseason appearances.

But naysayers have claimed for years that it's bad for baseball if one team ever becomes this successful. The Dodgers' ravenous spending of their extensive resources could irretrievably fracture the majors' competitive balance, and they could even hurt the Dodgers by providing fuel for some owners' desire for a salary cap in the next labor negotiations.

The players and coaches in Dodger Blue — and the more than 4 million fans who have packed Dodger Stadium all season long — had absolutely no interest in worrying about what their success means to other people while they celebrated another unforgettable night.

Manager Dave Roberts said it best when he took the microphone on the field stage after his team

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steamrolled the 97-win Brewers.

"I'll tell you, before this season started, they said the Dodgers are ruining baseball," Roberts shouted. "Let's get four more wins and really ruin baseball!"

The Chavez Ravine crowd roared in appreciation of a team that repeatedly has made the most of its advantages — for the past two years in particular.

The Dodgers will spend about \$509.5 million on players this season, with their \$341.5 million payroll plus \$168 million in projected luxury tax. That dwarfs the expenditures of their prospective World Series opponents from Seattle (a \$167.2 million payroll) and Toronto (a \$252.7 million payroll and a projected \$13.4 million in tax).

But why are the Dodgers enjoying this success instead of the Mets, the Yankees, the Phillies and other teams that can spend roughly on the Dodgers' level?

At this point, it's clearly because Los Angeles has a strong top-to-bottom organization, starting with player development and scouting. Baseball boss Andrew Friedman makes the sport's most judicious choices among the free-agent prizes and veteran trade targets — and when he gets it wrong, his mistakes don't sting as much because of his roster's overall depth.

"It's just a very talented group, but it's (also) a very focused and very hungry group," said Roberts, the first manager in several decades to win five pennants in his first 10 seasons with a club. "So I think that when you get those components, it's tough to beat. And we mind the little things. We're hungry. We don't really care what happened before."

Ohtani, Mookie Betts, Freddie Freeman, Teoscar Hernández, Tommy Edman, Max Muncy, Blake Snell and Tyler Glasnow all started their major league careers elsewhere, but the Dodgers identified them and gave them what their previous clubs wouldn't or couldn't.

Yoshinobu Yamamoto and Roki Sasaki chose the Dodgers out of Japan over the past two winters precisely because of the culture and the opportunity created by the club's previous successes.

Snell faced the Dodgers with Tampa Bay in the 2020 World Series, and he emerged from the loss with admiration for the club. He seized the chance to join LA as a free agent last winter.

"This is why I came here," said Snell, who has thrown 21 innings of two-run ball with 28 strikeouts in three majestic playoff starts. "Now we're in the World Series, so I can't wait to prove myself what I can do there."

Not even a profoundly leaky bullpen — stocked with high-priced additions like Blake Treinen and Tanner Scott who simply have not performed — has stopped the Dodgers from romping through the postseason, outscoring their opponents by a combined 46-28.

And it doesn't fit the naysaying narrative to remember that Los Angeles only rounded into dominant form quite late in a tumultuous regular season.

The Dodgers won 93 games and the NL West title, but they finished with only the ninth-best winning percentage during their 13 straight playoff seasons — tied for the second-longest streak of postseason appearances in MLB history.

Los Angeles didn't run away with its division, trailing San Diego as late as Aug. 23 and beating the Padres by only three games. Thanks to a prolonged midseason stretch of mediocre play, the Dodgers finished third overall in the NL and had to play a wild-card series for the first time since 2021.

But that might have been a good thing: The Dodgers struggled with rust in recent October division series after sitting out for a week, but they've been locked in since their postseason opener Sept. 30, a mere 48 hours after the regular season ended.

After Los Angeles thumped Cincinnati with 18 runs in two Wild Card games, the Dodgers handled NL East champ Philadelphia with impressive ease in four games, winning twice on the road and rebounding from a tough Game 3 loss to survive a crazy 11-inning finale.

The Dodgers then overwhelmed the Brewers, who had the NL's best record in the regular season and made the postseason for the seventh time in eight seasons with fans clamoring for their franchise's first World Series title. The Dodgers' playoff savvy and top-end talent were too much, even before Ohtani

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turned in a superhuman Game 4.

The star-studded Dodgers are not a jaded bunch, however. They jumped and cheered wildly in the dugout along with their fans when each of Ohtani's three homers soared over the outfield fence, feeling just as much giddy disbelief as the paying customers.

The Dodgers might be an industry-altering juggernaut, but that industry is still a kids' game.

"That was special," said Freeman, last year's World Series MVP. "We've just been playing really good baseball for a while now, and the inevitable kind of happened today."

After billions in failed big bets, funders and schools are turning to this small education nonprofit

By TAMARA STRAUS of The Chronicle of Philanthropy

Education is the civil rights issue of our time. That's what Leslie Cornfeld decided after a decade advising New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and President Obama's two education secretaries — and seeing how few low-income students went to the universities that lead to high-paying jobs.

