

Groton Daily Independent

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, Nov. 2

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with confirmation/communion, 9 a.m.; No Sunday School; 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 with communion at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 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.

6th grade GBB practice, 2 p.m.

5th grade GBB practice, 4 p.m.

2nd grade GBB practice, 4 p.m.

Dance Team practice, 5 p.m.

Good Morning Sunday Blessing



May your heart be filled with God's peace as you worship and rejoice in Him today.

Psalm 150:6: "Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.
Praise the LORD!"

Have a blessed day!
God's Spoken Word Ministries

Monday, Nov. 3

Senior Menu: Roast beef, mashed potatoes with gravy, peas and carrots, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Egg bake.

School Lunch: Pork cutlet, rice.

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

1st grade GBB practice, 3:30 p.m.

Middle School GBB hosts Warner (7th at 6 p.m., 8th at 7 p.m.)

HOSA- Yoga in the Gym, 6 p.m.

3rd-6th GBB Skills, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 4

Senior Menu: Cowboy/Calico casserole, fruited Jello, dinner roll.

School Breakfast: Muffins.

School Lunch: Chicken breast, Tri taters.

St. John's: Ladies Aid LWML, 1 p.m.

United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.

City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

5th grade GBB practice, 4:15 p.m.

Groton Daily Independent
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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 Backhoe: A Metaphor for Unconstitutional Demolition

President Donald Trump's backhoe gouged, slashed and ultimately demolished the East Wing of White House last week, an unauthorized, illegal act and a metaphor for the way in which he has, since January 20, purported to rule, not govern, while shredding the constitutional provisions, norms and laws that have well served this nation for more than two centuries.

The objection here is not to remodeling the East Wing, though sentiments, historic moments and traditions urge restraint. Indeed, previous presidents have made significant changes in that part of the White House where First Ladies conducted important business, hosted memorable receptions and advanced worthy causes. It was in the East Wing that Nancy Reagan launched her "Just Say No Campaign" to fighting drugs. Betty Ford called the East Wing the "heart" of the White House.

The objection, rather, is to Trump's disregard of laws that require the president to work in concert with various national planning agencies when remodeling the White House, a national treasure. But Trump's disdain for federal laws and regulations, like his consistent defiance of constitutional principles, procedures and processes, after nine months in office, it is painful to say, is "old" news. As a backhoe, he proceeds as he pleases, tearing down the oaths, structures and institutions that have confined executive power since George Washington was sworn into office. The "Take Care Clause" in Article II commands the president to "faithfully" execute the laws. For an authoritarian like Trump, however, who has asserted "absolute" power, constitutional commands, like constitutional limitations, are irrelevant.

Trump's authoritarian presidency has been emboldened by a feckless Republican-controlled Congress, eager to do his bidding, a willing participant in shredding enumeration of powers, separation of powers and checks and balances, complicit in its surrender of institutional dignity and integrity, and its own demise, resembling the self-humiliation of the ancient Roman Senate that ceded its power to the executive and marked the end to the Roman Republic. The president lacks constitutional authority to dissolve Congress, but the House of Representatives, under Speaker Mike Johnson, has essentially achieved the result by deciding to shut down "the People's House," retreating to the sidelines, aiding and abetting Trump's usurpation of foundational legislative powers, including authority over spending, appropriations, taxing and warmaking. It is no overstatement to say that Congress is a shell of the First Branch of government created by the framers of the Constitution.

The list of offenses grows daily. On October 27, the House Oversight Committee fulfilled another long-standing wish of President Trump when it sent a letter to Attorney General Pam Bondi, in which it concluded that the pardons granted by President Joe Biden, signed by autopen, had not been directed by the president and were, therefore, "void." This roadmap is clear: Biden's pardons are meaningless. Bondi will enjoy an open lane to prosecute Trump's "enemies," including members of the January 6 Committee, to whom Biden wisely granted preemptive pardons in anticipation of Trump's retribution campaign. It may well be that Trump's hatred of Biden stems less from the fact that he lost the 2020 election (Trump knows he lost) than the fact that the preemptive pardons, until now, have thwarted his prosecutorial revenge against committee members.

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The theoretical removal of this roadblock rests on a slender reed, but it purports to provide Bondi with a green light to pursue those pardoned by Biden. The question of whether a pardon can be declared "void" will be left to the courts. History teaches that there are only a few, exceptional, grounds for reversing a presidential pardon, but vitiation of a pardon could include fraud, bribery and the imposition of unconstitutional conditions, in the case of a "conditional pardon." This possibility requires further discussion, and though it seems far-fetched that a court would overturn pardons issued by Biden's autopen, who, among us, could have predicted that the Supreme Court would assert a doctrine that essentially clothes the president immunity from criminal prosecution?

The GOP-controlled Congress has long since abdicated its constitutional responsibilities, nourishing the entrenchment of an authoritarian administration that has no desire to continue the republican experiment launched in 1776. Indeed, Trump's own acts could be easily substituted for the colonists' grievances against King George III that they announced to the world in the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The oversight committee has just furnished citizens with yet another grievance.

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No. 5 Augustana pulls away from Northern State

Sioux Falls, S.D. – (RV) Northern State University football fell to No. 5 Augustana, 27-14, Saturday afternoon at Kirkeby-Over Stadium in NSIC football action. The first half saw solid defense play from both squads with the two teams entering the locker room with Augustana leading 13-7. The Vikings were able to score in each of the four quarters leading to victory, despite the Wolves holding them under their season average for points scored.

THE QUICK DETAILS

Final Score: NSU 14, AU 27

Records: NSU 6-3 (5-3 NSIC), AU 9-0 (8-0 NSIC)

Attendance: 2767

HOW IT HAPPENED

Augustana took a 3-0 lead with a 46-yard field goal in the first quarter and tacked on their first touchdown of the game and a 49-yard field goal in the second

Northern State responded late in the half when Daniel Britt connected with DJ Smith for a 30-yard touchdown, capping a 12-play, 78-yard drive

Augustana added a pair of touchdowns in the third and fourth extending their lead to 27-7

Northern State closed the gap with an 18-yard touchdown pass from Brock Bagozzi to Richard Prescott at 1:51 in the fourth, however the 13-point deficit was difficult to overcome with under two minutes to play

The Wolves finished with 305 total yards, including 129 rushing and 176 passing, while the Vikings tallied 409 yards, of which 221 were rushing and 188 were passing

The NSU offensive line did not give up a sack in the contest and assisted with a completion rate at 50.0%

Northern State's defense recorded 57 total tackles, six tackles for loss, and two sacks; holding Augustana to 5-of-12 on third down and 0-of-1 on fourth down

Javonnee Szymanski led the team with a season high 13 tackles, including 12 solo stops, and a forced fumble

Cooper Logan followed close behind with 11 tackles and a fumble recovery, marking his second straight contest with double figure tackles

The Wolves two solo sacks came via Max Van Landingham for six yards and Gabriel Lindeman for three yards

Wyatt Block paced the rushing attack with 76 yards on 17 carries with a 23-yard long and added 36 yards receiving

Zach Jorgensen led seven receivers with a catch in the contest, notching 41 yards

Brock Bagozzi threw for 95 yards and a touchdown, while Daniel Britt passed for 81 yards and a touchdown and rushed for 45

Jeremy Caruso made two PATs and averaged 41.0 yards per kickoff, while Jackson Isakson averaged 34.6 yards punting with a 47-yard long

NORTHERN STATE STATISTICAL STANDOUTS

Daniel Britt: 8-of-13 passing for 81 yards, 1 touchdown, 45 yards rushing

Wyatt Block: 76 yards rushing, 36 yards receiving

Javonnee Szymanski: 13 tackles (12 solo), 1 tackle for loss, 1 forced fumble

Cooper Logan: 11 tackles (9 solo), 1 fumble recovery, 1 pass breakup

Max Van Landingham: 3 tackles, 1 sack, 1 tackle for loss, 1 quarterback hurry

BEYOND THE BOX SCORE

The Wolves forced and recovered a fumble in the third quarter, stopping a promising Augustana drive
NSU limited Augustana to 188 passing yards and forced the Vikings to settle for two field goals in the first half

UP NEXT

Northern returns to the confines of Dacotah Bank Stadium next Saturday, November 8 for the final regular season home contest. The Wolves will host Minot State in a 2 p.m. kickoff.

The Life of Stanley Monson



Funeral services for Stanley Monson, 80, of Groton will be 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 4th at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. Pastor Lexy Carson will officiate. Burial with military honors will follow in Bath Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel.

Visitation will be held at the chapel on Monday from 5-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Stan passed away October 30, 2025 at Avera St. Lukes Hospital, Aberdeen.

Stanley Gene was born in Webster on June 9, 1945 to Kenneth Franklin and Emma Geniva (Svarstad) Monson. He was baptized in 1945 at Our Savior's Church. Stan attended country school and middle school in Webster. He graduated from Bradley High School in 1963. On June 19, 1965 he was united in marriage with Nyla LeCount in Bradley. Stan was drafted in the US Army on February 10, 1966 and served until his honorable discharge in February of 1968. He returned home and was employed for many years at SD

Wheat Growers and later Locken Farms.

Stan was a member of the Groton American Legion Post #39. He enjoyed fishing, visiting with friends and garage projects of all kinds. He loved old John Deere Tractors and had been an auctioneer in earlier years. Above all, he cherished spending time and teaching his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Celebrating his life is his wife Nyla of Groton, three children, Stan "Butch" (Wendy) Monson of Groton, Steve "Swede" (Cassie) Monson of Bath, Brenda (Adam) Reich of Bath, 7 grandchildren: Hunter and Dragr Monson, Colton and Becca Monson, Dalton, Devin and Gracey Reich, three great-grandchildren, Rayce, Holden and Sienna. Stan is also survived by two step-granddaughters, 3 step-great-granddaughters, one step-great-great-grandson, his sister, Darlene (Jerome) Hanson of Webster and a sister-in-law, Janice Monson and many nieces and nephews.

Casketbearers will be Hunter Monson, Dragr Monson, Colton Monson, Becca Monson, Dalton Reich, Devin Reich, Gracey Reich and Swede Monson.

Honorary Casketbearers will be Mike Hoven, Loren Bahr, Damian Bahr, Lionel Bruemmer, Adam Reich, Cody Keller, Justin Cleveland, Lambert Staab, Todd Peterson, Roger LeCount, the Locken family and all of his other fishing buds.

Preceding him in death were his parents, five brothers and two sisters-in-law.

Memorials may be directed to the American Cancer Society, PO Box 1146, Sioux Falls, SD 57101

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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

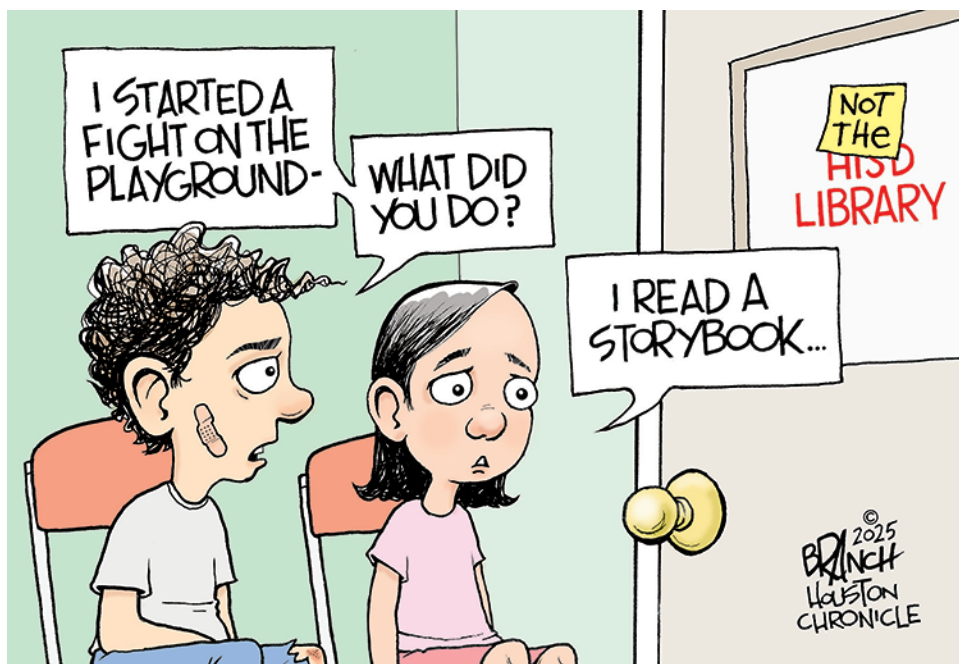
*Give thanks to the Lord,
for He is good;
for His lovingkindness
is everlasting.*

PSALM 118:1

*Detail of "Old Peasant Woman Praying"
by Paula Modersohn-Becker (1905)*



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BIBLE

TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

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

2. Who is credited as being “The Mother of All the Living”? *Ruth, Sarah, Eve, Esther*

3. From Numbers 22, to whom did the donkey speak? *Silas, Daniel, Jeremiah, Balaam*

4. As stated in Genesis 20:2, who was king of Gerar? *Abimelech, Nathan, Nehemiah, Joash*

5. Where was Paul the Apostle born? *Thessalonica, Tarsus, Ur, Antioch*

6. From Acts 18, who was Aquila’s wife? *Priscilla, Jezebel, Leah, Rebekah*

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Eve, 3) Balaam, 4) Abimelech, 5) Tarsus, 6) Priscilla

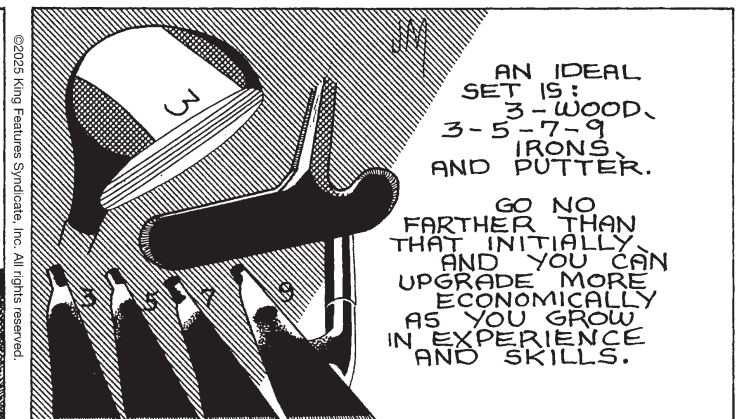
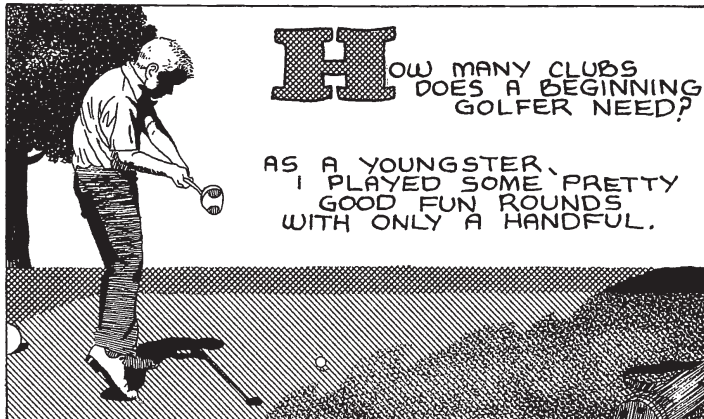
More than 1,200 brand-new trivia questions in Wilson Casey’s latest book “Quest for Bible Knowledge” available in bookstores and online.

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Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS





Debunking Ivermectin as a 'Miracle Treatment' for CANCER

DEAR DR. ROACH: I was diagnosed with stage 4 high-grade ovarian cancer in September 2024. I underwent a major surgery in March after the tumor shrank. I see a top doctor at a renowned hospital, and I trust him. I went through seven rounds of chemo with three different meds. I handled it well as I am very fit and 64 years old.

I am now on maintenance medications (Avastin and Lynparza). My numbers are going up. I know my prognosis isn't good, but I try to live my best life. I have a lot of different things to look forward to (marriages, grandbabies, etc.).

I have many friends who keep suggesting ivermectin as a treatment. (These people are also anti-vaxers.) I don't fall into this group of people as I believe in modern medicine and have trusted my doctor. So, my question is: What are your thoughts about this treatment, and what have you heard about it within the medical community? -- L.N.

ANSWER: I am sorry to hear about your diagnosis, but I congratulate you on your good attitude. The treatment for ovarian cancer has changed dramatically in the past few years. There are many treatments, and although they are often not able to cure cancer, they can keep cancer at bay -- sometimes for many years, even decades. Having an important life event to look forward to is important to maintaining a good attitude.

As far as ivermectin goes, there is a small possibility that it will turn out to be a useful treatment for cancer. I have read some preclinical studies that suggested some benefit. However, no studies that were done on actual people have proven it to be useful for any type of cancer so far. Many promising treatments turn out to be failures after the initial clinical trials.

There are people who feel that there are hidden treatments for cancer and that there is a massive conspiracy to keep successful cancer treatments from being used. Having known many doctors and research scientists who unfortunately died from cancer themselves, I can assure you that this isn't the case. Many scientists across the globe are working hard to find new treatments, and every year brings incremental benefits.

Ivermectin is the most recent "miracle treatment" that I have heard about. I can recall easily at least a half dozen miracle treatments in the past 20 years that haven't turned out to be useful. Some of these are not only useless but are actively harmful. While ivermectin is generally safe when dosed appropriately for its indication of treating parasites, it can be dangerous at high doses.

I respect the use of alternative treatments to manage the symptoms that are caused by cancer treatments such as chemotherapy. However, people who rely on alternative treatments for treatment of their cancer do not do as well as people who are getting the best care that modern medicine currently has to offer.

I recommend that you thank your friends for their advice and tell them that you trust your medical team and will follow what your doctor recommends.

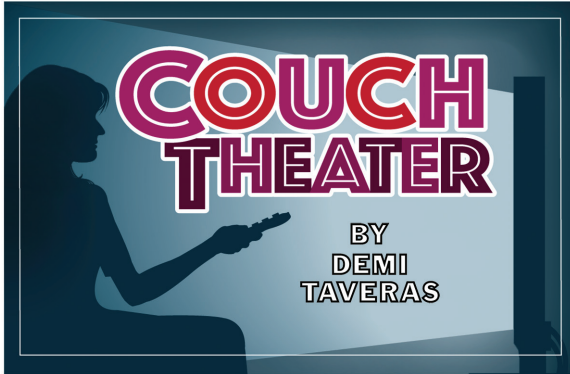
Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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Oscar Isaac stars in "Frankenstein." (Courtesy of

Netflix)

"Frankenstein" (R) -- Jacob Elordi ("Saltburn") is taking a page out of Bill Skarsgard's ("Nosferatu") playbook and completely transformed himself for the role of "The Creature" in this gothic sci-fi film

from director Guillermo del Toro ("Pinocchio").

The cast is stacked with critically acclaimed actors such as Oscar Isaac ("Dune"), Mia Goth ("MaXXXine"), and Christoph Waltz ("Only Murders in the Building"), who will undoubtedly elevate del Toro's screenplay to another level. Isaac plays Baron Victor Frankenstein, who brings "The Creature" to life; if you know the story by Mary Shelley, you'll know that nothing good follows this creation of his. Featuring a score from Alexandre Desplat, who worked with del Toro on "The Shape of Water," this film premieres on Nov. 7 in the comfort of our own homes with no rental fee involved. (Netflix)

"All Her Fault" (TV-MA) -- Sarah Snook ("Succession") suited up for another tense leading drama role, which seems to be the actress's forte. Kicking off with all the action, this series picks up as mom Marissa Irvine (Snook) mistakenly shows up at the wrong address, expecting to pick up her son, Milo, from a play-date. When she realizes the homeowner has no idea who she's talking about, her son is then pronounced missing, leaving Marissa to put together pieces along with law enforcement and her husband, Peter (Jake Lacy). Fingers instantly start to get pointed at the wrong people, with even Marissa having to defend herself against accusations that she took her son. This won't be a mystery that's easy to solve, but you can try to solve it yourself on Nov. 6 when all eight episodes premiere. (Peacock)

"I Love LA" (TV-MA) -- Actress and comedian Rachel Sennott ("Bottoms") not only stars in the lead role for this new comedy series, but she's the creator and writer behind the series as well. Only eight episodes long, the series revolves around a group of five young-adult friends who reunite after spending some time apart. Viewers watch as each person in the group navigates their own set of relationships, as well as their ambitions and whether they've actually progressed toward accomplishing their goals. Odessa A'zion ("Marty Supreme"), Josh Hutcherson ("Five Nights at Freddy's"), Jordan Firstman ("You People"), and True Whitaker ("Godfather of Harlem") co-star along with Sennott, and you can stream the first episode now! (HBO Max)

"Sovereign" (R) -- This crime thriller, led by Nick Offerman ("Smurfs") and Jacob Tremblay ("The Little Mermaid"), might be the most uncomfortable watch of this week, just because of the pure, raw emotion that drives the story behind the film. The two actors respectively play Jerry and Joe Kane, a sovereign citizen and his homeschooled son, who both align with the anti-government movement. One day, the Kanes are pulled over by police and subsequently get into an incident that leads to the death of the two policemen. From there, the Kanes embark on a race against the government as time quickly slips away from them. Martha Plimpton ("Sardinia") and Dennis Quaid ("The Substance") co-star in the film, which releases on Nov. 7. (Hulu)

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1. Who wrote and released "Judy in Disguise (With Glasses)"?
2. Name the artist who earned a Grammy for "Here You Come Again."
3. What is the "brass" in "Brass in Pocket"?
4. What is "The Night Chicago Died" about?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "It's not the way you smile that touched my heart, It's not the way you kissed that tears me apart."

Answers

1. John Fred & His Playboy Band, in 1967. The song topped the charts around the globe, including in Australia, Belgium, the U.S. and South Africa.
 2. Dolly Parton. The song was one of the few that Parton did not write herself. Parton released the song, and in 1978 earned the Grammy award for Best Female Country Vocal Performance.
 3. The brass refers to coins in the 1979 song by the English band the Pretenders.
 4. The 1974 Paper Lace song is about a fictional gunfight between the police and Al Capone.
 5. "Baby, It's You," by the Shirelles, in 1961. The song was a hit for the group, as it was for the Beatles, who released a cover two years later. However, it was the debut cover by Smith that did the best of all.
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Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN and BEAR IT



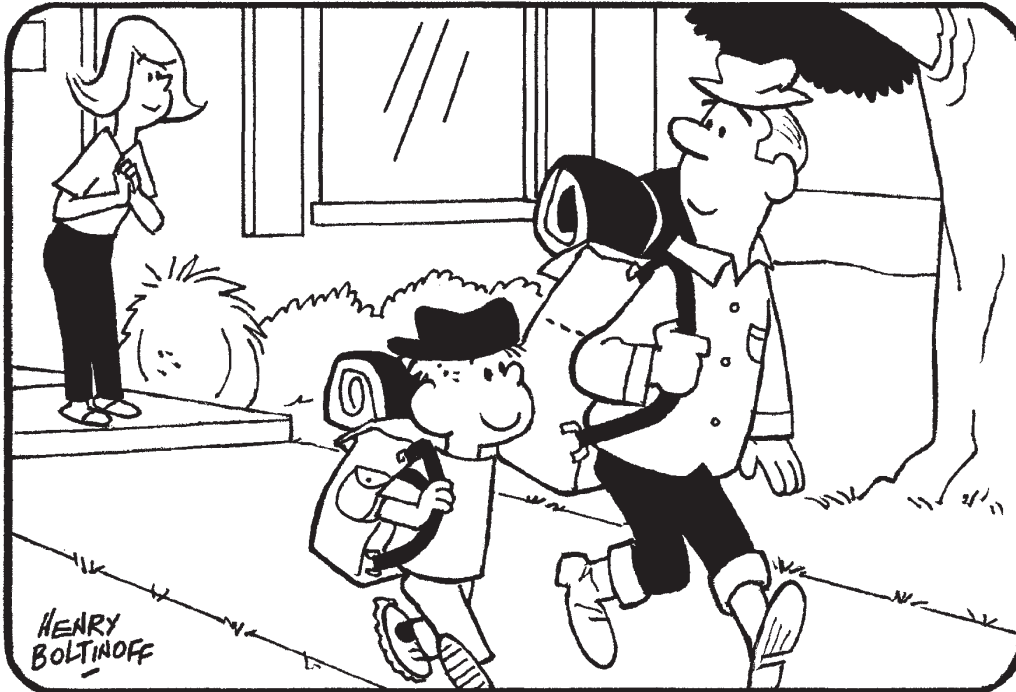
"Paying college players a small part of bowl revenues is an insult! They'd never stand for a pay cut!"

