

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 1 of 69

- [1- Upcoming Events](#)
- [2- 1440 News Headlines](#)
- [4- Groton Senior Citizens](#)
- [5- Region 1A VB Info](#)
- [6- Good Luck Tigers from GDILIVE.COM sponsors](#)
- [7- Sky Signals a Change Ahead](#)
- [8- Picturesque Moon Photo](#)
- [9- SD SearchLight: Medical marijuana rift widens as oversight panel confuses and upsets industry with slate of motions](#)
- [11- SD SearchLight: Trump administration limits some flights during shutdown as controllers show strain](#)
- [12- SD SearchLight: Four-term parole board member steps down, opening position for governor to fill](#)
- [12- SD SearchLight: Energized Dems trumpet wins in state elections, buckle up for midterms](#)
- [15- SD SearchLight: Trump tariffs undergo intense scrutiny from US Supreme Court justices](#)
- [18- SD SearchLight: Democratic leaders fresh from election wins demand Trump meeting over shutdown](#)
- [23- Weather Pages](#)
- [28- Daily Devotional](#)
- [29- Upcoming Events](#)
- [29- Subscription Form](#)
- [30- Lottery Numbers](#)
- [31- News from the Associated Press](#)

Thursday, Nov. 6

Senior Menu: Beef and potatoes, antigua blend, fruit, beadstick.

School Breakfast: Maple French Toast Bake.

School Lunch: Lasagna bake, corn.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Nigeria Circle, 2 p.m.

FFA at Jackrabbit Invite

Region 1A Volleyball at Groton Area (6 p.m.: Groton Area vs. Britton-Hecla followed by Roncalli vs. Webster)

4th grade GBB practice, 4 p.m.

3rd grade GBB practice, 5 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 7

Senior Menu: Chicken pot pie casserole, roasted potatoes, applesauce, biscuits.

School Breakfast: Breakfast boats.

School Lunch: Chicken fajitas, mixed vegetable.

MS GBB hosts Aberdeen Christian (7th at 5 p.m., 8th at 6 p.m.)



Saturday, Nov. 8

Sunday, Nov. 9

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

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

United Methodist: Worship at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m. (3rd graders receiving Bibles); 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.

Groton Daily Independent
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Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 2 of 69

1440

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

Barrio 18 Breakout

Guatemala announced this week that the FBI will help local authorities find Barrio 18 gang leaders who escaped prison. Only four of the 20 escapees have been recaptured since the breakout was reported last month.

Barrio 18 began as a 1960s Los Angeles street gang of young Salvadoran immigrants and spread across Central America after members were deported. The Trump administration designated the group a terrorist organization in September, and Guatemala followed suit after the prison break. Three top security officials—including the interior minister—also resigned as reports emerged that the escapes occurred over several days and went unnoticed until a recount of prisoners. Guatemala's new interior minister requested the FBI's assistance.

Joint Task Force Vulcan, the FBI unit assigned to help Guatemala, was established under the first Trump administration to dismantle MS-13, another gang founded by Salvadoran immigrants in LA. Salvadoran authorities estimate MS-13 and Barrio 18 are responsible for roughly 200,000 deaths over three decades.

UPS Plane Crash Investigation

At least 28 air safety officials arrived in Louisville, Kentucky, yesterday to begin investigating the cause of Tuesday's UPS Flight 2976 crash. At least 12 people were killed and others were wounded, with the death toll expected to rise.

The Honolulu-bound cargo plane (an MD-11) departed from Muhammad Ali International Airport at 5:02 pm local time but careened off the runway and hit two buildings—Kentucky Petroleum Recycling and Grade A Auto Parts—while reportedly on fire. The plane's last recorded transmitted location came at 5:13 pm. Eighteen fire departments responded to the resulting fire, which ignited roughly 38,000 gallons of jet fuel.

Separately, the Federal Aviation Administration said yesterday it will reduce flight capacity by 10% at 40 major US airports starting tomorrow, impacting an estimated 3,500 to 4,000 flights. The decision is due to a shortage of air traffic controllers amid the ongoing federal government shutdown—now the longest on record. It was not clear as of this writing which airports will be impacted.

'Mind Captioning' Study

A new technique can translate brain activity into written text and predict which video a person is seeing, according to a new paper from Science Advances.

The "mind computing" approach—developed by computational neuroscientist Tomoyasu Horikawa—involves using a deep-language AI model to analyze text captions from more than 2,000 short videos. Researchers then trained a separate AI system on fMRI brain scans from six participants as they watched the videos. Because the model was sensitive to language order and semantics instead of just keywords, it was able to better decode the brain scan and match it to an existing caption, correctly interpreting what the person had seen.

The system is not the first to use brain activity to "read" people's thoughts. However, analyzing brain activity as people consume complex visual content—including videos—has proved challenging. Researchers hope this technique could be used to help people with language difficulties communicate.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 3 of 69

Sports, Entertainment, & Culture

Dame Helen Mirren, British actress whose career spans over six decades, to receive Golden Globes' lifetime achievement award; previous recipients include Walt Disney, Elizabeth Taylor, Meryl Streep, and Tom Hanks.

FIFA announces new peace prize, with inaugural award to be presented Dec. 5 during 2026 World Cup draw in Washington, DC.

Tennis great Venus Williams, 45, to play 33rd straight season on the Women's Tennis Association Tour, starting with January tournament in New Zealand.

Science & Technology

Google introduces Gemini AI chatbot to Maps, enabling users to have voice conversations about businesses, landmarks, and hazards along routes.

Three Chinese astronauts' return to Earth is delayed after spacecraft possibly hit by debris.

Researchers create injectable microscopic chips capable of delivering targeted electrical stimulation to the brain, offering potential alternative to surgery.

Scientists complete first maps of mammalian brain development, revealing insights into the origins of brain disorders.

Business & Markets

US stock markets close up (S&P 500 +0.4%, Dow +0.5%, Nasdaq +0.7%).

Snap shares rise over 14% in after-hours trading on news of Perplexity AI paying the social media company \$400M over one year to integrate the AI-powered search engine into Snapchat.

Supreme Court justices appear skeptical about the legality of sweeping tariffs imposed by President Donald Trump under a 1977 federal law.

Politics & World Affairs

Department of Homeland Security ends deportation protections for South Sudanese nationals; announcement comes as Temporary Protected Status lapsed earlier this week and despite UN warnings of renewed conflict.

President Donald Trump renominates billionaire Jared Isaacman to lead NASA after pulling the nomination months ago.

Driver rams vehicle into crowd of pedestrians on France's western island of Oleron, wounding at least nine people; French police have arrested a suspect and have not publicly identified a motive as of this writing.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 4 of 69

Groton Senior Citizens

October 13: Groton Seniors met for a meeting and cards?. President opened the meeting with allegiance to the flag. Society read the minutes they were accepted. Treasurer will report next meeting. Meeting was adjourned. Cards were played the winners of the games. 1.- pinochle- Ruby Donovan 2.-pinochle- David Kleinsausser. Whist- Dick Donovan Canasta- Pat Larson. Door prizes: Darlene Fischer, Kelly Miracle, Eunice McColister. Lunch was served by Tony Goldade

October 20: Oct, 20- 14 members met to play cards. Cards were played. The winners 1. pinochle- Bruce Shilhanek 2. Pinochle- Ruby Donovan Whist- Darlene Fischer Canasta- Eunice McColister. Door Prizes Pat Larson, Kelly Miracle, Bruce Shilhanek. Lunch was served by Pat Larson

October 27: Groton Seniors met for their pot luck diner. 13 members were present. Leeroy Weisenberger joined Senior Citizen president Ruby Donovan had the flag pledge and table prayers. After dinner bingo was played. Elda Stange won black out. Cards were played after bingo. Door prizes Pat Larson, Don Hoops, Ella Johnson Cake was served before going home.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 5 of 69



SDHSAA Region 1A 2nd Round **Volleyball at Groton** *Thursday, November 6th*

Game Time: Main Court

- 6:00pm -- #1 Groton Area vs. #4 Britton-Hecla
- Approximately 7:30 pm -- #2 Aberdeen Roncalli vs. #3 Webster Area

A 15-minute warm-up will begin at 5:40pm, once time expires, we will begin pre-game introductions with the National Anthem and Varsity Lineups/Introductions will follow.

LOCKER ROOMS:

- Aberdeen Roncalli will use the HS boy's locker room in the hallway to the west of the arena.
- Britton-Hecla will use the first locker room on the left down the JH hallway.
- Webster Area will use the last locker room on the left down the JH hallway.

ATHLETIC TRAINER: There will be an athletic trainer on site. AED is located near the ticket booth.

ADMISSION & SPECTATORS: Adults: \$6.00 Students: \$4.00. No passes will be accepted.

CONCESSIONS: Will be available

Officials: Shawn Hansen, Mark Nelson, Rick Hausvik, Michelle Kooima

Ticket Takers: Kelly Oswald, Boston Marlow, Jodi Schwan (please report by 4:55pm)

Announcer: Mike Imrie

Scoreboard: Kristen Dolan

Official Book: Lynette Grieve

Libero Tracker: Becky Erickson

National Anthem: Pep Band under the direction of Joshua Friez

Fan Sections:

East Side: Groton Area & Webster Area

West Side: Aberdeen Roncalli & Britton-Hecla

Team Benches –

South Bench: Groton Area & Webster Area

North Bench: Aberdeen Roncalli & Britton-Hecla

Livestream:

- [Groton High School | High School Sports | Home | Hudl](https://www.grotonhighschool.org/sports)
fan.hudl.com/usa/sd/groton/organization/12097/groton-high-school
- GDIlive.com
- Hub City Radio: <https://www.youtube.com/@foxsportsaberdeen>

Thank you,

Alexa Sperry, Athletic Director
Alexa.Sperry@k12.sd.us / 605-380-7887

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 6 of 69





Groton
Area
Tigers
Groton, SD

Volleyball Region 1A
Nov. 6, 6 p.m.
Groton Area vs
Britton-Hecla



GDILIVE

 YouTube

A production of the
Groton Daily Independent

For more info: GDILIVE.COM

The following businesses wish the Groton Area Volleyball Team Good Luck in the Region 1A Match! They are also sponsoring the broadcast on GDILIVE.COM with Justin Hanson, Pat Krause and Jeslyn Kosel.

Avantara Groton
BaseKamp Lodge
Bierman Farm Service
Blocker Construction
Dacotah Bank
Doug Abeln Seed Company
Ferney Farmers Union Co-op
Groton Ag Partners
Groton American Legion
Groton Dairy Queen
Groton Ford
Hanlon Brothers
John Sieh Agency
KR Body Shop
Lori's Pharmacy
Milbrandt Enterprises
Spanier Harvesting & Trucking
Sun & Sea Travel
The Meat House



(Photo from Groton Area Facebook Page)

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 7 of 69



Sky Signals a Change Ahead

Altocumulus clouds stretched across the sky Wednesday afternoon, creating a rippled, dramatic blanket above the region. These striking “mackerel sky” formations often hint at shifting weather patterns — fitting, as there is a chance of rain or snow Friday night into Saturday. South Dakota skies continue to put on a show, offering beauty while quietly forecasting what’s to come. (Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 8 of 69



This photo captures a breathtaking rural evening scene — the full moon glowing through a break in the clouds, casting a soft silver light over open farmland. The deep blues of twilight contrast beautifully with the moon's golden hue, giving the sky a peaceful yet powerful presence. A few distant lights dot the horizon, hinting at quiet farmsteads winding down for the night. It's the kind of view that reminds you of the vastness of creation — calm, still, and humbling — where heaven and earth seem to meet under the quiet watch of the moon.

(Photo Courtesy John Aldrich)



SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

<https://southdakotasearchlight.com>

Medical marijuana rift widens as oversight panel confuses and upsets industry with slate of motions

BY: JOSHUA HAIAR

The rift between an oversight committee and the state's medical marijuana industry widened Tuesday in Pierre when the committee approved 11 motions, some of which called for tighter regulations.

The motions were not made public before the meeting, and the committee did not take public comment on individual motions. The committee acted on the motions while lacking attendance from four of the group's 11 members.

The intentions of the Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee in proposing and approving some of the motions were unclear. The motions were not presented as formal rule change proposals or as bills for the legislative session that starts in January.

The topics of the motions varied widely and included recommendations for tighter regulations on the medical marijuana industry, tighter regulation of intoxicating products sold outside of the industry in convenience stores and smoke shops, and statements of support or recommendations on an array of other issues.

"My understanding is these are just motions, correct?" said Sen. Lauren Nelson, R-Yankton, a committee member. "So, some of these motions that were approved today will never be heard of again, maybe. Some of these motions might become bills carried by one of us, somebody else that's in the Legislature, and then we can have our discussion."

Medical marijuana industry lobbyist Jeremiah Murphy asked that the minutes reflect that no advance public notice was given regarding the motions and that no public comment was taken on any of the individual motions.

"If you want to just call these 'motions,' that's fine," Murphy said, "But the key is that they not be considered anything like legislation because they were not posted in advance. A bill or resolution must be posted in advance of the hearing."

The votes capped a combative meeting that was similar in tone to the committee's prior meeting two weeks ago. That earlier meeting resulted in industry complaints about a day-long slate of invited speakers who presented mostly negative views about marijuana.

The committee's membership consists of four legislators and seven non-legislators, including members from the medical, counseling, law enforcement and patient communities. The absent committee members Tuesday were all non-legislators: Francine Arneson, Kristi Palmer, Andrew Schock and Sioux Falls Police Chief Jon Thum.

At the end of Tuesday's meeting, the committee took public comment from individuals, capped at two minutes each.

Kittrick Jeffries, with Puffy's Dispensary in Rapid City, said the panel was "hashing out issues that the voters decided five years ago." South Dakota voters legalized medical marijuana in 2020, and the state implemented the program in 2022. There are 17,137 patient cardholders in the state.

"This committee, in my opinion, has only made it harder for patients to access medical cannabis," Jeffries said.

Emmett Reistroffer, with Genesis Farms Cannabis Company, called the panel a "show committee" and questioned the motivation of the chairwoman, Rep. Josephine Garcia, R-Watertown, noting she co-spon-

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 10 of 69

sored unsuccessful legislation earlier this year to repeal the state's medical marijuana program.

"I don't think you have any business chairing an oversight committee on a program that you publicly opposed in the last legislative session," Reistroffer said. "Of course, you don't like what I have to say, but I have two minutes. I am a citizen of the state of South Dakota."

For that, Garcia muted Reistroffer, but then unmuted him.

"You can't mute a member of the public," Reistroffer said upon being unmuted. He said the action "further cements the fact that this is a show committee."

Garcia again muted him.

"The reason that gentleman was gaveled out was for many reasons," Garcia said. She said he "had things going up online, defaming or whatever he was doing to me."

She added, "I believe I've been fair, more than fair, and it's just a disgrace."

In further public comments, Rep. Travis Ismay, R-Newell, who is not a member of the committee, alleged he saw a state health inspector hug an industry representative outside the room. Ismay was the prime sponsor of the bill to repeal the medical marijuana program that Garcia cosponsored, and he also previously attempted to put an initiative on the ballot to repeal the program.

"I don't believe that they're that trustworthy," Ismay said of the industry at large.

Department of Health Secretary Melissa Magstadt responded that no Department of Health inspectors were present at the meeting. Ismay returned to the microphone, saying he "might have misspoken or something," saying he may have misidentified the people he saw.

Genesis Farms lobbyist Mitch Richter pointed back to the prior committee meeting during which Garcia — a health care provider — said one of her former patients used artificial intelligence to fake documents, obtain medical marijuana, buy 3 ounces, and sell it for \$10,000 a week.

Richter said the allegations don't "hold water."

"If you're making \$10,000 on 3 ounces of marijuana, I want to talk to you," said Richter, who also said the committee should be repealed.

Reistroffer later told South Dakota Searchlight that 3 ounces of medical marijuana typically sell for around \$600.

Garcia repeatedly defended the committee and herself, saying the panel stayed within its oversight mandate and the actions taken were "just motions."

"For those that were disrespectful, shame on you," she said.

Motions considered

The Medical Marijuana Oversight Committee considered the following motions Tuesday.

Approved

Supporting collaboration with the Department of Health to ensure that noncompliance fines for medical marijuana establishments are fair and equitable, following complaints from the industry that the fines are too high.

Encouraging continued discussion about consistency, inspections and fines and collaboration with the Department of Health.

Recommending that products with THC — the high-inducing compound in marijuana — be banned in stores and THC products be sold only in licensed, medical marijuana facilities.

Recommending that law enforcement have better access to the prescription drug monitoring program or medical marijuana users be required to carry their patient cards at all times.

Supporting legislation requiring closer scrutiny to ensure that patients have a bona fide and continuing relationship with a provider, rather than a one-time relationship based only on obtaining a patient card.

Supporting legislation to ensure that follow-up visits with bona fide physicians may be conducted via telehealth.

Recommending a cap on the THC percentage in products.

Recommending mandatory reporting from the Department of Health regarding hospitalizations, "drug

driving," and poisonings resulting from marijuana use.

Recommending the Department of Health provide public education on marijuana and medical marijuana.

Supporting the creation of an interim study committee on smoke shops.

Supporting the addition of a pharmacist to the oversight committee (the membership currently includes legislators and non-legislators, with state law requiring membership from the medical, counseling, law enforcement and patient communities).

Failed

Supporting legislation to include a representative of the medical marijuana industry as a member of the committee.

Withdrawn

Requiring warning labels on medical marijuana products (the motion was withdrawn after state officials said such labels are already required).

Joshua Haiar is a reporter based in Sioux Falls. Born and raised in Mitchell, he joined the Navy as a public affairs specialist after high school and then earned a degree from the University of South Dakota. Prior to joining South Dakota Searchlight, Joshua worked for five years as a multimedia specialist and journalist with South Dakota Public Broadcasting.

Trump administration limits some flights during shutdown as controllers show strain

BY: JACOB FISCHLER

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy said Wednesday the Federal Aviation Administration would restrict air travel in 40 "high-traffic" areas of the country to relieve pressure on air traffic controllers who have been working without a paycheck since Oct. 1.

The cutbacks will start Friday, Duffy said at an afternoon press conference.

He and FAA Administrator Bryan Bedford said they would share more details, including which airports would be affected, Thursday.

The officials emphasized the measure was proactive to prevent a safety failure, and they said air travel remained extremely safe.

"We're noticing that there's additional pressure that's building in the system," Duffy said. "Our priority is to make sure that you're safe."

Duffy did not specify the locations that will see a reduction in air traffic, but said the decisions were based on data of the locations where such pressure is increasing.

While the administration has so far avoided large-scale travel problems during the government shutdown that began Oct. 1, Duffy and Bedford said they were seeing strain on the air traffic controllers.

Air traffic controllers are considered exempt federal employees, meaning they must work, but are not paid, during the shutdown. Some are taking second jobs to make ends meet, leading to fatigue, Duffy said.

Duffy said the restrictions would likely lead to more cancellations, which he said he was "concerned about," but decided to prioritize safety.

"We had a gut check of, what is our job?" he said. "Is it to make sure there's minimal delays or minimal cancellations, or is our job to make sure we make the hard decisions to continue to keep the airspace safe? That is our job, is safety."

Jacob covers federal policy and helps direct national coverage as deputy Washington bureau chief for States Newsroom. Based in Oregon, he focuses on Western issues. His coverage areas include climate, energy development, public lands and infrastructure.

Four-term parole board member steps down, opening position for governor to fill

BY: JOHN HULT

SIoux FALLS — The longest-serving current member of the South Dakota Board of Pardons and Paroles announced Wednesday that he's resigning.

Ken Albers said during the board's meeting at the Jameson Annex of the South Dakota State Penitentiary that he would not be able to return for the December meeting. He later told South Dakota Searchlight that he's leaving for personal reasons.

The board can grant early release to state prison inmates. Its nine members also serve as a screening panel for pardons, which clear an old crime or crimes from a person's public record, and commutations, which reduce the sentence of current inmates. The board can recommend clemency in either of those situations, but under the state constitution only the governor can grant it.

Three of the board's members are appointed by the governor, three by the attorney general and three by the state Supreme Court. Each of the three appointing offices is required to choose at least one attorney. Members are confirmed by the state Senate.

Albers, a former Lincoln County sheriff and former state lawmaker, was appointed by Gov. Dennis Daugaard and has since been reappointed three times. He's served a total of 15 years, according to the Department of Corrections.

Gov. Larry Rhoden is empowered to appoint an interim parole board member for Albers, and can nominate an official replacement with a letter to the state Senate.

John is the senior reporter for South Dakota Searchlight. He has more than 15 years experience covering criminal justice, the environment and public affairs in South Dakota, including more than a decade at the Sioux Falls Argus Leader.

Energized Dems trumpet wins in state elections, buckle up for midterms

BY: JACOB FISCHLER AND SHAUNEEN MIRANDA

WASHINGTON — Democrats' sweep of the biggest races in Tuesday's off-year elections, including a California ballot measure to redraw that state's congressional lines to give the party up to five more seats in the U.S. House, gave the party new confidence heading into the midterm elections next year.

Democrats proclaimed the performances of Govs.-elect Mikie Sherrill in New Jersey, Abigail Spanberger in Virginia and New York City Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani showed voters' rejection of President Donald Trump.

"The election results were not vague," Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer told reporters Wednesday. "They were not unclear. They were a lightning bolt: Trump, America doesn't like what you're doing. Change course."

Republicans won control of the White House and both chambers of Congress one year ago, leaving Democrats without a clear leader or agenda at the national level.

Tuesday's results helped clarify for the party that a focus on economic issues was a winning message that Democrats could carry into the midterms.

Those messengers included Sherrill and Spanberger on the one end of the party's ideological spectrum, and the Democratic Socialist Mamdani on the other. All three shared a campaign message centered on addressing the cost of living.

More remaps

Effective campaigning may not be the only path Democrats are expected to take as they seek to regain

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 13 of 69

power at the federal level. A wing of the party led by California Gov. Gavin Newsom is pushing other Democratic governors to redraw congressional lines to be more favorable to them.

The new California map is likely to be tied up in courts, at least in the short term. California Republicans sued in federal court Wednesday morning to block it.

Republicans, meanwhile, sought to downplay the importance of elections in largely Democratic areas while attempting to make Mamdani the new face of Democrats nationally.

U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson said Wednesday there were "no surprises" in the previous day's elections.

"What happened last night was blue states and blue cities voted blue," the Louisiana Republican said. "We all saw that coming, and no one should read too much into last night's election results — off-year elections are not indicative of what's to come."

The wins in Tuesday's elections galvanized congressional Democrats to restart negotiations to end the government shutdown on their terms, with Democratic leaders of the House and Senate sending Trump a three-sentence letter "to demand" a meeting to negotiate an end to the longest government shutdown in history.

Control of Congress

Democrats said Wednesday the results showed they were within striking distance of regaining majorities in both chambers of Congress.

Democrats would have to net four seats in the House and the Senate to win control of a respective chamber.

Schumer said Tuesday's results showed that was possible in the Senate.

"The election showed that Democrats' control of the Senate is much closer than the people and the prognosticators realize," Schumer said. "The more Republicans double down on raising costs and bowing down to Trump, the more their Senate majority is at risk."

Vice President JD Vance was dismissive of Democratic gains Wednesday, saying on social media it was "idiotic to overreact to a couple elections in blue states" and praising Republican organizing efforts.

But Democratic campaign officials said Wednesday that analysis belied wins lower on the ballot, including flipping 13 Virginia House of Delegates seats, half of which Republicans held for decades, and statewide wins for low-profile offices in the key swing states of Georgia and Pennsylvania.

Democratic National Committee Chair Ken Martin responded to Vance's claim during a press call.

"That's bullsh—," he said. "We won all over the country in red counties and purple counties and in blue counties. The reality is, is this was a huge rejection of the Trump extremism and an embrace of the hopeful, positive message that Democrats are offering up."