Cornfeld said she spent part of her time in the Obama administration visiting the nation's Title I high schools, those with a high percentage of low-income students. She recalled: "We heard the same themes over and over again from principals, district leaders and students. That even the most talented, hard-working scholars — in rural communities, poor urban communities, Native American communities — cannot get on the radar of more selective universities."

And even if they could get on their radar, students did not believe that they were college-ready or college-worthy, Cornfeld said. Meanwhile, when she and her Washington colleagues met with higher education leaders, they repeatedly claimed, "We wish that we could find talented lower income scholars but we just can't find them."

For Cornfeld, this made no sense, since universities seemed to have had no trouble finding the very best athletes, often from low-income backgrounds, to play on their teams. Why couldn't they find the very best low-income students to fill their classrooms?

In 2019, with \$50,000 in startup funding from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, she launched the National Education Equity Lab, a nonprofit "founded on the belief that talent is evenly distributed but opportunity is not."

Cornfeld also was informed by a 2017 analysis of more than 30 million college students, led by economist Raj Chetty, which showed that the most selective colleges in the U.S., enabling the highest career opportunities and incomes, were the least socioeconomically diverse.

Cornfeld decided to connect the dots and bring elite universities into non-elite schools. By fall 2019, with a staff of three, the Lab was delivering Harvard College poetry class to two dozen high schools. The Lab simultaneously developed a range of supports: connecting professors with students by Zoom; training high school teachers as course co-teachers; and hiring college undergraduates as course teaching fellows and mentors in applying to and navigating college.

Over the past five years, the Equity Lab, now called the National Education Opportunity Network, or NEON, reports it has brought 60 college credit-bearing courses from 17 universities to more than 40,000 high school students in 33 states — with 80 percent of students passing the courses. NEON is currently in every Title I school in Jackson, Mississippi, 120 Title I schools in New York City and has plans to matriculate 1 million Title I high schools into online college courses within a decade.

Should NEON's goal be achieved, it would surpass the number of low-income students annually taking Advanced Placement tests. Sixty percent of A.P. exams taken by low-income students in 2023 scored too low for college credit, a statistic that has not budged in 20 years, according to reporting from the New York Times.

"We are a very different animal than A.P.," Cornfeld said. "We are serving low-income, underresourced scholars and this model was developed for them. We are bringing colleges into the schools and changing the culture."

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A lean nonprofit

Although the National Education Opportunity Network has large ambitions, it remains small in two significant ways. The nonprofit has only 32 full-time staff, and its annual revenue in 2024 was just \$7.5 million.

Carnegie has provided NEON two more grants — \$200,000 in 2021 and \$3 million this year. And over the past six years, NEON has attracted funds from the Bill & Melinda Gates, NBA, Apollo and Morgan Stanley foundations, among others.

NEON also has attracted support from individuals. The biggest benefactor among them is venture capitalist Henry McCance.

"My VC background very much focuses on backing the best people," McCance said, noting Cornfeld's background as a federal civil rights prosecutor. McCance was also impressed by the NEON's model, which connects existing, paid-for college courses with existing, paid-for government employees at high schools.

"That gave them the ability to really start influencing thousands of students with relatively limited resources," McCance said.

While some large-scale private interventions — like Mark Zuckerberg's \$100 million investment in Newark public schools and the Gates Foundation's \$1 billion Small Schools Initiative — have stumbled, McCance noted that NEON has fared better by starting small and proving its model.

"Then they could go to other universities, other school districts and show them the success they had in the last year and build on it," he said.

512 high schools and counting

NEON's model is not without hurdles. Celeste Pico, principal of Lompoc High School in California decided to introduce two NEON courses to increase college-prep offerings after the pandemic.

"We'd be lying to you if we told you this has not taken a lot of time," Pico said. "But we knew it was in the best interest of our students, because it's more than having access to those classes — it's helped close the gap for a lot of our students financially."

Increasingly, NEON learners are entering college having finished one year of university-level courses, Pico said. In 2024-'25, Lompoc offered six NEON courses, eliminating several A.P. classes, in part because the A.P. grade is based on only one test.

Adrienne Battle, superintendent of the Metro Nashville Public Schools in Tennessee, has also scaled up NEON courses in her district.

"We've received quite a high positive-response rate and requests from not only our school teams but also from our students and parents," she said, adding that she plans to expand NEON offerings in "all 12 of my zoned high schools."

Closing the confidence gap

Marah Rigaud is a first-generation Haitian American who took five NEON courses at her high school in Long Island, N.Y., and now attends Yale.

"Hearing these big names like Yale, Harvard, Georgetown can appear intimidating at first," she said. "And when you don't have that experience, you kind of feel a bit behind and thinking that college is some kind of impossible feat. These courses give you a foundation."

Rigaud is one of the more than 10,000 students whose post-secondary outcomes NEON is tracking through a study by Robert Balfanz of Johns Hopkins. After five years of data analysis, Balfanz found that NEON students who pass a course are twice as likely to attend four-year colleges than students from similar high schools — and also persist in college at higher rates.