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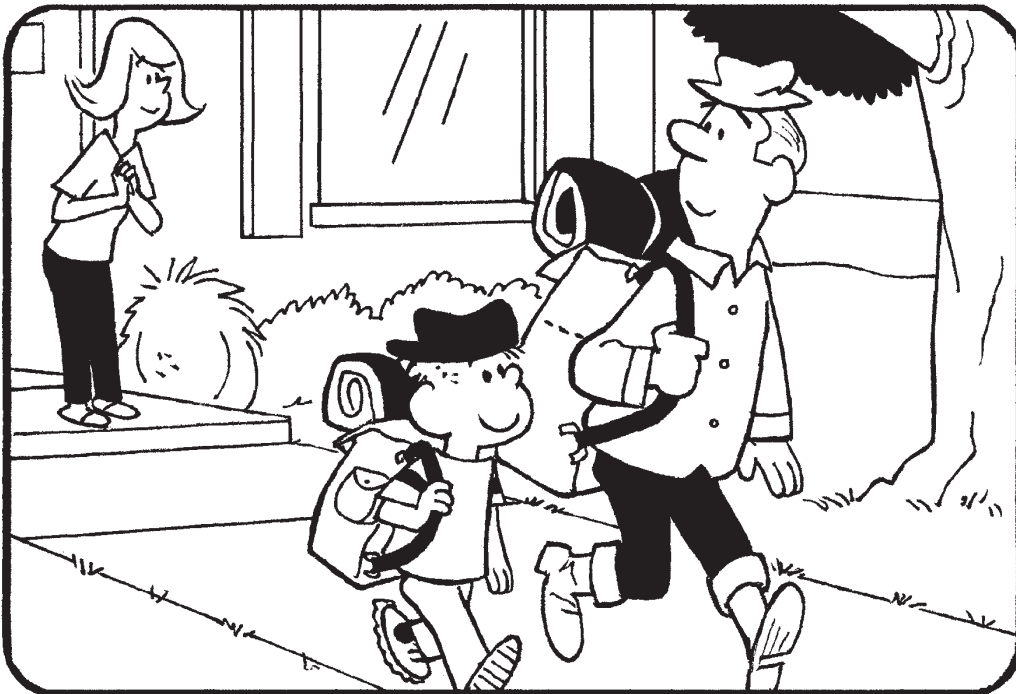
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Leg is moved. 2. Foot is missing. 3. Shirt is longer. 4. Shirt pocket is missing. 5. Boy's left arm is showing. 6. Line is added to walkway.

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* "Here's a great way to organize in the shop: Use chalkboard paint to paint the outside of cabinet doors and even drawer fronts. You can label the contents, or use the surface to jot down quick measurements if needed. Simple to erase when you make a change. I write down references for a project as I go, and it's easier to see than shuffling through scrap papers on my workbench." -- A. in Montana

* Experts say to always crack your egg on a flat surface, rather than using the edge of a counter or bowl. More egg-tastic advice is to crack eggs into a small bowl instead of directly into ingredients. If you have a sneaky "bad egg" in your dozen, it's better to find out before you ruin your baking.

* Attention salad eaters: Got a thick dressing that's high in fat? Rinse lettuce before dressing your salad. Wet or moist lettuce traps less dressing. If your dressing is light, give salad greens an extra spin. Drier lettuce holds on to dressing, making lightly dressed salad more flavorful.

* Another great use for baking soda: Add a cup or two to your toilet bowl. Swish and let sit for 1-2 hours. Flush for odor control and shine.

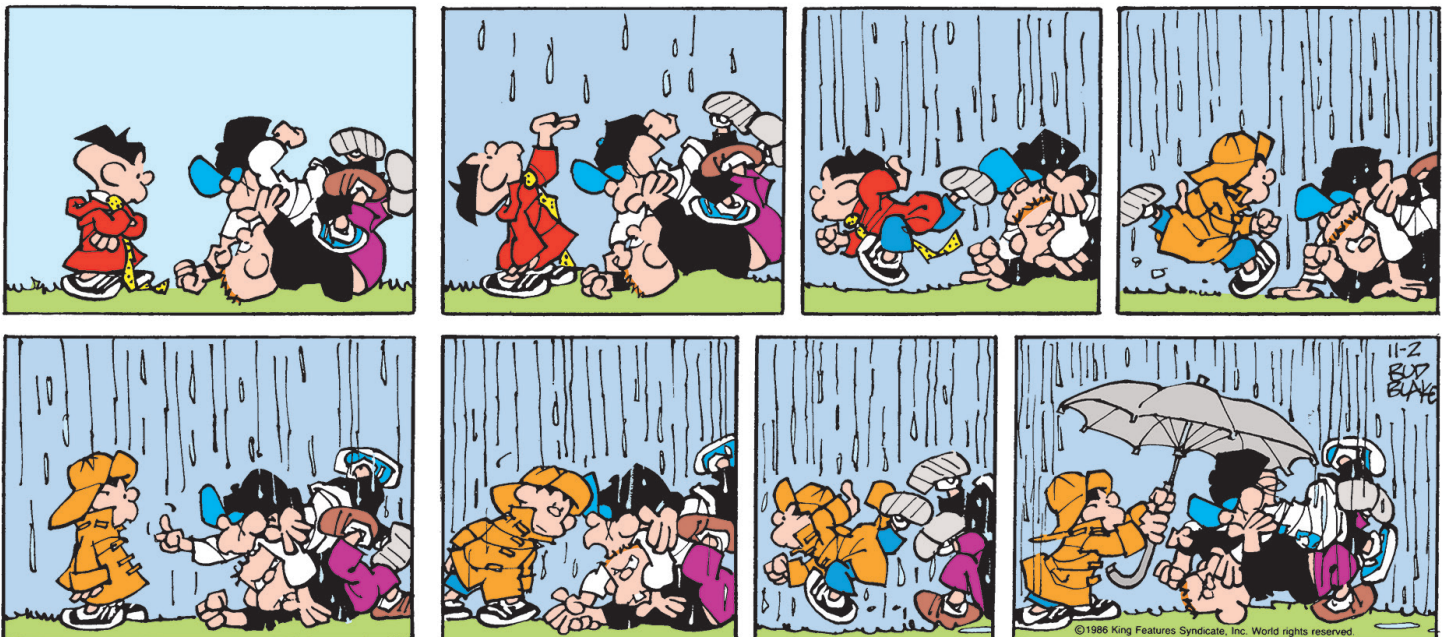
* "I love to search for recipes online. I have learned to pay attention to the comments section of recipes that are new to me. You will find a lot of explanation and frequently a tweak that many people have found successful. Comments have saved me from oversalting a recipe, as well as making necessary adjustments in temperature and cooking time. I have found complicated techniques broken down in a way that was helpful. It pays to check the comments out!" -- W.G. in Missouri

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 And others (Lat.)
5 USN bigwig
8 Many corp. recruits
12 Tora —, Afghanistan
13 "Unstoppable" singer
14 Killer whale
15 Pants
17 Little dent
18 Seize greedily
19 School papers
21 Shoe width
22 Belgrade resident
23 Corn core
26 Calendar box
28 Ginger cookies
31 Crony, out West
33 Tavern
35 Unsigned (Abbr.)
36 Disney mermaid
38 Lucy of "Elementary"
40 Sushi choice
41 Final notice
43 Sphere
45 Building's front
47 TV type
51 Phil of folk music
52 Toothbrush features

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18								19	20			
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51					52	53						
54					55				56			
57					58				59			

- 54 Suit to —
55 Non-Rx
56 Feedbag fill
57 Overlook
58 Director Craven
59 Gosling or Reynolds
7 Clipper ship poles
8 Vaccine maker
9 Queensland's capital
10 Skin breakout
11 Droops
16 Sent a dupe to
20 "For — a jolly good ..."
23 Tax prep pro
24 Scull need
25 Brunch breads
27 Actor Brynner
29 "The Bells" author
30 NBC week-end show
32 Lowers
34 "I, Tonya" and "Gandhi," for example
37 Cover
39 Web addresses
42 Former quarterback Tim
44 Ulan —
45 Brew topper
46 Play opener
48 Do in
49 Self-referential
50 Org.
53 Numbered rd.

DOWN

- 1 Recedes
2 Undecided
3 "Carmen" solo
4 Coffee bar offering
5 Worthless pile
6 Conk out

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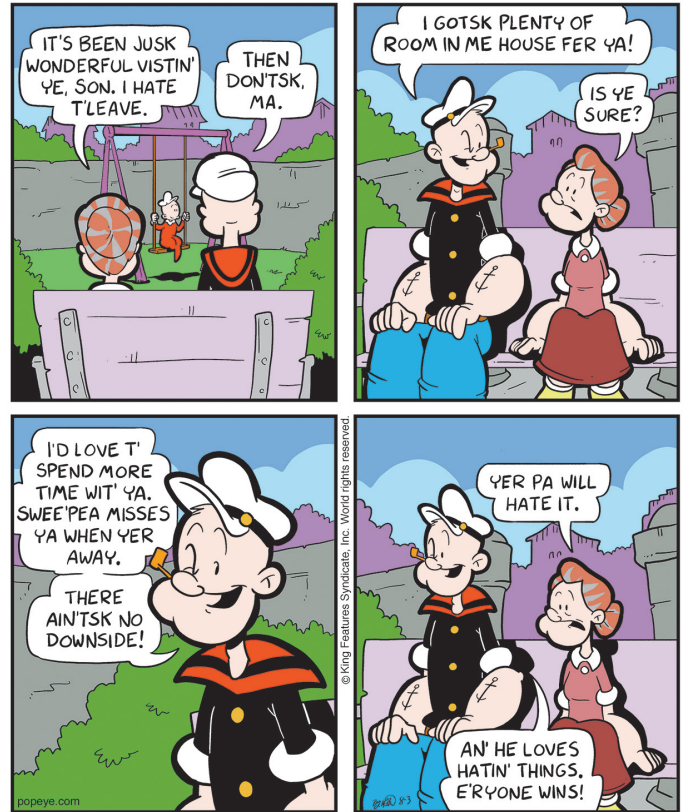
King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

E	T	A	L		A	D	M		M	B	A	S
B	O	R	A		S	I	A		O	R	C	A
B	R	I	T	C	H	E	S		D	I	N	G
S	N	A	T	C	H		T	H	E	S	E	S
		E	E	E		S	E	R	B			
C	O	B		D	A	Y		S	N	A	P	S
P	A	R	D		P	U	B		A	N	O	N
A	R	I	E	L		L	I	U		E	E	L
		O	B	I	T		O	R	B			
F	A	C	A	D	E		P	L	A	S	M	A
O	C	H	S		B	R	I	S	T	L	E	S
A	T	E	E		O	T	C		O	A	T	S
M	I	S	S		W	E	S		R	Y	A	N

Olive



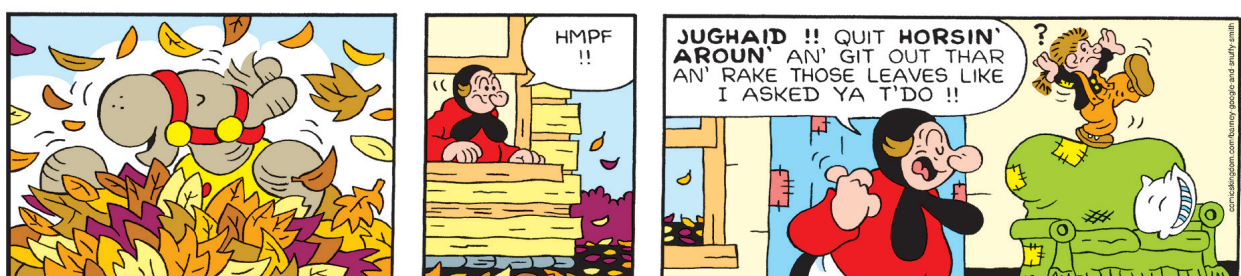
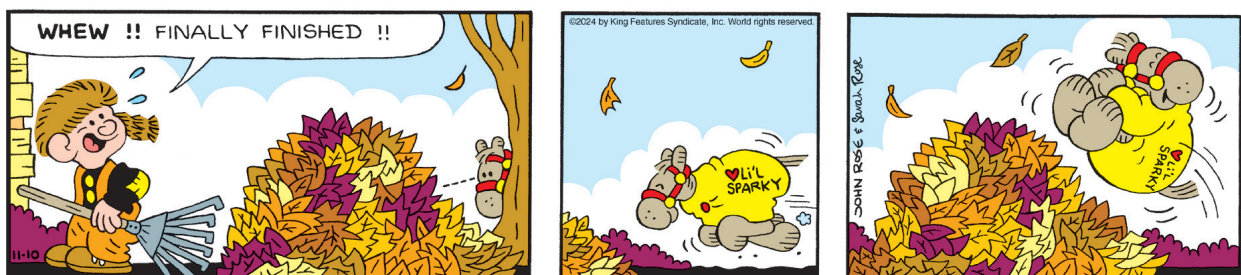
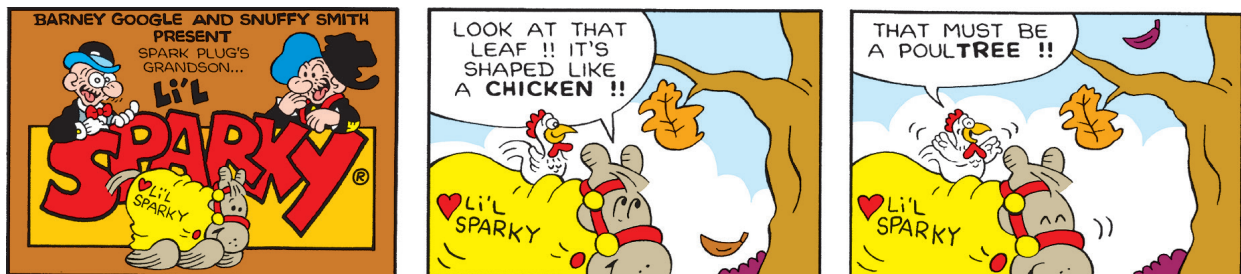
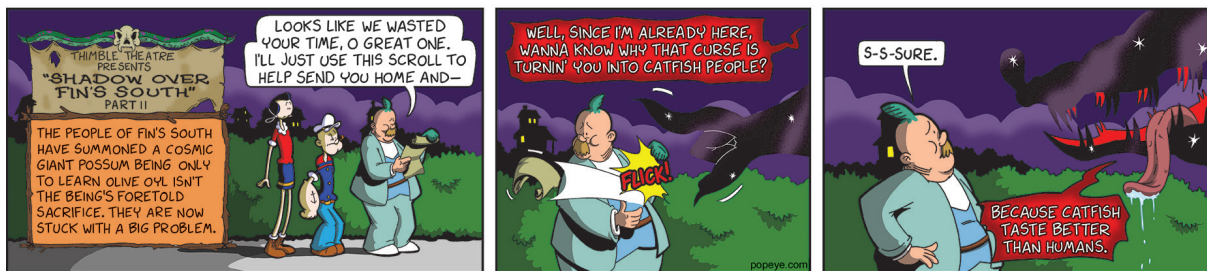
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



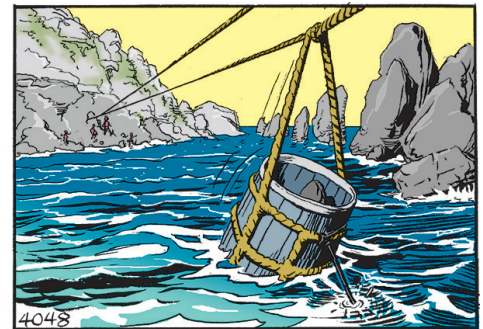
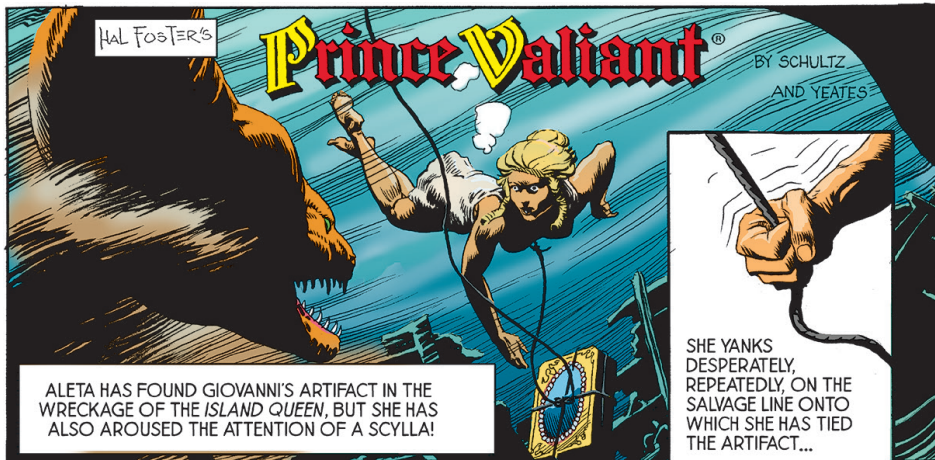
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...SENDING THE CASK ABOVE BOBBING FRANTICALLY. THE SIGNAL HAS BEEN PREDETERMINED, WITH JUST SUCH A PREDICAMENT IN MIND...

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...AND ATTENTIVE EYES ON SHORE IMMEDIATELY SPOT THE DISTURBANCE. NATHAN YELLS AN ALARM, AND STRONG ARMS BEGIN PULLING FRANTICALLY ON THE PULLEY APPARATUS...



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



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SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Finding food

I recently learned a few things about my local food bank that I didn't know. Maybe your food bank has these services as well.

The local food bank has a mobile pantry that goes to the senior housing building once a month for seniors who can't get out to the regular weekly location. While they don't carry a large variety on the van, they do have some of most everything, including canned and boxed foods, coffee and tea, some meats in a small freezer, dairy and bread.

They've just started home delivery in the area, right in time for winter. For this a senior needs to sign up in advance and have their doctor sign a form saying yes, they could benefit from having food delivered instead of having to go out on icy roads to make a pickup. The sign-up form also has a place to list any allergies and preferences, so the box of food is a bit customized.

Our local food bank isn't the only one in the area. Churches and towns sometimes have their own. See www.gsfb.org/food-map and put in your ZIP code for locations near you. In my area I discovered six additional food bank locations I knew nothing about.

Look into the senior food box program. Once a month participants in the program have a box of food delivered. Find contact and income eligibility information by doing an internet search for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program in your state.

Then there is Meals on Wheels, where prepared food is delivered to seniors who have trouble cooking for themselves. They often have low sodium and diabetic meal options. Depending on your location, there might be a small fee for the meals.

If you need food, don't give up. It's out there and you can find it. There are more food sources than you might imagine.

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15 N Main St. - Ste. 101
Downtown Groton

Call/Text Paul: 605-397-7460
Call/Text Tina: 605-397-7285



Senior Citizens 65+
Physical Therapy.

\$20 a month

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1. Kevin Love, a member of the 2016 NBA champion Cleveland Cavaliers, has an uncle who was a founding member of what rock 'n' roll band?

2. What Los Angeles Rams quarterback threw for an NFL record 554 yards in a 51-14 win over the New York Yanks in 1951?

3. By what nickname did the NHL franchise in Utah become known by beginning with the 2025-26 season?

4. Before accepting the head football coach job at Notre Dame, Lou Holtz compiled a 10-12 record as head coach of what college football team from 1984-85?

5. What Chicago Cubs player hit the famous "Homer in the Gloamin'" home run just before dark at Wrigley Field to push the Cubs into first place over the Pittsburgh Pirates in September 1938?

6. What milestone did Eva Shain achieve at the Muhammad Ali vs. Earnie Shavers boxing match at New York's Madison Square Garden in 1977?

7. What happened to the Minnesota Twins' Kirby Puckett on what would be his final Major League Baseball career plate appearance in 1995?



by Ryan A. Berenz

Answers

1. The Beach Boys (Mike Love).

2. Norm Van Brocklin.

3. The Mammoth.

4. The University of Minnesota Golden Gophers.

5. Gabby Hartnett.

6. She became the first woman to judge a heavy-weight championship bout.

7. He was hit by a pitch and suffered a broken jaw.

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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Keep dogs warm in the winter chill

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: My little Sheltie, "Gabriel," loves going for walks outside, but he starts shivering after about five to 10 minutes and we have to turn around and go home. He's really active, so I don't understand why he can't stay warm. Can you help? -- Joseph in Grand Rapids, Michigan

DEAR JOSEPH: Little dogs are bundles of energy, but that's often not enough to defeat Mother Nature and stay warm outside when the cold winds of winter are blowing.

Dogs regulate their temperature through their skin, and they tend to lose a lot of heat this way. That's great in the summer when they need to cool off, but a

handicap for many breeds in the winter. Huskies and other large dogs with double-thick coats and lots of energy can stand bitter cold better than smaller dogs with single coats. And, as PetMD puts it, small dogs have a lower surface area to volume ratio than big dogs. Internally, they don't hold onto heat as well. So they get cold much faster.

A cold injury can be quite serious for dogs of any size, so prevention is essential. Once the temperature drops below 60 degrees, your dog should be wearing a sweater on outside walks. If it's windy or rainy, a water-resistant shell is best. Booties will protect a small dog's paws from cold sidewalks, and later, as winter closes in, from ice, salt crystals and snow.

And don't think that big dogs are off the hook! Owners of larger dogs need to put them into a sweater or coat and booties during the winter, too. Remember, their paws are making contact with the cold pavement and they're losing heat steadily, just like small dogs.