Martin and other Democrats praised Tuesday's winners for relentlessly focusing on economic issues, and said Democratic candidates in 2026 would keep that focus.

Redistricting arms race

Newsom, the chief backer of the referendum to temporarily revoke power from the state's nonpartisan redistricting commission, told other Democratic governors to take similar measures to enhance the party's chances of winning a U.S. House majority.

"We need Virginia ... we need Maryland ... we need our friends in New York and Illinois and Colorado — we need to see other states meet this moment head-on as well," Newsom said in a fundraising email Wednesday.

Martin characterized the passage of the California referendum, known as Proposition 50, as a reaction to Republican states' moves to redraw their lines.

"What happened in Prop 50 was the counterpunch to level the playing field," Martin said.

He indicated Democratic states would be happy to leave congressional districts as they are, but said the party would not hesitate to respond to GOP gerrymanders.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 14 of 69

"Now, they want to keep doing it? Guess what: This is not your grandfather's Democratic Party," Martin said. "We will meet you in every single state that you decide to try to steal more seats. We're going to meet you in other states. We are not going to play with one hand behind our back. We're not going to roll over. We are going to meet you, fire with fire."

Rep. Richard Hudson, a North Carolina Republican who chairs the U.S. House Republican campaign organization, predicted in a statement that efforts to redraw congressional districts would not allow Democrats to win a majority in that chamber.

"No matter how Democrats redraw the lines to satisfy Gavin Newsom's power grab, they can't redraw their record of failure, and that's why they will fail to take the House majority," Hudson said. "Even under this new map, Republicans have clear opportunities to flip seats because Californians are fed up with Democrat chaos. We will continue to compete and win because our candidates are stronger, our message is resonating, and Californians are tired of being ignored."

Trump zeroes in on filibuster

At a Wednesday breakfast with GOP senators, Trump had another idea for solidifying GOP power, saying the Senate needs to abolish the filibuster in order to end the shutdown and enact GOP policy while the party is still in the majority.

Senate rules require at least 60 senators to advance a bill past the filibuster. Republicans' narrow 53-seat majority has created obstacles in moving forward their agenda — including the House-passed stopgap spending bill to keep the government open that's now failed more than a dozen times.

"It's time for Republicans to do what they have to do and that's terminate the filibuster," Trump said at the breakfast. "It's the only way you can do it, and if you don't terminate the filibuster, you'll be in bad shape — we won't pass any legislation."

He added: "We will pass legislation at levels you've never seen before, and it'll be impossible to beat us."

In a social media post Tuesday night, Trump said pollsters attributed Republicans' election losses to his name not being on the ballot along with the ongoing shutdown.

Trump wrote in a separate post earlier Tuesday that "the Democrats are far more likely to win the Midterms, and the next Presidential Election, if we don't do the Termination of the Filibuster (The Nuclear Option!)."

GOP senators tepid

However, Trump's push to do away with the filibuster has garnered little enthusiasm from GOP senators, including Majority Leader John Thune.

The South Dakota Republican reiterated on Wednesday that "there are not the votes there," telling reporters that "the main thing we need to be focused on right now, in my view, is get the government opened up again."

But some GOP senators appear to be on board with the idea, including Sen. Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, who said he expressed his support for eliminating the filibuster during the breakfast.

"President Trump made a very convincing case," Johnson told reporters. "We know the minute Democrats get (a) majority in the Senate, they're going to get rid of the filibuster."

"We better beat them to the punch and act while we can pass legislation for the benefit of the American public," he added.

Sen. Jim Justice said that though he's not in favor of getting rid of the filibuster, he wants to support Trump and would like the shutdown to end.

"I mean, because you got a lot of people that are really hurting, that's all there is to it, and if it's the only option to stop this nonsense, then I would support," the West Virginia Republican said.

Sen. John Kennedy remained firm in his position, telling reporters that "the role of the senator is not just to advance good ideas, the role of the senator is to kill bad ideas, and when you're in the minority — we're not now, but we could be someday — it's important to have a filibuster."

The Louisiana Republican noted that "we killed a lot of (former) President Biden's goofy ideas through

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 15 of 69

a filibuster, and someday the shoe will be on the other foot, and that's why I've always supported the filibuster."

Republicans lash Democrats to Mamdani

Speaker Johnson and fellow House Republican leaders also sought to tie Mamdani to the Democratic Party. Johnson said Mamdani "is truly a committed Marxist, and the results of that race tell you everything you need to know about where the Democrats in their party are headed," adding that "from the backbench to their leadership, Democrats have fallen in line behind the socialist candidates."

House Majority Leader Steve Scalise of Louisiana echoed that "when the city of New York elected Zohran Mamdani, he became the new leader of the Democrat(ic) Party."

Scalise said that while the Democratic Party "had no problem making the shift to socialism — which they embraced wholeheartedly, led by Hakeem Jeffries and others here — America, mainstream Americans, Blue Dog Democrats across America, have not embraced socialism."

House Republican Conference Chair Lisa McClain of Michigan said "over the past year, Democrats have wandered around with no plan, no vision and no leader, but today, they finally found their leader — the radical communist mayor(-elect) of New York City, a self-proclaimed communist who wants Americans to pay for global health care."

She added: "Well, you wanted it. You got it: A communist who wants the government to own grocery stores and a communist who wants the government to tell you what to do with your hard-earned money."

Ariana Figueroa contributed to this report

Jacob covers federal policy and helps direct national coverage as deputy Washington bureau chief for States Newsroom. Based in Oregon, he focuses on Western issues. His coverage areas include climate, energy development, public lands and infrastructure.

Shauneen Miranda is a reporter for States Newsroom's Washington bureau. An alumna of the University of Maryland, she previously covered breaking news for Axios.

Trump tariffs undergo intense scrutiny from US Supreme Court justices

BY: ASHLEY MURRAY

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court during lengthy arguments Wednesday weighed whether President Donald Trump violated the Constitution when he became the first U.S. president to impose sweeping global tariffs under an economic emergency powers statute usually reserved to combat rare and unusual threats.

Justices in both the conservative 6-3 majority and liberal minority questioned the sweeping presidential power the administration is claiming under IEEPA, including Chief Justice John Roberts. Questions about how Trump officials interpret the statute and view its limits, or lack thereof, revealed their skepticism.

Members of the president's Cabinet, members of Congress and even comedian John Mulaney packed into the high court for the first major case of Trump's second term to be fully argued before the justices.

Tariffs are the centerpiece of Trump's foreign policy, and he credits them in his recent negotiations to reach several unfinalized trade framework agreements with the European Union, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam and China, among other nations.

For nearly three hours the justices poked and prodded at the language of the International Economic Emergency Powers Act, or IEEPA, a 1970s-era sanctions law that Trump has invoked since January in a series of emergency declarations and proclamations triggering import taxes on goods from nearly every country.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent sat shoulder-to-shoulder with Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and U.S. Trade Representative Jamison Greer.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 16 of 69

Not far down the crowded rows were U.S. House Ways and Means Chairman Jason Smith, R-Mo., Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, and Democratic Sens. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota and Ed Markey of Massachusetts.

Mulaney sat a few rows from the back, and was reportedly there to support former Acting Solicitor General Neal Katyal, who argued Wednesday on behalf of several private small businesses who sued Trump over the tariffs. Katyal, who served under President Barack Obama and hosts the "COURTSIDE" podcast, has collaborated with Mulaney on his show.

Small business owners 'footing the bill'

The case centered on whether the president has unilateral authority to impose tariffs under IEEPA.

Trump became the first president to ever invoke import taxes under the 1977 emergency powers law, which has traditionally used sanctions to control economic transactions of hostile groups and individuals. For example, IEEPA was first invoked during the 1979 Iran hostage crisis and later used to freeze assets of terrorist groups after 9/11. In all, presidents have declared 77 national emergencies under the statute.

Small business owners who challenged Trump's usage of the law argued the president doesn't have the authority to tax them, and that the policy is upending their livelihoods.

Since Trump declared emergencies around fentanyl smuggling and imbalanced trade relationships, U.S. businesses have been paying anywhere from 10% to upwards of 50% on imports, depending on country of origin.

"It's American businesses like mine and American consumers that are footing the bill for the billions of dollars collected," Victor Schwartz, founder and president of the family-owned wine and spirits importer VOS Selections and lead plaintiff, said outside the courthouse following arguments.

Small businesses and Democratic state attorneys general led the charge in the two separate cases, consolidated before the Supreme Court. They allege Trump usurped taxing power, which belongs to Congress as outlined in Article I of the Constitution.

Schwartz's fellow plaintiffs included a Utah-based plastics producer, a Virginia-based children's electricity learning kit maker, a Pennsylvania-based fishing gear company and a Vermont-based women's cycling apparel company.

Among the state officials who also joined the suit were state attorneys general from Arizona, Colorado, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico and Oregon.

Two Illinois-based toy makers that primarily manufacture products in Asia filed a separate challenge.

Solicitor general argues 'power to tariff'

The Trump administration argues tariffs are a necessary tool to achieve economic and national security goals. Officials claim the president's power to impose duties under IEEPA is spelled out in the statute's language authorizing the president to "regulate" importation and exportation during times of an "unusual and extraordinary threat."

"One of the most natural applications of that is the power to tariff," U.S. Solicitor General John Sauer — the former Missouri solicitor general — said in response to questioning by Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

"So when Congress confers the power to regulate imports, it is, naturally, conferring the power to tariff," Sauer continued.

Chief Justice Roberts asked Sauer to clarify the "major power" he claimed was granted in the statute.

"The exercise of the power is to impose tariffs, right? And the statute doesn't use the word tariffs?" Roberts said.

"But it uses the words 'regulate importations,' and historically, a core, central application of that, a big piece of that, has always been to tariff," Sauer answered, speaking at a quick and excited pace.

Many emergencies

Justice Elena Kagan asked Sauer why a president would ever use any of the other specific and constraint-bound tariff powers delegated by Congress if IEEPA "gives the president the opportunity to blow past

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 17 of 69

those limits.”

“Because if you look at Title 19 (of the U.S. Code), which is loaded with tariffs and duties of various kinds, all of them have real constraints on them. They are, you know, you can’t go over X percent, or it can’t last more than one year. And of course, the way you interpret this statute, it has none of those constraints,” Kagan said.

Sauer responded that IEEPA “has its own constraints.”

“The president has to make a formal declaration of a national emergency, which subjects him to particularly intensive oversight by Congress, repeated natural lapsing, repeated review reports and so forth,” he said.

Kagan swiftly interjected: “I mean, you yourself think that the declaration of emergency is unreviewable, and even if it’s not unreviewable, it is, of course, the kind of determination that this Court would grant considerable deference to the president on, so that doesn’t seem like much of a constraint.”

“And in fact, you know, we’ve had cases recently which deal with the president’s emergency powers, and it turns out we’re in emergencies, about everything all the time, about like half the world,” Kagan said, to laughter in the courtroom.

Trump has petitioned the high court numerous times in 2025, putting cases regarding mass layoffs and immigration on the justices’ unofficial shadow docket, which bypasses a full argument process.

Trump comfort with tariffs

Justice Brett Kavanaugh asked why of the nearly 70 emergencies declared under IEEPA in past decades, none of them have invoked tariffs as a solution.

“Why do you think Presidents, Clinton, Bush, Obama, have not used IEEPA to impose tariffs? Because there have been trade disputes, certainly President Bush, steel imports and the like. Why do you think IEEPA has not been used?” Kavanaugh asked.

Sauer answered: “When you go through them one at a time, which we had our team do, it’s really hard to find one when you look at that emergency, you say, ‘Oh, tariffs is the natural tool you would use to address that emergency.’”

There are also “political reasons,” Sauer added. “I think that it’s no question that President Trump is by far the most comfortable with the tariffs as a tool, both economic and foreign policy, than many of others.”

Fentanyl smuggling targeted

Trump began imposing tariffs under IEEPA through a series of executive orders and proclamations in February and March on products from China, Canada and Mexico, declaring these countries responsible for illegal fentanyl smuggling into the United States.

The president escalated the emergency tariffs over the following months on goods from around the globe, declaring trade imbalances a national emergency. In addition to a baseline 10% global tariff, Trump specifically targeted countries that export more goods to the U.S. than they import from U.S. suppliers.

As recently as late August, Trump imposed an extra 25% tariff on goods imported from India, bringing the total tariffs on Indian products to 50%, because of the country’s usage of Russian oil.

In early August, Trump slapped a 40% tax on all Brazilian goods after he disagreed with the country’s prosecution of its former right-wing President Jair Bolsonaro for plotting a coup to remain in power in 2022.

Speaking to reporters following the arguments, Bessent said he thought the case “went very well.”

“I think the solicitor general has made a very powerful case,” he said.

When asked whether the administration was crafting plans for what to do if the Supreme Court invalidates Trump’s emergency tariffs, he replied, “We’re not going to discuss that now.”

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

Democratic leaders fresh from election wins demand Trump meeting over shutdown

BY: ARIANA FIGUEROA

WASHINGTON — Following major Democratic wins in local and state elections across the country on Election Day, top Democratic congressional leaders pushed for a meeting with the president to end the federal government shutdown, which on Wednesday became the longest in U.S. history at day 36.

"The election results ought to send a much-needed bolt of lightning to Donald Trump that he should meet with us to end this crisis, his shutdown," Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer said on the Senate floor Wednesday. "It's time to hold a bipartisan meeting. The takeaway from last night was simply unmistakable."

Schumer and House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, both New York Democrats, sent a Wednesday letter to President Donald Trump, calling for a bipartisan meeting at the White House to end the government shutdown and to address the spike in individual health care premiums.

"Last night, Republicans felt political repercussions," Schumer said after Tuesday's Election Day wins for Democrats. They included passage of a redistricting measure in California to offset partisan gerrymandering by GOP states, governorships in New Jersey and Virginia and local races across the country.

For more than a month, Democrats have voted against approving the House-passed GOP stopgap spending measure over concerns that health care tax subsidies will expire at the end of the year. As open enrollment begins, people who buy their health insurance through the Affordable Care Act Marketplace are seeing a drastic increase in premium costs.

Sanders pushes back on dealmaking

Schumer did not detail what kind of deal Democrats would accept, but said any negotiation "must address the health care needs of the American people."

However, independent Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont said that Democrats should not accept any agreement with the GOP unless there is a commitment from House Speaker Mike Johnson and the president to pass legislation to extend those tax credits.

"Bottom line is, we need to be successful in protecting the health care of the American people, and if it's just a piece of legislation that passes the Senate ... so what? Where does it go? Then it becomes just a meaningless gesture," Sanders said.

Republicans have maintained that they will only have a discussion on health care after Democrats agree to resume government funding.

This week, the Senate failed for the 14th time to pass a stopgap spending measure that would fund the government until Nov. 21.

Lawmakers have acknowledged that a new stopgap spending bill will need to be extended past the Nov. 21 deadline, but have not come to an agreement on a new deadline.

Thune plays down Democratic victories

Senate Majority Leader John Thune told reporters Wednesday that he was skeptical the government shutdown played into major wins for Democrats across the country.

"The shutdown doesn't benefit anyone," he said.

The South Dakota Republican noted the shutdown may have played a role in suburban Virginia, where a large share of federal workers live and are furloughed due to the government shutdown.

"In Northern Virginia, that has a lot of federal workers, so it certainly could have been a factor in the elections," Thune said. "But I think it's hard to draw conclusions."

But Thune said he's focused on ending the government shutdown, and hopes progress can continue to be made before senators are scheduled to be out next week for recess due to the Veterans Day holiday.

Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy this week warned that if the shutdown continues into next week, it could lead to certain airspace needing to be closed due to a shortage of air traffic controllers who have

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 19 of 69

continued to work amid the shutdown.

Trump, in a social media post, blamed two factors for Republicans not performing well on Tuesday: his absence from the ballot, and the government shutdown.

"I think if you read the pollsters, the shutdown was a big factor, negative for the Republicans, and that was a big factor, and they say that I wasn't on the ballot was the biggest factor," Trump said during a Wednesday press conference.

Withholding SNAP benefits

As the government shutdown has continued, the Trump administration has tried to get Senate Democrats to agree to the stopgap spending measure by directing the U.S. Department of Agriculture to not tap into its contingency fund to provide food assistance to 42 million people.

Two federal courts found that the Trump administration acted unlawfully in holding back those Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, benefits, and USDA agreed that it would partially release SNAP benefits.

Trump earlier this week wrote on his social media platform that SNAP benefits would only be released when Democrats vote to reopen the government, a move that would likely violate the two court orders.

"SNAP BENEFITS, which increased by Billions and Billions of Dollars (MANY FOLD!) during Crooked Joe Biden's disastrous term in office (Due to the fact that they were haphazardly 'handed' to anyone for the asking, as opposed to just those in need, which is the purpose of SNAP!), will be given only when the Radical Left Democrats open up government, which they can easily do, and not before!," he wrote.

However, White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt seemed to walk back that statement on Tuesday, arguing that the president's social media post did not refer to the court order, but to future SNAP payments.

"The president doesn't want to tap into this (contingency) fund in the future and that's what he was referring to," Leavitt said.

Ariana covers the nation's capital for States Newsroom. Her coverage areas include immigration, congressional policy and legal challenges with a focus on how those policies impact the lives of immigrants and migrants coming to the U.S.

Special education enforcement would be up to states under Trump plan

Some states have failed to provide adequate special education services

BY: ANNA CLAIRE VOLLERS

In its quest to dismantle the U.S. Department of Education, the Trump administration wants to let states police themselves when it comes to educating students with disabilities, a move many teachers and parents fear will strip away crucial federal oversight and deny vulnerable children the services they're guaranteed under law.

In October, the Trump administration fired nearly all the employees in the U.S. Department of Education office that's responsible for enforcing the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the landmark federal civil rights law that guarantees students with disabilities the right to a free and quality public education. A federal judge blocked the layoffs a few days later, in response to a lawsuit filed by federal workers unions.

In addition to making sure states and school districts follow the law, the office distributes billions in federal funding to help states educate students with disabilities such as autism, deafness, developmental delays and dyslexia.

The court ruling halting the layoffs is likely just a temporary setback as Trump proceeds with his broader mission of closing the federal department. Trump and Education Secretary Linda McMahon have said their goals are to reduce bureaucracy and return more education responsibilities to the states.

Neither the Department of Education nor the White House, which are operating with fewer communications officers because of the government shutdown, responded to Stateline requests for comment.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 20 of 69

Congress has never fully funded special education at 40% per-pupil costs promised to states under IDEA. Funding has fluctuated over the years; in 2024, it was about 10.9%. Federal IDEA funding is expected to continue, though without federal oversight from the Education Department.

Disability rights and education advocates worry that most states don't have the resources — or, in some cases, the will — to adequately police and protect the rights of students with disabilities.

Some states in recent years have failed to provide adequate special education services, prompting investigation from the feds. Just 19 states meet the requirements for serving students with disabilities from ages 3 through 21, according to the most recent annual review from the Department of Education, released in June.

"Shifting all of that to the state and away from the feds is not something we've been able to wrap our heads around," said Quinn Perry, the deputy director of the Idaho School Boards Association.

"Our state education department are excellent people, but that is a huge, drastic shift in workload they'd have to do on compliance," she said, adding that Idaho is already facing a budget shortfall.

In Iowa, Democratic state Rep. Jennifer Konfrst, the former House minority leader, said she's concerned that without federal oversight, the state would not hold schools accountable for providing special education services. She pointed to state lawmakers' willingness to pass Iowa's relatively new school choice program, which directs taxpayer funding to private school tuition but does not require private schools to provide services to students with disabilities.

"There are no provisions with private school vouchers that they have to provide special education," she said. "Those kids are left at the public schools, which have been underfunded."

Funding gaps

IDEA passed 50 years ago this month. Before then, education for children with disabilities depended entirely on where they lived.

They were often refused admission to public and private schools that lacked the resources or the will to properly educate them. Some had to forgo education entirely, while others were shut away in poorly equipped institutions that prioritized containment over learning.

In 2022-2023, about 7.5 million students — 15% of the kids in public schools — received special education services under IDEA, according to the most recent data available from the National Center for Education Statistics, the federal agency that collects education data.

The law requires public schools to provide a "free appropriate public education" in the least restrictive environment from birth through age 21 to children and youth with disabilities. That education includes services such as additional time to complete school work, assistive technology, or even a one-on-one aide.

Some supports, such as providing large-print materials or giving a student extra time to complete a task, are low-cost. But others can be expensive for schools to provide. For example, an American Sign Language interpreter might cost \$50,000 a year, said Perry, of the Idaho school boards group.

And a recent Idaho state report noted that it costs upward of \$100,000 per year to educate some special education students.

Educators there are already pushing for additional funding to help fill a gap — \$82.2 million in 2023 — between available state and federal funding for special education and the amount that school districts actually spend.

The state report also found that, unlike the neighboring states of Oregon, Utah and Washington, Idaho doesn't provide additional state funding for special education beyond the base per-pupil amount allocated by the state.

The federal government currently covers less than 12% of the costs of special education services nationwide, leaving state and local governments to foot the rest, according to the National Education Association, a labor union representing 3 million educators nationally. Without federal oversight, critics fear, nobody will hold states and school districts accountable for not spending enough.

In some states, limited state funding means a disproportionate financial burden lands on individual school

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 21 of 69

districts. On average, local districts are responsible for \$8,160 per special education student per year, according to a report released last year by education nonprofit Bellwether that studied funding across 24 states.

The situation is so dire in Idaho that the state superintendent made special education funding her key issue for the state's upcoming legislative session. She requested \$50 million to help close the special education funding gap.

It's an issue affecting school districts across the nation, said Perry.

"Just because [the feds] are shifting responsibility to states does not alleviate the fact that we still have a federal mandate to provide services to these kids," Perry said. "IDEA is still the law of the land and your school district is still mandated to meet this law, but with perhaps a sprinkling in of chaos and, in a state like ours, still a gap in funding."

At times, that funding gap has prompted some states to cut corners.

Rationed services

After a 15-month probe, the U.S. Department of Education found in 2018 that Texas had effectively rationed its special education services, capping the share of public school students who could receive those services at 8.5% of a district's population, regardless of need and in direct violation of IDEA.

The feds also found that some Texas school districts intentionally identified fewer children as eligible for special education services if the number of those students exceeded the 8.5% threshold.

Though Republican Gov. Greg Abbott subsequently released a statement criticizing local school districts, educators and advocates blamed state legislators for recommending the caps as a way to control special education costs.

"Texas had about 5-7% of students who needed special education but were unilaterally denied it because the state decided that was too expensive," said Lisa Lightner, a special education advocate and the mother of a student with a disability.

"Without this federal oversight, who's to stop them from doing that again?"

Just last year, the Department of Education released Virginia from an ongoing investigation it had been under since 2019 for repeatedly failing to resolve complaints by parents of special education students.

The feds found the state had no procedures to ensure a timely resolution process for the complaints, leaving parents with little recourse when their students weren't receiving needed services.

The federal monitoring ended in December 2024 after Virginia's education department took corrective measures, including creating its own monitoring division, requiring additional educator training, and changing how the state handles complaints.

This year, states including Indiana, Iowa, Kansas and Mississippi were cited by the Education Department for not having systems in place that are "reasonably designed" to identify districts not complying with IDEA.

"No state gets it perfect all the time, but some states are better at it than others," Lightner said.

Her home state of Pennsylvania has robust state oversight of special education, she said, but added that parents in some other states are panicking.

"There's a societal mindset in some places that kids who need special education are never going to amount to anything, that they're a drain on resources. Some people even think [allocating additional funds for their education] is giving them an advantage over other kids," she said. "It's an old-fashioned mindset that still exists in a lot of state leaders."