Can the National Education Opportunity Network reach its goal of serving 1 million students within 10 years?

Cornfeld thinks so because demand for NEON courses is "higher than ever," she said, with more than 35 new districts reaching out to join the network.

McCance, NEON's biggest individual funder, said, "I've never actually thought of whether the goal is precisely achievable or not," but "one hurdle, quite frankly, is capital."

Burning ship loaded with gas abandoned in Gulf of Aden off Yemen as 1 mariner missing

By JON GAMBRELL Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — A Cameroonian-flagged ship caught fire Saturday in the Gulf of Aden off Yemen after possibly being struck by a projectile, officials said, with at least one mariner missing and another still likely aboard the burning tanker after the rest of the crew abandoned the vessel.

U.K. and European Union officials offered differing opinions about what sparked the blaze on the Falcon, with the British suggesting a projectile hit it, while the EU said that it appeared to be “an accident.” They warned ships in the area that the vessel could explode, because it was “fully loaded” with liquefied petroleum gas.

The incident comes as Yemen’s Houthi rebels have been attacking ships through the Red Sea corridor. However, the rebels didn’t immediately claim to have been involved, though it can take them hours or even days to do so.

The British military’s United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations, or UKMTO, center issued an alert about the Falcon, describing the incident as taking place around 210 kilometers (130 miles) east of Aden.

“A vessel has been hit by an unknown projectile, resulting with a fire,” the UKMTO said. “Authorities are investigating.”

The EU’s Operation Aspides, which has been patrolling the area, said that the Falcon’s crew of 26 was all Indian except for one Ukrainian. The Greek frigate HS Spetsai was nearby the Falcon, while the French also sent an aircraft overhead, the EU operation said.

“Initial indications suggest that 15% of the ship is on fire and the fire was caused by an accident,” the EU naval force said, without elaborating.

The Falcon previously had been identified by United Against Nuclear Iran, a New York-based pressure group, as operating allegedly in an Iranian “ghost fleet” of ships moving their oil products in the high seas despite international sanctions. The ship’s owners and operators, listed as being in India, couldn’t be immediately reached for comment.

The Israeli military said that it was aware of the strike on the ship, but that it didn’t carry out any operation in the area.

The Houthis have gained international prominence during the Israel-Hamas war over their attacks on shipping and Israel, which they said were aimed at forcing Israel to stop fighting. Since the ceasefire began on Oct. 10, no attacks have been claimed by the rebel group.

The Houthi campaign against shipping has killed at least nine mariners and seen four ships sunk. It upended shipping in the Red Sea, through which about \$1 trillion of goods passed each year before the war. The rebels’ most recent attack hit the Dutch-flagged cargo ship Minervagracht on Sept. 29, killing one crew member on board and wounding another.

Meanwhile, the Houthis have increasingly threatened Saudi Arabia and taken dozens of workers at U.N. agencies and other aid groups as prisoners, alleging without evidence they were spies — something fiercely denied by the world body and others.

Today in History: October 19, ‘Black Monday’ on Wall Street

By The Associated Press undefined

Today is Sunday, Oct. 19, the 292nd day of 2025. There are 73 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On Oct. 19, 1987, the stock market crashed as the Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged 508 points, or 22.6% in value (its largest daily percentage loss ever), to close at 1,738.74 on what came to be known as “Black Monday.”

Also on this date:

In 1781, British troops under Gen. Lord Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia, as the American

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Revolution neared its end.

In 1914, the First Battle of Ypres began in World War I.

In 1960, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was arrested during a sit-down protest at a segregated lunch counter in Atlanta, one of the early events of the non-violent protest movement that King was instrumental in leading during the nascent civil rights era.

In 1977, the supersonic airliner Concorde made its first landing in New York City, flying from France, in three hours and 44 minutes. The flight marked the start of regular commercial Concorde service between Paris and New York.

In 2003, Pope John Paul II beatified Mother Teresa during a ceremony in St. Peter's Square. Mother Teresa, who founded the Missionaries of Charity global order that attends to society's outcasts, was elevated to sainthood in 2016 by Pope Francis. She died in 1997.

In 2005, former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was put on trial by the Iraqi Interim Government, accused of crimes against humanity. Captured by U.S. forces in 2003, Hussein was convicted, sentenced to death and executed by hanging in December 2006.

In 2016, in the third and final 2016 presidential debate with Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton, Republican Donald Trump refused to say he would accept the results of the election if he were to lose.

Today's Birthdays: Artist Peter Max is 88. Actor John Lithgow (LIHTH'-goh) is 80. Fox News host Steve Doocy is 69. Singer Jennifer Holliday is 65. Boxing Hall of Famer Evander Holyfield is 63. Filmmaker Jon Favreau is 59. Former first daughter Amy Carter is 58. "South Park" co-creator Trey Parker is 56. Comedian Chris Kattan is 55. Filmmaker Jason Reitman is 48. Actor Gillian Jacobs is 43. Actor Rebecca Ferguson is 42.