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

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Strange BUT TRUE

- * Mummies can still have fingerprints.
- * President Herbert Hoover spoke Mandarin Chinese with his wife, Lou Henry Hoover, to avoid eavesdroppers during their stint in the White House.
- * The Appalachian Mountains are older than the Atlantic Ocean.
- * Contrary to what some folks might claim, a study found that cats display the main attachment styles as babies and dogs.
- * McDonald's buys about 2 billion eggs every year just for their U.S. restaurants.
- * The concept of contact lenses dates back to LEOnardo da Vinci, who described a vision correction method involving a water-filled glass hemisphere over the eye. Centuries later, British polymath Thomas Young created a lens prototype made of glass and filled with water based on another theoretical idea, by philosopher/scientist Rene Descartes.
- * Israel used piracy laws as the basis for prosecuting Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann.
- * Lucille Fay LeSueur got her stage name, Joan Crawford, from a contest run in the fan magazine Movie Weekly.
- * Bat species make up 21% of all mammals.
- * Our physical and emotional states can change how we see color. Fatigue may dull sensitivity to contrast, some medications can alter the way the retina processes light, and positive thinkers often view hues as slightly more vivid.
- * The inventor of the stop sign never learned how to drive.
- * Before time zones were established in 1883, North America had more than 144 local times.
- * Irene Triplett, the last American to collect a Civil War pension, died in 2020.
- * Calvin Coolidge's vice president, Charles G. Dawes, a self-trained pianist and flautist, is the only American veep to have penned a No. 1 hit pop song, a short instrumental piece titled "Melody in A Major."

Thought for the Day: "Of all the liars in the world, sometimes the worst are our own fears." -- Rudyard Kipling

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The
Garden
Bug

Sweet Briar Rose



The Sweet Briar Rose (*Rosa rubiginosa*) is a dense shrub of European origin that has become quite widespread in North America, especially in New England. It bears pink flowers in June to July, and its leaves exude an apple-like fragrance. Its bright red fruit (the "hips") comes after the flowering ends, ripening through autumn and persisting well into the winter months. Birds and other wildlife feed upon them.

Once sweet briar claims an area, it becomes difficult to eradicate.

- Brenda Weaver

Sources: www.naturescape.co.uk, gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org, www.nrcs.usda.gov

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by Freddy Groves

The shutdown

At this writing, several weeks into the government shutdown, the VA has not been immune to the effects of it. We don't know how long it will go on, but the VA is doing all it can for veterans. While you won't be able to access all of their services as long as the shutdown continues, you're not being left in the lurch.

You'll still get your education, housing and pension benefits. The medical clinics, hospitals and Vet Centers remain open. Burials continue, as do the processing of applications for burial benefits, markers and headstones. (Call them at 800-535-1117 for scheduling.) Appeals continue on your case. The main phone number is still manned (800-827-1000), and so is the crisis line (988, Press 1). Support for caregivers, suicide prevention and homeless services continues.

Which is great.

But that's only part of the situation. There are many things you can't do or get right now, or that aren't being handled.

Regional benefits offices are closed. There is no placement of permanent headstones at the cemeteries, nor grounds maintenance. Pre-need burial applications aren't being processed. There is no career counseling right now. Call centers for the GI Bill are closed. The VA Central Office isn't reaching out to state, county, tribal, municipal, faith-based and community-based partners.

By the time you read this, the shutdown might well be over. We can only hope. But even if it is, from the moment things open up, it will likely take time for all the parts and pieces to gear up again.

Meanwhile, if you're a member of a veterans service group such as the American Legion or Veterans of Foreign Wars, you can help. Check in and see what they're doing. Perhaps there's a way for you to pitch in locally. Keep in mind that the holidays are nearly upon us. There are veterans with families to support and veterans in hospitals that might not get a visitor.

Hang in there, and step up where you can.

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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. ASTRONOMY: When was Pluto reclassified as a dwarf planet?
2. ACRONYM: What phrase does the acronym URL stand for?
3. GEOGRAPHY: Where are the Dodecanese Islands?
4. MUSIC: Which country music star threw the javelin in college?
5. TELEVISION: Which character on the series "Bridgerton" admits to being Lady Whistledown, the pseudonym of a gossip writer?
6. MATH: How many degrees are in a circle?
7. MOVIES: What was the name of actor Henry Fonda's last movie?
8. ANATOMY: In human beings, what is the condition called polythelia?
9. FOOD & DRINK: Which celebrity chef had a specialty food store called "The Barefoot Contessa"?
10. CHEMISTRY: What metallic element has the highest melting point?

Answers

1. 2006.
2. Uniform Resource Locator.
3. Aegean Sea.
4. Garth Brooks.
5. Penelope Featherington.
6. 360.
7. "On Golden Pond."
8. Having an extra nipple.
9. Ina Garten.
10. Tungsten (W).

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South Dakota Governor



Larry Rhoden



South Dakota: *Under God, the People Rule*

Taking Care of People

South Dakota's greatest asset is our people, and some of our greatest attributes are grit and a tremendous work ethic. We work hard to take care of ourselves and our families, and we also work hard to serve those who can't take care of themselves.

As the federal shutdown lingers, it is causing havoc to federal programs. I won't sugarcoat it: Senate Democrats are holding government funding hostage because they want healthcare subsidies for illegal immigrants. South Dakota's own Majority Leader John Thune has tried to reopen the government over a dozen times, to no avail. And there are real consequences for those who rely on federal benefits – especially those who need food assistance in the form of food stamps, or SNAP.

Every month, SNAP benefits are sent out to those signed up for food stamps. But the November benefits will not be sent out if the government does not reopen. Instead of just throwing our hands up, there are things that each of us can do to help.

Over the last 100 years, our nation has become too dependent on government benefits. Don't get me wrong – this safety net is important for those who are truly in need. But families need to be able to count on food reaching their tables – and that shouldn't depend on the whims of politicians in Washington, DC.

It's time for us to refocus on the importance of charity and support from churches for those in need.

As the government remains shut down, I am strongly encouraging all South Dakotans to assess what support they can provide for their neighbors. Please, if you are able, donate to your local food banks. Churches should conduct food drives and take the opportunity to share Christian love in their communities. I will be volunteering at food banks and sharing opportunities for charitable support, as well.

It's the least we can do for those who need our assistance.

In South Dakota, we have some of the lowest taxes and the highest incomes in America. That means that our people have more disposable income to give to their church or local charity. So please, get out and do so.

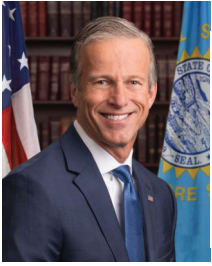
Monthly SNAP benefits total about \$15 million, and there is no logistical way for the State to simply replace that federal spending – nor should we pay because Senate Democrats fail to do their job. My Department of Social Services' offices will remain open to support those who need assistance, and we'll continue to process SNAP applications to get the ball rolling quickly once the government reopens.

No South Dakotan should go hungry just because Washington can't get its act together. Government is often the least effective solution to the problems that we face. Safety nets are important, but love for our neighbors should be the ultimate safety net.

I will say it again: our greatest asset is our people. So let's get to work and help our fellow South Dakotans. Let's turn this challenge into an opportunity to show kindness. Let's do what South Dakota does best: work together.

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JOHN THUNE
U.S. SENATOR FOR SOUTH DAKOTA

Democrats' Shutdown Has Gone On Long Enough

Senate Democrats have kept the government shut down for over a month now. Republicans have given them more than a dozen opportunities to reopen the government with a clean funding extension, but, every time, Democrats have blocked it and forced hardworking Americans to continue suffering.

How much longer are Democrats going to keep the government shut down? The victims of Democrats' shutdown are piling up, but Democrats don't seem likely to spare anyone anytime soon. Air traffic controllers and other federal employees are working without pay. Military families are turning to food banks. Millions of American families will be without nutrition assistance thanks to Democrats prolonging this shutdown. And amid all of this, we hear Democrats talk about using the shutdown as an opportunity for "leverage."

While Democrats search for leverage, Republicans are trying to reopen the government. Again, more than a dozen times we've offered a clean funding extension. We're not asking Democrats to support Republican policies. We're just asking them to reopen the government and end all of this pain and uncertainty. A few Democrats have voted for it, and even labor unions that often align with Democrats have endorsed the clean bill. But the vast majority of Democrats remain dug in.

Democrats claim they want to negotiate with Republicans about the Obamacare issue that they created, and we are happy to have a discussion about Obamacare's failures just as soon as Democrats stop holding the government hostage. Republicans are ready to have discussions about health care because we know that Democrats' signature health care law, Obamacare, has done nothing to address the problem of rising health care costs. Democrats, of course, promised it would. But every time we hear them talk about Americans facing a health care crisis, they're admitting that Obamacare failed.

Now they want to put a band-aid on Obamacare by extending the Biden COVID bonuses at the cost of \$350 billion to taxpayers, which will do nothing to stop Obamacare premiums from going up by double digits. Republicans are ready to have a discussion about actually lowering health care costs for hardworking Americans and increasing health care accessibility, but we won't do it while Democrats hold the federal government hostage to their partisan demands.

Over the last month, Democrats have done everything they can to spin their shutdown as somehow Republicans' fault. But let's be clear. Democrats passed Obamacare without a single Republican vote. They created the Biden bonuses without a Republican vote. They set the expiration date for those subsidies by themselves. They chose to shut down the government despite Republicans putting up a nonpartisan funding extension and promising to discuss the problem Democrats created. And now they have kept that shutdown going for a month and wreaked havoc on countless Americans' lives.

It's time for Democrats to end their political games. It's time they stopped thinking about their political leverage and considered the consequences of their shutdown. Supporting a clean funding extension shouldn't be hard. We just need a handful of Democrats to be courageous enough to stop bowing to demands from the far left and do the right thing.

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The Scariest Shutdown

We are now 31 days into this government shutdown, and Americans are really starting to see the scary impacts of what will soon be the longest government shutdown in American history. I voted back in September to prevent all of this. It was a vote to keep the government open and to keep serving people.

Here are some of the scariest impacts of this senseless shutdown:

Starting tomorrow, full SNAP benefits will not be paid to 42 million Americans. This unnecessary pain on the American people doesn't have to happen. There is a funding proposal in the Senate which would ensure SNAP and other government programs continue to serve the people who need them most. I'm supporting the Keep SNAP Funded Act to ensure benefits continue to go to families who need them. The simplest solution is to open the government.

Hundreds of thousands of federal employees have missed paychecks because of this shutdown. Many of these employees are still working on behalf of the American people but are now questioning their ability to put food on the table due to missed paychecks. It's not fair for these individuals to go without pay, so I've made sure I won't receive a paycheck either during this government shutdown. I recently introduced the Shutdown Fairness Act to pay government employees and troops who are forced to work during the shutdown.

Air traffic controllers are some of these federal employees who are missing paychecks. More than 50% of recent flight delays have been caused by staffing shortages. Delays and service interruptions will grow as this shutdown continues, and air traffic controllers will continue to work without pay.

Every day, 320 small businesses cannot access Small Business Administration loans – that's one every five minutes. Federal approvals and inspections are also paused or delayed, and federal contracts are not being paid. Economic growth slows during shutdowns.

The impacts of this shutdown continue to mount as the American people feel real pain. It's time to open the government and get back to work. I've been working in South Dakota helping folks manage the impacts of this shutdown. If you need assistance, please reach out to my office.

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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries

PO Box 831313 - Ocala, FL 34483

1-352-216-3025

It's My Pain I'll Use It If I Want To

When I think I've turned a page to a new chapter in my life, I realize there is nothing new in life. I'm referring to pain. I cannot remember a time in my life when I didn't have some pain.

In the years of my naivety, I never imagined that when I got older, I would experience more pain. Nevertheless, pain has become my daily friend.

I thought I had gotten through all my pain and was beginning to relax for an entire week. The only pain I had was being a pain in the neck to someone around me.

It was on a Monday night, I was in bed sleeping, and just after midnight, I awoke, and my right wrist was in a lot of pain. I couldn't move it for fear of pain. I got up, took some Tylenol, and went back to bed. When I woke up in the morning, the pain was worse than before the Tylenol.

I really didn't know what happened because I couldn't remember hitting my wrist on anything during the night. The pain was real, but the source of the pain was unknown.

When I got up in the morning, I went into the kitchen and informed The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage about the pain in my hand. She took great interest and wanted to do whatever she could to help me get rid of all that pain. Of course, the first thing she did was to give me Tylenol.

That did not work, and by late afternoon, the pain was worse than before.

It was then that she decided I needed to go to the Urgent Care for some medical help.

Throughout the long years of our marital bliss, I have learned one great lesson: "Don't argue with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage." So, she drove me down to the Urgent Care for treatment around 7:30 PM.

I went in, signed up, and then we waited only 90 minutes in the waiting room. During that time, the wrist was getting worse, and the pain was not letting up.

I always take The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage with me to any doctor visits I have, because she takes the doctor's words very literally. I, on the other hand, paraphrase what the doctor says, which, when I get home, doesn't make any sense at all.

Finally, we were ushered in to see the doctor. They did X-rays on my arm and some other surgical things that I was not quite sure of. Then, the doctor pulled out her needle and prepped my arm for a shot.

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While preparing that shot, I noticed she was grinning. That made me realize that the shot was going to hurt like crazy. And boy, did it hurt, and I almost shouted in pain, which made her smile more.

The doctor diagnosed my situation and prescribed some medication, and then gave me an arm bracelet to help ease the pain in my arm.

We finally left Urgent Care about 10:30 and headed for home.

Before I went to bed, I had to take off the bracelet, and the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage had to put some medication the doctor recommended to deal with the pain. I didn't have much sleep that night.

In the morning, I got up, and the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage had to examine my arm to see how it was. She then gave me more Tylenol to deal with the pain and helped put on my arm bracelet.

It was a busy day for The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. She had her regular duties and had little time to sit down and rest. But, she took time to stop what she was going and examine my arm. She would always ask, "How is your arm doing now?"

My constant reply was, "It's doing fine." Of course, she never believed me.

Since this was my pain, I decided to take advantage of it. I would get The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage to bring me some coffee when I needed it, maybe a snack, and she would jump to the service.

But then a crazy thought entered my mind. Believe me, my mind is well accustomed to crazy thoughts.

Before she came in to give me the next Tylenol, I switched the arm bracelet from my right arm to my left arm to see if she would notice. I know, it's a very crazy thing to do, but then that is my MO.

She came in and said, "Let me see your arm."

I lifted up my left arm so she could look at it, and she examined it very carefully and then said, "It's starting to look better. I hope the pain is also going away." And then she went back to the kitchen to her work.

I chuckled quite a bit as I put the bracelet back on my right arm where it belongs. If I'm going to have pain, I'm going to use it for some pleasure on my part. I just hope I don't get caught.

As I was reading my Bible, I came across an interesting verse.

"For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18).

My physical pain is nothing compared to God's grace in me each day.

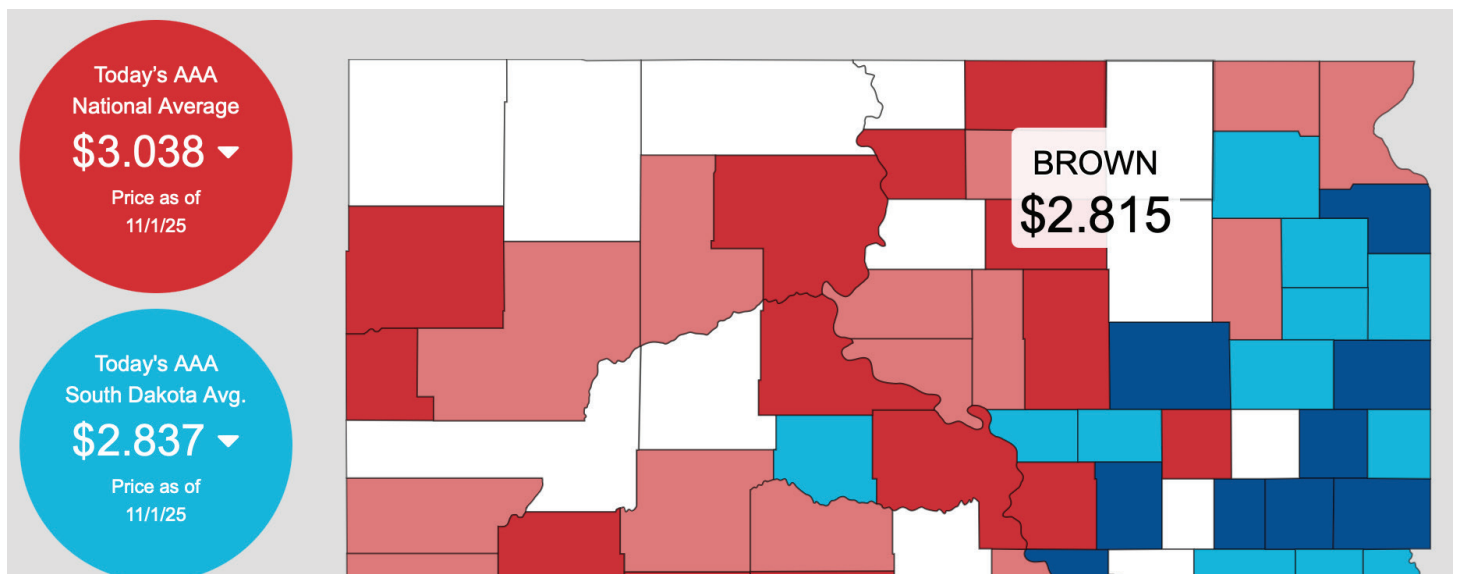
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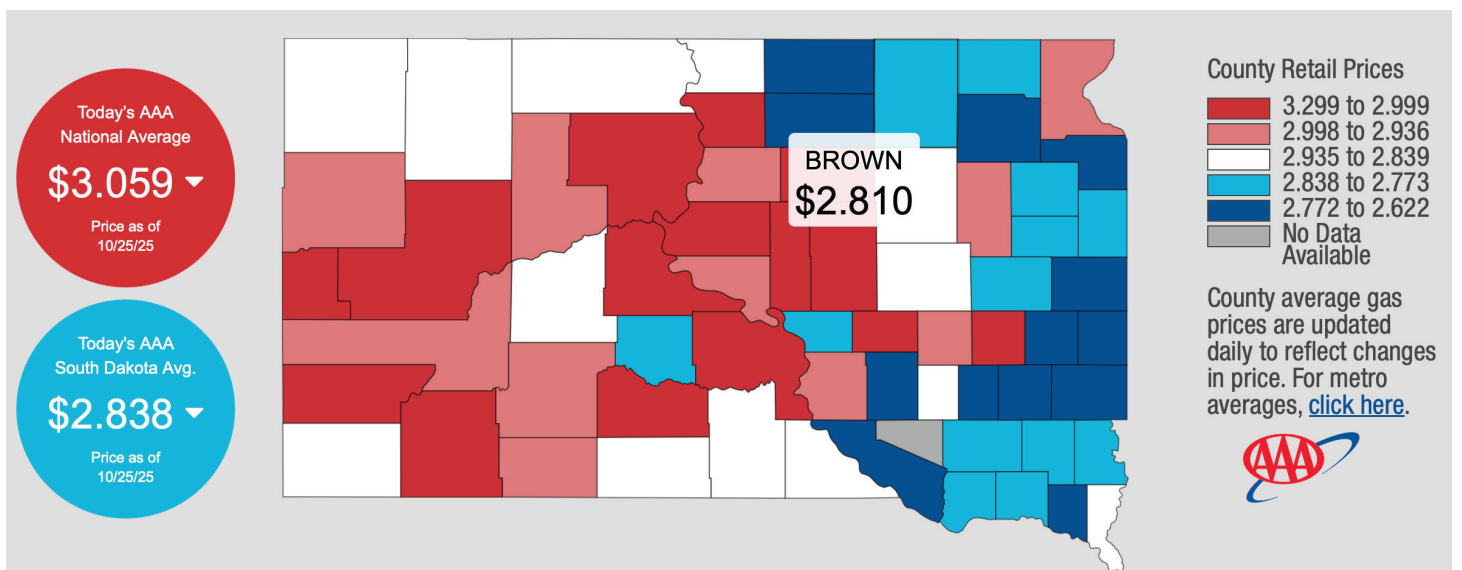
South Dakota Average Gas Prices

	Regular	Mid-Grade	Premium	Diesel
Current Avg.	\$2.837	\$3.046	\$3.505	\$3.357
Yesterday Avg.	\$2.850	\$3.038	\$3.498	\$3.354
Week Ago Avg.	\$2.838	\$3.031	\$3.486	\$3.327
Month Ago Avg.	\$2.916	\$3.088	\$3.546	\$3.369
Year Ago Avg.	\$3.002	\$3.214	\$3.648	\$3.249

This Week



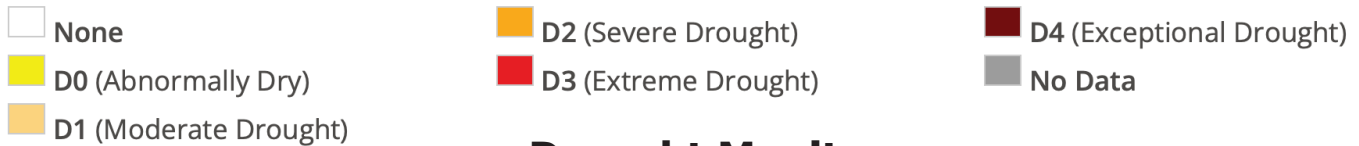
Last Week



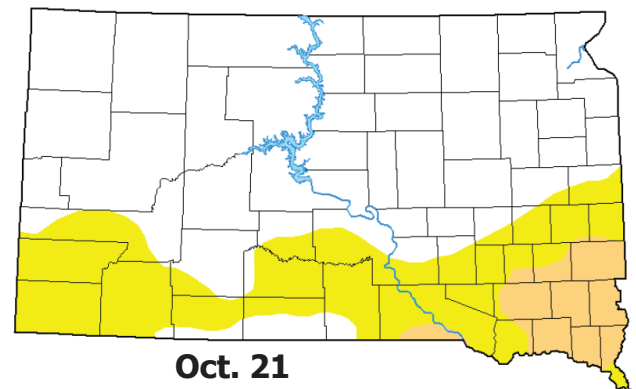
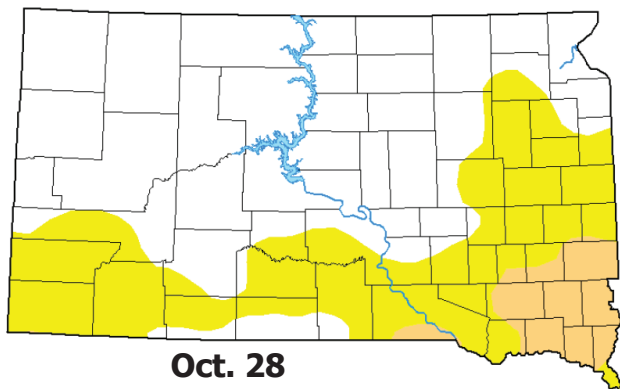
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Drought Classification



Drought Monitor



The High Plains Region is currently the Region least-affected by dryness and drought. Only 37.2 percent of the Region is affected by dryness (D0) or drought (D1-D4). Colorado and Wyoming are the most drought-impacted states, with almost 55% of those states combined covered by D0 conditions or worse, and about one-third experiencing some degree of drought (D1-D4), primarily in the higher elevations. In the Great Plains states, there is no drought in North Dakota and D0 covers less than 3 percent of the state. Dry conditions are a little more common farther south, with D0 or worse covering 39 percent of South Dakota, 35 percent of Nebraska, and 25 percent of Kansas. In all 3 states, drought (D1 or worse) coverage is less than 13 percent. Last week, moderate to locally heavy rain induced areas of improvement in eastern Kansas and far northwestern Wyoming while patches of deterioration were introduced in eastern South Dakota and small parts of south-central Colorado and far northeastern Kansas.