States take notice

Some state lawmakers, troubled or encouraged by the Trump administration's stance toward public education, have already filed their own legislation.

Republicans haven't talked much about special education oversight, but even those at the state level have embraced the larger goal of shrinking the kind of regulation embodied by the Department of Education.

In Texas, state Rep. Andy Hopper, a Republican, filed a bill in February to abolish the state's education

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 22 of 69

agency.

"President Trump has called upon every level of government to eliminate inefficiencies and waste," Hopper said in a statement announcing the bill, which later died in committee. "Texans pour billions into this state agency with the expectation that it will somehow improve education, but have been consistently and profoundly disappointed in the results."

Alabama state Rep. Barbara Drummond, a Democrat, filed a bill in March to study how the dismantling of the U.S. Department of Education would affect public education in Alabama.

Alabama parents are among those who sued the federal agency earlier this year over cuts to its Office for Civil Rights, claiming that investigations into alleged civil rights abuses in schools against students with disabilities and English learners have halted since Trump took office. Drummond's bill also died in committee.

Since August, McMahon has been on a "Returning Education to the States" tour of all 50 states. She began it in Louisiana, the only state whose recent fourth-grade reading scores showed a significant increase compared with pre-pandemic levels, according to a large, congressionally mandated survey of educational progress across the states.

"There's no one-size-fits-all in education," she told reporters during her stop at a Baton Rouge school in August. "What works in one state may not work in another state."

Federal law already gives states and local districts exclusive control over their own curriculum and education standards; the U.S. Department of Education can't tell states what to teach, nor how to teach it.

Louisiana U.S. Rep. Troy Carter, a Democrat, expressed concern that the dismantling of the Department of Education would remove the kind of federal oversight that has, in the past, protected students' civil rights when state and local governments didn't. On his podcast in August, he pointed to the need for federal intervention during the Jim Crow era when Southern states tried to maintain segregation in schools.

"We were protected to be able to have an education because of the federal government," said Carter, who is Black. "When you start taking those protections away, that's damning for our country and it's a huge step in the wrong direction."

Lightner, who has 182,000 followers on her Facebook page, said parents who comment on her posts often debate the merits of the Trump administration's shift on special education.

But Lightner said she hasn't seen evidence of a cohesive plan to improve special education.

"If you blow up a house, even if I gave you a few hundred thousand dollars to build a new one, that doesn't happen overnight," she said. "This destruction, it's going to be years until we're back to normal. And even 'normal' missed a lot of kids."

Stateline reporter Anna Claire Vollers can be reached at avollers@stateline.org.

This story was originally produced by Stateline, which is part of States Newsroom, a nonprofit news network which includes South Dakota Searchlight, and is supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity.

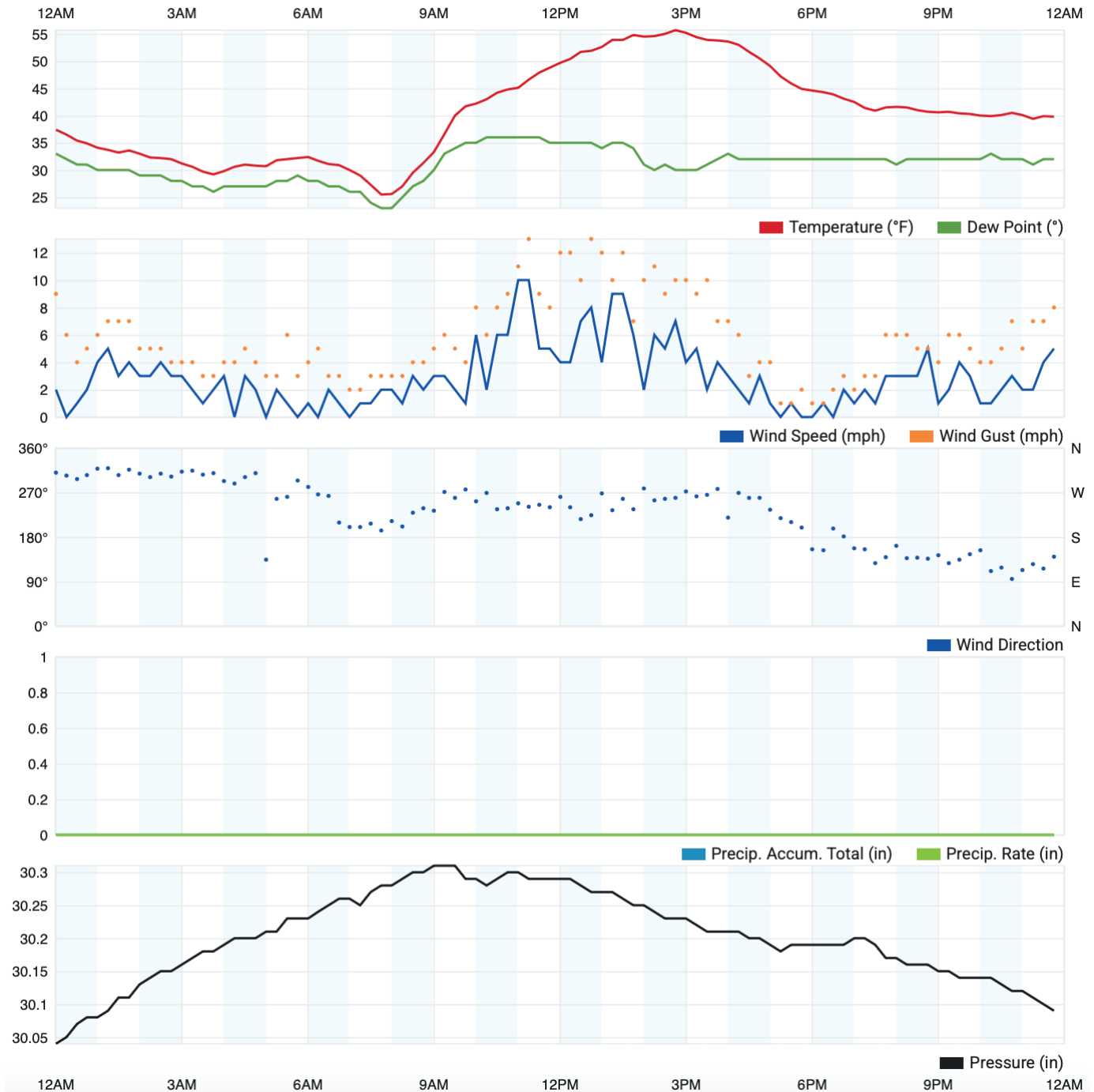
Anna Claire Vollers covers health care for Stateline. She is based in Huntsville, Alabama.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 23 of 69

Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

November 5, 2025



Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 24 of 69

Today



High: 56 °F

Cloudy and Breezy then Mostly Cloudy

Tonight



Low: 37 °F

Partly Cloudy

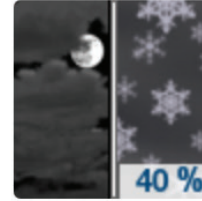
Friday



High: 42 °F

Mostly Cloudy

Friday Night



Low: 24 °F

Mostly Cloudy then Chance Snow

Saturday



High: 33 °F

Chance Snow then Partly Sunny



Precipitation Types

November 5, 2025
2:58 PM

From Friday Evening into Saturday Morning



= Areas of Falling Snow



= Areas of Falling Rain



= Areas with a Mix of Rain & Snow

Friday Evening

- Precipitation moving in from the west Friday evening into early Saturday morning.
- **Start as rain and transition to a rain-snow mix then snow** as system moves south east and as temperatures start to cool. Snow quickly melting as it lands.



Saturday Morning

- **Snow mainly over northeastern SD with a rain-snow mix to the west** exiting the area Saturday afternoon/evening.
- 20-40% chance of snow amounts of 1" or more over the Prairie Coteau (higher elevations of northeastern SD). Ground temperatures are still warm enough to melt much of the snow as it lands.



Low pressure moving into the region from the northwest late Friday into Saturday will bring rain or snow or a mix of both to parts of central and northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota. At this time, the breakdown of precip types indicates more rain will occur farther west and south and more snow will fall north and east with a mixture in between on Friday evening. As colder air filters in overnight, the rain-snow mix will shift farther west with all snow occurring from the James Valley and points east. Best chances for any accumulation(around 1" or more) is expected across the higher elevations of the Prairie Coteau in northeast South Dakota. Ground temperatures are still too warm to support much more than minimal accumulations.

Broton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 25 of 69



Precipitation Saturday

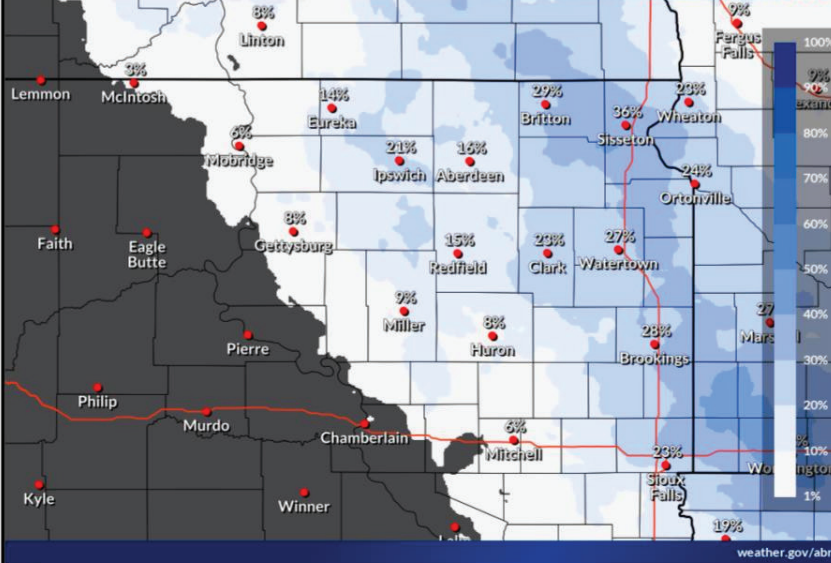
November 6, 2025
4:01 AM

Mix of rain and snow across the area expected, depending on how cold temperatures get.

Percent Chance of 1" Snowfall or More

Valid 6 PM Fri Nov 7, 2025 through 6 PM Sat Nov 8, 2025

Weather Forecast Office
Aberdeen, SD
Issued Nov 06, 2025 3:16 AM CST

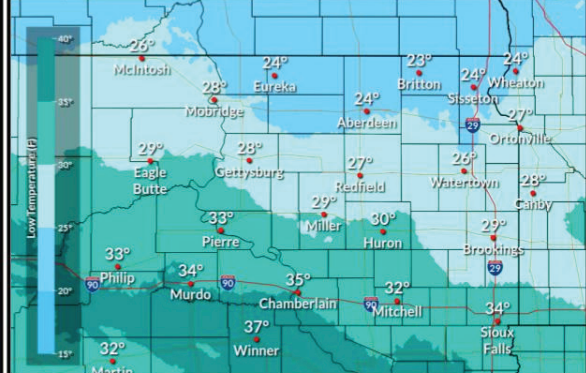


- Precipitation is expected beginning Saturday morning.
- Snow is expected where temperatures are colder (northeastern SD) and rain is expected where temperatures are warmer (central SD).
- ◆ A mix of rain and snow will occur where temperatures are near freezing.
- Around 1" of snow is expected over northeastern SD.

Low Temperatures Saturday

Colder temperatures will be more likely to see snow, while warmer areas see rain.

Weather Forecast Office
Aberdeen, SD
Issued Nov 06, 2025 3:41 AM CST



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

We are still anticipating a mix of rain and snow from a system this weekend. Precipitation type will depend on overnight temperatures Saturday, which will range from just above to well below freezing. Rain is expected over central South Dakota, while snow is expected over northeastern South Dakota. Where snow falls, up to an inch in total is expected.



Below Normal Temperatures This Weekend

November 6, 2025
4:01 AM

Key Messages

- **Much colder temperatures move in this weekend** after the system moves through the area
- Expecting low temps in the teen to low 20s and **highs in the upper 20s to mid 30s**
- Breezy winds will result in **wind chill values in the single digits and teens** Saturday night and Sunday night

Temperature Forecast (°F)

	11/8 Sat				11/9 Sun				11/10 Mon			
	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm
Aberdeen	30	26	32	26	17	14	29	26	15	12	33	32
Britton	27	23	29	24	18	14	27	24	16	15	33	31
Clark	32	28	32	24	19	14	23	22	16	14	30	29
Eagle Butte	36	37	35	29	19	15	30	27	21	20	38	39
Ellendale	28	23	30	25	17	14	28	25	15	13	33	31
Eureka	31	26	30	24	16	13	26	23	16	15	34	32
Gettysburg	30	34	33	27	18	15	28	25	17	17	37	36
Kennebec	37	35	43	32	22	16	33	30	20	18	42	42
McIntosh	35	30	31	26	17	14	28	26	20	20	38	38
Milbank	28	26	31	26	20	17	27	25	18	16	34	32
Miller	34	31	38	29	19	15	29	25	16	16	37	36
Mobridge	35	30	33	28	20	16	29	28	20	19	38	39
Murdo	40	36	41	31	23	17	31	30	21	20	44	44
Pierre	40	37	41	34	24	18	33	31	23	20	42	44
Redfield	33	29	36	29	18	14	29	27	15	13	34	34
Sisseton	27	24	29	26	20	17	28	25	18	17	35	32
Watertown	30	26	32	25	20	15	26	24	17	15	32	31
Webster	29	25	29	24	18	14	24	24	17	16	32	31
Wheaton	25	24	29	26	19	17	28	26	18	16	32	32

Minimum Wind Chill Forecast (°F)

	11/8 Sat				11/9 Sun				11/10 Mon			
	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm	12am	6am	12pm	6pm
Aberdeen	18	18	17	6	1	1	19	6	3	3	25	15
Britton	17	15	14	7	1	1	16	7	5	6	24	17
Clark	20	19	14	6	0	0	10	7	3	3	20	17
Eagle Butte	22	22	19	7	1	1	19	11	8	9	30	24
Ellendale	15	13	16	4	0	0	17	6	3	3	24	15
Eureka	15	14	14	2	-2	-2	13	6	2	3	25	18
Gettysburg	21	23	17	5	1	1	17	8	4	6	29	21
Kennebec	26	25	23	11	3	3	22	11	8	8	35	26
McIntosh	20	17	17	6	0	0	17	10	7	9	29	24
Milbank	20	20	18	9	5	4	16	9	7	7	27	19
Miller	23	22	20	7	2	2	18	7	4	5	29	22
Mobridge	20	19	19	8	4	4	19	12	9	9	31	24
Murdo	26	26	21	12	4	4	21	11	9	9	38	29
Pierre	29	28	25	14	6	6	24	16	12	12	36	30
Redfield	21	20	20	7	1	1	18	7	3	3	26	18
Sisseton	18	17	16	9	4	4	17	9	7	9	27	18
Watertown	20	18	16	9	2	1	14	9	6	6	24	18
Webster	18	16	14	7	2	0	12	9	6	6	24	18
Wheaton	18	17	17	7	4	4	16	10	6	7	24	18



National Weather Service
Aberdeen, SD

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 26 of 69

Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 56 °F at 2:44 PM

Low Temp: 25 °F at 7:51 AM

Wind: 15 mph at 3:03 PM

Precip: : 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 79 in 1904

Record Low: -8 in 1991

Average High: 47

Average Low: 24

Average Precip in Nov.: 0.20

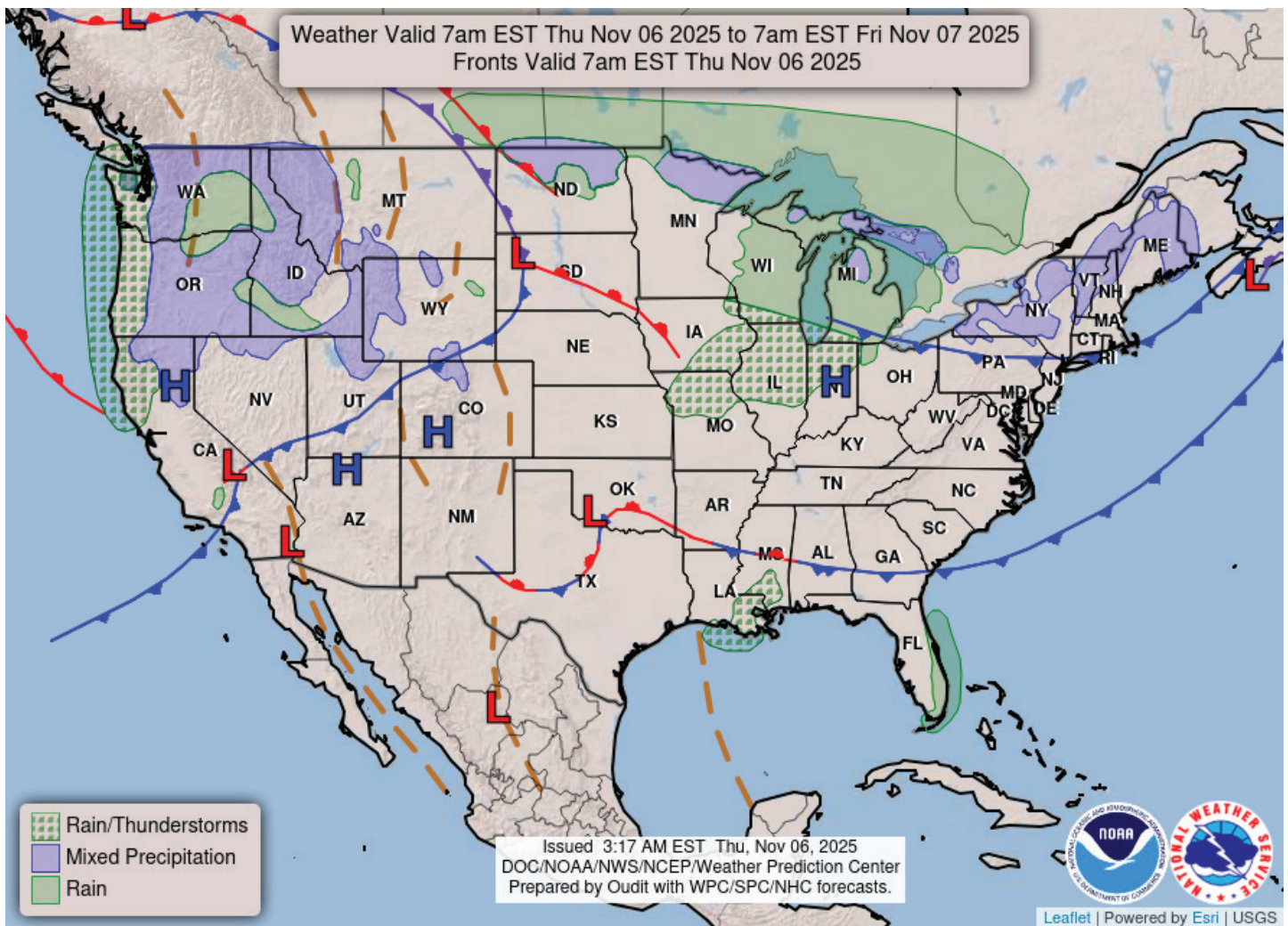
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 20.67

Precip Year to Date: 23.51

Sunset Tonight: 5:12 pm

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:20 am



Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 27 of 69

Today in Weather History

November 6th, 1959: A strong cold front that brought near blizzard conditions and freezing temperatures on the 5th continued to bring record or near-record lows during the morning hours on this day. Some low temperatures include; -13 in Murdo; -12 in Eureka; -11 in Britton; -10 in Castlewood; -9 near McIntosh and Redfield; -8 in Andover; -7 in Clear Lake and Kennebec; -6 degrees in Aberdeen; -5 in Watertown; and -4 in Pierre.

November 6th, 2008: An area of low pressure moving across South Dakota and into Minnesota brought widespread rain, freezing rain, and snow to central, north-central, and northeast South Dakota. Much of the freezing fell across central and north-central South Dakota west of the Missouri River. As the freezing rain changed over to snow and the winds increased, the ice and snow buildup on the power lines and poles caused hundreds of power poles to break across Jones, Stanley, Dewey, and Corson counties. East of the Missouri River, the colder air and stronger winds moved in, changing the rain over to snow. High winds of 30 to 45 mph with gusts near 60 mph brought widespread blizzard conditions to all areas.

Ice buildup ranged from a tenth to an inch for counties west of the Missouri River. Snowfall amounts across the entire area ranged from 2 to 8 inches, with a 15-inch amount recorded in southwest Corson County. Other snowfall amounts include 3 inches in Eagle Butte, Blunt, Kennebec, Mission Ridge, and Onida; 4 inches in Pollock, Gettysburg, and Bowdle; 5 inches south of Harrold, Iona, and near McIntosh; 6 inches in Mobridge; 7 inches in Murdo; 8 inches in McLaughlin, and 15 inches southwest of Keldron.

All 4,600 customers of the Moreau-Grand Electric Company lost power due to the storm. The last time this occurred was during the winter of 1967-68. The monetary loss to this cooperative and other electric cooperatives for Jones, Stanley, Corson, and Dewey counties was hundreds of thousands of dollars. Over 100 line workers worked countless hours with crews coming as far away as Nebraska and Iowa to assist in the power recovery. Over 1,000 customers were without power for an extended period.

The blizzard resulted in numerous school, business, and road closures along with flight cancellations. Interstate 90 was shut down from Mitchell, South Dakota, to the Wyoming border from Thursday the 6th until Friday evening of the 7th. In the early afternoon hours of Friday, the 7th, slippery roads, high winds, and low visibilities contributed to the rollover of a passenger van carrying seven students. The passenger van rolled several times, causing severe injuries to three of the students. The Governor declared a state of emergency on the 7th, and President Bush declared South Dakota a disaster area.

1951 - Snow fell from the Texas panhandle to the Lower Great Lakes, leaving record totals of 12.5 inches at Saint Louis MO, and 14.1 inches at Springfield MO. Other heavier snowfall totals included 20 inches at Nevada MO, 13.5 inches at Sedan KS, 13 inches at Decatur IL, and 10 inches at Alva OK. In the Saint Louis area, up to 20 inches was reported in Washington County. (5th- 6th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1961: Santa Ana winds in southern California downed trees, utility lines and blew 10 to 50 percent of the avocado crop from trees. Dust from the winds lowered the visibility, which led to a 16 car pileup, injuring 23 people. In addition, the winds brought the lowest relative humidity of record to Burbank, 3 percent, and contributed to disastrous fires in the hills of the Los Angeles area.

1977: Several possible causes lead to the collapse of the Kelly Barnes Dam in Georgia to give way. The failure allowed a 40-acre lake to flood the Toccoa Falls College, killing 39 people and injuring 60 more.

2005: The deadliest tornado to strike Indiana since April 3rd, 1974, occurred around 2 am. A single F3 tornado inflicted 24 fatalities, 238 injuries, and nearly 90 million dollars in damage with a path length of 41 miles. This storm moved in a northeasterly direction from just north of Smith Mills, Kentucky, to Gentryville, Indiana, and crossed the Ohio River three times. Most of the damage occurred as the tornado passed southeast of the city of Evansville, Indiana.

2016: An EF2 tornado hit Cesano, Rome, Italy, along its 25-mile path. Two people were killed.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 28 of 69



Daily Devotion

A City on a Hill

When we are faithful to the Lord, our actions will point others to Him.

Matthew 5:14-16: 14 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

If you've ever looked at a photograph of earth at night taken from space, it's easy to see urban areas because they're so brightly lit. You can't miss them.

The same is true for believers. We are called to "shine" like the city on a hill that Jesus spoke about—to live in such a way that others will observe our good works and see evidence of God in our life (Matthew 5:14-16).