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EARTHTALK

Drones A Key Tool For Conservationists, Environmentalists

by Enhan Yuan

Dear EarthTalk: How are drones being used to promote conservation? -- L.J. Smith, Smithfield, RI

When you hear the word drones, perhaps you picture flying and faceless androids on some top-secret intelligence mission, armed to the teeth and stealthy as a bandit. What you probably are not picturing are drones flying over burnt forests dropping seed pods or skimming the surface of the ocean scanning for endangered whales. However, in recent years, drones are being used for exactly that.

Drone producer JOUAV defines wildlife drones as “unmanned aerial vehicles designed to monitor, track, survey and protect wildlife and their habitats.” They come in all shapes and sizes with three main types: fixed wing, which are like traditional airplanes and can cover large distances; multi-rotor drones, which have multiple rotating blades and can hover in place to capture detailed images in confined areas at low altitudes; and hybrid drones, which are a combination of the other two.



Drones are becoming an increasingly common and important tool in the arsenal of conservationists and environmentalists of all stripes. Credit: Pexels.com.

With drone technology at their disposal, scientists can monitor and implement conservation efforts with more accuracy and less disruption. Take, for instance, the Snotbot: a drone that flies through the exhaled air of whales and collects information on DNA, stress and pregnancy hormones through respiratory droplets. Charlotte Edmond of the World Economic Forum notes the Snotbot helps scientists “understand whales and dolphins, many of which are critically endangered, in a way which doesn’t stress them out.”

Wildlife drones also combat poaching and natural disasters. In Africa and India, governments and wildlife protection groups use thermal imaging and night vision to track illegal activity. In the wake of wildfires in California, drones are powerful tools for reforestation, cutting response times from years to months, and LiDAR technology helps map out deforestation areas. A study conducted in Kumamoto, Japan showed that 80 percent of seeds delivered by drones in biodegradable pods sprouted, compared to 30-50 percent by manual planting. This promising statistic offers hope into restoring burnt and damaged ecosystems.

However, with powerful technology, also comes a staggering price. Drones are costly, no doubt—about \$116,000 each. And most countries are protective of their air space. Laws often require drones to have licenses, meaning wildlife drones have a lot of red tape to fly through before they can save the world. Nonetheless, drones are playing an increasingly important role in nature conservation efforts. You can help propel these efforts by donating to wildlife organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund or writing to local conservation teams on the benefits of wildlife drones.



SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

<https://southdakotasearchlight.com>

Campaign roundup: Republican announces for US Senate, other races grow, polls and money info emerge

BY: SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT STAFF

Recent candidate announcements, campaign finance reports and poll results are shedding new light on races for statewide offices next year in South Dakota.

The field vying for one of the state's two U.S. Senate seats grew recently with a candidate announcement by Justin McNeal, a Republican from Rapid City. His announcement sets up a potential June 2, 2026, primary race pitting him against incumbent Republican Sen. Mike Rounds.

McNeal said he is a Navy veteran and businessman who most recently founded Dakota BioChar, which aims to convert forest waste into material that can be spread on agricultural fields to improve soil health.

In his announcement, McNeal said the largest threat to the nation is its debt, and he pledged to work against what he described as the "unholy trinity": special interests lobbying elected officials, who in turn receive campaign contributions from special interests.

"This system will never benefit 'We the People,'" McNeal said.

At least two other people have announced their intention to seek Rounds' Senate seat: Julian Beaudion, a businessman, community activist and Democrat from Sioux Falls, and Brian Bengs, a park ranger, Air Force veteran and independent from Hot Springs.

Johnson, Jackley have leads in polls

South Dakota News Watch and the Chiesman Center for Democracy at the University of South Dakota released poll results this week.

Their poll of registered Republican voters found U.S. Rep. Dusty Johnson leading the race for the 2026 Republican nomination for governor. He polled at 28%, followed by Gov. Larry Rhoden at 27%, Aberdeen businessman Toby Doeden at 15% and state Speaker of the House Jon Hansen, of Dell Rapids, at 10%. Twenty-one percent of respondents were undecided.

The only declared Democratic candidate for governor so far is Robert Arnold, a college student. At least two independents have also publicly said they'll run for governor: Allison Renville, a Lakota activist and member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, and Terry Gleason, a Chamberlain man.

In the race for the Republican nomination to succeed Johnson in the U.S. House, Attorney General Marty Jackley led the News Watch/Chiesman Center poll with 57% support, followed by Madison state Sen. Casey Crabtree at 5% and Piedmont businessman James Bialota at 2%. Thirty-six percent of respondents were undecided.

Announced U.S. House candidates on the Democratic side are former U.S. Department of Agriculture official Nikki Gronli, of Dell Rapids, and Sioux Falls nonprofit executive Billy Mawhiney. Scott Schlagel, a Democrat from Dell Rapids, has filed a statement of candidacy.

Campaign finance update

Rounds' campaign begins with a big fundraising head start in the U.S. Senate race, according to campaign finance reports that include data through September.

His campaign committee came into the year with a balance of \$1.9 million and raised \$1.45 million while spending about \$506,000, leaving a balance of \$2.8 million. Beaudion launched his campaign this spring, bringing in about \$146,000 since April and spending roughly \$115,000, ending with about \$31,000. Bengs,

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who also began his fundraising in April, raised about \$155,000 and spent about \$125,000, leaving a balance of about \$30,000.

In the U.S. House race, Jackley raised about \$526,000 since July and spent about \$23,000, leaving him with about \$503,000. Crabtree reported raising about \$206,000 since July and spending about \$25,000, ending with about \$181,000.

On the Democratic side of the House race, Gronli reported raising about \$23,000 since August and spending about \$2,600, leaving her with about \$21,000. Mawhiney reported raising about \$17,000 since July and spending about \$8,600, ending with about \$8,500.

Candidates for state-level offices don't have to report on their finances until January. Federal reports show that in the governor race, Johnson has about \$6 million to bring over to his state-level campaign.

More candidate announcements

Attorney general: Jackley's candidacy for the U.S. House creates an opening that McPherson County State's Attorney Austin Hoffman hopes to fill; he recently announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination, joining at least one other Republican who announced previously, Lance Russell, the state's attorney for Fall River and Oglala Lakota counties.

State treasurer: Jeff Monroe, a former state legislator who served the Pierre area, recently announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination to succeed the current officeholder, Republican Josh Haeder, who is term-limited.

State auditor: Sioux Falls City Councilman David Barranco has announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination to succeed incumbent Republican Rich Sattgast, who is term-limited.

Secretary of state: Incumbent Republican Monae Johnson is seeking reelection and has at least one challenger for the party's nomination in state Rep. Heather Baxter, of Rapid City, while former state trooper Terrence Davis has declared his Democratic candidacy.

Public Utilities Commission: Former legislator Don Haggard has announced his candidacy for the Republican nomination to succeed Republican Commissioner Gary Hanson, who will not seek reelection.

COMMENTARY

Where there's smoke, there may be an attempt to burn down South Dakota's medical marijuana program

by Dana Hess

A recent legislative hearing left people involved in the state's medical marijuana businesses paranoid, and it wasn't because they had been sampling their own products.

A meeting of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee turned into an assault on the program that the state's voters approved in 2020 and the state implemented in 2022. The roster of speakers was a travel agent's dream come true with a law enforcement officer from Missouri, an emergency medicine doctor from Colorado, a professor from Oklahoma, an addiction specialist from Colorado and the Sioux Falls school superintendent.

All of them were on hand to warn against the evils of marijuana in general and in particular how those evils can flourish thanks to a medical marijuana program.

Emmett Reistroffer of Genesis Farms Cannabis Company in Sioux Falls said it looked like a concerted effort to restrict or repeal the state's medical marijuana program. Rep. Josephine Garcia, a Watertown Republican and chairwoman of the committee, didn't like Reistroffer's conclusion.

In a South Dakota Searchlight story, Garcia said the meeting's agenda was set "to follow what was not done when this program was first rolled out. That was my only intention here. If you're insinuating that me, as the chair, have said something or orchestrated something, I have not done that. It is awareness for the public. This is a public safety issue."

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With Garcia's Murderers' Row of anti-marijuana speakers, it sure seems like an orchestrated effort. Or perhaps it's the first salvo in a battle to overturn the will of the voters.

Those of us who can remember back to the 2020 election recall that the virtues and pitfalls of medical marijuana were pretty well litigated. In the end, voters chose to approve the program with 70% of the vote. Garcia's excuse that these issues have never before been discussed shows a frightening lack of memory or a penchant for being disingenuous.

Those of us who can remember back as far as 2017 know why Reistroffer and his colleagues in the medical marijuana community are so upset. During the legislative session that year, it only took a few days for lawmakers to dismantle Initiated Measure 22, despite it being approved the previous November by South Dakotans with 52% of the vote.

Sold to voters as an anti-corruption measure, IM 22 was quite likely unconstitutional and its implementation had been halted by a judge. Lawmakers, however, weren't content to let the case play out in court. Working at an unusually fast pace, it took just over a week for lawmakers to dismantle IM 22, implementing some parts of the measure via legislation while jettisoning others.

The ease with which legislative leaders explained away their disregard for the will of the voters has not been lost on the people who organize ballot questions. It was a ballot question that gave South Dakota its medical marijuana program.

In some cases, ballot initiative organizers have turned to state constitutional amendments rather than initiated laws because they know that it will be at least two years before lawmakers can put the issue back on the ballot. In the meantime, the Legislature can't mess with a constitutional amendment the way they did with IM 22.

Whether Garcia likes it or not, marijuana dispensaries are part of the state's medical community. It's hard to imagine surgeons, chiropractors or nurses receiving such shoddy treatment at the hands of a legislative committee.

Anyone with an agenda that includes getting rid of the state's medical marijuana program may find that there's not much appetite for such a change. Abolishing the program would mean that all the licensing work done by local governments would be wasted. It would mean the shuttering of small businesses that were created in the wake of the 2020 election. It would mean a lack of relief for the 16,477 people who hold patient cards. It would mean once again overturning the will of the voters.

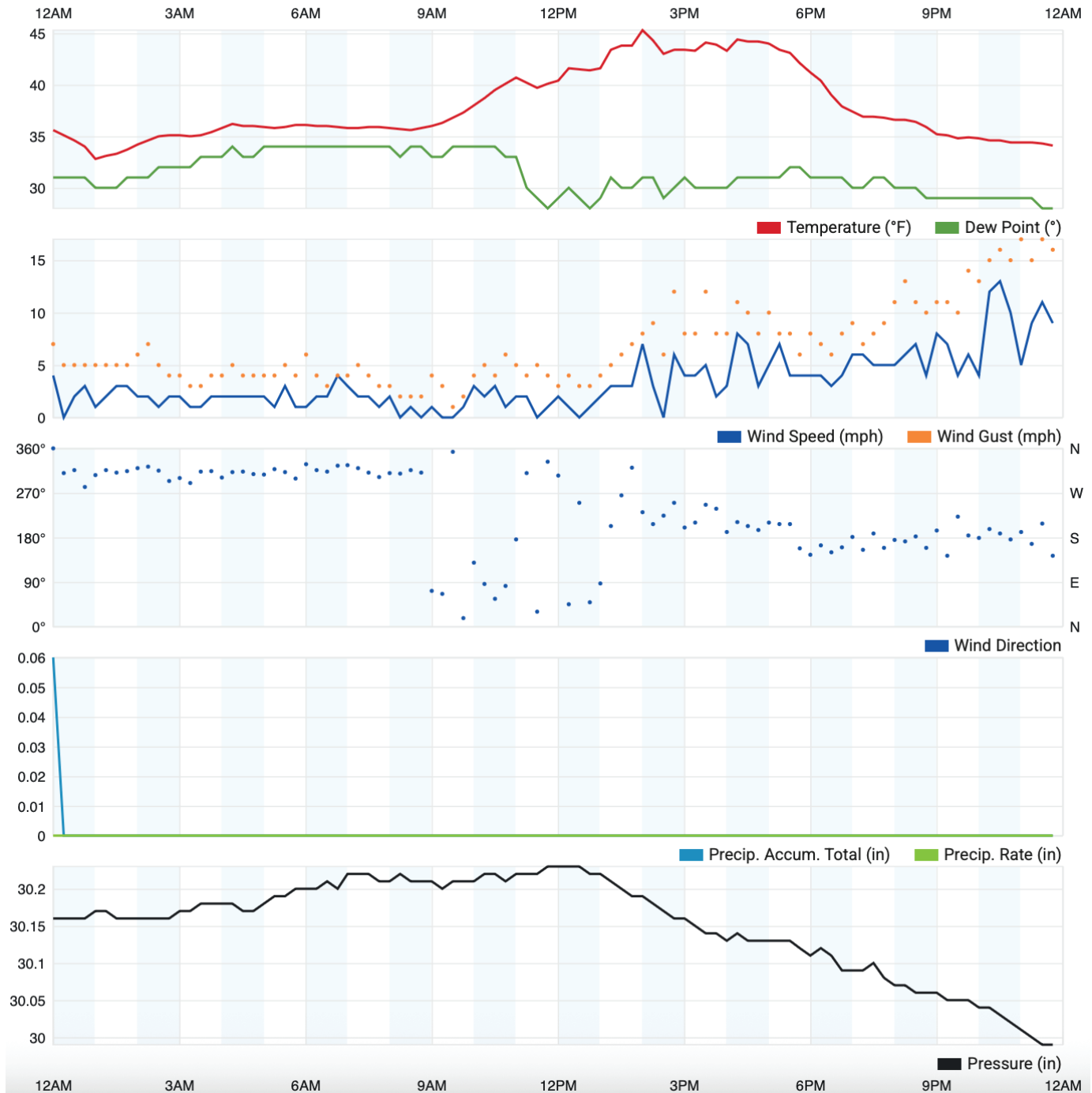
Dana Hess spent more than 25 years in South Dakota journalism, editing newspapers in Redfield, Milbank and Pierre. He's retired and lives in Brookings, working occasionally as a freelance writer.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

November 1, 2025



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Today



High: 66 °F

Mostly Sunny
then Mostly
Sunny and
Breezy

Tonight



Low: 30 °F

Decreasing
Clouds

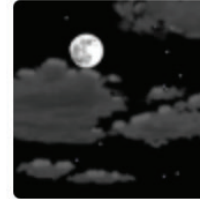
Monday



High: 56 °F

Sunny

Monday Night



Low: 33 °F

Partly Cloudy

Tuesday



High: 56 °F

Mostly Sunny

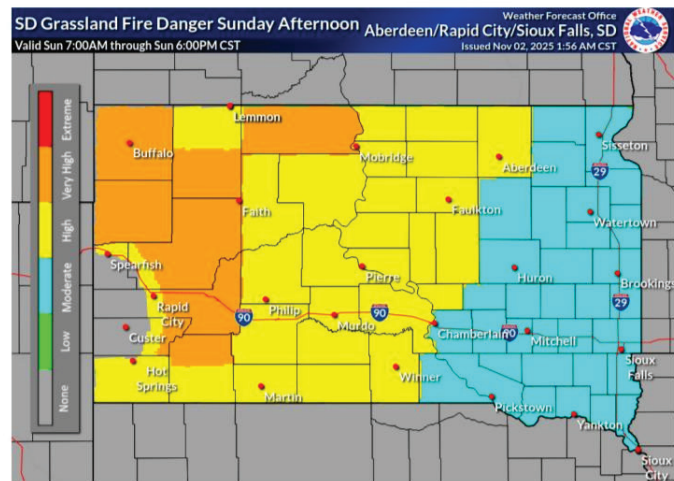


High To Very High Fire Danger Today

November 2, 2025
2:32 AM

- **Relative humidity between 30-40%** this afternoon throughout central and north central South Dakota.
- Winds **increasing and changing direction** through the afternoon, switching from south-southwest to west-northwest

	Maximum Wind Gust Forecast (mph)																
	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm	9pm	10pm	11pm	12am	1am
Aberdeen	21	21	21	23	25	29	30	30	29	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18
Britton	32	31	29	28	29	29	29	29	28	26	25	25	25	24	23	22	21
Chamberlain	15	16	17	18	21	22	23	24	23	22	21	20	20	19	18	17	16
Clark	28	26	25	22	22	22	22	22	21	24	24	23	23	22	21	20	19
Eagle Butte	23	25	29	36	38	38	38	37	35	31	29	29	28	27	26	25	24
Eureka	20	23	26	36	38	39	39	37	32	30	30	29	26	25	24	23	22
Gettysburg	16	20	22	30	32	33	35	33	31	28	26	25	24	23	22	21	20
McIntosh	30	35	37	45	46	46	44	43	38	33	31	29	28	27	26	25	24
Milbank	31	30	29	24	25	24	23	22	22	23	23	23	23	22	21	20	19
Miller	18	18	18	23	25	28	29	29	26	25	24	23	23	22	21	20	19
Mobridge	17	21	25	33	36	37	36	33	32	30	29	28	25	24	23	22	21
Murdo	18	21	24	29	31	32	32	32	32	29	29	26	24	23	22	21	20
Pierre	12	15	18	26	29	30	31	31	30	29	26	25	23	22	21	20	19
Redfield	20	18	17	21	22	25	29	29	28	24	23	23	22	21	20	19	18
Sisseton	36	33	32	28	28	28	28	26	25	28	26	25	25	24	23	22	21
Watertown	30	29	28	26	25	25	25	24	22	24	24	23	23	22	21	20	19
Webster	29	28	28	25	26	26	26	26	24	26	25	25	24	23	22	21	20
Wheaton	22	21	21	21	21	21	21	22	22	25	24	23	23	22	21	20	19



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

South or southwest winds this morning will become west or northwest by this afternoon. Gusts between 25 and 45 mph will be common. Relative humidity is also expected to drop to between 30 to 40 percent across much of central and north central South Dakota.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 45 °F at 2:00 PM

Low Temp: 33 °F at 12:58 AM

Wind: 18 mph at 10:36 PM

Precip: : 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 78 in 1903

Record Low: -0 in 1911

Average High: 50

Average Low: 25

Average Precip in Nov.: 0.07

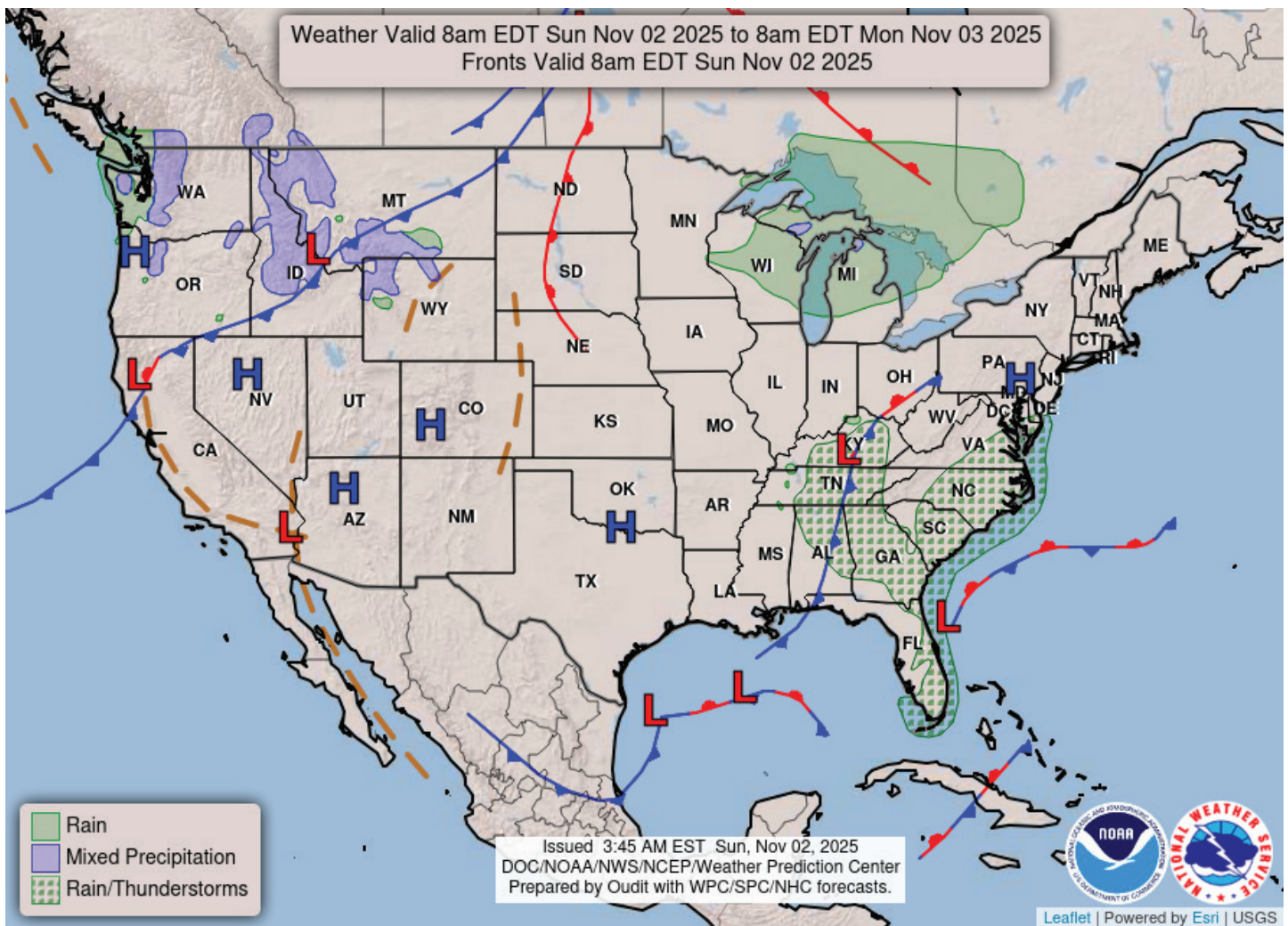
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 20.54

Precip Year to Date: 23.51

Sunset Tonight: 5:18 pm

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:14 am



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Today in Weather History

November 2nd, 1961: A snowstorm began in western South Dakota and spread to the remainder of the state on November 2nd. Snowfall was relatively minimal, with 1 to 3 inches falling over most of the state's central and eastern parts, but 40 to 50 mph winds accompanied the storm in eastern South Dakota. Also, temperatures fell rapidly with the passage of a cold front with 24-hour changes of 40 to over 50 degrees. Huron dropped from 73 on the 1st to 21 only 24 hours later, a 52-degree drop.

November 2nd, 1972: Freezing rain caused up to 2 inches of ice to form on trees, bushes, wires, cars, and buildings. The ice brought down many trees and utility lines. Some of the most significant damage occurred from Tulare to Redfield and Doland and Troy to Sisseton in Spink, Brown, Day, Grant, and Roberts Counties. Also, heavy snow up to 20 inches fell in south-central South Dakota. Some snowfall amounts include; 5.2 inches in Huron, 10 inches in Wessington Springs; 12 inches in Platte; 12.5 in Bonesteel, and 19.5 inches in Gregory.

November 2nd, 1997: A low-pressure system over the Great Lakes produced 50 to 60 mph winds over much of northern and central South Dakota. In McLaughlin, high winds damaged a catwalk at the McLaughlin livestock auction. The winds tipped over half of the 400-foot walkway. Along with six-foot waves, the winds destroyed an 85-year old 40 x 75-foot dance hall located on Medicine Lake, 15 miles northwest of Watertown. In Aberdeen, brick from a top portion of an abandoned building collapsed. There were also widespread reports of tree limbs blown down.