A Christian's faith is made evident through his or her deeds. We want coworkers, friends, and others in our sphere of influence to notice how we live. Why? So they might gradually begin to understand that God is worthy and good. That means we can be effective witnesses both through the words we say and the things we do.

To balance this command, however, the Lord gives us an admonition in Matthew 6:1: "Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them." In other words, we must be mindful of our motive. If we're performing to get the attention of others, we will lose out on a heavenly reward.

We are to be a reflection of God's light and glory. It is He who not only gives opportunity to shine but also equips us with the strength and gifts to work for the kingdom.

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

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 29 of 69

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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Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 30 of 69



WINNING NUMBERS

MEGA MILLIONS

WINNING NUMBERS:

11.04.25

11 14 17 50 57 6

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$843,000,000

NEXT DRAW: 1 Days 16 Hrs 43
Mins 49 Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LOTTO AMERICA

WINNING NUMBERS:

11.05.25

1 26 35 50 51 5

All Star Bonus: 3x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$6,410,000

NEXT DRAW: 2 Days 15 Hrs 58
Mins 49 Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

LUCKY FOR LIFE

WINNING NUMBERS:

11.05.25

9 12 29 38 43 15

TOP PRIZE:

\$7,000/week

NEXT DRAW: 16 Hrs 13 Mins 48
Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

DAKOTA CASH

WINNING NUMBERS:

11.05.25

7 17 18 25 27

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$75,000

NEXT DRAW: 2 Days 16 Hrs 13
Mins 48 Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

DOUBLE PLAY

WINNING NUMBERS:

11.05.25

7 10 18 21 61 11

TOP PRIZE:

\$10,000,000

NEXT DRAW: 2 Days 16 Hrs 42
Mins 49 Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

POWERBALL

WINNING NUMBERS:

11.05.25

9 17 29 61 66 26

Power Play: 5x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$467,000,000

NEXT DRAW: 2 Days 16 Hrs 42
Mins 49 Secs

[PREVIOUS RESULTS](#)

News from the **AP** Associated Press

Owen Freeman scores 19 points to lead No. 23 Creighton in 92-76 win over South Dakota

By ERIC OLSON AP Sports Writer

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Owen Freeman scored 19 points to lead five Creighton players in double figures, and the No. 23 Bluejays started the season with a 92-76 victory over South Dakota on Wednesday night.

The win was Greg McDermott's 500th in 25 seasons as a Division I head coach and the Bluejays' 16th straight in an opener.

Freeman showed no lingering effects from his July knee surgery. The 6-foot-10, 240-pound Iowa transfer often was out front leading the Bluejays in transition and scored mostly uncontested baskets. He shot 9 of 11 from the field and had four rebounds and a steal in 19 minutes. Four of his first six baskets were dunks.

Charlotte transfer Nik Graves scored 15 points, Jackson McAndrew added 13, Iowa transfer Josh Dix had 11 and Isaac Traudt finished with 10 for the Bluejays. Of the 12 Creighton players who got minutes, 11 scored.

Isaac Bruns scored 16 points and Jordan Crawford had 14 for the Coyotes (0-2), who opened with an 81-79 overtime loss to Utah Tech on Monday.

The Bluejays have a new look after losing the top three scorers from their 25-win NCAA Tournament team. Four-time Big East defensive player of the year Ryan Kalkbrenner is now with the Charlotte Hornets, Steven Ashworth in the G League and Jamiya Neal playing overseas.

Nine new players are on the roster, including three in the starting lineup, and the 29.5-point-underdog from the Summit League hung around for the first 10 minutes. The Bluejays outscored South Dakota 27-14 over the last 10 minutes of the half and led 48-35 at the break.

Creighton scored 29 second-chance points and 19 off South Dakota's 13 turnovers.

Up next

South Dakota hosts Ozarks Christian College on Sunday.

Creighton visits No. 21 Gonzaga on Tuesday.

Israel identifies latest hostage remains returned by Hamas from Gaza as Tanzanian student

By MELANIE LIDMAN and AUDREY HOROWITZ Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli authorities confirmed Thursday that the remains of a hostage returned the previous day from Gaza are of a Tanzanian agricultural student in Israel who was killed on Oct. 7, 2023 in the Hamas-led attack that started the war.

The development was the latest step forward under the U.S.-brokered ceasefire. The office of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the remains were identified as those of Joshua Loitu Mollel and that his family has been notified.

Mollel, 21, had arrived at kibbutz Nahal Oz only 19 days before the attack, after finishing agricultural college back home and looking to gain experience in Israel he could apply in Tanzania. He is survived by two parents and four siblings in Tanzania.

"Joshua's return offers some comfort to a family that has endured unbearable uncertainty for over two years," the Hostages and Missing Families Forum Headquarters said in a statement.

There are now six bodies of hostages that remain in Gaza. Militants have released 22 bodies of hostages since the ceasefire began last month. Among the six bodies still in Gaza is that of Sudthisak Rinthalak, agricultural worker from Thailand, the only non-Israeli.

Hamas returned 20 living hostages to Israel on Oct. 13. The subsequent exchanges of the dead are the central component of the initial phase of the deal which requires Hamas return all hostage remains as

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 32 of 69

quickly as possible. The exchanges have gone ahead even as Israel and Hamas have accused each other of breaching other terms of the agreement.

Israel has handed over 285 bodies, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross, which handles the exchanges.

Health officials in Gaza have said identifying the remains handed over by Israel is complicated by a lack of DNA testing kits. Israel has not disclosed how many bodies it is holding or where they were recovered, but has been returning 15 each time the remains of an Israeli hostage are returned from Gaza.

Hamas has said that recovering bodies is complicated by the widespread devastation in the coastal enclave and has returned one to three bodies every few days. Israel has pushed to speed up the returns and in certain cases has said the remains were not those of hostages.

FAA says it will list airports where it is reducing flights during the government shutdown

By RIO YAMAT AP Airlines and Travel Writer

Travelers through some of the busiest U.S. airports can expect to learn Thursday whether they'll see fewer flights as the government shutdown drags into a second month.

The Federal Aviation Administration will announce the "high-volume markets" where it is reducing flights by 10% before the cuts go into effect Friday, said agency administrator Bryan Bedford. The move is intended to keep the air space safe during the shutdown, the agency said.

Experts predict hundreds if not thousands of flights could be canceled.

"I'm not aware in my 35-year history in the aviation market where we've had a situation where we're taking these kinds of measures," Bedford said Wednesday. "We're in new territory in terms of government shutdowns."

Air traffic controllers have been working unpaid since the shutdown began Oct. 1. Most work mandatory overtime six days a week, leaving little time for side jobs to help cover bills and other expenses unless they call out.

Mounting staffing pressures are forcing the agency to act, Bedford said Wednesday at a news conference.

"We can't ignore it," he said, adding that even if the shutdown ends before Friday, the FAA wouldn't automatically resume normal operations until staffing improves and stabilizes.

Bedford and Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy declined during the news conference to name the cities and airports where they will slow air traffic, saying they wanted to first meet with airline executives to figure out how to safely implement the reductions.

Major airlines, aviation unions and the broader travel industry have been urging Congress to end the shutdown, which on Wednesday became the longest on record.

The shutdown is putting unnecessary strain on the system and "forcing difficult operational decisions that disrupt travel and damage confidence in the U.S. air travel experience," said U.S. Travel Association President and CEO Geoff Freeman in a statement.

Duffy warned on Tuesday that there could be chaos in the skies if the shutdown drags on long enough for air traffic controllers to miss their second full paycheck next week.

Duffy said some controllers can get by missing one paycheck, but not two or more. And he has said some controllers are even struggling to pay for transportation to work.

Staffing can run short both in regional control centers that manage multiple airports and in individual airport towers, but they don't always lead to flight disruptions. Throughout October, flight delays caused by staffing problems had been largely isolated and temporary.

But the past weekend brought some of the worst staffing issues since the start of the shutdown.

From Friday to Sunday evening, at least 39 air traffic control facilities reported potential staffing limits, according to an Associated Press analysis of operations plans shared through the Air Traffic Control System Command Center system. The figure, which is likely an undercount, is well above the average for weekends before the shutdown.

During weekends from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, the average number of airport towers, regional control centers and facilities monitoring traffic at higher altitudes that announced potential staffing issues was 8.3, according to the AP analysis. But during the five weekend periods since the shutdown began, the average more than tripled to 26.2 facilities.

Trump has other tariff options if the Supreme Court strikes down his worldwide import taxes

By PAUL WISEMAN AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump has warned that the United States will be rendered “defenseless” and possibly “reduced to almost Third World status” if the Supreme Court strikes down the tariffs he imposed this year on nearly every country on earth.

The justices sounded skeptical during oral arguments Wednesday of his sweeping claims of authority to impose tariffs as he sees fit.

The truth, though, is that Trump will still have plenty of options to keep taxing imports aggressively even if the court rules against him. He can re-use tariff powers he deployed in his first term and can reach for others, including one that dates back to the Great Depression.

“It’s hard to see any pathway here where tariffs end,” said Georgetown trade law professor Kathleen Claussen. “I am pretty convinced he could rebuild the tariff landscape he has now using other authorities.”

At Wednesday’s hearing, in fact, lawyer Neal Katyal, representing small businesses suing to get the tariffs struck down, argued that Trump didn’t need the boundless authority he’s claimed to impose tariffs under 1977 International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA). That is because Congress delegated tariff power to the White House in several other statutes — though it carefully limited the ways the president could use the authority.

“Congress knows exactly how to delegate its tariff powers,” Katyal said.

Tariffs have become a cornerstone of Trump’s foreign policy in his second term, with double-digit “reciprocal” tariffs imposed on most countries, which he has justified by declaring America’s longstanding trade deficits a national emergency.

The average U.S. tariff has gone from 2.5% when Trump returned to the White House in January to 17.9%, the highest since 1934, according to calculations by Yale University’s Budget Lab.

The president acted alone even though the U.S. Constitution specifically gives the power to tax – and impose tariffs – to Congress.

Still, Trump “will have other tools that can cause pain,” said Stratos Pahi of Brooklyn Law School. Here’s a look at some of his options:

Countering unfair trade practices

The United States has long had a handy cudgel to wallop countries it accuses of engaging in “unjustifiable,” “unreasonable” or “discriminatory” trade practices. That is Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974.

And Trump has made aggressive use of it himself — especially against China. In his first term, he cited Section 301 to impose sweeping tariffs on Chinese imports in a dispute over the sharp-elbowed tactics that Beijing was using to challenge America’s technological dominance. The U.S. is also using 301 powers to counter what it calls unfair Chinese practices in the shipbuilding industry.

“You’ve had Section 301 tariffs in place against China for years,” said Ryan Majerus, a partner at King & Spalding and a trade official in Trump’s first administration and in Biden’s.

There are no limits on the size of Section 301 tariffs. They expire after four years but can be extended.

But the administration’s trade representative must conduct an investigation and typically hold a public hearing before imposing 301 tariffs.

John Veroneau, general counsel for the U.S. trade representative in the George W. Bush administration, said Section 301 is useful in taking on China. But it has drawbacks when it comes to dealing with the smaller countries that Trump has hammered with reciprocal tariffs.

“Undertaking dozens and dozens of 301 investigations of all of those countries is a laborious process,”

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 34 of 69

Veroneau said.

Targeting trade deficits

In striking down Trump's reciprocal tariffs in May, the U.S. Court of International Trade ruled that the president couldn't use emergency powers to combat trade deficits.

That is partly because Congress had specifically given the White House limited authority to address the problem in another statute: Section 122, also of the Trade Act of 1974. That allows the president to impose tariffs of up to 15% for up to 150 days in response to unbalanced trade. The administration doesn't even have to conduct an investigation beforehand.

But Section 122 authority has never been used to apply tariffs, and there is some uncertainty about how it would work.

Protecting national security

In both of his terms, Trump has made aggressive use of his power — under Section 232 of Trade Expansion Act of 1962 — to impose tariffs on imports that he deems a threat to national security.

In 2018, he slapped tariffs on foreign steel and aluminum, levies he's expanded since returning to the White House. He also plastered Section 232 tariffs on autos, auto parts, copper, lumber.

In September, the president even levied Section 232 tariffs on kitchen cabinets, bathroom vanities and upholstered furniture. "Even though people might roll their eyes" at the notion that imported furniture poses a threat to national security, Veroneau said, "it's difficult to get courts to second-guess a determination by a president on a national security matter."

Section 232 tariffs are not limited by law but do require an investigation by the U.S. Commerce Department. It's the administration itself that does the investigating — also true for Section 301 cases — "so they have a lot of control over the outcome," Veroneau said.

Reviving Depression-era tariffs

Nearly a century ago, with the U.S. and world economies in collapse, Congress passed the Tariff Act of 1930, imposing hefty taxes on imports. Known as the Smoot-Hawley tariffs (for their congressional sponsors), these levies have been widely condemned by economists and historians for limiting world commerce and making the Great Depression worse. They also got a memorable pop culture shoutout in the 1986 movie "Ferris Bueller's Day Off."

Section 338 of the law authorizes the president to impose tariffs of up to 50% on imports from countries that have discriminated against U.S. businesses. No investigation is required, and there's no limit on how long the tariffs can stay in place.

Those tariffs have never been imposed — U.S. trade negotiators traditionally have favored Section 301 sanctions instead — though the United States used the threat of them as a bargaining chip in trade talks in the 1930s.

In September, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent told Reuters that the administration was considering Section 338 as a Plan B if the Supreme Court ruled against Trump's use of emergency powers tariffs.

The Smoot-Hawley legislation has a bad reputation, Veroneau said, but Trump might find it appealing. "To be the first president to ever use it could have some cache."

Officials scour charred site of Kentucky UPS plane crash for victims and answers

By BRUCE SCHREINER, HALLIE GOLDEN and DYLAN LOVAN Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — The grim task of finding victims from the firestorm that followed the crash of a UPS cargo plane in Louisville, Kentucky, entered a third day Thursday as investigators gather information to determine why the aircraft caught fire and lost an engine on takeoff.

The inferno consumed the enormous plane and spread to nearby businesses, killing at least 12 people, including a child, and leaving little hope of finding survivors in the charred area of the crash at UPS Worldport, the company's global aviation hub.

The plane with three people aboard had been cleared for takeoff Tuesday when a large fire developed

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 35 of 69

in the left wing, said Todd Inman, a member of the National Transportation Safety Board, which is leading the investigation. But determining why it caught fire and the engine fell off could take investigators more than a year.

The plane gained enough altitude to clear the fence at the end of the runway before crashing just outside Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport, Inman said. The cockpit voice recorder and data recorder have since been recovered, and the engine was discovered on the airfield, he said.

The crash and explosion had a devastating ripple effect, striking and causing smaller blasts at Kentucky Petroleum Recycling and hitting an auto salvage yard. The child who was killed was with a parent at the salvage yard, according to Gov. Andy Beshear.

Some people who heard the boom, saw the smoke and smelled burning fuel were still stunned a day later. Stooges Bar and Grill bartender Kyla Kenady said lights suddenly flickered as she took a beer to a customer on the patio.

"I saw a plane in the sky coming down over top of our volleyball courts in flames," she said. "In that moment, I panicked. I turned around, ran through the bar screaming, telling everyone that a plane was crashing."

The governor predicted that that death toll would rise, saying authorities were looking for a "handful of other people" but "we do not expect to find anyone else alive."

University of Louisville Hospital said two people were in critical condition in the burn unit. Eighteen people were treated and discharged at that hospital or other health care centers.

The airport is 7 miles (11 kilometers) from downtown Louisville, close to the Indiana state line, residential areas, a water park and museums. The airport resumed operations on Wednesday, with at least one runway open.

The status of the three UPS crew members aboard the McDonnell Douglas MD-11, made in 1991, was still unknown, according to Beshear. It was not clear if they were being counted among the dead.

UPS said it was "terribly saddened."

The Louisville package handling facility is the company's largest. The hub employs more than 20,000 people in the region, handles 300 flights daily and sorts more than 400,000 packages an hour.

Jeff Guzzetti, a former federal crash investigator, said a number of things could have caused the fire as the UPS plane was rolling down the runway.

"It could have been the engine partially coming off and ripping out fuel lines. Or it could have been a fuel leak igniting and then burning the engine off," Guzzetti said.

The crash bears a lot of similarities to one in 1979 when the left engine fell off an American Airlines jet as it was departing Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, killing 273 people, he said.

Guzzetti said that jet and the UPS plane were equipped with the same General Electric engines and both planes underwent heavy maintenance in the month before they crashed. The NTSB blamed the Chicago crash on improper maintenance. The 1979 crash involved a DC-10, but the MD-11 UPS plane is based on the DC-10.

Flight records show the UPS plane was on the ground in San Antonio from Sept. 3 to Oct. 18, but it was unclear what maintenance was performed and if it had any impact on the crash.

Shutdown progress in doubt as Democrats grow emboldened from election wins

By JOEY CAPPELLETTI, LISA MASCARO and MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Elections this week that energized Democrats and angered President Donald Trump have cast a chill over efforts to end the record-breaking government shutdown, raising fresh doubts about the possibility of a breakthrough despite the punishing toll of federal closures on the country.

Trump has increased pressure on Senate Republicans to end the shutdown — now at 37 days, the longest in U.S. history — calling it a "big factor, negative" in the poor GOP showings across the country.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 36 of 69

Democrats saw Trump's comments as a reason to hold firm, believing his involvement in talks could lead to a deal on extending health care subsidies, a key sticking point to win their support.

Trump is refusing to meet with Democrats, insisting they must open the government first. But complicating the GOP's strategy, Trump is increasingly fixated instead on pushing Republicans to scrap the Senate filibuster to speed reopening — a step that many GOP senators reject out of hand. He kept up the pressure in a video Wednesday evening, saying the Senate's 60-vote threshold to pass legislation should be "terminated."

"This is much bigger than the shutdown," Trump said. "This is the survival of our country."

Senate Democrats face pressures of their own, both from unions eager for the shutdown to end and from allied groups who want them to hold firm. Many see the Democrats' decisive gubernatorial wins in Virginia and New Jersey as validation of their strategy to hold the government closed until expiring health care subsidies are addressed.

"It would be very strange for the American people to have weighed in, in support of Democrats standing up and fighting for them, and within days for us to surrender without having achieved any of the things that we've been fighting for," said Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn.

Meanwhile, talks grind on but the shutdown's toll continues to deepen. On Wednesday, the Federal Aviation Administration announced plans to reduce air traffic by 10% across 40 high-volume markets beginning Friday morning to maintain safety amid staffing shortages. Millions have already been affected by halted government programs and missed federal paychecks — with more expected as another round of paydays approaches next week.

Progressives see election wins as reason to fight

Grassroots Democratic groups nationwide touted Tuesday's election results as voter approval of the shutdown strategy — and warned lawmakers against cutting a deal too soon.

"Moderate Senate Democrats who are looking for an off ramp right now are completely missing the moment," said Katie Bethell, political director of MoveOn, a progressive group. "Voters have sent a resounding message: We want leaders who fight for us, and we want solutions that make life more affordable."

Some Senate Democrats echoed that sentiment. Sen. Bernie Sanders, a leading voice in the progressive movement, said Democrats "have got to remain strong" and should secure assurances on extending health care subsidies — including "a commitment from the speaker of the House that he will support the legislation, and that the president will sign."

Still, how firmly the party remains dug in remains to be seen. Some Democrats have been working with Republicans to find a way out of the standoff, and held firm after the election that it had not impacted their approach.

"I don't feel that the elections changed where I was," said Sen. John Hickenlooper, D-Colo. "I still feel I want to get out of the shutdown."

Some Republicans also shared in Trump's concerns that the shutdown is becoming a drag on the party.

"Polls show that most voters blame Republicans more than Democrats," said Sen. Josh Hawley, a Missouri Republican. "That's understandable given who controls the levers of power."

Trump sets another shutdown record

While some Democrats saw Trump's comments on the shutdown Wednesday as evidence that he'd soon get more involved, he's largely stayed out of the fray. Instead, the talks have intensified among a loose coalition of centrist senators trying to negotiate an end to the shutdown.

Trump has refused to negotiate with Democrats over their demands to salvage expiring health insurance subsidies until they agree to reopen the government. But skeptical Democrats question whether the Republican president will keep his word, particularly after the administration restricted SNAP food aid despite court orders to ensure funds are available to prevent hunger.

Trump's approach to the shutdown stands in marked contrast to his first term, when the government was partially closed for 35 days over his demands for money to build the U.S.-Mexico border wall. At that time, he met publicly and negotiated with congressional leaders. Unable to secure the money, he relented in 2019.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 37 of 69

This time, it's not just Trump declining to engage in talks. The congressional leaders are at a standoff and House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., sent lawmakers home in September after they approved their own funding bill, refusing further negotiations.

A "sad landmark," Johnson said. He dismissed the party's election losses and said he is looking forward to a midterm election in 2026 that will more reflect Trump's tenure.

In the meantime, food aid, child care money and countless other government services are being seriously interrupted. Hundreds of thousands of federal workers have been furloughed or expected to come to work without pay.

Senators search for potential deal

Central to any resolution will be a series of agreements that would need to be upheld not only by the Senate, but also the House, and the White House, which is not at all certain in Washington.

Senators from both parties, particularly the members of the powerful Appropriations Committee, are pushing to ensure the normal government funding process in Congress can be put back on track. Among the goals is guaranteeing upcoming votes on a smaller package of bills to fund various aspects of government such as agricultural programs and military construction projects at bases.

More difficult, a substantial number of senators also want some resolution to the standoff over the funding for the Affordable Care Act subsidies that are set to expire at year's end.

With insurance premium notices being sent, millions of people are experiencing sticker shock on skyrocketing prices. The loss of enhanced federal subsidies, which were put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic and come in the form of tax credits, are expected to leave many people unable to buy health insurance.

Thune has promised Democrats at least a vote on their preferred health care proposal, on a date certain, as part of any deal to reopen government. But that's not enough for some senators, who see the health care deadlock as part of their broader concerns with Trump's direction for the country.

After battering the Philippines, deadly Typhoon Kalmaegi moves toward Vietnam

By JIM GOMEZ Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. declared a state of emergency on Thursday after Typhoon Kalmaegi left at least 114 people dead and more than 100 missing in central provinces in the deadliest natural disaster to hit the country this year.

The deaths were mostly from drowning in flash floods and 127 people were still missing, many in the hard-hit central province of Cebu. The tropical cyclone blew out of the archipelago on Wednesday into the South China Sea.

Authorities in Vietnam, meanwhile, braced Thursday as Kalmaegi approached. The country's financial hub, Ho Chi Minh City, faces a heightened risk of severe flooding as high tides would coincide with the expected heavy rainfall from the typhoon, forecasters warned.

High tides are expected on the Saigon River, while parts of the city could see up to 100 millimeters (4 inches) of rain, which authorities warned could inundate low-lying areas.

In the Philippines, the typhoon's onslaught affected nearly 2 million people and displaced more than 560,000 villagers, including nearly 450,000 who were evacuated to emergency shelters, the Office of Civil Defense said.

Marcos's "state of national calamity" declaration, made during a meeting with disaster-response officials to assess the typhoon's aftermath, would allow the government to disburse emergency funds faster and prevent food hoarding and overpricing.

While still dealing with the deadly and disastrous impact of Kalmaegi in the country's central region, disaster-response officials warned that another tropical cyclone from the Pacific could strengthen into a super typhoon and batter the northern Philippines early next week.

Marcos said the combined impact of Kalmaegi and the approaching new typhoon covers about two-thirds of the archipelago and that the state of national calamity declaration would help the government provide

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 38 of 69

the needed scope of emergency response.

Among the dead attributed by officials to Kalmaegi were six people who were killed when a Philippine air force helicopter crashed in the southern province of Agusan del Sur on Tuesday. The crew was on its way to provide humanitarian help to provinces battered by the typhoon, the military said. It did not give the cause of the crash.