1743: Benjamin Franklin's "eclipse hurricane" unlocked the key to storm movement. A rainstorm prevented Ben Franklin from viewing a lunar eclipse in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, but his brother in Boston saw it, though the rain began an hour later.

1946: A tornado hit Washington in Hempstead County in Arkansas, killing one.

1946 - A heavy wet snow began to cover the Southern Rockies. Up to three feet of snow blanketed the mountains of New Mexico, and a 31 inch snow at Denver CO caused roofs to collapse. (David Ludlum)

1961 - The temperature at Atlanta, GA, reached 84 degrees to establish a record for November. (The Weather Channel)

1966 - A storm brought 18 inches of snow to Celia KY in 24 hours. It tied the state 24 hour snowfall record first established at Bowling Green. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - A dozen cities, mostly in the Ohio Valley, reported record high temperatures for the date. Record highs included 83 degrees at Paducah KY and 84 degrees at Memphis TN. Temperatures reached 70 degrees as far north as southern Lower Michigan. Showers and thundershowers over southern Florida, associated with a tropical depression, produced 4.77 inches of rain at Tavernier, located in the Upper Florida Keys. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - A very intense low pressure system brought heavy rain, snow, and high winds, to parts of the northeastern U.S. Portland ME established a record for November with 4.52 inches of rain in 24 hours, and winds along the coast of Maine gusted to 74 mph at Southwest Harbor. Heavy snow blanketed parts of northern Vermont and upstate New York, with 15 inches reported at Spruce Hill NY. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - Squalls in the Upper Great Lakes Region the first three days of the month buried Ironwood MI under 46 inches of snow, and produced 40 inches at Hurley WI. Arctic cold invaded the Southern Plains Region. Midland TX reported a record low of 22 degrees. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1992: Another infamous November Great Lakes Storm brought windy conditions to Minnesota's Lake Superior shoreline. 70 mph winds caused waves to crash over 130-foot walls along the shore.



Quieting Your Soul

Have you spent time alone with the Lord today?

Psalms 131:1-2: 1My heart is not proud, Lord,
my eyes are not haughty;
I do not concern myself with great matters
or things too wonderful for me.
2 But I have calmed and quieted myself,
I am like a weaned child with its mother;
like a weaned child I am content.

Have you ever wanted to strengthen your prayer life? Let's look at what Jesus modeled for us by spending time with His Father:

Solitude. The Lord was constantly surrounded by people as He tended to their needs. But He also understood His own need for seclusion and would often retreat to pray in private.

Time. No matter what else was going on, Jesus intentionally protected periods of time so He could rest in the Spirit, focus on His relationship with the Father, and build up His physical and emotional strength.

Stillness. What does it mean to "be still"? Psalm 46:10 calls us to stillness with these words: "Cease striving and know that I am God." To learn this boundless inner peace, periodically stop everything you're focused on doing and simply let your soul become aware of the Holy Spirit's presence. In today's reading, David describes this calm state as that of a "weaned child" who is at perfect rest and happy just to be in his mother's arms.

Make these essentials a priority each day, and you'll reap tremendous benefits in your walk of faith. Doing so may seem challenging at first, but when you quiet your heart before the Lord, you'll discover how much you need the peace of His presence. It is truly a priceless gift.

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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Upcoming Groton Events

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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WINNING NUMBERS

MEGA MILLIONS

WINNING NUMBERS:

10.31.25

2 24 52 66 68 9

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$800,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LOTTO AMERICA

WINNING NUMBERS: 11.01.25

8 11 23 31 47 6

All Star Bonus: 2x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$6,050,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LUCKY FOR LIFE

WINNING NUMBERS: 11.01.25

6 19 28 38 46 8

TOP PRIZE:

\$7,000/week

NEXT DRAW: 17 Hrs 13 Mins 18 Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

DAKOTA CASH

WINNING NUMBERS: 11.01.25

1 2 12 34 35

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$70,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

DOUBLE PLAY

WINNING NUMBERS: 11.01.25

7 10 19 42 59 26

TOP PRIZE:

\$10,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

WINNING NUMBERS: 11.01.25

2 26 43 44 62 22

Power Play: 2x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$419,000,000

NEXT DRAW:

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

News from the **AP** Associated Press

Rochelle's big day sends Indiana State to 24-12 upset over South Dakota State

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Rashad Rochelle caught four passes for 84 yards and two touchdowns and tacked on a 95-yard kick-return score as Indiana State pulled off an improbable upset of South Dakota State, 24-12 on Saturday.

It's the first-ever win against a top-five opponent for the Sycamores (3-6, 1-4 Missouri Valley Conference), as SDSU entered the matchup fifth in the FCS coaches' poll. Indiana State last defeated SDSU on Oct. 1, 2011, 38-28.

Indiana State trailed for just 14 seconds of game time, as Rochelle's 95-yard return gave them a 7-3 lead after the Jackrabbits opened the game with a 44-yard field goal.

Kimal Clark (15 total tackles, 1 sack) and Nic Yatsko (14 total tackles, 1 forced fumble) were dominant in the secondary for the Sycamores, who allowed 226 passing yards and held the Jackrabbits (7-2, 3-2) to just one touchdown.

Keegan Patterson was 15-for-25 passing for 188 yards and two touchdowns, matching career-highs in touchdowns and completions.

After a 33-game home winning streak, the fourth-longest in FCS history, SDSU has dropped two straight at home. Indiana State snapped a six-game skid after facing five FCS ranked teams and current FBS No. 2 Indiana.

Lewis' scoop and score, Phillips' rushing lead South Dakota to 26-21 win over North Dakota

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — L.J. Phillips Jr. rushed for 106 yards and added a touchdown, and Dejuan Lewis returned a fumble for a touchdown to lead South Dakota to a 26-21 victory over North Dakota on Saturday.

South Dakota (6-4, 4-2 Missouri Valley Football Conference) forced a safety to open the scoring and Phillips added a rushing touchdown early in the second quarter.

The Coyotes then turned two Fighting Hawks turnovers into touchdowns.

Jerry Kaminski threw two interceptions in the first half. His second set up a 43-yard touchdown pass from Aidan Bouman to Lorenzo Fenner with 45 seconds left for a 16-7 halftime lead.

The Coyotes added a field goal, then turned a Sawyer Seidl fumble into a touchdown. Chris Dixon forced the fumble at South Dakota's 21-yard line, then Lewis scooped it and returned it 80 yards to make it 17 unanswered points.

Kaminski was 16-of-30 passing for 177 yards with a rushing score. Seidl rushed for 102 yards and two touchdowns, making it his fourth consecutive game with more than 100 yards rushing.

It's the first MVFC loss of the season for the FCS coaches poll No. 10 Fighting Hawks (6-3, 4-1), after early season losses to Kansas State and Montana.

Carbon capture pipelines have struggled to advance. A project in Nebraska found success

By JACK DURA Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — A multi-state carbon capture pipeline began operating in September, reducing emissions from Midwest ethanol plants and carrying that carbon dioxide gas to be forever buried underground in Wyoming — an achievement after years of complaints, lawsuits and legislation blocked similar efforts by other companies.

Other projects prompted intense opposition, including one that has run up \$1 billion in spending with

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no guarantee of success, but the Tallgrass Trailblazer Pipeline is being praised. The reason: community negotiations and financial support.

"I wish all energy companies would treat communities with a lot more respect like Tallgrass did," said Jane Kleeb, whose group Bold Nebraska has fought other carbon capture and oil pipelines.

Carbon capture pipelines

The Tallgrass pipeline has started moving emissions from 11 ethanol plants in Nebraska and one in Iowa to a site in southeast Wyoming, where the greenhouse gas will be buried 9,000 feet underground.

The fermentation process to convert corn into fuel releases carbon dioxide. By capturing it before it's released into the air, plants can lower their carbon intensity score, making the ethanol more attractive for refinement into so-called sustainable aviation fuel — a market some believe could climb to 50 billion gallons annually. The Midwest-based ethanol industry sees jet fuel as essential to its future, offsetting expected declines in demand for motor vehicle fuel as more drivers switch to electric vehicles.

The federal government encourages carbon capture through lucrative tax credits to pipeline operators. The Biden administration wanted to encourage a practice that could reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the Trump administration has let the credits continue.

"If an ethanol plant captures the carbon, it lowers their carbon index and they become a low-carbon fuel, and there's a premium for that," said Tom Buis, CEO of the American Carbon Alliance, a trade group. "And they can also produce sustainable aviation fuel out of it. Sustainable aviation fuel is a huge, gigantic market just waiting for someone to step forward and take it."

Routing a pipeline isn't easy

At least three other companies have proposed carbon capture pipelines in the Midwest, but aside from Tallgrass, only Iowa-based Summit Carbon Solutions is persisting — and it hasn't been easy.

Summit has proposed a multibillion-dollar, five-state pipeline network encompassing dozens of ethanol plants, thousands of miles and underground storage in North Dakota.

Despite strong support from agricultural groups and the ethanol industry, Summit has dealt with persistent opponents who don't want their land taken for the pipeline and fear a hazardous pipe rupture. Landowners sued to block the pipeline and sought help from legislators. South Dakota's legislature banned the use of eminent domain for such lines.

In response Summit has asked Iowa regulators to amend its permit so the company retains an option for a route that would avoid South Dakota.

"Our focus remains on supporting as many ethanol partners as possible and building a strong foundation that helps farmers, ethanol plants, and rural communities access the markets they'll depend on for decades to come," Summit said in a statement.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency oversees a rigorous process for underground carbon dioxide injection, involving permits for construction and injection and regulations to protect underground sources of drinking water, Carbon Capture Coalition Executive Director Jessie Stolark said. Typically, porous rock formations similar to a sponge will store or trap the carbon dioxide more than a mile underground, she said.

How did Tallgrass do it?

Tallgrass had one big advantage at the starting point — it converted an existing natural gas line. The natural gas was put on a different pipeline as Trailblazer was retrofitted. The company built branches off the 400-mile mainline to connect to ethanol plants.

But Tallgrass also took pains to engage with communities along its route.

The company worked with people to get its project done "instead of trying to push it down our throat," said Lee Hogan, chairman of the Adams County commission in Nebraska, whose home is a half-mile from the pipeline.

It helped that Tallgrass worked with Bold Nebraska, a citizens group, to create a community investment fund that will make annual payments to organizations related to early childhood development, Medicaid-eligible senior care and food pantries.

Tallgrass will make an initial \$500,000 contribution followed by annual payments based on 10 cents per metric ton of carbon dioxide sent through the pipeline. The Nebraska Community Foundation, which will

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manage the fund, expects more than \$7 million will be given out through 2035 across 31 counties in four states.

It's a unique arrangement, and a possible template for future projects, said Nebraska Community Foundation leader Jeff Yost.

"I'm just really impressed that folks that could have just approached this purely as opponents have come together to find a really productive middle ground," Yost said.

Tallgrass spokesman Steven Davidson said the investment fund is just one piece of the company's agreement with Bold, which he said emphasizes being cooperative and transparent, such as when surveying land and valuing easements.

Lessons from Tallgrass

While lauding Tallgrass' cooperative approach, Jack Andreasen Cavanaugh, who studies energy policy at Columbia University, said it may be hard to replicate the experience since few if any natural gas pipelines will be available for retrofitting, given increases in supply and demand for natural gas domestically and abroad. Tallgrass' line crosses his family's land in Nebraska.

Still, companies can do better to engage and negotiate with communities, and that includes spending money, he said.

Kyle Quackenbush, a Tallgrass vice president, said his advice to other pipeline companies is to listen.

"I think the biggest advice we would have for people is to take those concerns seriously," he said, "and figure out what it takes to be able to help people get comfortable and understand that this infrastructure is a benefit for their community and not something that they need to be afraid of."

Smith's homer in 11th lifts Dodgers over Blue Jays 5-4 to become first repeat champion in 25 years

By RONALD BLUM AP Baseball Writer

TORONTO (AP) — In a World Series for the ages that went back and forth again and again, Will Smith delivered the biggest swing of all for the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Smith connected in the 11th for the first extra-inning homer in a winner-take-all title game, and Miguel Rojas became the first player to hit a tying home run in the ninth inning of a Game 7. On a roller-coaster night of see-sawing emotions, the Dodgers outlasted the Toronto Blue Jays 5-4 Saturday to become the first repeat champion in a quarter century.

"You dream of those moments," Smith said after the 4-hour, 7-minute thriller. "I'll remember that for forever."

In the type of dramatic Game 7 that kids conjure in backyards, the Blue Jays led 3-0 on Bo Bichette's third-inning homer off Shohei Ohtani and 4-2 before Max Muncy's eighth-inning solo homer off star rookie Trey Yesavage.

Toronto was two outs from its first championship since 1993 when Rojas, inserted into the slumping Dodgers lineup in Game 6 to provide some energy, homered on a full-count slider from Jeff Hoffman and stunned the Rogers Centre crowd of 44,713.

"I've cost everybody in here a World Series ring," Hoffman said.

Rojas hadn't homered since Sept. 19.

"I had a conversation with my wife," he said. "She told me something big was waiting for me."

World Series MVP Yoshinobu Yamamoto escaped a bases-loaded jam in the bottom half, and Toronto reliever Seranthony Domínguez stranded three Dodgers runners in the 10th.

Smith, who hit a go-ahead homer in Game 2, sent a 2-0 pitch from Shane Bieber into Toronto's bullpen in left field, where it bounced into the seats and gave the Dodgers their first lead of the night. Running between first and second, Smith raised his arms in triumph.

"He hung a slider," Smith said. "I banged it."

Bieber, the 2020 AL Cy Young Award winner, was making his first relief appearance since 2019.

"He was looking for it and I didn't execute," he said.

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Of course, there had to be even more drama in just the sixth winner-take-all Series game to go extra innings. It matched the Marlins' 3-2 win over Cleveland in 1997 as the second-longest Game 7, behind only the Washington Senators' 4-3, 12-inning victory against the New York Giants in 1924.

Vladimir Guerrero Jr. doubled leading off the bottom of the 11th and was sacrificed to third. Addison Barger walked and Alejandro Kirk hit a broken-bat grounder to shortstop Mookie Betts, who started a title-winning 6-6-3 double play. It was only the second double play to end a Series, after the Yankees turned one in 1947 against the Dodgers.

"I thought we had chances to sweep them," Blue Jays manager John Schneider said. "Going back to the beginning of the Series when people were calling it David vs. Goliath, it's not even close."

Smith set a Series record by catching 73 innings. Betts earned his fourth title in the finale of baseball's 150th major league season, the first that began and ended outside the United States.

In the Dodgers bullpen for the last game of his decorated 18-year career, Clayton Kershaw lost track of the outs.

"When he hit the double play, I thought the run scored and it was tied," he said. "I thought I had the next batter."

Los Angeles and its \$500 million roster overcame a 3-2 Series deficit on the road. The Dodgers became the first repeat champion since the 1998-2000 New York Yankees won three in a row, and the first from the National League since the 1975 and '76 Cincinnati Reds.

With their ninth championship and third in six years, the Dodgers made an argument for their 2020s teams to be considered a dynasty. Dave Roberts, their manager since 2016, boosted the probability he will gain induction to the Hall of Fame.

"To do what we've done in this span of time is pretty remarkable," Roberts said. "I guess let the pundits and all the fans talk about if it's a dynasty or not."

After throwing 96 pitches in a Game 6 win Friday, Yamamoto tossed 43 more over 2 2/3 innings for his third win of the Series. He finished the postseason 5-1 with a 1.45 ERA.

"Before I went in, to be honest, I was not really sure if I could pitch up there to my best ability," Yamamoto said through a translator. "But as I started getting warmed up ... I started making a little bit of an adjustment, and then I started thinking I can go in and do my job."

This Series produced the World Series' first pinch-hit grand slam, its first complete game in a decade, an 18-inning Game 3 featuring Shohei Ohtani reaching base nine times, six outs on the bases and Freddie Freeman becoming the first to hit two walk-off homers, the first back-to-back homers opening a game, Yesavage striking out a rookie-record 12 just six weeks after his debut, and the first game-ending double play in which an outfielder had a putout or assist.

"That game had every single thing you could possibly have," Freeman said. "Just an absolutely incredible game, incredible Series."

Los Angeles used all four of its postseason starting pitchers, with Yamamoto joined by Ohtani and Glasnow (2 1/3 innings each) and Blake Snell (1 1/3 innings).

Bichette, eyes bulging, put Toronto ahead in the third with a 442-foot drive off Ohtani, the two-way star pitching on three days' rest after taking the loss in Game 4.

Los Angeles closed to 3-2 on sacrifice flies from Teoscar Hernández in the fourth off 41-year-old Max Scherzer, just the fourth pitcher to start multiple winner-take-all Game 7s, and Tommy Edman in the sixth against Chris Bassitt.

Andrés Giménez restored Toronto's two-run lead with an RBI double in the sixth off Glasnow, who relieved after getting the final three outs on three pitches to save Game 6 on Friday.

There was so much more to come.

In a Series filled with key defensive plays, Rojas stumbled in the ninth while fielding Daulton Varsho's one-out, bases-loaded grounder off Yamamoto. Rojas managed to throw home for a forceout as Smith kept his foot on the plate to beat Isiah Kiner-Falefa, who had taken an unusually short 7.8-foot lead off third.

Ernie Clement then flied out to center fielder Andy Pages, who had just come off the bench for defense.

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Pages sprinted 121 feet and made a jumping, backhand catch on the left-center warning track as he crashed into left fielder Kiké Hernández.

Then with the bases loaded and one out in the 10th, Pages grounded to shortstop, where Giménez threw home for a forceout. Guerrero fielded a grounder to the right side and tossed to Domínguez covering first, just beating Hernández in a call upheld upon video review.

Visiting teams have won five straight World Series Game 7s after home teams won nine in a row from 1982 to 2011.

While the Dodgers were sprayed with silver confetti and they celebrated, the Blue Jays pondered how close they came in falling short. Eyes were red and voices cracked amid the sobbing.

"I've been crying for like probably for an hour," Clement said long after the final out. "I thought I was done with the tears."

In the midst of the celebration, Freeman already looked ahead to the big, bad Dodgers taking on the rest of baseball again in 2026.

"The Yankees are three-time back-to-back," he said, "so we get to use that same narrative next year."

Obama blasts Trump ahead of Election Day in Virginia and New Jersey. Republicans keep it local

By OLIVIA DIAZ, MIKE CATALINI and BILL BARROW Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. (AP) — Former President Barack Obama is encouraging voters to elect Democratic governors in Virginia and New Jersey in races this Tuesday to rebuke Donald Trump 10 months into his second presidency and a year ahead of midterm elections that could reshape it.

Obama's appearances Saturday for Abigail Spanberger and Mikie Sherrill contrast with Trump spending the weekend at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida, leaving Republicans Winsome Earle-Sears in Virginia and Jack Ciattarelli in New Jersey to campaign for themselves.

At the same time, California advocates made a final push ahead of a statewide referendum over whether to redraw the state's congressional map in Democrats' favor. The effort, backed by Gov. Gavin Newsom, is part of a national redistricting battle that began when Trump urged GOP-run states to help him maintain a friendly House majority in 2026.

Obama praised Spanberger and Sherrill, center-left Democrats who helped their party win a U.S. House majority halfway through Trump's first presidency, as experienced figures who would improve voters' financial circumstances. Yet Obama, who remains Democrats' most popular figure nearly nine years removed from the White House, spent much of his time during separate rallies lambasting Trump for "lawlessness and recklessness" and "shambolic" economic policy. Obama urged voters to "set a glorious example for the nation" by rejecting nominees loyal to a president with "autocratic impulses."

"The stakes are now clear," Obama said in Virginia. "We don't need to speculate about the dangers to our democracy. We don't need to ask ourselves how much more coarse and mean our culture can become. Elections matter, and they matter to you."

Obama took care not to blame voters who backed Trump in 2024 because of inflation and a roiled economy. But, he asked in New Jersey, "Has any of that gotten better for you?"

In some ways, it was standard partisan fare in the closing stretch of a campaign. Yet it stood out as an unusually intense rebuke of a sitting president by a predecessor and because Republicans offered little defense of Trump in their own campaign stops Saturday, instead trying to localize the off-year elections as much as possible.

On a bus tour across New Jersey, Ciattarelli referenced the president mostly to chide Sherrill for mentioning him so much, along with her experience as a Navy helicopter pilot.

"Her disdain for the president. And she can fly a helicopter. Is any of that going to fix New Jersey?" Ciattarelli said in suburban Westfield.

Earle-Sears did not mention Trump at all as she campaigned with term-limited Gov. Glenn Youngkin. "We

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are not going back," she said, arguing for conservative continuity in Purcellville. "There's only darkness back there. Abigail Spanberger represents the darkness."

Trump isn't on site, but he's been in the conversation

Trump endorsed Ciattarelli and has said — without naming Earle-Sears — that he backs her Virginia bid. He conducted a phone rally for Ciattarelli but has not campaigned in person for either nominee.

On Friday evening in south Florida, Trump attended a shindig at his resort with the theme "A Little Party Never Killed Nobody." On Saturday, he headed to Trump International Palm Beach in West Palm Beach, Florida, and is scheduled to attend a dinner for MAGA, Inc., a super PAC founded by allies. The president is due to return to Washington on Sunday.

Trump's arms-length approach reflects a complicated reality for Republicans: He remains intensely popular among the most conservative voters but has a more precarious standing with the rest of the electorate.

Some of their supporters greeted Ciattarelli and Earle-Sears wearing red "Make America Great Again" hats from Trump's campaigns. But the nominees stayed focused on state policies.

In suburban Westfield, Ciattarelli took selfies for about an hour and talked about proposals to lower energy costs and property taxes, among other ideas. His campaign also has concentrated on his family's deep roots in the state and argued it's time for a "Jersey guy" as governor. Sherrill was born in Virginia.

In multiple small-town stops, Earle-Sears promised to lower taxes, defend parents' ability to shape education policy and stave off unions and business regulations. "I'm for common sense," she said in northern Virginia.

She has previously embraced Trump, while Ciattarelli has played up his good relationship with the White House.

Two Democrats take slightly different approaches to Trump

As she has been throughout the fall, Sherrill did not shy away from Trump and the national stakes.

"When everything seems to come down to our election, when people across the nation, look at me with fear and despair in their eyes and ask me, is New Jersey up for this moment? My answer was, 'Hell yeah,'" she said in Newark.

Spanberger kept to her more circumspect style regarding Trump, pairing economic arguments against his policies with more opaque references to the president's moves that upend democratic norms.

"Virginia voters can and will send a message amid the recklessness and the heartlessness coming out of Washington," she said ahead of Obama. She criticized "the political turmoil coming out of Washington right now" and introduced Obama by recalling "a time not that long ago ... when we had a president ... who worked to bring us together instead of tearing us apart."

Still, according to AdImpact data, Spanberger's biggest advertising expenses are for spots that try to tie Earle-Sears to Trump.

The economy and shutdown overshadow the governor's races

Spanberger and Sherrill have both pledged to tackle rising consumer costs. In New Jersey, however, Ciattarelli has blamed Democrats for higher energy costs because outgoing Gov. Phil Murphy has been leading the state for two terms.

The Democrats have blasted Republicans' federal domestic policy and tax cut bill. Spanberger on Saturday criticized Trump's Department of Government Efficiency and the ongoing federal shutdown — both of which have a disproportionate impact in a state with more than 300,000 federal employees, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Earle-Sears has pinned the shutdown on Spanberger, arguing the former congresswoman should use her leverage with Virginia's Democratic U.S. senators. Both have voted against the GOP's spending extension bill as Democrats demand Republicans address looming health care cuts.

Additionally, the contests could offer some clues as to whether social issues carry any less weight with voters than in previous elections. Spanberger and Sherrill herald their support for abortion rights, Spanberger doing so in the last Southern state not to impose new restrictions or bans in recent years. Earle-Sears did not mention her opposition to abortion rights Saturday but has said repeatedly that Spanberger in an extremist on transgender rights — attacks similar to those that Trump wielded effectively against

Democrat Kamala Harris in 2024.

Uncertainty over federal food aid deepens as the shutdown fight reaches a crisis point

By STEPHEN GROVES, ALI SWENSON and SUSAN HAIGH Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The crises at the heart of the government shutdown fight in Washington were coming to a head Saturday as the federal food assistance program faced delays and millions of Americans were set to see a dramatic rise in their health insurance bills.

The impacts on basic needs — food and medical care — underscored how the impasse is hitting homes across the United States. Plans by the Trump administration to freeze payments to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program on Saturday were halted by federal judges, but the delay in payouts will still likely leave millions of people short on their grocery bills.

It all added to the strain on the country, with a month of missed paychecks for federal workers and growing air travel delays. The shutdown is already the second longest in history and entered its second month on Saturday.

"This is more than a crisis," said the Rev. John Udo-Onkon, who runs the Word of Life Christian Fellowship International food pantry in the Bronx, where hundreds more people than usual lined up in the New York City borough as early as 4 a.m. Saturday to collect groceries. "Right now, you can see the desperation, you can feel the frustration that the people are going through."

But back in Washington, there was little urgency to end the government funding impasse. Lawmakers are away from Capitol Hill and both parties are entrenched in their positions.

The House has not met for legislative business in more than six weeks, while Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D., closed his chamber for the weekend after bipartisan talks failed to achieve significant progress.

Thune said he is hoping "the pressure starts to intensify, and the consequences of keeping the government shut down become even more real for everybody that they will express, hopefully new interest in trying to come up with a path forward."

The stalemate appears increasingly unsustainable as Republican President Donald Trump demands action and Democratic leaders warn that an uproar over rising health insurance costs will force Congress to act.

"This weekend, Americans face a health care crisis unprecedented in modern times," Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York said this week.

Delays and uncertainty around SNAP

The Department of Agriculture planned to withhold \$8 billion needed for payments to the food program starting on Saturday until two federal judges ordered the administration to make them. Trump said he would provide the money but wanted more legal direction from the court.

On Saturday, U.S. District Judge John J. McConnell in Rhode Island ordered that the government needed to tell the court by Monday how it would fund SNAP accounts. McConnell, who was nominated by President Barack Obama, said the Trump administration needed to either make a full payment by Monday, or if it decides to only tap \$3 billion in a contingency fund, figure out how to do that by Wednesday.

"There is no question that the congressionally approved contingency funds must be used now because of the shutdown," McConnell wrote in his order.

But that still leaves uncertainty about whether the department will use additional money or only provide partial benefits for the month. The SNAP program serves about 1 in 8 Americans and costs about \$8 billion per month.

Benefits were already facing delays because it takes a week or more to load SNAP cards in many states. Some governors and mayors have stepped in, using what money they have available to fill the program that feeds about 42 million Americans.

"People are just nervous, scared," said Jill Corbin, the director of the St. Vincent De Paul soup kitchen and food pantry in Norwich, Connecticut. "It's not really a definite answer that we have right now."

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As people lined up early Saturday for hot meals and groceries, the organization had 10 extra volunteers to help newcomers navigate the process. On Wednesday, some 400 families visited the food pantry and 555 people received hot meals.

"It's kind of like everything is unraveling at the same time," Corbin said.

House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries of New York criticized Trump for spending Saturday at one of his Florida golf courses, saying on social media that "Trump and Republicans are illegally withholding SNAP benefits."

"Millions of children could go hungry," he added.

Democrats demanded this week that the government fund SNAP, but Republicans responded by arguing the program is in such a dire situation because Democrats have repeatedly voted against a short-term government funding bill.

"We are now reaching a breaking point thanks to Democrats voting no on government funding, now 14 different times," House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., said at a news conference Friday.

Trump injected himself into the debate late Thursday by suggesting that Republican senators, who hold the majority, end the shutdown by getting rid of the filibuster rules that prevent most legislation from advancing unless it has the support of at least 60 senators. Democrats have used the filibuster to block a funding bill in the Senate for weeks.

Republican leaders quickly rejected Trump's idea, prompting the president to double down on the demand Saturday night.

"Don't be WEAK AND STUPID. FIGHT, FIGHT, FIGHT! WIN, WIN, WIN!" Trump posted on social media, arguing that Democrats would terminate the filibuster rules if they regain the Senate majority. "We will immediately END the Extortionist Shutdown, get ALL of our agenda passed, and make life so good for Americans that these DERANGED DEMOCRAT politicians will never again have the chance to DESTROY AMERICA!"

"Republicans, you will rue the day that you didn't TERMINATE THE FILIBUSTER!!!" he added.

Health care subsidies expiring

The annual sign-up period for the Affordable Care Act health insurance also begins Saturday, and there are sharp increases in what people will have to pay for coverage. Enhanced tax credits that help most enrollees pay for the health plans are set to expire next year.

Democrats have rallied around a push to extend those credits and have refused to vote for government funding legislation until Congress acts.

"Millions of Americans in every state across this country are waking up to drastically higher premiums for the same health care coverage they're already on," said Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, D-N.H., in a statement.

If Congress does not extend the credits, subsidized enrollees will face cost increases of about 114%, or more than \$1,000 per year, on average, health care research nonprofit KFF found.

Some Republicans in Congress have been open to the idea of extending the subsidies, but they also want to make major changes to the health overhaul enacted while Democrat Barack Obama was president. Thune has offered Democrats a vote on extending the benefits, but has not guaranteed a result. And he is demanding that Democrats first vote to reopen the government.

So the country waits and watches for Congress to act.

T.J. McCuin, whose family owns and operates farmers markets in Mesa and Apache Junction, Arizona, said 15% of the markets' customers use SNAP benefits. "Hopefully this isn't a long-term problem because once those benefits run out, then it's going to start to hurt," he said.

Furloughed federal workers face delays getting unemployment pay during shutdown

By JONATHAN MATTISE Associated Press

For more than two weeks now during the government shutdown, Imelda Avila-Thomas has been trying in vain to get approved for unemployment compensation to help cover essentials such as food and mortgage

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payments for her family while she's on unpaid furlough from her federal government job.

She kept asking questions and was ultimately sent a hyperlink to upload proof-of-income documents, which she did earlier this week. But Avila-Thomas, who works for the Department of Labor in San Antonio, said the system still deems her ineligible for benefits, saying it cannot verify her wages. She wonders whether someone who might help her has also been furloughed.

A mother of a 12-year-old daughter and local union leader, Avila-Thomas is among the thousands of furloughed federal workers trying to navigate the unemployment system — a sharp increase, but still a fraction of the 670,000-plus furloughed workforce, according to the Bipartisan Policy Center. The dollar amounts and length of benefits vary by state.

About 26,000 federal workers filed initial claims from Sept. 28 through Oct. 18, according to raw data published by the Department of Labor. Some 3,300 applied in the week that ended days before the Oct. 1 shutdown start.

Furloughed workers have some factors to consider. For instance, if they receive back pay as expected when the shutdown ends, they would need to repay the unemployment aid. For Avila-Thomas, refunding the money later is preferable to taking on debt.

Avila-Thomas has worked at the Labor Department for 16 years. Her husband is a disabled veteran who works for the Department of Veterans Affairs and is still working with pay, but they have had to cut back on tutoring for their daughter, who has dyslexia, and with one income now, they've gone to a food bank.

"This would cover that — the essential basics," said Avila-Thomas, whose local American Federation of Government Employees covers Labor Department workers in several states. "And yes, in an ideal world, everybody would have six months worth of savings. And the reality is, most of our members are coming to that point where they could no longer pay those regular bills."

She has applied for part-time work and said she isn't looking for a handout.

Federal workers' jobless aid relies on states

Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees relies heavily on state laws and processing.

The specifics vary. Massachusetts has a high-end weekly benefit of \$1,105 per week for up to 30 weeks. In Mississippi, it's no more than \$235 weekly for up to 26 weeks. Roughly half the states pay less than \$600 a week maximum, according to U.S. Department of Labor numbers.

Not everyone gets the maximum weekly rate. Some states offer fewer than 20 weeks. And the limits can grow in some states when unemployment rates are particularly high.

Around the nation's capital, the maximum weekly payment is \$444 in Washington, D.C., \$430 in Maryland and \$378 in Virginia.

In Texas, where Avila-Thomas lives, the weekly maximum is \$605, for up to 26 weeks.

States normally issue payments within two to three weeks after someone's claim is approved, the Labor Department says. And most states also have an initial "waiting week" for which benefits are not paid upfront. Beneficiaries typically receive money for that week only later, if they exhaust all the weeks they're allotted, the National Employment Law Project says.

States are responsible for verifying an applicant's job and earnings with their federal employer. But the Department of Labor has warned that the shutdown may delay processing of this information by federal agencies.

Many workers have not received forms normally sent by their employing agencies that are used to verify employment and earnings, according to the National Employment Law Project.

Questions have come up about states' varying requirements that people prove they are job hunting while receiving unemployment checks. The Labor Department has said waivers of the requirement may apply for the furloughed federal workers under state laws, noting they face ethics limits on outside work. And some states have specified that work-search mandates won't apply to these workers, waiving them for several weeks or longer.

But in Texas, Avila-Thomas said she has not received a clear answer. Many of her job matches could present a conflict of interest, she said. The Texas Workforce Commission did not immediately respond to

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a request to clarify the work requirement for those workers.

Those still working without pay are ineligible

About 730,000 federal employees have kept working without pay, according to the Bipartisan Policy Center, and they are generally not eligible for unemployment benefits. They will receive back pay after the government is reopened. Workers on reduced hours could be eligible for unemployment.

"Excepted" employees working without pay are typically necessary to respond to emergencies or ensure national security, such as air traffic controllers and airport security screeners.

The Trump administration has said pay will continue for some groups, including FBI special agents and military troops. Paychecks never stopped for some other workers whose departments, such as the Postal Service, rely on their own revenues or certain other funding sources.

There have been other wrinkles specific to how this administration has handled the shutdown, as well.

Earlier in October, the Trump administration threatened that back pay for furloughed federal workers would not be guaranteed, though he later backtracked on it. Trump has also sought to lay off more than 10,000 federal workers during the shutdown. A judge has blocked the layoffs while a lawsuit challenging them plays out.

Avila-Thomas said workers like her are ready for the shutdown to end.

"We're ready to get back," she said. "I think I've driven my family crazy with things and projects." ____

This story has been updated to correct the name of the American Federation of Government Employees.

Joyful Day of the Dead commemorations rally US Latino communities despite immigration raid fears

By GIOVANNA DELL'ORTO Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — More than 100 people followed Aztec dancers through an arch of paper flowers into El Colegio High School on Saturday morning to visit altars that students had created to commemorate Día de Muertos or Day of the Dead.

"It's ... a way of greeting our ancestors into our homes, back into our lives, even if they're like not here physically, but spiritually," said Daniela Rosales, a senior at the small, bilingual school in Minneapolis. "It's a way of just having the community come all together and knowing that in some way they might feel safe."

These crucial religious, family and community celebrations for most Mexicans and many other Latin Americans have taken on special significance this year in U.S. Latino communities, as the Trump administration escalates immigration enforcement raids, including in Minnesota.

While some organizers worried that fears of deportation would cast a pall on public celebrations, participants turned out in droves in cities big and small, saying the rituals brought a much-needed sense of resilience and community pride.

"We decided we can't cave," said Justin Ek, one of the founders of the Day of the Dead festival in Mankato, a city in the Minnesota farmland. "Our cultural celebrations are what we need to fill our souls for what's to come."

The Indigenous Latino artist's family started a small commemoration in the parking lot of their painting business in 2018. This year, some 12,000 people joined the daylong celebration that included live music and several dozen papier-mâché sculptures of Catrinas (elaborately dressed skeletons) and fantasy creatures called alebrijes. Most activities were funded by community donations.

Grieving, but with happiness: The spiritual side of Day of the Dead

Ek's father came to the U.S. from Mexico as a preteen, and in the struggle to make a living and eventually build a family, many connections with his homeland and relatives there disappeared, Ek said.

Day of the Dead festivities became a way to grieve that and rekindle some ties, he added, in addition to commemorating more recent family deaths.

"It's our way to honor what we lost," Ek said.

The holiday's balance of joyful remembrance and a renewed sense of presence distinguishes it from both the outright party atmosphere of Halloween and the somber memorials of the Christian holy days of

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All Saints on Nov. 1 and All Souls' Day on Nov. 2.

In fact, Day of the Dead evolved over centuries from Indigenous practices across the Americas, and only settled on these fall dates after Catholicism was introduced, said Cary Cordova, a University of Texas professor.

Different regions mark it with unique details, but the crucial element is paying homage to the dead with "ofrendas," festive offerings of food, drinks, music and pastimes favorite by the dead. Their souls, many believe, return for a visit, guided by the candles and marigold flowers that mark the path to the ofrendas.

Whether in his Mexican childhood or today in Mankato, Luis Alberto Orozco said the key is to commemorate by "having fun as they would be" — with the departed's favorite snacks and songs.

"It's remembering people who passed on positively because they would want us to remember them happy ... and making ourselves feel they're with us," Orozco said.

Joyful and prideful commemorations defy fears of immigration enforcement

As the emcee of this year's celebration, Orozco reflected on tense conversations in recent months about whether the event in Mankato might draw immigration enforcement raids, especially as rumors spread on social media.

"We decided we were not going to be afraid. It was important for us to keep our faith," he said. "Once I got to the event and saw all the people smile, all the fears went away."

The recent crackdown on illegal immigration in Chicago has generated controversy and stirred fears across that city.

Lisa Noce, some of whose ancestors immigrated from Mexico to Chicago's Pilsen neighborhood where she grew up, worried people would stay away from a Day of the Dead installation she helped create by the National Museum of Mexican Art there. But a big crowd came.

"I'm very thankful that it turned out that way," she said, adding that she also sets up a smaller ofrenda in her kitchen with candy, Barbie dolls, and smiling photos of deceased family members.

'Ofrendas' range from family shrines to political statements

For more than a century, Day of the Dead artistic representations have also moved from the family to the public sphere.

Starting in Mexico and later through the Chicano rights movement in the United States, ofrendas have also become a form of protest covering often marginalized victims, said Luis Fitch, a Minneapolis artist who has created Day of the Dead images for retail giant Target and the U.S. Postal Service.

In Los Angeles, site of some of the strongest enforcement actions, a group advocating for detained migrants planned for Sunday a prayer with Buddhist, Jewish and Protestant Christian rituals as well as altars commemorating those who died in detention, said the Rev. Jennifer Gutierrez, one of the organizers.

"There's pretty high anxiety," said Gutierrez, a United Methodist minister. "But also an atmosphere of coming together to help each other."

Back at El Colegio High School, the half dozen altars with flickering candles, decorated candy skulls and a profusion of paper flowers commemorated local and global losses.

There were pictures of the children killed at a school Mass just 3 miles (5 kilometers) away, but also those who died crossing the U.S.-Mexican border as well as victims of the terror attacks on 9/11, the war in Gaza and violence against Indigenous women.

"We try to keep our sources of spiritual strength always nourished," said Susana De Leon, one of the traditional Aztec dancers who got the commemoration started at El Colegio. "When the community sees us dancing, they feel strengthened. They feel the love."

Trump threatens Nigeria with potential military action, escalates claim of Christian persecution

By DYEPAZAH SHIBAYAN and AAMER MADHANI Associated Press

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP) — U.S. President Donald Trump on Saturday said he's ordered the Pentagon to begin

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planning for potential military action in Nigeria as he stepped up his allegations that the government is failing to rein in the persecution of Christians in the West African country.

The president also warned that he "will immediately stop all aid and assistance to Nigeria."

"If the Nigerian Government continues to allow the killing of Christians, the U.S.A. will immediately stop all aid and assistance to Nigeria, and may very well go into that now disgraced country, 'guns-a-blazing,' to completely wipe out the Islamic Terrorists who are committing these horrible atrocities," Trump posted on social media. "I am hereby instructing our Department of War to prepare for possible action. If we attack, it will be fast, vicious, and sweet, just like the terrorist thugs attack our CHERISHED Christians!"

The warning came after Nigeria's President Bola Ahmed Tinubu earlier on Saturday pushed back on Trump announcing a day earlier that he was designating the West African country "a country of particular concern" for allegedly failing to rein in the persecution of Christians.

In a social media statement on Saturday, Tinubu said that the characterization of Nigeria as a religiously intolerant country does not reflect the national reality.

"Religious freedom and tolerance have been a core tenet of our collective identity and shall always remain so," Tinubu said. "Nigeria opposes religious persecution and does not encourage it. Nigeria is a country with constitutional guarantees to protect citizens of all faiths."

Trump on Friday said "Christianity is facing an existential threat in Nigeria" and "radical Islamists are responsible for this mass slaughter."

Trump's comment came weeks after U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz urged Congress to designate Africa's most populous country as a violator of religious freedom with claims of "Christian mass murder."

Nigeria's population of 220 million is split almost equally between Christians and Muslims. The country has long faced insecurity from various fronts including the Boko Haram extremist group, which seeks to establish its radical interpretation of Islamic law and has also targeted Muslims it deems not Muslim enough.

Attacks in Nigeria have varying motives. There are religiously motivated ones targeting both Christians and Muslims, clashes between farmers and herders over dwindling resources, communal rivalries, secessionist groups and ethnic clashes.

While Christians are among those targeted, analysts say the majority of victims of armed groups are Muslims in Nigeria's Muslim-majority north, where most attacks occur.

Kimiebi Ebienu, a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reiterated the commitment of Nigeria to protect citizens of all religions.

"The Federal Government of Nigeria will continue to defend all citizens, irrespective of race, creed, or religion," Ebienu said in a statement on Saturday. "Like America, Nigeria has no option but to celebrate the diversity that is our greatest strength."

Nigeria was placed on the country of particular concern list by the U.S. for the first time in 2020 over what the State Department called "systematic violations of religious freedom." The designation, which did not single out attacks on Christians, was lifted in 2023 in what observers saw as a way to improve ties between the countries ahead of then-Secretary of State Antony Blinken's visit.

With bombs and bravado, Trump puts his own stamp on Reagan's 'peace through strength' mantle

By AAMER MADHANI, BEN FINLEY and MATTHEW LEE Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — It wasn't so long ago that President Donald Trump spoke of building a legacy as a "peacemaker."

His administration would measure "success not only by the battles we win," Trump said in his inaugural address, "but also by the wars that we end — and perhaps most importantly, the wars we never get into."

But nine months into his second go-round in the White House, Trump is beating a curious path to executing his "peace through strength" foreign policy agenda, a phrase he borrowed from a fellow Republican president, Ronald Reagan, who saw building a strong military and economy as the bedrock to Soviet deterrence.

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Trump's take on the Reagan doctrine includes sharper threats, bombings and no shortage of bravado. It's too soon to tell how history will judge Trump's version, but the Gipper had his doubters, too.

"There are a lot of people who would have given Reagan a not-passing grade around 1983 or so," said University of Tennessee scholar Andrew Busch, noting the year that Reagan ordered the U.S. invasion of a Caribbean island, Grenada. "By 1989, when he left office, they would say, 'Wow, that guy was like the biggest peacemaker in the 20th century in some ways.'"

Peace done Trump-style

Trump's unique approach to Reaganesque diplomacy was on full display during his trip to Asia this past week.

As he made his way to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit, Trump announced via social media that he was canceling trade talks with Canada and imposing another 10% tariff on imports of Canadian goods. He expressed outrage over a television ad — paid for by the Canadian province of Ontario — that used a spliced audio of Reagan criticizing tariffs and aired during the World Series.

Then as Trump met with leaders in Malaysia and South Korea, the U.S. Navy carried out more lethal strikes on suspected drug boats in the Pacific.

His administration moved to shift the USS Ford and thousands of additional sailors from the Mediterranean toward the Caribbean Sea waters near Venezuela, continuing the biggest U.S. troop buildup in Latin America in more than 50 years.

Trump wasn't done.

Minutes before a critical meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday, Trump took to social media to suggest he was preparing to discard a decades-old U.S. prohibition on testing the nation's nuclear weapons.

Later, as he made his way back to Washington, Trump was coy on whether he really meant to say he was ordering the resumption of explosive testing of nuclear weapons — something only North Korea has undertaken this century -- or calling for the testing of U.S. systems that could deliver a nuclear weapon, which is far more routine.

He remains opaque about whether he intends to resume underground nuclear detonation tests.

"You'll find out very soon," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One on Friday, as he headed to Florida for a weekend stay.

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth is not shedding light on what kind of testing the administration planned to undertake. But he is reiterating Trump's Reagan-borrowed mantra.

"America will ensure that we have the strongest, most capable nuclear arsenal, so that we maintain peace through strength," Hegseth said Friday. "That's what this is. In every meeting, that's what we talk about: Peace through strength."

On Saturday, Trump was at it again.

This time he was warning Nigeria that he's ordered the Pentagon to begin planning for potential military action in Nigeria as he stepped up accusations that the government is failing to rein in the persecution of Christians in the West African country.

"If the Nigerian Government continues to allow the killing of Christians, the U.S.A. will immediately stop all aid and assistance to Nigeria, and may very well go into that now disgraced country, 'guns-a-blazing,' to completely wipe out the Islamic Terrorists who are committing these horrible atrocities," Trump posted on social media.

Nigerian President Bola Ahmed Tinubu has pushed back on Trump, saying the characterization of his country as religiously intolerant does not reflect the national reality.

A classic top-to-bottom operation

While the loose talk about nuclear testing was certainly unsettling to some, reaction appeared to be relatively measured. Trump, after all, has made many pronouncements only to later make pronounced shifts in positions.

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For example, in a matter of weeks recently, he went from maintaining Ukraine must cede land to Russia to proclaiming that he believed Kyiv could win back all of the land lost in the war to declaring "fighting should stop at the lines they are at now."

Administration officials are loath to question Trump's tactics but acknowledge that some may appear to be contradictory, particularly with what seem to be spur-of-the-moment reversals in his public statements.

Rather than regard these abrupt changes in course as defects, administration officials privately argue that they give the U.S. more influence and make adversaries and potential adversaries — not to mention allies and partners — more wary to cross Trump.

But policy consistency has long been regarded as key in national security and international relations, not least because it provides a concrete basis for international understandings and actions that other countries consider when making their own decisions.

"This is a product of a lack of process," said Ian Kelly, a retired career diplomat who served as U.S. ambassador to Georgia in Trump's first term. "It's a classic top-to-bottom operation and there doesn't seem to be any consultation with other stakeholders, especially with Congress, but also long-standing allies."

Steering clear of the endless war pitfall

Trump has managed to grasp tightly onto the "peacemaker" title even as his administration has carried out an activist foreign policy in the early going of his second term.

Trump claims as a shining achievement his decision to order strikes in June on three critical Iranian nuclear facilities that he says "obliterated" the Iranian program. The bombing caused significant damage in an operation in which no American troops were harmed.