Kalmaegi dumped about one-and-a-half months' worth of rainfall in just a day on Tuesday in metropolitan Cebu, state forecaster Benison Estareja said.

It set off flash floods and caused a river and other waterways to swell in Cebu city and outlying towns. The resulting flooding engulfed residential communities, forcing residents to climb onto their roofs, where they desperately pleaded to be rescued as floodwaters quickly rose, provincial officials said.

Rampaging floodwaters submerged or swept away scores of vehicles in Cebu's residential enclaves, in shocking scenes that were caught on camera by residents stranded on roofs.

At least 71 people died in Cebu, mostly due to drownings, while 65 others were reported missing and 69 injured, the Office of Civil Defense said.

Officials added that 62 others were reported missing in the central province of Negros Occidental, which lies near Cebu.

"We did everything we can for the typhoon but, you know, there are really some unexpected things like flash floods," Cebu Gov. Pamela Baricuatro told The Associated Press by telephone.

The problems may have been made worse by years of quarrying that caused clogging of nearby rivers, which overflowed, and substandard flood control projects in Cebu province, Baricuatro said.

A corruption scandal involving substandard or non-existent flood control projects across the Philippines has sparked public outrage and street protests in recent months.

Cebu was still recovering from a 6.9 magnitude earthquake on Sept. 30 that left at least 79 people dead and displaced thousands when houses collapsed or were severely damaged.

The Philippines is battered by about 20 typhoons and storms each year. The country also is often hit by earthquakes and has more than a dozen active volcanoes, making it one of the world's most disaster-prone countries.

FAA reducing air traffic by 10% across 40 'high-volume' markets during government shutdown

By MATTHEW DALY, JOSH FUNK and RIO YAMAT Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Aviation Administration said Wednesday that it was taking the extraordinary step of reducing air traffic by 10% across 40 "high-volume" markets beginning Friday morning to maintain travel safety as air traffic controllers exhibit signs of strain during the ongoing government shutdown.

The cutback stands to impact thousands of flights nationwide because the FAA directs more than 44,000 flights daily, including commercial passenger flights, cargo planes and private aircraft. The agency didn't immediately identify which airports or cities will be affected but said the restrictions would remain in place as long as necessary.

"I'm not aware in my 35-year history in the aviation market where we've had a situation where we're taking these kinds of measures," FAA Administrator Bryan Bedford said at a news conference.

Air traffic controllers have been working unpaid since the shutdown began Oct. 1, and most have been on duty six days a week while putting in mandatory overtime. With some calling out of work due to frustration, taking second jobs or not having money for child care or gas, staffing shortages during some shifts have led to flight delays at a number of U.S. airports.

Bedford, citing increased staffing pressures and voluntary safety reports from pilots indicating growing fatigue among air traffic controllers, said he and U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy did not want to wait until the situation reached a crisis point.

"We're not going to wait for a safety problem to truly manifest itself when the early indicators are telling

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 39 of 69

us we can take action today to prevent things from deteriorating," Bedford said. "The system is extremely safe today and will be extremely safe tomorrow. If the pressures continue to build even after we take these measures, we'll come back and take additional measures."

He and Duffy said they would meet with airline executives later Wednesday to determine how to implement the reduction in flights before a list of the affected airports would be released sometime Thursday.

Airlines and passengers wait for information

United, Southwest and American all said they will try to minimize the impact on consumers as they cut their schedules to comply with the order.

Calls to the customer service hotlines at United and American were answered within a few minutes Wednesday afternoon, suggesting anxious passengers were not swamping the airlines with questions about the status of their upcoming flights.

In a letter to employees, United CEO Scott Kirby promised to focus the cuts on regional routes and flights that don't travel between hubs. He said the airline will try to reschedule customers when possible and will also offer refunds to anyone who doesn't want to fly during this time, even if their flight isn't canceled.

"United's long-haul international flying and our hub-to-hub flying will not be impacted by this schedule reduction direction from the FAA," Kirby said. "That's important to maintain the integrity of our network, give impacted customers as many options as possible to resume their trip, and sustain our crew pairing systems."

Airline industry analyst Henry Harteveldt, who is president of Atmosphere Research Group, said he thinks the government may have bungled this announcement by not meeting with airlines first and giving them more time to adjust schedules made months in advance.

"To tell airlines you've got 48 hours to rebuild your schedules at 90% of what you've got isn't much time, and it's going to result in a lot of chaos," said Harteveldt, who was waiting to hear if his own flight from San Francisco to Dallas on Saturday would be canceled. He added that the Trump administration may be using aviation safety "to force the two sides in Washington back to the negotiating table to resolve the shutdown."

AAA spokesperson Aixa Diaz advised travelers to watch for flight updates on the airline's app and airport social media accounts. She also recommended allowing plenty of time at the airport before a scheduled flight.

"It's frustrating for travelers, because there's not much you can do. At the end of the day, you either fly or you don't," she said.

The cuts could represent as many as 1,800 flights and upward of 268,000 seats combined, according to an estimate by aviation analytics firm Cirium. For example, O'Hare International Airport in Chicago could see 121 of its 1,212 flights currently scheduled for Friday cut if the FAA distributes the reductions equally among impacted airports, Cirium said.

Data shows worsening weekend staffing

The FAA regularly slows down or stops flights from taking off toward an airport for a number of reasons, including weather conditions, equipment failures and technical problems. Staffing shortages also may lead to slowed or halted departures if there aren't enough controllers and another facility can't absorb some of the work load.

Last weekend saw some of the worst staffing shortages of the shutdown, which became the longest on record early Wednesday.

From Friday to Sunday evening, at least 39 different air traffic control facilities announced there was some potential for limited staffing, according to an Associated Press analysis of operations plans sent through the Air Traffic Control System Command Center system. The figure, which is likely an undercount, is well above the average for weekends before the shutdown.

During weekend periods from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, the average number of airport towers, regional centers overseeing multiple airports and facilities monitoring traffic at higher altitudes that announced the potential for staffing issues was 8.3, according to the AP analysis. But during the five weekend periods since the

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 40 of 69

shutdown began on Oct. 1, the average more than tripled to 26.2 facilities.

Travel industry joins unions in urging shutdown's end

Major airlines, aviation unions and the wider travel industry have urged Congress to end the shutdown. Wednesday's announcement came on the heels of Duffy warning a day earlier that there could be chaos in the skies next week if the shutdown drags on long enough for air traffic controllers to miss their second full paychecks next Tuesday.

Duffy said the FAA wanted to take a proactive approach instead of reacting after a disaster. He pointed to all the questions that arose after the deadly midair collision in January between a commercial jet and a military helicopter near Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport about why FAA didn't recognize the risks and act sooner.

"We learned from that. And so now we look at data, and before it would become an issue, we try to assess the pressure and try to make moves before there could be adverse consequences," Duffy said. "And that's what's happening here today."

Judge in Comey case scolds prosecutors as he orders them to produce records from probe

By ERIC TUCKER Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — A federal judge on Wednesday ordered prosecutors in the criminal case of former FBI Director James Comey to produce to defense lawyers a trove of materials from the investigation, saying he was concerned the Justice Department's position had been to "indict first" and investigate second.

U.S. Magistrate Judge William Fitzpatrick instructed prosecutors to produce by the end of the day on Thursday grand jury materials and other evidence that investigators seized during the investigation. The order followed arguments in which Comey's attorneys said they were at a disadvantage because they had not been able to yet review information that was collected years ago as part of an investigation into FBI media leaks.

Comey, who attended the hearing but did not speak, is charged with lying to Congress in 2020 in a case filed days after President Donald Trump appeared to urge his attorney general to prosecute the former FBI director and other perceived political enemies. Comey has pleaded not guilty, and his lawyers have argued that it's a vindictive prosecution brought at the direction of the Republican president and must be dismissed.

Fitzpatrick raised his own concerns, telling lawyers on Wednesday, "The procedural posture of this case is highly unusual." He said it appeared to him that the Justice Department had decided to "indict first" and investigate later.

Comey's defense lawyers had already asked for a transcript of grand jury proceedings, citing irregularities in the process and potential legal and factual errors that they said could result in the dismissal of the case.

Fitzpatrick on Wednesday ordered prosecutors to produce grand jury materials and also directed them to give defense lawyers evidence seized through search warrants in 2019 and 2020 from Daniel Richman, a Columbia University law professor and close friend of Comey.

Richman factors into the case because prosecutors say Comey had encouraged him to engage with reporters about matters related to the FBI and say Comey therefore lied to the Senate Judiciary Committee five years ago when he denied having authorized media leaks. Comey's lawyers deny that he made a false statement and say the question he responded to, from Republican Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas, was vague and confusing and appeared to be centered not on Richman but rather a different individual, former FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe.

Comey's lawyers told the judge they had not been shown by the government the materials taken from Richman, who had earlier served as a lawyer for Comey, and thus could not know what information was privileged and may have been improperly used as evidence.

"We're going to fix that, and we're going to fix that today," the judge said.

Comey's indictment came days after Trump in a social media post called on Attorney General Pam Bondi to take action against Comey and other longtime foes of the president. The indictment was brought by Lindsey Halligan, a former White House aide and Trump lawyer who was installed as U.S. attorney after the longtime prosecutor who had been overseeing the investigation resigned under administration pressure to indict Comey and New York Attorney General Letitia James.

The Justice Department in court papers earlier this week defended the president's social media post, contending it reflects "legitimate prosecutorial motive" and is no basis to dismiss the indictment.

Judge orders improvements at a Chicago-area immigration facility after claims of inhumane conditions

By CHRISTINE FERNANDO Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — A federal judge on Wednesday ordered authorities to improve a Chicago-area immigration facility after a group of detainees sued, alleging they were being kept in "inhumane" conditions.

The order will be in effect for 14 days. It requires officials to provide detainees at a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility in the west Chicago suburb of Broadview with a clean bedding mat and sufficient space to sleep, soap, towels, toilet paper, toothbrushes, toothpaste, menstrual products and prescribed medications.

"People shouldn't be sleeping next to overflowing toilets," U.S. District Judge Robert Gettleman said. "They should not be sleeping on top of each other."

The temporary restraining order says the holding rooms at the facility must be cleaned twice a day. Detainees must be allowed to shower at least every other day and should have three full meals and bottled water upon request.

Advocates have raised concerns about Broadview's conditions for months, and the facility has drawn scrutiny from members of Congress. Lawyers and relatives of people held there have called it a de facto detention center, and tense demonstrations have been held there for several weeks.

A spokesperson for the Department of Homeland Security said detainees are provided with water and three meals a day, have phones to communicate with their family members and lawyers, and are not denied access to proper medical care.

"Despite hoaxes spread by criminal illegal aliens, the complicit media, and now an activist judge, the ICE Broadview Facility does NOT have subprime conditions," Tricia McLaughlin said in a statement.

Gettleman had called the alleged conditions "unnecessarily cruel" after a hearing Tuesday about overflowing toilets, crowded cells, no beds and water that "tasted like sewer."

The judge said he found the witnesses "highly credible," adding he was moved by the seriousness of the conditions.

Judge asks for a status report later this week

Gettleman required authorities to allow detainees to call lawyers in private with no cost and provide them with a list of pro bono attorneys in English and Spanish. Agents are barred from misrepresenting documents provided to detainees to sign.

Gettleman requested a status report by noon Friday on how authorities are fulfilling the requirements. He said he knew complying with his order would be hard.

"I don't expect to snap my fingers and have this done," he said

Plaintiffs seek documents

An attorney for plaintiffs celebrated the order for improving the conditions of the facility and preventing detainees from unknowingly signing away their rights.

"They cannot slip in a form written in a language somebody doesn't understand and then all of a sudden the person gets whisked out of the country," Alexa Van Brunt of the MacArthur Justice Center said. "That coercion has got to stop."

Plaintiff lawyers hope the document-gathering phase of the case will offer a rare glimpse inside Broad-

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 42 of 69

view. They are requesting documents on the facility's detention policies, information on how ICE's online detainee locator is maintained, emails from attorneys requesting information about their clients, a detention log, a facility inspection log, and details on what food, water and medications federal authorities are purchasing for detainees.

Officer defends use of force

In another Chicago courtroom, Senior Border Patrol official Greg Bovino defended the use of force by agents accused of using pepper balls, tear gas and other tactics against people protesting federal immigration policies and the detaining of immigrants in the area.

Bovino made the statement in a deposition — a private interview with lawyers from both sides — given last week. It was brought into evidence during a preliminary injunction hearing Wednesday in a lawsuit filed by news outlets and protesters who say agents have used too much force during demonstrations.

Attorneys for the plaintiffs played a clip of Bovino grabbing and tackling a man to the ground during one protest outside the Broadview facility.

Oak Park Township Trustee Juan Munoz said he was standing beside the man and was knocked down and pinned by Bovino during the chaos. Munoz said Bovino smacked his phone from his hands.

Munoz said he was arrested and detained in the Broadview facility for eight hours. He hasn't returned to the facility to protest, Munoz added.

After attorneys played footage of Munoz's arrest, Bovino repeatedly denied during the deposition that he tackled "an older gentleman" in the video and dodged questions on whether he used force.

Bovino acknowledged that he made physical contact with the man, but denied that he applied force.

Excessive force claims dog ICE agents

U.S. District Judge Sara Ellis has already ordered agents to wear badges and banned them from using certain riot-control techniques, such as tear gas, against peaceful protesters and journalists. After repeatedly chastising federal officials for not following her previous orders, she added a requirement for body cameras.

Ellis will weigh how to respond to allegations that federal immigration agents in the Chicago area have used excessive force, following a surge of recent court filings detailing tense encounters between agents and residents.

Craig Futterman, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, noted recent examples of agents using tear gas on Chicago-area residents, including at a Halloween parade and outside a grocery store. He said Bovino, himself, has been filmed throwing tear gas canisters at protesters. A video of Bovino throwing a canister was played during Wednesday's hearing.

Justice Department lawyer Sarmad Khojasteh accused many protesters of threatening to kill law enforcement officers, impeding their duties and throwing rocks and other objects at agents.

"Such conduct must be rejected," he said. "To what extent does the freedom of speech protect individuals in obstructing and/or threatening conduct — throwing rocks, bottles, fireworks, surrounding and pinning down law enforcement officials?"

But witnesses say the actions by agents have been unprovoked.

Witnesses say ICE actions not called for

Leslie Cortez, a youth organizer, said she was recording and explaining rights in Spanish to day laborers being arrested by ICE agents outside a Home Depot when one agent pointed a gun at her.

"I could see inside the barrel," Cortez testified. "My heart accelerated. I was nervous they were going to shoot."

Chicago Newspaper Guild Executive Director Emily Steelhammer took the stand, recounting how members of the union said they were hit with rubber bullets, pepper balls and chemical weapons, including tear gas. The incidents mostly occurred in Broadview, but also took place at other Chicago-area demonstrations, she said.

In his deposition, Bovino denied allegations of excessive use of force, saying, "I have not seen our men or women deploy force against protesters."

Wednesday's hearing follows Ellis' questioning of Bovino at a public hearing last week, where she took

the rare step of ordering him to brief her each evening on the federal immigration crackdown in Chicago. That move was swiftly blocked by an appeals court.

Divided Jewish leaders react with warnings and hope as New York elects Zohran Mamdani as mayor

By DAVID CRARY AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Within hours of Zohran Mamdani's election as New York's first Muslim mayor, the Anti-Defamation League, which combats antisemitism, launched an initiative to track policies and personnel appointments of the incoming administration, part of a swift and harsh reaction from his Jewish critics.

The ADL said Wednesday the goal is to "protect Jewish residents across the five boroughs during a period of unprecedented antisemitism in New York City."

Mamdani's main rival, former Gov. Andrew Cuomo, received about 60% of the Jewish vote, according to the AP Voter Poll, after a campaign that highlighted Mamdani's denunciations of Israel and kindled debate over antisemitism. About 3-in-10 Jewish voters supported Mamdani, the AP poll said.

A conservative pro-Israel newspaper, The Jewish Voice, depicted the city's Jewish community — the largest in the U.S. — as fearfully bracing for an "exodus." The two top leaders of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations labeled Mamdani's election "a grim milestone."

Jonathan Greenblatt, the ADL's national director, said Mamdani has "associated with individuals who have a history of antisemitism, and demonstrated intense animosity toward the Jewish state."

"We are deeply concerned that those individuals and principles will influence his administration at a time when we are tracking a brazen surge of harassment, vandalism and violence targeting Jewish residents and institutions," Greenblatt added.

Jeremy Ben-Ami, president of the centrist pro-Israel group J Street, criticized the ADL and Conference of Presidents statements as he called for efforts to bridge divisions.

"The fearmongering we have seen from some Jewish institutions and leaders surrounding Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani is harmful, overblown and risks needlessly deepening divisions in the city and in our community," Ben-Ami said. "Our community's responsibility now is to engage constructively with the mayor-elect, not to sow panic or to demonize him."

Israel-Hamas war was a key election issue

Throughout his campaign, Mamdani was steadfast in his criticism of Israel's military conduct in Gaza, depicting it as genocide targeting Palestinians. But he welcomed Jewish supporters to his campaign, denounced the Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas attack on Israel, and denied suggestions from Cuomo that he was insufficiently opposed to antisemitism.

"We will build a City Hall that stands steadfast alongside Jewish New Yorkers and does not waver in the fight against the scourge of antisemitism," Mamdani declared at his victory celebration.

He reiterated that commitment again Wednesday in his first news conference since winning election, touting his plan to increase funding for hate crime prevention. "I take the issue of antisemitism incredibly seriously," he said.

Mamdani has described his pro-Palestinian views as "central" to his belief in a "universal system of human rights." But it was Cuomo who sought to make the race a referendum on Israel — a strategy that some Democratic strategists say backfired as the war in Gaza shifted public views.

Leaders of the Reform Movement, representing the largest branch of U.S. Judaism, issued a nuanced statement after Mamdani was declared winner of what they called a "deeply polarizing campaign."

"In this moment, we urge the Jewish community to help lower the temperature, listen generously, and take steps to promote healing," the statement said. "We will hold the new mayor accountable to his commitments to protect Jewish communities and all New Yorkers, to confront antisemitism and every form of hate, and to safeguard civil rights and peaceful expression."

Amy Spitalnick, CEO of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, urged Mamdani and Jewish leaders to work

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 44 of 69

toward a common goal of “a strong, safe and inclusive city in which Jewish and all New Yorkers can thrive.”

“This was an election in which Jews became a political football — which did nothing to advance Jewish or any community’s safety,” Spitalnick said. “Rather, in so many ways, this election was used to validate the worst instincts and fears on both extremes.”

Among the Jewish groups elated by Mamdani’s win were IfNotNow, which has organized protests against Israel’s military campaign in Gaza, and Bend The Arc: Jewish Action, which describes itself as a progressive Jewish advocacy group.

“Throughout this election, Donald Trump, Andrew Cuomo, as well as far too many out-of-touch Jewish leaders sought to weaponize antisemitism to divide Jews from our fellow New Yorkers,” IfNotNow said. “As Zohran faced an onslaught of Islamophobia, we organized our Jewish communities and refused to succumb to that fearmongering.”

Jamie Beran, CEO of Bend the Arc, said the group “endorsed Zohran because we know a strong democracy is what keeps Jews the safest.”

“We plan to take this playbook to cities and towns across the nation and work with our Jewish communities to bridge divisions, see through smokescreens and take back Congress.”

Mamdani will need to prove himself to some

A Hasidic Jewish civic leader, Zalman Friedman, had a mixed assessment of Mamdani’s win.

“We are disappointed, and we are hopeful that he will make life better and not worse,” said Friedman, a board member of the Crown Heights Jewish Community Council and part of the Chabad-Lubavitch community that is prominent in that Brooklyn neighborhood.

Friedman said he’s wary of big-government solutions that Mamdani may promote, and hopes the new mayor focuses on public safety, lowering housing costs and supporting government funding for Jewish religious schools.

“We are resilient and resourceful and, thank God, we do have a lot of friends all over the world,” he said. “We will survive this and we will thrive.”

Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro, one of the nation’s most prominent Jewish politicians, said he’s not comfortable with some of Mamdani’s comments on Israel.

“I’ve expressed that to him personally. We’ve had good private communications,” Shapiro said. “I hope, as he did last night in his victory speech, that he’ll be a mayor that protects all New Yorkers and tries to bring people together.”

12 dead after engine fell off UPS plane that crashed and exploded in Kentucky

By BRUCE SCHREINER, HALLIE GOLDEN and DYLAN LOVAN Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A UPS cargo plane’s left wing caught fire and an engine fell off just before it crashed and exploded after takeoff in Kentucky, a federal official said Wednesday, offering the first investigative details about a disaster that killed at least 12 people, including a child.

Finding survivors seemed unlikely as first responders searched the charred area of the crash at UPS Worldport, the company’s global aviation hub in Louisville, Gov. Andy Beshear said. The inferno consumed the enormous aircraft and spread to nearby businesses.

After being cleared for takeoff, a large fire developed in the left wing, said Todd Inman, a member of the National Transportation Safety Board, which is leading the investigation. The NTSB will now try to determine what caused the fire and why the engine fell off. It will likely take investigators more than a year to answer those questions.

The plane gained enough altitude to clear the fence at the end of the runway before crashing just outside Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport, Inman told reporters.

Airport security video “shows the left engine detaching from the wing during the takeoff roll,” he said.

The cockpit voice recorder and data recorder were recovered, and the engine was discovered on the

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 45 of 69

airfield, Inman said.

"There are a lot of different parts of this airplane in a lot of different places," he said, describing a debris field that stretched for half a mile.

A chain reaction

The plane with three people aboard crashed about 5:15 p.m. Tuesday as it was departing for Honolulu from UPS Worldport at the Louisville airport.

The crash had a devastating ripple effect, striking and causing smaller explosions at Kentucky Petroleum Recycling and hitting an auto salvage yard, Grade A Auto Parts. Beshear said the child who died was with a parent at the parts business.

Beshear earlier said it was a "blessing" that the plane did not hit a nearby Ford Motor factory or the convention center.

Some people who heard the boom, saw the smoke and smelled burning fuel were still stunned a day later.

"I didn't know if we were getting attacked. I didn't know what was going on," said Summer Dickerson, who works nearby.

Stooges Bar and Grill bartender Kyla Kenady said lights suddenly flickered as she took a beer to a customer on the patio.

"I saw a plane in the sky coming down over top of our volleyball courts in flames," she said. "In that moment, I panicked. I turned around, ran through the bar screaming, telling everyone that a plane was crashing."

Manager Lynn Cason said explosions, only about 100 yards (90 meters) away, shook the building three times — "like somebody was bombing us" — but no one there was injured.

"God was definitely with us," Cason said.

The number of victims is unclear

Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg announced on the social platform X on Wednesday evening that the death toll had risen to 12, saying, "Please take a moment to hug your loved ones and check on your neighbors."

The governor predicted that the death toll would rise, saying authorities were looking for a "handful of other people" but "we do not expect to find anyone else alive."

Mark Little, chief of the Okolona Fire District in Louisville, said debris would have to be moved and searched, adding: "It will take us quite a while."

University of Louisville Hospital said two people were in critical condition in the burn unit. Eighteen people were treated and discharged at that hospital or other health care centers.

The airport is 7 miles (11 kilometers) from downtown Louisville, close to the Indiana state line, residential areas, a water park and museums. The airport resumed operations on Wednesday, with at least one runway open.

Beshear said he did not know the status of the three UPS crew members aboard the McDonnell Douglas MD-11 made in 1991. It was not clear if they were being counted among the dead.

UPS said it was "terribly saddened." The Louisville package handling facility is the company's largest. The hub employs more than 20,000 people in the region, handles 300 flights daily and sorts more than 400,000 packages an hour.