While Trump insists the program was destroyed, the head of the U.N. nuclear watchdog said this week that renewed movement has been detected recently at Iran's nuclear sites.

Before those strikes, some of Trump's die-hard backers, including Steve Bannon, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga., and commentators Tucker Carlson and Charlie Kirk, expressed consternation as Trump mulled military action. They pointed to Trump's own wariness over decades of war fomented in previous administrations.

Trump's strikes in the Caribbean appear to be landing huge blows to Venezuelan drug smugglers and unsettling the government of President Nicolás Maduro. At the moment, that seems to be coming with "very little political cost" for Trump, said Justin Logan, director of defense and foreign policy studies at the Cato Institute, a libertarian think tank in Washington.

But Logan argues that Trump should be careful as he ponders the path ahead in Venezuela and steer clear of the pitfalls of the "endless wars" in Iraq and Afghanistan that left an indelible mark on the American psyche. This one would be in his own backyard.

"This administration seems to favor these short, sharp strokes and then say they have resolved the problem altogether," Logan said. "I'm afraid what will happen is that we will discover that none of these problems have actually been put to bed."

Israel says the latest remains returned from Gaza by Hamas are not of hostages

By RENATA BRITO Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — The remains of three people Hamas handed over to the Red Cross in Gaza do not belong to any hostages, Israel said Saturday, in the latest setback to the U.S.-brokered ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war.

The handover followed Israel's return on Friday of the bodies of 30 Palestinians to Gaza, which completed an exchange after militants turned over remains of two hostages earlier in the week.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office confirmed that the remains of the three people did not belong to hostages. It was unclear who the remains belonged to.

Hamas' armed wing said it had offered to hand over samples on Friday of unidentified bodies but Israel

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refused and asked for the remains for examination.

"We handed the bodies over to stop the claims of Israel," the statement said. Health officials in Gaza have struggled to identify bodies without access to DNA kits.

Families and supporters rallied once again on Saturday night to call for the return of all hostages. While Yael Adar, mother of the late Tamir Adar, asserted to a rally in Tel Aviv that "the Hamas scum are mocking us," Moran Harari, friend of the late Carmel Gat, urged Israel to have restraint during a rally in Jerusalem.

"This cursed war has taken so many lives of dear people on both sides of the fence. This time, we must not fall into it again," Harari said.

Ceasefire under strain

Since the ceasefire took effect on Oct. 10, Palestinian militants have released the remains of 17 hostages. Eleven remain in Gaza. Militants have released one or two bodies every few days. Israel has urged faster progress. Hamas has said the work is complicated by widespread devastation and Israeli military presence in some areas.

Israel has been releasing the unidentified remains of 15 Palestinians for the remains of each Israeli hostage. The number of Palestinian bodies returned by Israel since the ceasefire began now stands at 225. Only 75 have been identified by families, according to Gaza's Health Ministry.

It is unclear if those returned were killed in Israel during the Hamas-led Oct. 7, 2023, attack on southern Israel that sparked the war, died in Israeli custody as detainees or were recovered from Gaza by troops during the war.

The fragile truce faced its biggest challenge earlier this week when Israel carried out strikes across Gaza that killed more than 100 people, following the killing of an Israeli soldier in Rafah, Gaza's southernmost city.

Questions around security

Jordan's foreign minister warned Saturday that Israel maintaining a military presence in Gaza puts the ceasefire at risk.

Speaking at the Manama Dialogue security summit, Ayman Safadi added it was "imperative" to have a Palestinian police force maintaining security, supported by an international stabilization force with a U.N. Security Council mandate.

"With Israel staying in Gaza, I think security is going to be a challenge," Safadi said. "Israel cannot stay in 53% of Gaza and then expect security to be achieved."

The 20-point U.S. peace plan includes the formation and deployment of a temporary international stabilization force of Arab and other partners that would work with Egypt and Jordan on securing Gaza's borders and ensure the ceasefire is respected. The U.S. has ruled out American soldiers in Gaza.

The visiting chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Dan Caine, met with Israeli officials on Saturday. Multiple nations have shown interest in taking part in a peacekeeping force but called for a clear U.N. mandate before committing troops.

Other difficult questions include Hamas' disarmament and the governance of a postwar Gaza, as well as when and how humanitarian aid will be increased.

Indonesia could be part of peacekeeping force

Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim nation, has offered thousands of troops for Gaza.

"But details, or the term of reference for that matter, remain unclear," Indonesia's Foreign Minister Sugiono, who like many Indonesians uses a single name, said earlier in the week.

"There has to be a mandate from the UNSC, which we hope will be issued. There has been no discussions so far, and we're far from settling any details," he added.

Indonesian officials also have called for an independent Palestinian state but underscored the need to "recognize and guarantee the safety and security of Israel."

War's toll

The deadliest and most destructive war ever fought between Israel and Hamas began with the Hamas-led 2023 attack that killed about 1,200 people and took 251 others hostage.

Israel's military offensive has killed more than 68,600 Palestinians in Gaza, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which doesn't distinguish between civilians and combatants. The ministry, part of the Hamas-run

government and staffed by medical professionals, maintains detailed records viewed as generally reliable by independent experts.

Israel, which has denied accusations by a U.N. commission of inquiry and others of committing genocide in Gaza, has disputed the ministry's figures without providing a contradicting toll.

Tanzania's President Hassan wins disputed election with more than 97% of vote

By RODNEY MUHUMUZA Associated Press

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Tanzania's President Samia Suluhu Hassan won the country's disputed election with more than 97% of the vote, according to official results announced Saturday. Her two main opponents had both been prevented from running, leaving her virtually unopposed.

Hassan, who took power in 2021, appeared at an event in the administrative capital, Dodoma, to receive the winner's certificate from electoral authorities. In remarks afterward, she said it was notable that Tanzanians voted overwhelmingly for a female leader.

She said now the election was over "it's time to unite our country and not destroy what we've built over more than six decades." She added. "We will take all actions and involve all security agencies to ensure the country is peaceful."

As vice president, Hassan was automatically elevated when her predecessor, John Pombe Magufuli, died months after the start of his second term.

The result is likely to amplify the concerns of critics, opposition groups and others who said the election in Tanzania was not a contest but a coronation.

Tundu Lissu, leader of the Chadema opposition group, has been jailed for months, charged with treason after he called for electoral reforms that he said were a prerequisite for free and fair elections. Another opposition figure, Luhaga Mpina of the ACT-Wazalendo group, was barred from running.

Chadema said in a statement late Saturday that the party "strongly rejects the so-called election results" giving victory to Hassan.

"These results have no basis in reality, as the truth is that no genuine election took place in Tanzania," the statement said, charging that Hassan was keeping power by force.

'Prevent further escalation'

The Oct. 29 election was marred by violence as demonstrators took to the streets of major cities to protest the poll and stop the counting of votes. The military was deployed to help police quell riots. Internet connectivity has been on and off in the East African nation, disrupting travel and other activities.

The protests spread across Tanzania, and the government postponed the reopening of universities, which had been set for Nov. 3.

There was a tense calm in the streets of Dar es Salaam, the commercial capital, on Saturday. Security forces manning roadblocks asked to see the identity cards of those who went out.

Tanzanian authorities have not said how many people were killed or injured in the violence. A spokesman for the U.N. human rights office, Seif Magango, on Friday told a U.N. briefing in Geneva by video from Kenya that credible reports of 10 deaths were reported in Dar es Salaam, alongside Shinyanga and Morogoro towns.

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on Friday he was concerned by the situation in Tanzania and urged all parties to "prevent further escalation."

The foreign ministers of the U.K., Canada and Norway in a joint statement cited "credible reports of a large number of fatalities and significant injuries, as a result of the security response to protests."

Enforced disappearance

At stake for the ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi, or CCM, party was its decades-long grip on power amid the rise of charismatic opposition figures who hoped to lead the country toward political change.

Still, a landslide victory is rare in the region. Only President Paul Kagame, the authoritarian leader of Rwanda, regularly wins by a landslide.

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Rights groups including Amnesty International warned of a pattern of enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and extrajudicial killings in Tanzania ahead of the polls.

In June, a United Nations panel of human rights experts cited more than 200 cases of enforced disappearance since 2019, saying they were "alarmed by reports of a pattern of repression" ahead of elections.

Hassan oversaw "an unprecedented crackdown on political opponents," the International Crisis Group said in its most recent analysis. "The government has curbed freedom of expression, ranging from a ban on X and restrictions on the Tanzanian digital platform JamiiForums to silencing critical voices through intimidation or arrest."

Independence from Britain

The political maneuvering by Tanzanian authorities is remarkable even in a country where single-party rule has been the norm since the advent of multi-party politics in 1992.

Government critics point out that previous leaders tolerated opposition while maintaining a firm grip on power, whereas Hassan is accused of leading with an authoritarian style that defies youth-led democracy movements elsewhere in the region.

A version of the governing CCM party, which maintains ties with the Communist Party of China, has ruled Tanzania since its independence from Britain in 1961, a streak that Hassan extends with her victory.

CCM is fused with the state, effectively in charge of the security apparatus and structured in such a way that new leaders emerge every five or 10 years.

The orderly transitions within CCM have long sustained Tanzania's reputation as an oasis of political stability and relative peace, a major reason for the party's considerable support across the country, especially among rural voters.

US envoy calls Lebanon a 'failed state' as Syria expected to join anti-IS coalition

By SALLY ABOU ALJOUD Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — The U.S.'s special envoy for Syria on Saturday called Lebanon "a failed state" in remarks underscoring Washington's frustration with Beirut's "paralyzed government," even as Syria inches toward closer ties with the U.S.

Speaking at the Manama Dialogue summit in Bahrain during a panel on "U.S. Policy in the Levant," Thomas Barrack hailed developments in Syria following the downfall of Bashar Assad in December. He confirmed that Syrian President Ahmad al-Sharaa is expected to visit Washington on Nov. 10 — the first such visit by a Syrian president since the country's independence in 1946.

Barrack also said that Syria is expected to join the U.S.-led anti-Islamic State group coalition, describing it as "a big step" and "remarkable." The coalition includes some 80 countries working to prevent a resurgence of IS.

As for Lebanon, Barrack pointedly said it was the only state in the region "not jumping in line" with the new Middle East realignments. "The state is Hezbollah," he said, noting that the Iran-backed group provides for its supporters and fighters in ways the Lebanese state cannot — in a country where basic services like electricity and water are chronically unreliable.

"It is really up to the Lebanese. America is not going to get deeper involved in the situation with a foreign terrorist organization and a failed state dictating the pace and asking for more resources and more money and more help," he said.

Barrack added that the U.S. would not intervene in regional disputes but would support its ally "if Israel becomes more aggressive toward Lebanon."

Israel recently intensified its strikes on southern Lebanon. Both sides have accused each other of violating a ceasefire, which nominally ended the latest Israel-Hezbollah war last November. The conflict started after the Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas-led attack on Israel that triggered the war in Gaza.

Hezbollah began firing rockets into northern Israel in support of Hamas and the Palestinians, prompting Israeli airstrikes and artillery shelling in return. The low-level exchanges escalated into full-scale war in

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September 2024.

Since the ceasefire, Israel has continued to carry out near-daily strikes across southern Lebanon, saying they target Hezbollah militants, weapons depots and command centers. Israeli forces have also maintained positions on several strategic points inside Lebanese territory.

Lebanese officials have accused Israel of striking civilian areas and destroying infrastructure unrelated to Hezbollah, calling on Israeli forces to withdraw and respect Lebanon's sovereignty.

Barrack said that Israel is still bombing southern Lebanon because "thousands of rockets and missiles" remain there, threatening it. But he acknowledged that "it is not reasonable for us to tell Lebanon to forcibly disarm one of its political parties — everybody is scared to death to go into a civil war."

"The path is very clear — that it needs to be to Jerusalem or Tel Aviv for a conversation along with Syria. Syria is showing the way," Barrack said, adding that Syria and Israel are expected to hold a fifth set of de-escalation discussions.

The United States is leading a diplomatic push involving Syria and Israel, who are engaged in direct negotiations to de-escalate tensions and restore a 1974 ceasefire agreement. That deal established a demilitarized separation zone between Israeli and Syrian forces and stationed a U.N. peacekeeping force to maintain calm.

Tensions have soared between the two neighbors following the overthrow of Assad in December in a lightning rebel offensive led by Islamist insurgents.

Shortly after Assad's overthrow, Israeli forces seized control of the U.N.-patrolled buffer zone in Syria set up under the 1974 agreement and carried out airstrikes on military sites in what officials said was aimed at creating a demilitarized zone south of Damascus.

Israel has said it will not allow hostile forces to establish themselves along the frontier, as Iranian-backed groups did during Assad's rule. It distrusts Syria's new government, which is led by former Islamist insurgents.

Two new suspects handed preliminary charges in Louvre jewels heist case, Paris prosecutor says

By SYLVIE CORBET Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — The Paris prosecutor said Saturday two new suspects were handed preliminary charges for their alleged involvement in the crown jewels heist at the Louvre museum, three days after they were arrested by police as part of the sweeping investigation.

Laure Beccau, the prosecutor, said a 37-year-old suspect was charged with theft by an organized gang and criminal conspiracy. He was known to authorities for previous thefts, the statement said.

The other suspect, a 38-year-old woman, was accused of being an accomplice. They were both incarcerated.

They both denied involvement, the prosecutor said.

The lawyer for the woman, Adrien Sorrentino, told reporters his client is "devastated" because she disputes the accusations.

"She does not understand how she is implicated in any of the elements she is accused of," he said.

Jewels have not been recovered

Officials said the jewels stolen in the Oct. 19 heist have not been recovered — a trove valued around \$102 million that includes a diamond-and-emerald necklace Napoleon gave to Empress Marie-Louise as a wedding gift, jewels tied to 19th-century Queens Marie-Amélie and Hortense, and Empress Eugénie's pearl-and-diamond tiara.

Five people were arrested by police on Wednesday in connection with the case, including one tied to the heist by DNA. That person is suspected of belonging to the team of four who used a freight lift truck to enter the Louvre. The prosecutor did not specify whether the person was among those charged on Saturday.

The three others have been released without charges, Beccau said.

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Two earlier suspects, men aged 34 and 39 from Aubervilliers, north of Paris, were charged this week with theft by an organized gang and criminal conspiracy.

Beccuau said both gave “minimalist” statements and “partially admitted” their involvement. The two are believed to be the men who forced their way into the Apollo Gallery. One was stopped at Charles-de-Gaulle Airport with a one-way ticket to Algeria; his DNA matched a scooter used in the getaway.

About 100 investigators involved

Neither names nor extensive biographical details about the suspects have been made public.

Information about investigations is meant to be secret under French law, to avoid compromising police work and to ensure victims’ right to privacy, a policy known as “secret d’instruction.” Only the prosecutor can speak publicly about developments, and violators can be prosecuted.

Earlier this week, Beccuau praised an “exceptional mobilization” — about 100 investigators seven days a week, with roughly 150 forensic samples analyzed and 189 items sealed as evidence.

It took robbers less than 8 minutes to steal the jewels. The team of four used a freight lift, allowing two of them to force a window and cut into two display cases with disc cutters, before the four fled on two scooters toward eastern Paris. Only the “near-simultaneous” arrival of police and museum security stopped the thieves from torching the lift and destroying crucial evidence, the prosecutor said.

Investigators said there is no sign of insider help for now, though they are not ruling out a wider network beyond the four on camera.

In a separate case, Interior Minister Laurent Nuñez said six people were arrested on Thursday soon after a robbery at a gold refining laboratory in the city of Lyon during which thieves used explosives. The loot, which was estimated to be worth 12 million euros (\$13.9 million) has been recovered, Nuñez said on X.

Former Kentucky Gov. Martha Layne Collins has died at 88

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Martha Layne Collins, the first and only woman elected governor of Kentucky, died on Saturday. She was 88.

The Democrat’s most visible legacy is a sprawling Toyota auto assembly plant — arguably the biggest industrial plum of its day and the linchpin of her economic-development strategy. She also worked for years to overhaul the state’s public education system.

“When I became governor, you have lots of priorities, but when I’d sit down and think about it, education always came back as the first thing you have to start with,” the former teacher explained in a 1992 interview with the Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky. “I feel like I made an impact in education and bringing in new jobs; I hope we made the people of Kentucky feel good about themselves.”

Collins served as governor from 1983 to 1987, at a time when Kentucky governors were limited to single terms.

Gov. Andy Beshear’s office announced her death, calling her a “powerhouse” and “a remarkable woman who made an undeniable difference.”

Republican Sen. Mitch McConnell said in a statement that Collins “was known for breaking barriers” as the first Kentucky female governor.

“Governor Collins was a tireless advocate for all levels of education in Kentucky, and that passion carried her throughout her life,” McConnell said. “It is with deep sadness that Elaine (Chao) and I learned about Governor Collins’ passing, and we send our sincere condolences to her husband, Bill, and her two children.”

Kentucky Republican Attorney General Russell Coleman said that as the father of two daughters, he applauds her “service to Kentucky and busting through the glass ceiling to show that there are no limitations in our Commonwealth.”

Collins was in the national political spotlight in the summer of 1984 as chairwoman of the Democratic National Convention in San Francisco. She was interviewed by Walter F. Mondale, the party’s presidential nominee, as a possible running mate, but Mondale ultimately chose a different woman — Rep. Geraldine Ferraro of New York.

There was a cloud over Collins’ administration — her husband’s financial dealings — and it burst into a full-blown scandal with his indictment in July 1992.

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As a witness at her husband's trial, she presented an image of a governor blind to the exploitation of her office by her husband and a handful of campaign cronies who had been installed, at his insistence, in key positions. The former governor claimed she remained aloof from her husband's business and was unaware the couple's net worth increased 700% during her term.

"He was doing his business, and I was running government," Collins said.

Bill Collins was ultimately convicted in 1993 for extorting money from underwriters who handled state bond issues.

At the Toyota plant's groundbreaking in 1986, Collins said Kentucky had "entered a new age where we'll be tied more closely to the global economy." Kentucky had won a bidding war against other states for the plant, which at the time cost \$800 million and employed 2,500 people to assemble Camry sedans. Parts suppliers and other car makers then sprouted in the state.

Her administration officially estimated the value of state incentives to the Japanese car maker, including the state's purchase and development of the plant site, to be \$125 million. But debt service on the necessary bond issues pushed the total over \$300 million, critics said. And a Kentucky Supreme Court ruling was needed to declare that "giving" state land to a private company did not violate the state Constitution.

Collins, a native of Bagdad, a tiny crossroads town in Shelby County, seemed destined for a classically Middle American, largely anonymous life. As Martha Layne Hall, a funeral director's daughter, she won a minor beauty pageant before graduating from the University of Kentucky in 1959, and taught at a junior high while her husband practiced dentistry.

She got her start in politics by mastering the thankless, grinding but indispensable art of precinct work. Later, she became active at state Democratic headquarters in Frankfort, and won her first elective office, a clerk of the Court of Appeals, in 1975. Four years later, she shocked many Democrats by winning the nomination for lieutenant governor. The state Republican party was weak at the time, so her primary victory was tantamount to election.

The lieutenant governor had few actual duties, but Collins cut innumerable ribbons as her husband and others raised money and nurtured the organization that would carry Collins to the statehouse.

The late governor's son Steve Collins, reached by phone, declined comment but said he would have more to say later. Services are not yet complete, he said.

Heidi Klum reveals her much-anticipated 2025 Halloween costume

NEW YORK (AP) — Heidi Klum donned green scales and squirming snakes to transform herself into Medusa for Halloween on Friday.

Klum said she loves the Greek myth of Medusa, in which a goddess turns a beautiful woman into a monster with serpents for hair, the sight of which turns living things around her to stone.

"So I wanted to be really, really like a really ugly, ugly Medusa. And I feel like we nailed it — to the teeth," Klum said before pointing to fangs in her mouth.

Her husband, musician Tom Kaulitz, dressed as a man turned to stone.

Klum said she spent 10 hours getting into costume for her annual Halloween party. She said it was all worth it because she loves the celebration.

The supermodel-turned-TV personality went viral in 2022 when she arrived at her party on the end of a fishing line, encased in a slithering worm costume.

In past years, Klum has come dressed as an 8-foot-tall (2.4-meter-tall) "Transformer," a werewolf from Michael Jackson's "Thriller" music video, a clone accompanied by several Klum-lookalikes, and Kali, the multiarmed Hindu goddess of death and destruction.

Klum has said she starts planning her costume for the next year immediately after her party wraps.

Among the other celebrities who walked the carpet at the Hard Rock Hotel New York were a green-painted Darren Criss as Shrek, Maye Musk as Cruella de Vil and Ariana Madix as Lady Gaga.

Last year, Klum and Janelle Monáe turned up to their respective parties in the same costume: E.T.

Monáe was hosting her annual party on Friday, too, and came dressed as a vampire attacked by a shark.

The actress and singer-songwriter turned the entire month into a series of Halloween-themed immersive experiences across the Los Angeles area, concluding with a party at her home in Studio City. Earlier in the week, she had dressed as the Cat in the Hat.

"Halloween gives context to what I already do every day," Mon   told The Associated Press earlier in October. "As an artist, I'm always transforming, world-building and inviting people to play in the worlds I create."

Ukraine says it hit a key fuel pipeline near Moscow that supplies Russian forces

By SAMYA KULLAB Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainian forces hit an important fuel pipeline in the Moscow region that supplies the Russian army, Ukraine's military intelligence said Saturday, as Russia kept up a sustained campaign of massive drone and missile attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure.

The operation was carried out late Friday, according to a statement on the Telegram messaging channel. The agency, which is known by its acronym HUR, described it as a "serious blow" to Russia's military logistics.

HUR said its forces struck the Koltsevoy pipeline, which spans 400 kilometers (250 miles) and supplies the Russian army with gasoline, diesel and jet fuel from refineries in Ryazan, Nizhny Novgorod and Moscow.

The operation, which targeted infrastructure near Ramensky district, destroyed all three fuel lines, HUR said.

The pipeline was capable of transporting up to 3 million tons of jet fuel, 2.8 million tons of diesel and 1.6 million tons of gasoline annually, HUR said.

"Our strikes have had more impact than sanctions," said Kyrylo Budanov, the head of HUR, referring to international sanctions on Russia imposed over its all-out war and the February 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

Moscow strains to take key eastern city

Meanwhile, Russia's Defense Ministry on Saturday claimed its forces defeated a team of Ukrainian special forces that were rushed to the eastern front-line hot spot of Pokrovsk in a bid to stop Russian troops from pushing farther into the city.

It later posted videos showing two men it said were Ukrainians who surrendered in the embattled city. The videos show the men, one dressed in fatigues and the other in a dark green jacket, sat against a peeling wall in a dark room, as they speak of fierce fighting and encirclement by Russian forces. The videos' authenticity could not be independently verified, and there was no immediate public comment from Kyiv on the Russian ministry's claims.

Russia and Ukraine have presented conflicting accounts of what is happening in Pokrovsk, a key Ukrainian stronghold in the eastern Donetsk region. Russian President Vladimir Putin claimed last week that his forces had encircled the city's Ukrainian defenders.

But Ukraine's army chief, Oleksandr Syrskyi, said Saturday that while the situation in Pokrovsk remains "hardest" for Ukrainian forces, who are trying to push Russian troops out of the city, there is no encirclement or blockade as Moscow has maintained.