Similarities to previous crash

Jeff Guzzetti, a former federal crash investigator, said a number of things could have caused the fire as the UPS plane was rolling down the runway.

"It could have been the engine partially coming off and ripping out fuel lines. Or it could have been a fuel leak igniting and then burning the engine off. It's just too soon to tell," Guzzetti said.

He said the crash bears a lot of similarities to one in 1979 when the left engine fell off an American Airlines jet as it was departing Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, killing 273 people.

Guzzetti said this UPS plane and the American plane were equipped with the same General Electric engines and both planes underwent heavy maintenance in the month before they crashed. The NTSB blamed the Chicago crash on improper maintenance. The 1979 crash involved a DC-10, but the MD-11

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 46 of 69

UPS plane is based on the DC-10.

Flight records show the UPS plane was on the ground in San Antonio from Sept. 3 to Oct. 18, but it was unclear what maintenance was performed and if it had any impact on the crash.

Shipping delays expected after UPS cargo plane crash

By MAE ANDERSON AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The UPS cargo plane crash on Tuesday at the company's global aviation hub in Kentucky, which killed at least 12, will temporarily disrupt the supply chain and result in some shipping delays.

But UPS says it has contingency plans in place, and experts say the impact should be cleared up before the peak holiday season.

The plane crashed Tuesday evening as it was departing for Honolulu from UPS Worldport, UPS' largest shipping hub, at Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport. Package sorting at the center was halted late Tuesday and the halt continued on Wednesday. About 416,000 packages can be sorted at the facility per hour, according to a UPS fact sheet.

UPS has not released any details about how many and what type of packages were on the plane.

Ed Anderson, a professor of supply chain and operations management for the McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas, estimates the average number of packages per plane leaving the Louisville shipping hub is 10,000 to 13,000.

Consumers who want to check on their UPS packages can wait to hear from the company or look up tracking details online. UPS has a claims process for lost or damaged packages, but it is unclear if people and businesses with packages on the downed plane will have to go through that process. UPS will likely reach out to affected customers in coming days. They did not respond to a request for comment.

Tom Goldsby, professor of supply chain management at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, said UPS will most likely step up flights to its regional hubs to offset Worldport's closure.

The hubs are "going to take on a greater burden until that critical operation in Louisville gets back to the full capacity," he said.

UPS said in a statement that it has contingency plans in place to help ensure that shipments arrive at their final destinations as quickly as conditions permit, but did not give specifics on what the plans were.

Goldsby said UPS will be under pressure to resolve any delays before the peak holiday season.

"It's an issue that they quickly want to resolve, but they are going to have to do their due diligence in resolving the current crisis," he said.

He himself was expecting a UPS package from Oregon routed through Worldport today, but got a message that it would have to be rescheduled.

"I understand the circumstance and will gladly receive it when it arrives," he said, adding patience will be needed for others expecting packages. "People and businesses don't have a lot of understanding (about the supply chain). We just don't expect our logistics operations to have a calamity or even a bad day."

The crash comes as UPS works on a turnaround, focusing less on Amazon deliveries and more on business-to-business deliveries. In its most recent earnings report last week, the company said it has cut 48,000 jobs in the year to date and closed some buildings as part of its turnaround. Its third-quarter results beat expectations.

Mexico President Sheinbaum presses charges after street groping incident

By FABIOLA SÁNCHEZ and FERNANDA FIGUEROA Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — What should have been a five-minute time-saving walk from Mexico's National Palace to the Education Ministry for President Claudia Sheinbaum has become a symbol of what Mexican women face every day after a video captured a drunk man groping the country's first woman president.

On Wednesday, gender violence catapulted to the highest-profile platform, and Sheinbaum used her

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 47 of 69

daily press briefing to say that she had pressed charges against the man.

She also called on states to scrutinize their laws and procedures to make it easier for women to report such assaults and said Mexicans needed to hear a "loud and clear, no, women's personal space must not be violated."

Sheinbaum said she felt a responsibility to press charges for all Mexican women. "If this is done to the president, what is going to happen to all of the young women in our country?"

Widespread problem

Indeed, if Mexico's president is not exempt from street harassment, then it's not difficult to imagine what women with hourslong commutes on public transportation are experiencing daily.

Andrea González Martínez, 27, who works for Mexican lender Nacional Monte de Piedad, said she has been harassed on public transportation, in one case the man followed her home.

"It happens regularly, it happens on public transportation," she said. "It's something you experience every day in Mexico."

Her coworker, Carmen Maldonado Castillo, 43, said she has witnessed it.

"You can't walk around free in the street," she said.

Sheinbaum said Wednesday that she had similar experiences of harassment when she was 12 years old and using public transportation to get to school, and understands the problem is widespread.

"I decided to press charges because this is something that I experienced as a woman, but that we as women experience in our country," she said.

Government response

The incident immediately raised questions about the president's security, but Sheinbaum dismissed any suggestion that she would increase her security or change how she interacts with people.

She explained that she and her team had decided to walk from the National Palace to the Education Ministry to avoid a 20-minute car ride in city traffic.

Mexico City Mayor Clara Brugada had announced overnight that the man had been arrested.

Brugada used some of Sheinbaum's own language about being elected Mexico's first woman president to emphasize that harassment of any woman – in this case Mexico's most powerful – is an assault on all women.

When Sheinbaum was elected, she said that it wasn't just her coming to power, it was all women.

Brugada said that was "not a slogan, it's a commitment to not look the other way, to not allow misogyny to continue to be veiled in habits, to not accept a single additional humiliation, not another abuse, not a single femicide more."

Hoping for change

Lilian Valvuen, 31, said she didn't think Sheinbaum had really taken violence against women seriously until her firsthand experience yesterday. She hopes that work to better train police to respond will follow.

"They have to prepare them," she said. "They don't know what protocols to follow."

Marina Reyna, executive director of the Guerrero Association against Violence toward Women, said that watching the video she initially worried that Sheinbaum had minimized the assault, continuing to smile and talk calmly to the man. But she hoped the president's willingness to talk about it Wednesday would change how such cases are handled, after years of activists highlighting the issue.

"You lose confidence in the institutions," Reyna said. "The people stop going to report it, because when you report it nothing happens."

A World Health Organization report this year revealed that one in three women in the Americas has experienced physical or sexual violence from a partner or by a third party at some point in their lives.

In the first seven months of this year cases of femicide in Mexico dropped almost 40%, compared to the same period in 2024, and intentional injuries against women decreased by 11%, according to figures from the Federal Security Secretariat.

Reyna indicated that the violence suffered by Mexican women is related to impunity, which she estimated at over 70%, and added that this situation leads women not to report crimes.

From 2019 to 2024, only 20% to 30% of women experiencing violence in Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, Peru and Uruguay used state services specifically designed for them, according to a report by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on femicide in the region.

Political scientist Manuel Pérez Aguirre, a researcher at the Seminar on Violence and Peace at the College of Mexico academic center, argued that in the case of the president, there must be a “truly exemplary punishment” that serves as a clear message to sexual aggressors in Mexico.

Typhoon Kalmaegi leaves 114 dead, 127 missing in Philippines, many in province recovering from quake

By JIM GOMEZ Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine officials said Thursday the death toll from widespread flooding and devastation caused by Typhoon Kalmaegi in the country’s central region has risen to at least 114 with 127 people reported missing, many of them in a hard-hit province still recovering from a deadly earthquake.

Most of the deaths were reported in the central province of Cebu, which was pummeled by Kalmaegi on Tuesday, setting off flash floods and causing a river and other waterways to overflow, said Bernardo Rafaelito Alejandro IV, deputy administrator of the Office of Civil Defense.

Kalmaegi moved away from western Palawan province into the South China Sea before noon Wednesday and was barreling toward Vietnam, according to forecasters.

Among the dead were six people who were killed when a Philippine air force helicopter crashed in the southern province of Agusan del Sur on Tuesday. The crew was on its way to provide humanitarian help to provinces battered by Kalmaegi, the military said. It did not give the cause of the crash.

Central province hit hardest by the storm

Provincial officials said Kalmaegi set off flash floods and caused a river and other waterways to swell. The resulting flooding engulfed residential communities, forcing residents to climb on their roofs, where they desperately pleaded to be rescued as the floodwaters rose, officials said.

At least 71 people died in Cebu, mostly due to drownings, 65 others were reported missing and 69 injured, the Office of Civil Defense said.

It added that 62 others were reported missing in the central province of Negros Occidental, which is located near Cebu.

“We did everything we can for the typhoon but, you know, there are really some unexpected things like flash floods,” Cebu Gov. Pamela Baricuatro told The Associated Press by telephone.

Caloy Ramirez, a volunteer rescuer, said the massive flooding set off by the typhoon turned an upscale riverside residential community in Cebu city on Tuesday into an unrecognizable scene of tumbled SUVs and houses in disarray.

Residents said floodwater engulfed the first floors of their houses in just a few minutes, sending them scrambling to upper floors or roofs in panic.

“We always expect the worst and what I saw yesterday was the worst,” Ramirez told The AP. He described how the faces of desperate residents would light up when they realized they were being rescued.

Concerns grow over flood control projects

The problems may have been made worse by years of quarrying that caused clogging of nearby rivers, which overflowed, and substandard flood control projects in Cebu province, Baricuatro said.

A corruption scandal involving substandard or non-existent flood control projects across the Philippines has sparked public outrage and street protests in recent months.

Cebu, a bustling province of more than 2.4 million people, declared a state of calamity to allow authorities to disburse emergency funds more rapidly.

Cebu was still recovering from a 6.9 magnitude earthquake on Sept. 30 that left at least 79 people dead and displaced thousands when houses collapsed or were severely damaged.

Thousands of northern Cebu residents who were displaced by the earthquake were moved to sturdier evacuation shelters from flimsy tents before the typhoon struck, Baricuatro said. Northern towns devas-

tated by the earthquake were mostly not hit by floods generated by Kalmaegi, she added.

Kalmaegi heads toward Vietnam and Thailand

Before Kalmaegi's landfall, officials said more than 387,000 people had evacuated to safer ground in eastern and central Philippine provinces.

Ferries and fishing boats were prohibited from venturing out to increasingly rough seas, stranding more than 3,500 passengers and cargo truck drivers in nearly 100 seaports, the coast guard said. At least 186 domestic flights were canceled.

The Philippines is battered by about 20 typhoons and storms each year. The country also is often hit by earthquakes and has more than a dozen active volcanoes, making it one of the world's most disaster-prone countries.

Central Vietnam, still reeling from days of record rain that triggered flash floods and landslides, was bracing for more pounding rain as Kalmaegi nears.

Fishing boats returned to shore while local authorities readied evacuation plans, secured shelters and stockpiled food, state media reported.

France moves to suspend Shein's online market over listings for illegal weapons and sex dolls

By SAMUEL PETREQUIN Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — France's government said Wednesday it is moving toward suspending access to the Shein online marketplace until it proves its content conforms to French law, after authorities found illegal weapons and child-like sex dolls for sale on the fast-fashion giant's website.

The Finance Ministry said the government made the decision after officials found "large quantities" of illegal "Class A" weapons on Shein's popular e-commerce platform Wednesday, following the discovery last week of illegal sex dolls with childlike characteristics. The ministry did not detail which weapons were found, but the Class A includes firearms, knives and machetes as well as war material.

The ministry said if the prohibited items remain, authorities may suspend the site in France.

The decision came on the same day that Shein opened its first permanent store in Paris inside one of the city's most iconic department stores. The opening drew crowds of shoppers to the BHV Marais, but also a small group of protesters who briefly disrupted the opening by waving anti-Shein signs before they were escorted out by security.

The ministry did not say whether its decision would impact the physical store. It added that a first progress report would be provided within 48 hours.

Shein, founded in China in 2012 and now based in Singapore, pledged to work with French authorities to "address any concerns swiftly as we have always done and we are seeking dialogue with the authorities and government bodies on this issue."

French authorities can order online platforms to remove clearly illegal content, such as child sexual abuse materials, within 24 hours. If they fail to comply, authorities can require internet service providers and search engines to block access and delist the site.

Ordering from Shein's French website was still possible Wednesday following the government's announcement.

Frédéric Merlin, president of Société des Grands Magasins (SGM,) which owns the BHV department store, praised the government's move. "I am satisfied with this decision and I hope that, in the end, we will be able to stop selling illicit products on these marketplaces," Merlin said.

Still, the backlash over the sex doll listings could be a "massive red flag" to investors and become a roadblock to the company's ambitions of going public, according to Neil Saunders, managing director of research firm GlobalData.

The episode feeds into the view that Chinese-founded marketplaces "are the Wild West of e-commerce, where there is very little compliance, and they don't really adhere to established rules, that they don't have full control over the platforms," Saunders said. "And that is a problem because if you're looking to

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 50 of 69

expand, you have to abide by national laws.”

Saunders noted there’s a big difference in having counterfeit merchandise and questionable merchandise on a site. Child sexual abuse material “crosses an important moral boundary,” he said.

Store opening draws shoppers and demonstrators

SGM has called the sale of the sex dolls unacceptable, but praised Shein for its swift response to defuse the controversy.

Shein said earlier that it has banned all sex-doll products, and temporarily removed its adult products category for review. The company had also announced that it would temporarily suspend listings from independent third-party vendors in its marketplace, and launched an investigation to determine how the dolls listings bypassed its screening measures.

Even before the backlash over the sex doll listings, the decision by Shein to launch its first physical store in the heart of France’s fashion capital had faced criticism from environmental groups, Paris City Hall and France’s ready-to-wear industry.

The retail giant has long drawn criticism over its poor green credentials and labor practices. An online petition opposing the Paris opening surpassed 120,000 signatures

Ticia Ones, a regular Shein online customer living in Paris, said the main reason she visited the store on Wednesday was the opportunity to see items in person before buying.

“We can see what we order, touch the items, it’s a good thing,” she said, adding that the brand’s low prices were a strong draw despite the controversy. “I’m not going to comment on the quality, but price is definitely appealing.”

The BHV store has been going through financial struggles in recent years and its owners believe the arrival of Shein will help revive business — even as some brands have chosen to leave the store in protest.

“We are proud to have a partner who has spoken out firmly,” said Karl-Stéphane Cottendin, the chief operating officer of SGM. “We are very happy to be opening the boutique.”

Environmental and ethical concerns

Shein has risen rapidly to become a global fast-fashion giant. Selling mostly Chinese-made clothes and products at bargain prices, the retailer has drawn criticism over allegations that its supply chains may be tainted by forced labor, including from China’s far-west Xinjiang province, where rights groups say serious human rights abuses were committed by Beijing against members of the ethnic Uyghur group and other Muslim minorities.

Cottendin dismissed those concerns and praised Shein for doing a “tremendous job” to improve its practices.

“Today, it’s a brand that produces under much more legitimate conditions,” he said. “We ensured that the entire production chain, from manufacturing to delivery, complies strictly with French and European regulations and standards.”

Fast fashion, characterized by a constant turnover of collections and very low prices, has flooded European markets with low-quality items, driving environmental, social, and economic costs. The United Nations has warned that the textile industry alone is responsible for nearly 10% of global greenhouse gas emissions and contributes to water depletion.

France is now moving to curb the growing influence of companies based in Asian countries such as Shein, Temu and AliExpress. A draft law targets fast fashion with measures such as consumer awareness campaigns, advertising bans, taxes on small imported parcels and stricter waste management rules.

“It’s a black day for our industry,” said Thibaut Ledunois, director of entrepreneurship and innovation at the French federation of women’s ready-to-wear. He added that Shein’s Paris opening was an attempt to justify “all the bad, and sad and horrible business that they develop all around the world.”

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 51 of 69

Trump pressures GOP senators to end the government shutdown, now the longest ever

By LISA MASCARO and MARY CLARE JALONICK Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump lashed out Wednesday at Senate Republicans to end the government shutdown, now the longest ever at 36 days, blaming the impasse for the party's defeat in closely-watched elections while Democrats, emboldened by their off-year victories, dug in for a fight.

Trump, whose first term at the White House set the previous government shutdown record, said this one was a "big factor, negative" in Tuesday's races. He revived his demands for Republicans to end the Senate filibuster as a way to reopen government — something senators have refused to do.

At the same time, Democrats hardened their resolve after sweeping governor's races in Virginia and New Jersey and the mayor's race in New York. The Democratic leaders said Trump needs to get serious about negotiating an end to the stalemate and resolve the problem of expiring health care subsidies that are central to the debate.

"The election results ought to send a much needed bolt of lightning to Donald Trump that he should meet with us to end this crisis," said Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer of New York.

Now into a sixth week, the shutdown and its impacts have deepened nationwide. The federal closures are disrupting the lives of millions of Americans with program cuts, flight delays and workers scrambling to make do without paychecks. Officials have warned of a worsening climate to come, including chaos in the skies. The Federal Aviation Administration said it will reduce air traffic starting Friday in major markets.

Elections bring an inflection point, and Trump's filibuster demands

Expectations were high that the logjam would break once results were tallied in elections that were widely watched as a gauge of voter sentiment over Trump's second term.

But Trump's demands on Wednesday that Republican senators get rid of the filibuster as a way to end the shutdown complicated an already difficult situation. And Democrats facing divisions within their progressive and moderate ranks said the results showed that voters will reward them for the fight.

"It's time for Republicans to do what they have to do, and that's terminate the filibuster," Trump said during a breakfast meeting Wednesday with GOP senators at the White House.

Trump told the GOP senators they could bring the shutdown to a close by ending the Senate rule, which requires a 60-vote threshold for advancing most legislation, and steamroll the Democratic minority. Republicans now hold a 53-47 majority in the Senate, and Democrats have been able to block legislation that would fund the government, having voted more than a dozen times against.

That push from Trump is likely to go unheeded by Republican senators — Senate Majority Leader John Thune said later changing the filibuster does not have support and is "not happening" — but it could spur them to deal with the Democrats.

Trump sets another shutdown record

Trump's approach to the shutdown stands in marked contrast to his first term, when the government was partially closed for 35 days over his demands for money to build the U.S.-Mexico border wall. At that time, he met publicly and negotiated with congressional leaders. Unable to secure the money, he relented in 2019.

This time, Trump stayed out of the shutdown debate, instead keeping a robust schedule of global travel and events, including at his private Mar-a-Lago club in Florida. And it's not just Trump declining to engage in talks. The congressional leaders are at a standoff, and House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., sent lawmakers home in September after they approved their own funding bill, refusing further negotiations.

A "sad landmark," Johnson said at a news conference Wednesday about the record shutdown.

The speaker dismissed his party's election losses and said Democrats need to drop their demands on health care until after the government reopens.

Senators search for deal as shutdown fallout worsens

While talks have intensified among a loose coalition of centrist senators trying to negotiate an end to the shutdown, Democrats are also doubtful that any deal struck with the Republicans will be upheld un-

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 52 of 69

less Trump also agrees.

The Democrats said Trump's postelection unease with the shutdown should spark talks. But they also question whether the Republican president will keep his word, particularly after the administration restricted SNAP food aid despite court orders to ensure funds are available to prevent hunger.

And while moderate Democrats are quietly working toward an offramp, progressive Democrats are holding out for the best deal possible.

"It would be very strange for the American people to have weighed in, in support of Democrats standing up and fighting for them, and within days for us to surrender without having achieved any of the things that we've been fighting for," said Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn.

In the meantime, food aid, child care money and countless other government services are being seriously interrupted. Hundreds of thousands of federal workers have been furloughed or expected to come to work without pay.

"Can this be over now?" Thune, R-S.D., said as he returned from the White House breakfast. "Have the American people suffered enough?"

Skyrocketing health insurance costs at issue

Central to any resolution will be a series of agreements that would need to be upheld not only by the Senate, but also by the House, and the White House, which is not at all certain.

Senators from both parties are pushing to ensure the normal government funding process in Congress can be put back on track, eyeing a smaller package of bills that has widespread support to fund various aspects of government such as agricultural programs and military construction projects at bases.

More difficult, a substantial number of senators also want some resolution to the standoff over the funding for the Affordable Care Act subsidies that are set to expire at year's end.

With insurance premium notices being sent, millions of people are experiencing sticker shock on skyrocketing prices. The loss of enhanced federal subsidies, which were put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic and come in the form of tax credits, are expected to leave many people unable to buy health insurance.

Republicans are reluctant to fund the health care program, also known as Obamacare, without changes, but negotiating a compromise with Democrats is expected to take time, if a deal can be reached at all.

Thune has promised Democrats at least a vote on their preferred health care proposal, as part of any deal to reopen government. But that's not enough for some senators, who see the health care deadlock as part of their broader concerns with Trump's direction for the country and want assurance it will be resolved.

Conservative Supreme Court justices appear skeptical of Trump's sweeping unilateral tariffs

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A majority of Supreme Court justices seemed skeptical Wednesday about President Donald Trump's ability to unilaterally impose far-reaching tariffs, putting at risk a cornerstone of his agenda in the biggest legal test yet of his boundary-pushing presidency.

Three conservative justices raised questions about whether an emergency law gives Trump near-limitless power to set and change duties on imports, with potentially trillion-dollar implications for the global economy.

The court's three liberal justices also appeared dubious, so at least two conservative votes could limit Trump's tariff power under the law. It likely would not end it altogether, however.

The case is the first major piece of Trump's agenda to come squarely before the nation's highest court, which he helped shape by naming three of the nine justices in his first term. The conservative majority has so far been reluctant to check his extraordinary flex of executive power in short-term orders in cases ranging from high-profile firings to major federal funding cuts. That could change with a more detailed ruling in the tariff case, though it will likely take weeks or months to come down.

The Constitution says Congress has the power to levy tariffs. But, in a first, the Trump administration argues that an emergency law allowing the president to regulate importation also includes imposing tariffs.

Justice Neil Gorsuch appeared concerned that could shift too much congressional power to the president

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 53 of 69

on an issue that helped spark the American Revolution.

"It's a one-way ratchet toward the gradual but continual accretion of power in the executive branch and away from the people's elected representatives," he said, later suggesting the "power to reach into the pockets of the American people" must be "done locally, through our elected representatives."

Chief Justice John Roberts raised questions about whether the emergency-power law allowed for tariffs on "any product, from any country, in any amount, for any length of time."

Justice Amy Coney Barrett also pressed the government on the broad range of Trump's action. "Spain? France? I mean, I could see it with some countries but explain to me why as many countries needed to be subject to the reciprocal tariff policy."

Regulating commerce or raising money?

Solicitor General D. John Sauer said lopsided trade deals are a "global problem," and Trump's tariffs are primarily about regulating foreign commerce to be fairer, rather than raising money that would encroach on Congress's taxation power. "The fact that they raise revenue is only incidental," he said.

Within hours, though, Trump said his tariffs would help slash the deficit. "My tariffs are bringing in hundreds of billions of dollars," he said in a speech to business leaders in Miami.

Trump has called the case one of the most important in the country's history and said a ruling against him would be catastrophic for the economy.

The arguments were about two sets of tariffs. The first came in February on imports from Canada, China and Mexico after Trump declared a national emergency over drug trafficking. The second involves the sweeping "reciprocal" tariffs on most countries that Trump announced in April.

Multiple lawsuits have been filed over those tariffs, including a case from a dozen largely Democratic-leaning states and another from small businesses focused on everything from plumbing supplies to women's cycling apparel. They argue the 1977 emergency powers law Trump used doesn't even mention tariffs, and no president before has used it to impose them.

Lower courts have agreed that the tariffs were an illegal use of the 1977 International Emergency Economic Powers Act, or IEEPA, though some appeals court judges did side with the Trump administration and found the law gives the president broad power.

Who pays the price

At the Supreme Court, much of the argument centered around the legal principle known as the major questions doctrine. It doomed some signature policies of former President Joe Biden, including his \$500 billion student loan forgiveness program.

The challengers say Trump's tariffs should get the same treatment, since they'll have a much greater economic effect, raising some \$3 trillion over the next decade.

The government, on the other hand, said the tariffs are different because they're a major part of Trump's approach to foreign affairs, an area where the courts should not be second-guessing the president.

Justices like Brett Kavanaugh seemed receptive to that argument. "So you're forcing the president to respond to an emergency ... and you're taking away the president's suite of tools," he said. "That just seems a bit unusual."

Roberts also seemed concerned about going too far in restricting the president's foreign affairs power.

The challengers, though, say the tariffs amount to a domestic tax because they are largely paid by Americans.

Attorney Neal Katyal, representing a group of small business challenging the tariffs, argued that Congress would cede control of tariffs for good if the court sided with Trump.

"We will never get this power back if the government wins this case. What president wouldn't veto legislation to rein this power in and pull out the tariff power?" he said.

If Trump eventually loses at the high court, the aftermath could be complicated, if the government must issue refunds. So far, the Treasury has collected almost \$90 billion from the import taxes the president has imposed under the emergency powers law.

But tariffs likely won't be going away. Trump could still impose tariffs under other laws, though they have more limitations on the speed and severity with which he could act.

Wall Street gains ground amid steady flow of earnings reports, upbeat economic updates

By DAMIAN J. TROISE AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks gained ground on Wall Street Wednesday following several upbeat economic updates and a steady flow of quarterly reports from U.S. companies.

The gains were broad and marked a reversal from the prior day's dip. Much of the market's push and pull came from the technology sector, where several companies with huge values have an outsized influence over the market.

Google's parent, Alphabet, jumped 2.4%, Broadcom rose 2%, and Facebook parent Meta Platforms rose 1.4%. They helped lead the way higher for the broader market. Their gains also helped counter losses from a few technology behemoths, including Nvidia and Microsoft.

Overall The S&P 500 rose 24.74 points, or 0.4% to 6,796.29. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 225.76 points, or 0.5%, to 47,311. The Nasdaq composite rose 151.16 points, or 0.6%, to 23,499.80.

Company earnings and forecasts were once again a big focus for Wall Street, with results coming from a broad spectrum of industries.

McDonald's rose 2.2% after reporting that its sales benefited from the return of its popular Snack Wraps in the third quarter. International Flavors & Fragrances jumped 4.1% after beating Wall Street's latest quarterly profit forecasts.

On the losing side, Taser maker Axon Enterprise slumped 9.4% after forecasting weaker profits than analysts were expecting. Live Nation Entertainment fell 10.6% after its latest results fell short of analysts' forecasts.

The latest round of earnings offers Wall Street a source of information on consumers, businesses and the economy that is otherwise lacking amid the government shutdown. Important monthly updates on inflation and employment have ceased, leaving investors, economists and the Federal Reserve without a fuller picture of the economy.

There are still several informative private economic updates that Wall Street can review.

A monthly report from ADP showed that private payrolls rose more than expected in October. The report offers a partial glimpse into the job market, which has been generally weakening and raising broader concerns about economic growth.

The services sector, which is the largest part of the U.S. economy, expanded in October more than Wall Street expected, according to the Institute for Supply Management. The report shows that while overall business activity grew, employment was still contracting.

"The survey provides a reassuring sign that economic growth persisted in October despite the government shutdown," Bill Adams, chief economist for Comerica Bank, wrote in a note to investors.

A weaker job market remains a big concern for the Fed. The central bank cut its benchmark rate for the second time this year at its most recent meeting, in part to help bolster the economy amid a weakening job market. Lower interest rates can make a wide range of loans and credit less expensive, potentially promoting economic growth. But, lower rates can also add fuel to inflation, which could stunt economic growth.

Fed Chair Jerome Powell and several other Fed officials have expressed concerns about more rate cuts, as inflation remains stubbornly above the central bank's target of 2%. Consumer prices rose 3% in September.

The mix of a weaker job market and hot inflation leaves the Fed in a tough position.

"For Fed watchers, this ADP report should make it clear that a December rate cut is now in play," said Jamie Cox, managing partner for Harris Financial Group, in a note to investors. "We are nearing stall speed in the labor market, and that will get the Fed's attention."

Wall Street has tempered its expectations for another interest rate cut in December. Investors are now forecasting a 63% chance that the Fed will cut interest rates, according to CME FedWatch. That's down from a 90% chance just prior to the previous rate cut.

The threat of tariffs also continues to hang over consumers and businesses. President Donald Trump's

trade war with China, Canada and many other nations has been unpredictable. The full impact of higher prices is difficult to forecast because of constant shifts in policy. The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments Wednesday about the legality of the sweeping tariffs.

Treasury yields rose in the bond market. The yield on the 10-year Treasury rose to 4.16% from 4.09% late Tuesday. The yield on the two-year Treasury rose to 3.63% from 3.58% late Tuesday.

European markets gained ground and Asian markets closed mostly lower.

Mamdani announces veteran transition team as he makes plans to carry out an ambitious agenda for NYC

By ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE and JAKE OFFENHARTZ Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Fresh off his historic victory in New York City's mayoral election, Zohran Mamdani on Wednesday announced a slate of seasoned officials to help lead his transition to City Hall, offering an early glimpse at how he intends to turn his ambitious campaign promises into reality.

"In the coming months, I and my team will build a City Hall capable of delivering on the promises of this campaign," Mamdani, a democratic socialist, said at his first news conference as mayor-elect. "We will form an administration that is equal parts capable and compassionate, driven by integrity and willing to work just as hard as the millions of New Yorkers who call this city home."

That transition team will include two former deputy mayors, Maria Torres-Springer and Melanie Hartzog; former Federal Trade Commission Chair Lina Khan; and Grace Bonilla, the head of United Way of New York City, a nonprofit focused on low-income residents. Political strategist Elana Leopold will serve as executive director of the team.

Mamdani said the officials would help steer his transition as he adapts from the "poetry of campaigning" to the "beautiful prose of governing," a winking reference to a phrase used by former Gov. Mario Cuomo, the late father of one of his opponents in the mayoral race, former Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

The incoming mayor said he had not yet heard from Andrew Cuomo since defeating him on Tuesday night in a race that saw the highest turnout for a New York City mayoral election in more than five decades. He said he had spoken by phone with his Republican opponent, Curtis Sliwa.

Mamdani, who at 34 will be the city's youngest mayor in more than a century, now faces the task of implementing his sweeping affordability agenda, while taking charge of the largest police department, sanitation department and school system in the country.

Among his campaign's promises are free child care, free city bus service, city-run grocery stores and a new Department of Community Safety that would expand on an existing city initiative that sends mental health care workers, rather than police, to handle certain emergency calls.

Though he has framed his election as a break from the political mold, his transition team includes familiar faces from the previous two mayoral administrations.

Basil Smikle, a Democratic political strategist and Columbia University professor, said the broad knowledge base of Mamdani's new hires gives the mayor-elect an "opportunity to assuage the concerns about his governance."

Mamdani — who came under fire during the race for his past comments criticizing the New York Police Department — on Wednesday also reiterated his intention to keep the city's current police commissioner, Jessica Tisch. She has declined to say whether she would accept the role.

He has yet to telegraph what other appointments he will make as he takes over a government of more than 300,000 people, but said he was "willing to consider anyone" who shares his goal of making the city more affordable.

On Wednesday, the city's fire commissioner, Robert Tucker, announced his resignation, effective next month.

And in a sign of the scrutiny that his appointments will face, the Anti-Defamation League on Wednesday announced a new tool "to track and monitor policies and personnel" hired by Mamdani, a fierce critic of Israel who the group has accused of ignoring concerns of Jewish safety.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 56 of 69

"I take the issue of antisemitism incredibly seriously," Mamdani said, denouncing the overnight vandalism of a Brooklyn Jewish school as "disgusting and heartbreaking."

Mamdani has already faced scrutiny from national Republicans, including President Donald Trump, who has repeatedly threatened to cut federal funding to the city if Mamdani won.

As Mamdani on Wednesday described his goal of "Trump-proofing" the city, he also said he was open to having conversations with Trump about the "ways that we can work together to serve New Yorkers." That could mean discussing the cost of living or the effect of cuts to the SNAP food aid program amid the federal government shutdown, Mamdani suggested.

"New Yorkers are facing twin crises in this moment: an authoritarian administration and an affordability crisis," Mamdani said.

At a news conference Wednesday, Trump appeared somewhat open to the idea of working with the incoming mayor.

"We'll help him," the president said. "We want New York to be successful. A little bit, maybe."

Musk the trillionaire? Debate over his Tesla pay package rages

By BERNARD CONDON AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Elon Musk turned off many potential buyers of his Tesla cars and sent sales plunging with his foray into politics. But the stock has soared anyway and now he wants the company to pay him more — a lot more.

Shareholders gathering Thursday for Tesla's annual meeting in Austin, Texas, will decide in a proxy vote whether to grant Musk, the company's CEO and already the richest person in the world, enough stock to potentially make him history's first trillionaire.

It's a vote that has sparked heated debate on both sides of the issue, even drawing the pope's comments on it as an example of income inequality.

Several pension funds have come out against the package, arguing that the board of directors is too beholden to Musk, his behavior too reckless lately and the riches offered too much.

Supporters say Musk is a genius who is the only person capable of ushering in a Tesla-dominated future in which hundreds of thousands of self-driving Tesla cars — many without steering wheels — will ferry people and humanoid Tesla robots will march around factories and homes, picking up boxes and watering plants. The pay is necessary to incentivize him, they say, and keep him focused.

Musk has threatened to walk away from the company if he doesn't get what he wants and has blasted some of the package's critics as "corporate terrorists."

What is up for a vote

To get his Tesla shares, Musk has to secure approval from a majority of the company's voting shareholders. Improving the odds, Musk gets to vote his own shares, worth 15% of the company.

Shareholders first heard about the pay package in September when the board of directors proposed it in a detailed filing to federal securities regulators. The document, running 200 pages, also contains other proposals up for a vote at the meeting, including whether to allow Tesla to invest in another Musk company, xAI, and who should serve on the board in the future.

How Musk can get \$1 trillion

Musk won't necessarily get all of that money, or even a cent of it, if the package is approved. He first has to meet several operational and financial targets.

To get the full pay, for instance, he has to deliver to the car market 20 million Teslas over 10 years, more than double the number he has churned out over the past dozen years. He also has to massively increase the market value of the company and its operating profits and deliver one million robots, from zero today.

If he falls short of the biggest goals, though, the package could still hand him plenty of money.

Musk will get \$50 billion in additional Tesla shares, for example, if he increases the company's market value by 80%, something he did just this past year, as well as doubling vehicle sales and tripling operating earnings — or hitting any other two of a dozen operational targets.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 57 of 69

Musk vs. Rockefeller

Musk is already the richest man in the world with a net worth of \$493 billion, according to Forbes magazine, and well ahead of some of the wealthiest of years past.

The steel giant, Andrew Carnegie, was once worth an inflation-adjusted \$300 billion, according to the Carnegie Corp., well below Musk's wealth.

Musk is still trailing John D. Rockefeller, but he's closing in fast. The railroad titan hit peak inflation-adjusted wealth of \$630 billion in 1913, according to Guinness World Records.

For his part, Musk says it's not really about the money but about getting a higher Tesla stake — it will double to nearly 30% — so he can control the company. He says that's a pressing concern given Tesla's future "robot army," a reference to the company's Optimus humanoid workers that he doesn't trust anyone else to control.

Split among shareholders

Many investors have come out in support of the package, including Baron Capital Management, whose founder called Musk indispensable to the company. "Without his relentless drive and uncompromising standards," wrote founder Ron Baron, "there would be no Tesla."

Critics include the biggest in the U.S. public pension fund, Calpers, and Norway's sovereign wealth fund, the world's largest. They argue the pay is excessive, with the Norway fund expressing concern that the board that designed it, which includes Musk's brother, is not independent enough. That echoes a decision from a Delaware court nearly two years ago that blasted the process for approving a previous Musk pay package as "deeply flawed" given his "extensive ties" to directors.

Even the Vatican has weighed in, decrying the wealth gap in the world and blasting the trillion dollar offer in particular.

"If that is the only thing that has value anymore," said Pope Leo XIV, "then we're in big trouble."

Musk's record at Tesla is mixed

Judging from the stock price alone, Musk has been spectacularly successful. The company is now worth nearly \$1.5 trillion.

But a lot that runup reflects big bets by investors that Musk will be able deliver things that are difficult to pull off, and the way Musk has run the company recently doesn't inspire confidence. He has broken numerous promises, and his tendency to say whatever is on his mind has sabotaged the company.

Just this year, for instance, he vowed to deliver driverless taxis in several cities, secure regulatory approval in Europe for his self-driving software and push sales up 20% or 30%.

Instead, his driverless robotaxis in Austin and San Francisco have human safety monitors inside. Europeans still haven't approved his software. And Tesla sales continue to plunge, with new figures out Monday showing a stunning 50% drop last month in Germany alone.

That said, Musk has pulled off the impossible before. His company a half dozen years ago was widely feared to be near bankruptcy because he wasn't making enough cars, but then he succeeded and the stock soared.

"He frequently teeters on the edge of disaster," said Tesla owner and money manager Nancy Tengler, "and then pulls back just in the nick of time."

President Donald Trump, in Miami, brags about the economy despite an election-night rebuke

By SEUNG MIN KIM Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — President Donald Trump took a victory lap on the economy on the one-year anniversary of his successful election, boasting of cheaper prices and saying the U.S. is the envy of the globe even while the Republican Party faced a rebuke from voters anxious about their own finances in Tuesday's off-year elections.

Trump, speaking Wednesday at the America Business Forum, said he thinks that communication was the problem, insisting that "we have the greatest economy right now" and that "a lot of people don't see that."

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 58 of 69

"These are the things you have to talk about," Trump told a packed arena at Miami's Kaseya Center that included top business executives, global athletes and political leaders. "If people don't talk about them, then you can do not so well in elections."

It marked a significant effort from Trump to put a positive spin on the economy at a time when Americans remain uneasy about the cost of living and their own financial security — and when major campaigns in Tuesday's elections — from New York to Virginia — were centered on affordability and the economy.

Trump's comments echoed sentiments from his predecessor, Joe Biden, whose White House insisted that the Democrat's political standing would improve if they better communicated his economic accomplishments.

'These are the things you have to talk about'

Trump speech often deviated from the topic at hand, and included a call for South Africa to leave the Group of 20. But he made sure to underscore what he saw as his economic successes.

On digital assets, Trump said that "crypto was under siege; it's not under siege anymore." He pointed to declines in egg and gas prices, and the interest rate, despite the "nincompoop" at the Federal Reserve, a reference to Fed chairman Jerome Powell. Trump referred to his pledge to dissolve 10 existing regulations for every new one he issues, and said "so far for nine months, we're exceeding that."

Despite Trump's promises to tame inflation and unleash growth, the AP Voter Poll survey, which included more than 17,000 voters in New Jersey, Virginia, California and New York City, suggested the public was troubled by higher prices and fewer job opportunities. Republicans handily lost key races in Virginia and New Jersey, and the president acknowledged Wednesday that the ongoing government shutdown, with effects rippling through the economy, was "negative for the Republicans."

He also touched on how his trips abroad are benefiting the U.S. Trump spent five days in Asia last week with stops in Malaysia, Japan and South Korea. He worked to ease trade tensions with Beijing in a meeting with Chinese leader Xi Jinping. In Tokyo, he promoted several major energy and tech projects for the U.S. that will be funded by Japan.

The event was sponsored by Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund

Miami's Republican Mayor Francis Suarez said he thinks Trump's recent travels "have been transformational in his presidency" and cast his speech as a highlight of the forum, which organizers have described as a more accessible version of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, or the Milken Institute Global Conference, which gathers the world's elite for discussions on the economy.

Political leaders, business executives and athletes including tennis legend Serena Williams and soccer star Lionel Messi are among the speakers at the forum inside Kaseya Center, the home of the NBA's Miami Heat that had been transformed with an elaborate, futuristic stage where speakers are introduced with a light display and machines shooting smoke into the air.

It's primarily sponsored by Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund, known as the Public Investment Fund, which is a key pillar of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's plans to pursue megaprojects and investments abroad.

"This conference not only is creating this incredible collection of people, but it's also creating them in a particular moment in time," Suarez said in an interview.

Earlier Wednesday, the conference hosted María Corina Machado, the Venezuelan opposition leader and winner of this year's Nobel Peace Prize who praised the U.S. president's posture toward Venezuela in her remarks.

"Regarding the strategy of President Trump toward this criminal narco-terrorist structure, it's absolutely correct because Nicolás Maduro is not a legitimate head of state," said Machado, who appeared at the forum remotely.

Trump's visit also highlights how the Miami area is playing a key role during his second term.

Trump is set to host leaders of the world's leading rich and developing economies at next year's Group of 20 summit at his golf club at the nearby city of Doral, despite what critics say is the appearance of impropriety.

Trump's sons have taken over running the Trump Organization while their father is in the White House, and the president has insisted that his family's business will not make any money by holding the summit

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 59 of 69

at the golf club.

The city is where Trump wants to locate his future presidential library, which is now facing a legal challenge over whether the plot of land in downtown Miami is being properly transferred. During his speech, Suarez gave him a ceremonial gold key for the project.

Miami is also one of the U.S. host cities for next year's World Cup, which Trump has eagerly promoted as the kickoff to several major global sporting events for which the U.S. is playing host. Ensuring the success of the World Cup has been a top priority for the Trump administration.

FIFA President Gianni Infantino, with whom Trump has developed a close friendship, was scheduled to speak at the Miami forum later Wednesday.

What to know after the Supreme Court arguments over Trump's tariffs

By MARK SHERMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration on Wednesday got a chilly reception at the Supreme Court, where a majority of the court questioned President Donald Trump's novel use of an emergency powers law to impose worldwide tariffs.

The court, with three justices Trump appointed and generally favorable to muscular presidential power, could find that he exceeded his authority.

It's the first Trump policy that is before the court for a final decision and the stakes are enormous, both politically and financially.

The Republican president has made tariffs a central piece of his economic and foreign policy and has said it would be a "disaster" if the Supreme Court rules against him.

Here are some things to know about the tariffs arguments at the Supreme Court.

Conservative and liberal justices had tough questions for the administration

A potential majority in a ruling against the tariffs would almost certainly bring together the court's three liberal justices and at least two conservatives.

Justices Amy Coney Barrett and Neil Gorsuch, both Trump appointees, and Chief Justice John Roberts appeared to be the most likely to rule against the president.

The Constitution gives Congress the power to impose tariffs, but Trump has claimed extraordinary power to act without congressional approval by declaring national emergencies under the 1977 International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

In February, he invoked the law to impose tariffs on Canada, Mexico and China, saying that the illegal flow of immigrants and drugs across the U.S. border amounted to a national emergency and that the three countries needed to do more to stop it.

In April, he imposed worldwide tariffs after declaring the United States' longstanding trade deficits "a national emergency."

But Roberts didn't seem sure Trump has that power. The law has "never before been used to justify tariffs. No one has argued that it does until this particular case," Roberts told Solicitor General D. John Sauer.

Tariffs are taxes on imports and Gorsuch signaled he was troubled by the idea that Congress could give away its power over taxes to the president. "The power to reach into the pockets of the American people is just different and it's been different since the founding," Gorsuch said, when disputes over taxes helped spark the American Revolution.

There is a glimmer of hope for Trump

Both Barrett and Roberts asked questions indicating at least some unease about how the case should come out, and Justices Brett Kavanaugh, Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas also could support the administration.

Kavanaugh led Sauer in some friendly questioning about 10% worldwide tariffs imposed by President Richard Nixon under a predecessor to IEEPA that used very similar language.

Understanding Nixon's tariffs, which were upheld by an appellate court but never reached the Supreme

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 60 of 69

Court, "is real important to deciding this case correctly."

Barrett and Kavanaugh seized on arguments made by the challengers that the president could order a complete trade embargo but not impose tariffs of even 1% under the emergency law.

"Doesn't it seem like it would make sense, then, that Congress would want the President to use something that was ... weaker medicine than completely shutting down trade as leverage to try to get a foreign nation to do something?" Barrett asked.

The justices could act more quickly than usual in issuing a decision

The court only agreed to hear the case in September, scheduling arguments less than two months later. The quick turnaround, at least by Supreme Court standards, suggests that the court will try to act fast.

High-profile cases can take half a year or more to resolve, often because the majority and dissenting opinions go through rounds of revision.

But the court can act quickly when deadline pressure dictates. Most recently, the court ruled a week after hearing arguments in the TikTok case, unanimously upholding a law requiring the popular social media app to be banned unless it was sold by its Chinese parent company. Trump has intervened several times to keep the law from taking effect while negotiations continue with China.

How key demographic groups voted in 2025, according to the AP Voter Poll

By LINLEY SANDERS, AMELIA THOMSON-DEVEAUX and HYJOIN YOO Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democratic candidates saw victories across key races Tuesday, and there were signs there's plenty of room for the Democratic Party to make up ground among groups that moved toward President Donald Trump in the 2024 election.

That finding comes from the AP Voter Poll, a sweeping survey of more than 17,000 voters in New Jersey, Virginia, California and New York City that explains who voted in each election and their views on top issues in their state.

Even with major wins, the survey also exposed fault lines for Democrats. Young men were less likely than young women to support Democrats in the governor's races, and Jewish voters in New York City appeared wary of supporting Democratic nominee, Zohran Mamdani.

Here's a look at how key demographic groups in 2025 voted, according to the AP Voter Poll.

Vast majority of young voters in NYC voted for Mamdani

Mamdani, 34, will be the city's youngest mayor in over a century. Young voters in New York City overwhelmingly backed him in his generational showdown with former Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who ran as an independent, and Republican Curtis Sliwa.

About three-quarters of New York City voters under 30 cast a ballot for Mamdani. They were a relatively small portion of the city's electorate, and they also were much more likely than older voters to say it was their first time voting in a mayoral election.

Older voters were more likely to back Cuomo than Mamdani, but a significant share still backed the Democratic nominee. About 2 in 10 Mamdani voters were under 30, while voters for Cuomo and Sliwa skewed much older.

Mamdani has identified as a democratic socialist throughout his campaign, following the brand of U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders and U.S. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. About one-quarter of New York City voters said they identified as a democratic socialist, with about 4 in 10 voters in New York City under 30 saying they identify this way.

Sherrill performed well among Black, Asian and Hispanic voters

Democrats' strong performances with non-white voters in New Jersey and Virginia were promising for the party, after Trump made inroads with Black and Hispanic voters in 2024.

About 7 in 10 voters in New Jersey were white, and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mikie Sherrill won about half that group. But she made up for it with a strong showing among Black, Hispanic and Asian voters. The vast majority — about 9 in 10 — of Black voters supported Sherrill, as did about 8 in

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 61 of 69

10 Asian voters.

Hispanic voters in New Jersey were more divided, but about two-thirds supported Sherrill; only about 3 in 10 voted for the Republican nominee, Jack Ciattarelli.

The pattern was similar in Virginia, where Democrat Abigail Spanberger performed well among Black voters, Hispanic voters and Asian voters, even though she didn't win a majority of white voters.

Muslim voters supported Mamdani, while most Jewish voters supported Cuomo

Mamdani will be New York's first Muslim mayor, and he won the vast majority of Muslim voters. About 9 in 10 Muslim voters supported Mamdani, according to the AP Voter Poll. They made up a very small voter group in the city: about 4% of New York City voters were Muslim.

No other candidate had such uniform support from a religious group, but Cuomo claimed the support of about 6 in 10 Jewish voters, while only about 3 in 10 cast a ballot for Mamdani.

Jewish voters' support for Cuomo was the culmination of months of anxiety and division within the country's largest Jewish community, as many voters and leaders expressed concern about Mamdani's harsh criticism of Israel.

About half of Jewish and Muslim voters in New York City said the candidates' positions on Israel were "a major factor" in their vote.