"A comprehensive operation to destroy and push out enemy forces from Pokrovsk is ongoing. The main burden lies on the shoulders of the units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, particularly UAV operators and assault units," Syrskyi said in a statement on Telegram.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy acknowledged on Friday that some Russian units had infiltrated Pokrovsk, but insisted that Ukraine is weeding them out.

Zelenskyy said that Russia had deployed around 170,000 troops in Donetsk in a major push to capture the city and claim a major battlefield victory.

Putin is trying to persuade the United States, which wants him to seek a peace deal, that Ukraine can't hold out against Russian military superiority. He has also stressed what he says is Russia's improving nuclear capability as he refuses to budge from what he says are his country's legitimate war aims.

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A key goal for Moscow has been to take all of Ukraine's industrial heartland of Donbas, made up of the eastern Luhansk and Donetsk provinces. Kyiv still controls about a 10th of the coal-rich region.

Russian nighttime strikes kill 1 and wound over a dozen

Elsewhere, a civilian died and 19 more were wounded, including a 9-year-old girl, when Russia struck the southern Mykolaiv region with an Iskander ballistic missile on Saturday morning, local official Vitaliy Kim said.

Another Russian strike early Saturday sparked a fire at a gas plant in the central Poltava region, Ukraine's emergency service reported.

The strikes came as Russia pressed large drone and missile attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure, bringing power outages and restrictions across the country earlier this week in what Kyiv described as a "systematic energy terror."

Moscow launched 223 drones at Ukraine overnight into Saturday, 206 of which were shot down, according to the Ukrainian air force. Seventeen struck targets in seven Ukrainian regions, the air force said, without providing details.

Russia also hit an agricultural enterprise in Ukraine's northern Chernihiv region, injuring a 66-year old woman, according to a Telegram update by regional government official Viacheslav Chaus.

Russian forces during the night shot down or intercepted 98 Ukrainian drones over the country, including six on the approach to Moscow, the Russian Defense Ministry said Saturday.

There were no immediate reports of casualties, but local authorities reported a rare large-scale power outage in a Russian city of over 100,000 people. The municipal administration of Zhukovsky, 40 kilometers (25 miles) southeast of Moscow, in a Telegram update blamed the blackout on an "automatic equipment shutdown."

9 dead, dozens injured in crowd surge at Hindu temple in southern India

By RAJESH ROY Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — A crowd surge at a popular Hindu temple in southern India left at least nine people dead and dozens injured, local authorities said Saturday.

The incident occurred at the Swamy Venkateswara Temple in the Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh state where hundreds of devotees had gathered to mark one of Hinduism's sacred days, "Ekadashi," senior police officer K. V. Maheswara Reddy told the Associated Press.

On this day, the devotees fast and offer prayers to Lord Vishnu, a key Hindu deity.

An initial investigation suggests that an iron grille meant to maintain the queue of worshippers at the temple broke, leading to the uncontrolled crowd surge, Reddy said.

Senior local government official Swapnil Dinkar Pundkar said more casualties were feared. "Initially, we had reports of seven deaths, but two more people have succumbed to their injuries while the condition of two others is critical," he said.

Of the deceased, eight are women and one is a child, Pundkar said, adding that at least 16 devotees injured in the crowd surge are being treated at a local hospital while 20 others are in a state of shock and put under observation at a different hospital.

Video footage on local media showed people rushing to help those who fainted in the crowd surge and were gasping for breath. Some were seen rubbing the hands of those who fell on the ground.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Andhra Pradesh's highest-elected official N. Chandrababu Naidu expressed grief and offered their condolences to the families of the bereaved.

State authorities in Andhra Pradesh said the location was a private temple on 12 acres (4.8 hectares) of land and wasn't under the control of the government administration. Despite its maximum capacity of 3,000, the crowd swelled to around 25,000 on Saturday.

"Arrangements were not made accordingly, nor was information provided to the government by the concerned individual. This is the reason for the accident," the state's fact check unit said in a statement

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on social media.

Naidu vowed strict action against those responsible for the deadly stampede and ordered an inquiry into the incident, according to local media.

Crowd surges at religious gatherings are not uncommon in India, where massive groups often congregate at temples or pilgrimage sites, sometimes overwhelming local infrastructure and security measures.

In July, a crowd surge at a popular Hindu temple in northern India left at least six people dead and dozens injured.

Andrew's royal exit is the latest crisis for Britain's monarchy

By JILL LAWLESS and BRIAN MELLEY Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Holding prestige but not power, Britain's monarchy is finely tuned to public sentiment.

That's been evident with the disgrace of Andrew Mountbatten Windsor, who was stripped of his princely title and his spacious home by his brother King Charles on Thursday, a banishment that has left the disgraced royal increasingly exposed to scrutiny both in the U.K. and the U.S. over his friendship with the deceased sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

Following years of scandals related to Andrew, Charles arguably took the biggest step of his reign by seeking to insulate the monarchy from any further scandals relating to Andrew and his connections with Epstein, who took his own life in prison in August 2019 while awaiting trial on sex-trafficking charges, more than a decade after his initial conviction.

It's not the first time the current iteration of the British monarchy — the House of Windsor — has been in crisis over the past century and where the future of the institution has been threatened.

World War I

George Gross, a royal expert at King's College London, said the most recent precedent for what has happened to Andrew is the 1917 Titles Deprivation Act, which "saw various members of loosely affiliated royals and dukes and members of the peerage losing titles if they had sided with Germany in the First World War."

The royal families of Europe are intertwined, and Britain's is heavily German, especially after Queen Victoria married Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, with whom she had nine children.

When Britain and Germany went to war in 1914, some members of the wider British royal family found themselves on opposing sides.

Britain's King George V changed the family name from Saxe-Coburg and Gotha to Windsor in 1917, and initiated legislation to strike out the titles of princes and lords "who have, during the present war, borne arms against His Majesty or His Allies, or who have adhered to His Majesty's enemies."

One target was Prince Ernest Augustus, Duke of Cumberland and Teviotdale, who was a U.K. royal and also a prince of Hanover. His title was removed for being an enemy of Britain under the 1917 act, which was enacted in 1919, once the war was over.

According to the House of Commons Library, "this was the first and only time such a title has been removed in this way."

The abdication

The relationship between Edward, Prince of Wales, and U.S. socialite Wallis Simpson was a headache that turned into a constitutional crisis. Simpson was twice divorced, and Edward, the heir to the throne, was destined to be ceremonial head of the Church of England, which did not allow divorced people to remarry in church.

The prince became King Edward VIII when his father King George V died in early 1936. He continued to say he wanted to marry Simpson, despite the opposition of the British government.

Forced to choose between duty and passion, he gave up the throne in December 1936, announcing in a radio broadcast that "I have found it impossible ... to discharge my duties as king as I would wish to do without the help and support of the woman I love."

The news was a surprise to many in Britain, though not beyond it. British newspapers had not reported

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on the relationship, and American magazines had offending articles cut out before going on sale.

The abdication set the monarchy on a new course. Edward's younger brother took the throne as King George VI. He was succeeded by his daughter, Queen Elizabeth II, and after her 70-year reign by her son, King Charles III. All doubled down on the idea that the monarch's primary attribute should be a sense of duty — something Edward, in the popular imagination, lacked.

Edward and Wallis, now the Duke and Duchess of Windsor and suspected by some of Nazi sympathies, were sent to the Bahamas, where he served as governor. After the war they mostly stayed away from Britain, living a life of nomadic luxury.

Princess Diana's death

The death of Princess Diana — the ex-wife of Charles — in a car crash in Paris in 1997 at the age of 36 shocked the world and left her family, including sons William and Harry, then 15 and 12, in mourning.

The strength of public feeling caught the royal family by surprise. Mounds of floral tributes piled up outside the gates of Buckingham Palace and Diana's Kensington Palace home to mourn a princess who had been ostracized by the royal family after her divorce from Charles in 1992.

The queen was at Balmoral in Scotland on her summer holiday with her husband Prince Philip, Charles, William and Harry. The family kept their grief private and stuck to routine — taking the ashen-faced boys to church on Sunday morning — and the queen did not issue a statement for several days.

She was advised to make a public display of grief by Prime Minister Tony Blair, who perfectly caught the public mood with his own tribute calling Diana "the people's princess."

After newspaper headlines urging "Speak to us Ma'am" and "Show us you care," the queen made a live televised address to the nation on the eve of Diana's funeral.

"What I say to you now, as your queen and as a grandmother, I say from my heart," the queen said, acknowledging the country's grief, praising Diana and promising to cherish her memory.

The trouble with Harry

Until the Epstein scandal reared up again last year, Andrew had been trying to regain favor with the family. He may have benefited indirectly from the trouble with Prince Harry, who was the source of most of the drama at the time outside of the family's high-profile medical problems.

Harry became estranged from his father and older brother, Prince William, heir to the throne, when he and his wife, Meghan, stepped down from their working roles and moved to California in 2020. The couple famously aired their grievances with the royal family in a tell-all interview to Oprah Winfrey and a revealing Netflix series. Harry, also known as the Duke of Sussex, then fueled the tensions by revealing personal conversations in his memoir, "Spare."

Harry also broke from royal protocol in turning to the courts to sort out his legal problems. He became the first senior royal to testify in court in more than a century in his successful phone hacking lawsuit against the Daily Mirror.

A failed legal effort to restore his police protection detail that was stripped from him when he left royal work, though, was seen as an attack on his father's government.

When the courts finally rejected the lawsuit, it provided a chance for a reunion between father and son. The two shared a cup of tea at Charles' London abode, Clarence House, in September. It was their first meeting in over a year. It lasted less than an hour.

FBI raid at Idaho horse track shows how immigration is a top focus across law enforcement

By REBECCA BOONE Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — The first sign something was amiss was the thwack of helicopter rotors overhead, followed by screams. Within moments, Anabel Romero was on the ground with her hands restrained behind her, she said, as law enforcement officers brandishing guns removed her 14-year-old daughter from a nearby truck and zip-tied the teen while her young siblings looked on.

Romero and her daughter, both U.S. citizens, were among about 400 people detained for hours at a pri-

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vately owned race track about an hour west of Boise as part an FBI-led investigation into illegal gambling that resulted in more than 100 arrests, nearly all for immigration violations.

Romero isn't sure what agency the officers who zip-tied her daughter were from. More than 200 officers from at least 14 agencies, including U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Border Patrol, as well as local police, participated in the raid at La Catedral Arena.

The Oct. 19 operation is a striking example of how immigration has become a major driver across federal law enforcement, demonstrating a previously unheard of level of coordination to address President Donald Trump's mass deportation agenda. It also shows how immigration dragnets marked by a heavy use of force have entangled U.S. citizens and legal residents.

The raid on La Catedral Arena struck nerves in Canyon County, which has the most Hispanic residents in Idaho and where Trump got 72% of the vote last year.

Five families interviewed by The Associated Press said officers zip-tied children as young as 11. They said an 8-year-old boy got glass in his mouth as he screamed while officers broke his car window. Several children were separated from family members for hours.

Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, whose agency oversees Border Patrol and ICE, denied that children were zip-tied. FBI spokesperson Sandra Barker initially said no restraints or rubber bullets were used on children but later amended that statement, replacing "children" with "young children."

Four people at the track, and a fifth the next day, were arrested on gambling charges, while 105 others were detained on immigration violations.

John Carter, a track security guard, said he was placed in zip ties and lost circulation in his hands before an FBI agent loosened them. Carter said officers used flash-bang devices, pointed guns at people, and deployed a pepper bomb in a vehicle where someone tried to hide.

"It's OK to take your family to a public event. Just because there's 10 people in a crowd doing something illegal, that doesn't make everyone in that crowd illegal," Carter said. "Yes, I voted for Trump, I'm not ashamed to say it. But I don't like the way this was handled and the claims they are making."

The gambling charges

FBI Special Agent Jacob Sheridan said in court documents that the people charged worked on a pari-mutuel betting operation, although the track did not have a state license for that, only for horse racing.

Tricia McLaughlin, a Homeland Security Department spokeswoman, said, "ICE dismantled an illegal horse-racing, animal fighting, and a gambling enterprise operation." However, court documents make no mention of animal fighting. She later added that ICE did not restrain or arrest children.

Canyon County Sheriff Kieran Donahue and Caldwell Police Chief Rex Ingram said in a joint statement that it was "completely false" and "deeply misleading" for ICE to take credit, noting the FBI's leadership and the involvement of a local task force.

Other examples of how immigration has become a focus in anti-crime operations include a sting involving the FBI in October that targeted illegal street vending in Manhattan's Chinatown, as well as recent efforts in Memphis, Tennessee. During Trump's law enforcement surge in Washington, D.C., touted as focusing on crime, about 40% of the first 2,300 arrests were immigration-related.

Allegations of excessive force

During the Idaho operation, many officers did not appear to have any identifying marks or department names on their uniforms. Some wore masks. State and local agencies either denied restraining children or did not return calls seeking comment.

Several people told the AP that ICE officers removed their restraints once they were put in line for immigration processing, and court documents say ICE was brought in after the initial search warrant was executed.

Romero said that when she was unnerved about being separated from her children for hours, an agent laughed and said, "We're taking better care of them."

Several days later, Romero said her daughter's bruises were still visible. Her 6- and 8-year-old woke up screaming each night. When the family drove past a police cruiser, her youngest "freaked out."

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"They don't even see law enforcement anymore with respect," she said. "They're pretty shook up."

Jehidi Perez, 21, of Nampa, was in her truck with her 5-year-old son, watching as authorities tried to break a window of a separate vehicle her parents and 8-year-old brother were in. Her parents started to drive away, and an officer shot at their car.

"It was a rubber bullet, but at the time everybody was panicking. We were thinking that it was actual bullets," Perez said. "My mother covered my brother with her body."

Her parents stopped their car, and officers shattered a window. Glass covered her brother — some went into his mouth, Perez said. A rubber bullet struck her father's chest.

ICE arrested her father, and Jehidi Perez was ordered to appear in immigration court in November.

Her son and her brother, both U.S. citizens, are struggling, she said.

"They can't really get much sleep at night. They are not doing good at all," she said. "My brother cries every day. This is the first birthday he's spending without his dad."

Few answers from law enforcement

When an officer zip-tied Jasim Duran-Villa's 11- and 15-year-old brothers, she urged him to double-check with his superiors.

"We did tell them that we didn't think that was something that they should be doing to minors," she said. The officer told her other children had been restrained.

Duran-Villa wasn't zip-tied because she was carrying her 14-month-old child. The baby was hungry and needed a diaper change, but the milk and diapers were in her car.

"Already like 2 1/2 hours had passed, and that's why I was asking so many times, 'Can I go get my diaper bag to get my baby some milk?' They kept ignoring me, or saying to ask another officer," she said. "The baby was crying the whole time."

After more than three hours, they were identified as citizens and allowed to leave. Duran-Villa's father was arrested and charged with an immigration violation.

Juana Rodriguez, a U.S. citizen, said law enforcement agents zip-tied her hands behind her back for almost four hours while her 3-year-old son clung to her legs.

"They would just tell him, 'You need to hold your mom's shirt.' When he would go a little away from me, they would push him back to me and say, 'Keep him with you!'" Rodriguez said.

She was eventually allowed to leave, and ICE arrested her father.

"I told him not to sign anything because I'm working to get him out," she said.

'The legend lives on': Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald still resonates 50 years later

By SCOTT BAUER Associated Press

MARQUETTE, Mich. (AP) — Spend enough time along the shores of Lake Superior and it won't be long before there's some reminder of what happened "when the gales of November came early."

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald, the largest and most famous of the estimated 6,500 ships that have gone down in the Great Lakes. But the Fitzgerald is remembered while the others are forgotten, thanks in large part to Gordon Lightfoot's haunting 1976 folk ballad that became a surprise hit.

The Fitzgerald, a 730-foot long freighter named after a Milwaukee insurance company executive, went down in Lake Superior on Nov. 10, 1975. All 29 men on board died.

'A crew and good captain well-seasoned'

The Fitz, as it's still affectionately called, was the largest ship on the Great Lakes when it launched in 1958 and kept that title until 1971.

On its final voyage, the Fitzgerald departed Superior, Wisconsin, on Nov. 9, 1975, carrying 26,000 tons of iron ore along a familiar route to Zug Island in Detroit.

Oliver "Buck" Champeau, 41, was making his first trip on "The Mighty Fitz."

The U.S. Marine veteran and experienced seaman was drawn by the higher pay that time of year due

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to increased risk, recalled daughter Debbie Gomez-Felder, who was 17 at the time.

"It was an honor to be on the Fitzgerald," Gomez-Felder said, speaking in her home outside of Milwaukee adorned with images of her dad and paintings of the famous ship.

Most of the crew members were born and lived in states that border the Great Lakes — Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Minnesota.

The captain, 63-year-old Ernest M. McSorley, intended to retire after the 1975 season. He was known for his ability to navigate storms on the Great Lakes, but the one that hit on Nov. 10 was unlike any he had encountered.

'When the waves turn the minutes to hours'

McSorley chose a northerly route across Lake Superior to be protected by highlands along the Canadian shore. Gale warnings were issued the night of Nov. 9. Those worsened to storm warnings in the early morning of Nov. 10.

The crew of the nearby Arthur Anderson, which was trailing the Fitz, reported waves as high as 25 feet. The first mate radioed McSorley, who reported that the Fitz had been damaged by the storm.

"We are holding our own," McSorley said. That was the last message received from anyone aboard.

Gomez-Felder said she was called out of class the following day and told to go home immediately. Her mom told her that the Fitzgerald was missing.

"I was banging on the church doors at St. Michael's Church, our home church where I grew up, wanting answers from one of the priests as to how could this happen," Gomez-Felder said. "I didn't understand it."

'And all that remains is the faces and the names'

There are many theories as to what caused the Fitzgerald to sink so rapidly without a distress call, but the exact reason remains unknown.

Even without an answer, the wreck spurred many "incredible" safety improvements, said Frederick Stonehouse, whose 1977 book "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald" was the first of dozens written about the tragedy.

Whereas a similar-sized ship would be lost on the lakes every six or seven years before the Fitzgerald, none has gone down since then, he said.

"Every sailor on the Great Lakes that's sailing today owes a great deal of debt of gratitude to the Fitzgerald," said Stonehouse, who taught Great Lakes maritime history at Northern Michigan University, located on the shores of Lake Superior.

The Fitzgerald still sits at the bottom of Lake Superior, submerged in 535 feet of water, about 17 miles (27.36 kilometers) north-northwest of Whitefish Point, Michigan. No bodies have been recovered.

The wreck is protected as a grave site under Canadian law, a status that family members including Gomez-Felder lobbied for. Unauthorized dives or artifact retrieval are barred.

Gomez-Felder said she wants the wreck -- and the bodies entombed within -- to remain undisturbed.

'The legend lives on'

Events around the Great Lakes each year remember the men killed and reunite their family members, and organizers say the 50th anniversary has driven public interest to a new peak.

The Great Lakes Historical Museum in Whitefish Point plans a public event on Nov. 10. A separate ceremony only for the crew's families will be livestreamed. The Edmund Fitzgerald's bell, retrieved in 1995 at the request of crew family members, is housed there as a permanent memorial.

Bruce Lynn, executive director of the Great Lake Shipwreck Historical Society, said the museum is on track to see its busiest year ever on the 50th anniversary.

"When we remember the Fitzgerald, I like to think that at the same time we're remembering all those other shipwrecks," he said.

The wreck is also remembered in Detroit at the Mariners' Church, where Rector Richard Ingalls rang its bell 29 times in honor of the crew after receiving word in the predawn hours of Nov. 11, 1975, that the Fitzgerald had sunk.

The tolling bell helped spread the word of what had happened and was memorialized by Lightfoot when

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he sang "the church bell chimed til it rang twenty-nine times."

In 2023, after Lightfoot died, they rang the bell a 30th time. The bell will also be rung 30 times this year on the anniversary, with the final toll representing all sailors lost on the Great Lakes.

'Fellas, it's been good to know ya'

On this 50th anniversary, Gomez-Felder said she wants people to remember the Fitzgerald crew's loved ones.

"It took me a little while to recognize he's not coming back," Gomez-Felder said of her father. "He's not going to be here for my wedding, he is not going to see me graduate, he isn't going to walk me down the aisle. He has gone."

She has been comforted by traveling to Whitefish Point each year to be with other families and, for the past 30 years, ringing the Fitzgerald's bell in memory of her father and the others who died.

"That was the closest thing to my dad," she said. "That's the soul of the ship."

Today in History: November 2, Truman defeats Dewey

By The Associated Press undefined

Today is Sunday, Nov. 2, the 306th day of 2025. There are 59 days left in the year. Daylight saving time ends today.

Today in history:

On Nov. 2, 1948, in one of the most unexpected results in U.S. presidential election history, Democratic incumbent Harry S. Truman defeated the heavily favored Republican governor of New York, Thomas E. Dewey.

Also on this date:

In 1783, Gen. George Washington issued his Farewell Address to the Army.

In 1861, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln relieved Maj. Gen. John C. Fremont of his command of the Army's Western Department, following Fremont's unauthorized efforts to emancipate slaves in Missouri.

In 1947, Howard Hughes piloted his Hughes H-4 Hercules, nicknamed the "Spruce Goose," on its only flight; a massive wooden seaplane with a wingspan longer than a football field, it remained airborne for 26 seconds.

In 1959, Charles Van Doren testified before a congressional committee that he had conspired with television producers to cheat on the television quiz show "Twenty-One."

In 1976, Democrat Jimmy Carter, a former governor of Georgia, became the first candidate from the Deep South to be elected president since the Civil War, defeating Republican incumbent Gerald R. Ford.

In 2000, American astronaut Bill Shepherd and two Russian cosmonauts, Yuri Gidzenko and Sergei Krikalev, became the first crew to reside onboard the International Space Station; they spent a total of 136 days in the station before returning to Earth on Space Shuttle Discovery.

In 2003, in Iraq, insurgents shot down a Chinook helicopter carrying U.S. soldiers, killing 16 and wounding 20 others.

In 2004, Republican President George W. Bush was elected to a second term, defeating Democratic Sen. John Kerry as the GOP strengthened its control of Congress.

In 2007, British college student Meredith Kercher, 21, was found slain in her bedroom in Perugia, Italy; her roommate, American Amanda Knox, and Knox's Italian boyfriend, Raffaele Sollecito, were convicted of killing Kercher, but both were later exonerated.

In 2016, ending a championship drought that had lasted since 1908, the Chicago Cubs won the World Series, defeating the Cleveland Indians 8-7 in extra innings in the deciding seventh game.

In 2021, the Atlanta Braves won their first World Series championship since 1995, defeating the Houston Astros in Game 6.

In 2023, FTX founder and disgraced cryptocurrency star Sam Bankman-Fried was convicted of fraud by a New York jury for stealing at least \$10 billion from customers and investors. He was later sentenced

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to 25 years in prison for the massive scheme that led to the collapse of the FTX platform for exchanging digital currency.

Today's Birthdays: Tennis Hall of Famer Ken Rosewall is 91. Political commentator Pat Buchanan is 87. Olympic gold medal wrestler Bruce Baumgartner is 65. Singer-songwriter k.d. lang is 64. Playwright Lynn Nottage is 61. Actor David Schwimmer is 59. Jazz singer Kurt Elling is 58. Rapper Nelly is 51. Film director Jon Chu is 46. TV personality Karamo Brown ("Queer Eye") is 45. NFL quarterback Jordan Love is 27.