Young voters broke hard for Democrats — but especially women

Most voters under 30 voted for the Democratic candidates in the New Jersey and Virginia governor's races, and the New York City mayoral campaign, but young women were particularly likely to support Democrats.

About 8 in 10 women under 30 supported Sherrill in New Jersey, compared to just over half of men under 30. That was similar in Virginia, where roughly 8 in 10 women under 30 voted for Spanberger and about 6 in 10 men under 30 did.

There were gender divides among older voters as well, but they weren't as large. Just over half of women ages 65 and older, for instance, supported Sherrill, compared to about 4 in 10 men ages 65 and older.

Federal government worker households supported Spanberger

Disruptions to the federal workforce over the past year, including the ongoing government shutdown, were felt particularly in Virginia. About 2 in 10 Virginia voters said they live in a household with someone who is currently employed by the federal government or as a federal contractor, according to the poll.

Voters with a federal government worker in their household were likelier than other voters to support Spanberger. About two-thirds of voters who live in a household with a current federal employee or contractor voted for Spanberger, compared to just over half of voters in households without a family member who works for the government.

About 6 in 10 Virginia voters also reported that their family's finances had been affected "a lot" or "a little" by federal government cuts this year. About two-thirds of those voters supported Spanberger, while about 6 in 10 voters who said they hadn't been affected by the cuts supported Republican Lt. Gov. Winsome Earle-Sears.

Veteran households voted against Sherrill, but she won anyway

Veteran households did not back Sherrill — but she won without their support.

Sherrill is a Navy veteran who faced questions surrounding a cheating scandal during her time at the U.S. Naval Academy. She won about 4 in 10 voters from a U.S. military household, while about 6 in 10 voters in veteran households voted for her opponent, Ciattarelli. Veteran households made up about one-quarter of voters in New Jersey.

Even more Virginia voters, roughly 4 in 10, said someone in their household had ever served in the U.S. military. Spanberger won about half of veteran households in Virginia.

The 2025 AP Voter Poll, conducted by SSRS from Oct. 22 to Nov. 4, includes representative samples of registered voters in California (4,490), New Jersey (4,336), New York City (4,943) and Virginia (4,817). The AP Voter Poll combines data collected from validated registered voters online and by telephone, with data collected in-person from election day voters at approximately 30 precincts per state or city, excluding

California. Respondents can complete the poll in English or Spanish. The overall margin of sampling error for voters, accounting for design effect, is plus or minus 2.0 percentage points in California, 2.0 percentage points in New Jersey, 2.1 percentage points in New York City and 1.9 percentage points in Virginia.

Israel says Hamas hands over additional remains believed to be of a hostage

By WAFAA SHURAF and SAM METZ Associated Press

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — The Israeli military said Wednesday that Hamas has handed over remains believed to be of a deceased hostage to the Red Cross in Gaza, the latest step forward under the U.S.-brokered ceasefire.

The military said in a statement that the remains were being brought back into Israel. Ahead of the announcement, Hamas had returned the remains of 21 hostages to Israel under the terms of the ceasefire that began Oct. 10. If the latest remains are confirmed during forensic testing, that would leave the remains of six others in Gaza.

The announcement came after search operations in Gaza City's Shijaiya neighborhood uncovered the remains. A bulldozer with an Egyptian flag flying on it was seen digging in a heavily destroyed area in Shijaiyah as masked members of Hamas' military wing, the Qassam Brigades, guarded the area. ICRC vehicles were also present.

Hamas militants were seen later leaving the area with several bags seen in the back of a pickup truck. In late October, Egypt deployed a team of experts and heavy equipment to help search for hostages' bodies.

Hamas has said recovering bodies is complicated by the widespread devastation in the coastal enclave and has returned one to three bodies every few days. Israel has pushed to speed up the returns and in certain cases has said the remains were not those of hostages.

Earlier in the day, Israel handed over the bodies of 15 more Palestinians, a day after militants in Gaza returned the body of Itay Chen, an Israeli soldier killed in the Oct. 7, 2023, attack that triggered Israel's 2-year-old campaign in Gaza. So far, Israel has handed over 285 bodies, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross, which handles the exchanges.

Under the ceasefire deal, Hamas returned 20 living hostages to Israel on Oct. 13. The further exchanges of the dead are the central component of the initial phase of the U.S.-brokered agreement which requires Hamas return all hostage remains as quickly as possible. The exchanges have gone ahead even as Israel and Hamas have accused each other of breaching other terms of the deal.

Israeli officials have decried parts of the process as a violation of the agreement, accusing Hamas of handing over partial remains in some instances and staging the discovery of bodies in others.

Hamas has accused Israel of opening fire at civilians and restricting the flow of humanitarian aid into the territory. The number of casualties has dropped since the ceasefire took effect, but officials in Gaza have continued to report deaths from strikes, while Israel has said that soldiers have also been killed in militant attacks.

Health officials in Gaza have said identifying the remains handed over by Israel is complicated by a lack of DNA testing kits. Israel has not disclosed how many bodies it is holding or where they were recovered, but has been returning 15 each time the remains of an Israeli hostage are returned from Gaza.

The ceasefire deal will not move to subsequent phases until all the remains of Israeli hostages are returned.

The next parts of the 20-point plan call for creating an international stabilization force. Its makeup hasn't been finalized, but diplomats are working to define its role, persuade Arab countries to take part, and win wider international support.

"What we believe is that whatever entity that is created in Gaza should have the legitimacy of a mandate from the Security Council," U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told reporters in Doha on Tuesday.

The fragile agreement aims to wind down the war that was triggered by the Hamas-led attack on southern Israel that killed about 1,200 people and saw 251 taken hostage.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 63 of 69

Israel responded with a sweeping military offensive that has killed more than 68,800 Palestinians in Gaza, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. 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.

The Latest: Supreme Court appears skeptical of Trump's tariffs

By The Associated Press undefined

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the biggest legal test yet of President Donald Trump's economic agenda, several conservative justices on the Supreme Court have signaled skepticism about his power to unilaterally impose sweeping tariffs.

It was a "hot bench" during the arguments Wednesday, with each justice posing multiple questions about the case. A decision could take weeks or months.

The administration is defending the tariffs after lower courts ruled that the emergency law Trump invoked does not give him broad authority to set and change import duties. The Constitution grants that power to Congress.

The case involves February tariffs on imports from Canada, China and Mexico, along with "reciprocal" tariffs on most countries that were announced in April. Democratic-leaning states and small businesses filed the lawsuit, with the latter saying these tariffs threaten their survival.

Here's the latest:

Tariff challengers insist the Trump administration is 'abusing an emergency power'

Oregon Attorney General Dan Rayfield says the Trump administration's attorney "had the gall to look all of those justices in the eyes and say these are not taxes on the American people, and they're doing it by abusing an emergency power."

Rayfield pointed out that the tariffs come "when Americans are facing an affordability crisis." He spoke to reporters outside of the courthouse after the arguments, flanked by attorneys general from Arizona and California.

Trump's Treasury secretary and other senior officials attended

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent showed up for the arguments, as promised, along with Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and Trade Representative Jamieson Greer. The three sat together in the middle rows of the court room. The trio have largely been responsible for negotiating various trade deals with other nations.

Notable lawmakers who attended the arguments were Republican U.S. Rep. Jason Smith, who heads the House Ways and Means Committee, and Democratic Sen. Amy Klobuchar.

Arguments wrap up after more than 2 ½ hours

Sauer gives brief concluding remarks and Roberts announces, "The case is submitted." The next step for the court is a private conference at which the justices will take a preliminary vote on the outcome.

Gutman concedes the president has the power to shut down trade under IEEPA

Kavanaugh asks why Congress would rationally give the president that enormous authority, but not the power to impose even a 1% tariff.

Kavanaugh says it creates a doughnut hole in the law. But Gutman says the power to tax is fundamentally different. "It's not a doughnut hole but a fundamentally different pastry," Oregon's lawyer said, drawing laughs.

What if tariffs have to be refunded?

Under questioning, Katyal conceded it would be hard to refund money to importers if the court strikes down Trump's tariffs.

So far, the Treasury has collected nearly \$90 billion from the import taxes the president has imposed under an emergency powers law. "We don't deny that it's difficult," Katyal said.

But there's a precedent for companies getting their money back. In the 1990s, the courts struck down

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 64 of 69

as unconstitutional a harbor maintenance fee on exports and set up a system for exporters to apply to get their money back.

At the two-hour mark with the Oregon solicitor general still to come

Thoughts about lunch could be mixing with the justices' questions about tariffs as the arguments stretch into the afternoon. Oregon's lawyer is arguing on behalf of a dozen states that also sued over the tariffs.

Justice Kavanaugh points to a 1976 tariff that was upheld by the Supreme Court

The court unanimously ruled for President Gerald Ford in a case about the imposition of tariffs on oil imports, based on a different statute that also doesn't mention the word tariffs.

"The court 9-0 rejected the argument" that the absence of the word tariff doomed Ford's action, Kavanaugh said.

The limits of tariffs as foreign policy

Thomas asked if the president could use tariffs as leverage to pressure a foreign government – perhaps China – to return an American taken hostage.

No, Katyal said: "Tariffs are different because they're revenue raising."

And Congress has the power to impose taxes, including tariffs, unless it explicitly delegates that power to the president.

A moment of levity

Nondelegation is an argument that's dear to conservatives, and on Wednesday it was being made by a onetime Democratic appointee.

Alito gently ribbed Katyal, who served in the Obama administration, about embracing the nondelegation doctrine, last used 90 years ago, over tariffs.

"Mr. Katyal, I wonder if you ever thought your legacy as a constitutional advocate would be as the man who revived the nondelegation argument?" Alito said, drawing a chuckle from the courtroom.

"Heck yes!" the lawyer replied.

The president has other powers to tax imports, Katyal says

The challengers' lawyer argued that the president has other authority to impose tariffs, without relying on a national emergency.

For example, he cited Section 122 of the Trade Act of 1974, which allows the president to combat trade deficits by imposing tariffs of up to 15% for up to 150 days without congressional approval.

Emergency law didn't give the president tariff power, Katyal says

"Congress knows exactly how to delegate its tariff powers," Katyal said, noting that several statutes explicitly give the president power to tax imports – but only within limits.

"IEEPA looks nothing like those laws," he said.

Roberts is now poking at the challengers' arguments

The chief justice invokes the president's broad authority over foreign affairs and, alluding to deals struck by Trump.

He notes that the tariffs "were quite effective in achieving objectives."

The lawyer representing companies challenging the tariffs is up

Attorney Neal Katyal, in response to a question from Thomas, distinguishes between embargos, allowed by the law, and tariffs, which he says are not.

"Embargos stop the shipment, tariffs start the tax bill," Katyal said.

He was solicitor general in the Obama administration, on an acting basis.

Legal observers weigh in on the arguments so far

"One key takeaway is the concern that Congress can't pull back the authority because it would require a veto-proof supermajority," said Ryan Majerus, a partner at the law firm King & Spalding who was a trade official in the first Trump administration and the Biden administration.

He also said Gorsuch and Barrett seem to be the swing votes.

Stratos Pahis, who teaches trade law at the Brooklyn Law School, agreed. "Lots of skepticism so far from Justices Roberts, Gorsuch, and Barrett."

It's nearly halftime

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 65 of 69

You can't predict the final score when the game is only half over, but so far Roberts, Barrett and Gorsuch have posed questions suggesting that they may not accept the administration's arguments in favor of the tariffs.

The three liberal justices also seem skeptical of the tariffs. But again, we haven't heard from the other side yet.

Justices ask where the law gives Trump the power to tariff

Getting to a key question in the case, Justice Brett Kavanaugh asked why the president's power under IEEPA to regulate imports included the power to impose tariffs when the law does not even mention tariffs.

Sauer responded that tariffs are the "natural" and "in many ways the quintessential way" to regulate imports.

Justice Gorsuch worries about giving limitless power to presidents

Gorsuch, a Trump appointee, has questions about both major questions and nondelegation. He is asking Sauer to provide limits on the broadest reading of the administration's arguments in favor of tariffs.

Sauer agreed that another, very different president would have the authority to declare climate change an emergency and impose tariffs to deal with it.

What is nondelegation?

Congress can delegate some of its powers to the executive branch, but there are limits.

Some of the conservative justices want to reinvigorate a legal doctrine that was last used in 1935.

Justice Neil Gorsuch voted in dissent in June to strike down a universal service fee on phone bills as an unconstitutional delegation of congressional power. The challenges hope to attract his vote on tariffs on the same basis.

Gorsuch has mostly worried about Congress giving away too much of its power to federal agencies. It's unclear whether he'll have the same reservation with the president involved.

What is IEEPA?

The acronym IEEPA stands for the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, which is the 1977 law at the center of the case.

Presidents have used it dozens of times over the years, often to impose sanctions on other countries.

Trump is the first president to use it to impose tariffs. The challengers say that's unconstitutional.

What is the major questions doctrine?

Conservative majorities blocked President Joe Biden's \$500 billion student loan forgiveness plan and other of his administration's initiatives by ruling that Congress must speak clearly on questions of "vast economic and political significance."

The court ruled that the statutes relied upon in those cases did not clearly give the administration the power to act.

Roberts says 'major questions' might directly apply to this case

The chief justice sounds skeptical that Trump can use the emergency powers law for tariffs.

Roberts noted "it has never been used before to justify tariffs." However, he may be asking about this as a way to let the Trump administration's lawyer offer a more expansive explanation.

The tariffs would be in trouble if they don't have Roberts' vote.

Does regulate = tariff?

Trump-appointed Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett is drilling down to a key question in the case: Does the word "regulate" allow tariffs?

The Trump administration argues that it does, and that's why they say he can impose and change tariffs during national emergencies.

Barrett grilled him on that point, questioning whether regulate has frequently been used to allow for tariffs.

Barrett is a conservative who's gone her own way on some cases, and her vote will be key in the case.

Trump's lawyer says tariffs' main purpose is to regulate commerce, not raise revenue

Sauer provoked an objection from Justice Sonia Sotomayor after arguing that Trump's tariffs were not designed to raise revenue for the federal government.

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 66 of 69

Trump has repeatedly boasted about how much money his import taxes are brining into the Treasury. "You want to say tariffs are not taxes, but they are," Sotomayor said.

Roberts questions Sauer

Chief Justice John Roberts jumped in fairly quickly, questioning Sauer about whether he's relying too much on an older decision on a different part of the emergency-powers law at the center of the case.

The chief justice is always a key person to watch, but his take will be especially important in this case.

Roberts was a law clerk at the time to the justice who wrote the 1981 opinion, William Rehnquist.

Thomas first asks about 'major questions'

Conservative majorities blocked President Joe Biden's \$500 billion student loan forgiveness plan and other of his administration's initiatives by ruling that Congress must speak clearly on questions of "vast economic and political significance."

It's not clear whether the justices will apply the same principle in the tariffs case, but lower courts did.

Sauer says it doesn't apply to foreign affairs issues.

Settle in for a lengthy session

It should be a "hot bench," with every justice posing multiple questions on an issue of extreme importance.

The court has allotted 80 minutes for arguments, but they will almost certainly extend well into early afternoon. Since returning to the courtroom following the COVID-19 pandemic, the justices have routinely gone beyond the time set aside for arguments.

The Justice Department will argue first

Arguments are getting underway.

First up is Solicitor General D. John Sauer, Trump's top Supreme Court lawyer, arguing for the Trump administration.

Trump won't be at the Supreme Court

Trump has been vocal about the case and suggested at one point he might go to the arguments himself — something no other sitting president is recorded to have done.

He said Sunday he decided against it, but Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent is expected to attend.

"It's not about me, it's about our country," Trump told reporters Sunday.

The justices could act more quickly than usual in issuing a decision

The court only agreed to hear the case in September, scheduling arguments less than two months later. The quick turnaround, at least by Supreme Court standards, suggests that the court will try to act fast.

High-profile cases can take half a year or more to resolve, often because the majority and dissenting opinions go through rounds of revision.

But the court can act quickly when deadline pressure dictates. Most recently, the court ruled a week after hearing arguments in the TikTok case.

Tariff critics cross the political spectrum

The challengers aren't the only ones urging the Supreme Court to rule against the tariffs.

Conservative-leaning groups like Cato Institute, the Chamber of Commerce and the Goldwater Institute have filed legal briefs urging the court to uphold the rulings against them.

Former national security officials, federal judges and economists also weighed in against them, as have hundreds of small businesses.

The tariffs have found some support in the docket from groups like the Trump-aligned America First Policy Institute.

Three lawyers will present arguments to the court

Solicitor General D. John Sauer, Trump's top Supreme Court lawyer, is defending the tariffs.

Neal Katyal, who held Sauer's job on an acting basis in the Obama administration, represents small businesses that are challenging the tariffs.

Oregon Solicitor General Benjamin Gutman is appearing on behalf of 12 mostly Democratic-led states that also sued over the tariffs.

Little visible benefits so far from tariffs

Trump has warned that a decision by the Supreme Court to overturn his tariffs poses a nearly existential

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 67 of 69

threat to the nation's economic growth.

But so far, there is little evidence that the duties have benefited the economy.

Pedestrians walk by a "Now Hiring" sign at an electronics store in Dallas, Thursday, Aug. 28, 2025. (AP Photo/LM Otero)

Manufacturers have cut jobs every month since Trump's "Liberation Day" tariff announcement in April. And a survey of manufacturers released Monday found that U.S. factory activity contracted in October for the eighth straight month.

Many respondents to the survey complained that tariffs have disrupted their business.

Trump's policies take tariffs to 1930s levels

Since returning to the White House in January, Trump has reversed decades of U.S. policy that favored free trade and low taxes on imports.

The average U.S. tariff rate has risen to 17.9% — highest since 1934 — from around 2.5% at the beginning of the year, according to Yale University's Budget Lab.

If the Supreme Court strikes down the tariffs Trump justified by declaring economic emergencies, the average tariff rate would drop to 9.1%, the lab reported.

Trump's tariffs make money for the Treasury

Tariff revenue came to \$195 billion in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, up 153% from \$77 billion in fiscal 2024. The import taxes he justified under an economic emergency law — the ones being challenged in the Supreme Court — brought in \$89 billion.

Still, total tariffs accounted for less than 4% of federal revenue of \$5.2 trillion in fiscal 2025.

Tariffs in foreign policy

For Trump, tariffs are not just a key part of his economic agenda, they're also a cornerstone of his foreign policy.

He has wielded the import taxes as a threat to secure ceasefires, as political pressure during the prosecution of a Trump ally, and as punishment for a television ad.

In fact, the Justice Department has pointed to their prominence in foreign policy as one reason why the Supreme Court should not strike them down, since it's an area where courts have long given deference to the executive branch.

The challengers, on the other hand, say that tariffs amount to a domestic tax because they're paid by American companies that import goods, and taxation belongs to Congress.

US trade deficits are nothing new

Trump justified his sweeping tariffs on most U.S. trading partners by declaring that the country's trade deficit amounted to a national emergency.

But the U.S. has been importing more than it exports for five decades. It hasn't run a trade surplus since 1975.

There is beefed-up security around the court

Streets around the building are closed, as has recently been the case on days the court is in session. With Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and members of Congress expected for the arguments, security is even tighter than usual.

What happens if the Supreme Court rules against Trump?

The president has warned the United States will be rendered "defenseless" if he loses. But he'd actually still have plenty of options to keep taxing imports aggressively.

He can use other laws he deployed in his first term and can reach for more, including one aimed specifically at addressing trade imbalances and a previously unused Depression-era statute that allows for up to 50% tariffs against countries that treat American businesses unfairly.

He just won't have nearly boundless authority to impose any tariff he wants anytime he wants to.

Livestream should begin a few minutes after 10 a.m. Eastern time

A buzzer and the court marshal's cry, "All rise," will signal the start of the session, the justices emerging from behind red curtains to take their seats at the court's curved mahogany bench.

The livestream won't kick in for several minutes, until after the ceremonial swearing-in of lawyers to the

Supreme Court bar.

Motorist 'deliberately' hit 5 people in car ramming on French Atlantic island

By YOHAN BONNET undefined

SAINT-PIERRE-D'OLÉRON, France (AP) — A motorist "deliberately" hit five people over 35 minutes on Île d'Oléron, a quiet French island popular with summer tourists off the Atlantic coast, two of them seriously, Interior Minister Laurent Nuñez said Wednesday.

Speaking from the scene, Nuñez said an investigation for attempted murder is underway. The case is not being treated as a terrorist investigation, he added.

One of the victims, a 22-year-old woman, suffered multiple traumas; three others had minor injuries, he said.

Officials gave varying accounts of the number of injured persons, with several pedestrians being monitored for psychological shock.

Thibault Breckhoff, the mayor of Dolus-d'Oléron, who originally said nine people were injured, said that a crisis cell was set up and the suspect was arrested, he said.

French TV showed images of car which had allegedly been set on fire before an arrest was made.

"We are extremely shocked," Breckhoff told BFM-TV. "All municipal services are fully mobilized. Two helicopters are on site transporting the gravely injured to Poitiers" on the French mainland.

He said he contacted the mother of one of the injured victims. "You're never prepared to announce news like this," he said.

Christophe Sueur, the mayor of nearby Saint-Pierre-d'Oléron, said the front of the car used by the suspect was "completely torn off."

He said it appeared the driver "was fully aware of what he was doing."

According to Sueur, the suspect was known to the police for minor common-law offenses, specifically theft and repeated problems linked to alcohol and drug use. He was not flagged for radicalization.

The incidents took place along roadside areas between Dolus-d'Oléron and Saint-Pierre-d'Oléron, with initial calls around 9:00 a.m, local time, according to French media.

Media reports identified the suspect is a 35-year-old French national residing in La Cotinière, a small fishing village on the west coast of Île d'Oléron.

Today in History: November 6, Abraham Lincoln wins presidency

By The Associated Press undefined

Today is Thursday, Nov. 6, the 310th day of 2025. There are 55 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On Nov. 6, 1860, former Illinois congressman Abraham Lincoln of the Republican Party was elected president of the United States as he defeated John Breckinridge, John Bell and Stephen Douglas.

Also on this date:

In 1861, an unopposed Jefferson Davis was elected to a six-year term as president of the Confederate States of America, after serving much of the year as its provisional president.

In 1888, Republican presidential candidate Benjamin Harrison won the electoral vote over incumbent Democrat Grover Cleveland, despite Cleveland gaining 90,000 more total votes; it would be the last time the popular vote winner would lose the election until 2000.

In 1947, "Meet the Press," the longest-running television show in America, made its debut on NBC; the host was the show's co-creator, Martha Rountree.

In 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower won reelection, defeating Democratic nominee Adlai Stevenson II for the second time.

In 1977, 39 people, mostly students, were killed when the Kelly Barnes Dam in Georgia burst, sending

Groton Daily Independent

Thursday, November 06, 2025 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 155 ~ 69 of 69

a wall of water through Toccoa Falls College.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan won reelection by a landslide over former Vice President Walter Mondale. The Democratic challenger won just one state, his native Minnesota.

In 2012, President Barack Obama won reelection, vanquishing Republican former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney with 332 electoral votes to Romney's 206.

In 2022, a passenger plane crashed into Lake Victoria as it approached an airport in Tanzania, killing 19 people aboard.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Sally Field is 79. Jazz musician Arturo Sandoval is 76. Author Michael Cunningham is 73. Journalist-author Maria Shriver is 70. Author Colson Whitehead is 56. Actor Ethan Hawke is 55. Actor Thandiwe (tan-DEE'-way) Newton is 53. Model-actor Rebecca Romijn (roh-MAYN') is 53. Actor Taryn Manning is 47. Actor Emma Stone is 37. Comedian-actor Bowen Yang is 35. Olympic swimming gold medalist Bobby Finke is 26.