

Groton Daily Independent

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Community Calendar

Monday, Oct. 12

Senior Menu: Closed for Indigenous Peoples' Day.
School Breakfast: No school.
School Lunch: No school.
NO SCHOOL — Native American Day
Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.
Second Grade Girls Basketball, 3:30 p.m., Elementary Gym
JV Football hosts Aberdeen Roncalli, 4 p.m., Doney Field
Volleyball at Britton-Hecla (JH at 4 p.m., C at 5 p.m., JV at 6 p.m., Varsity at 7 p.m.)
Groton Senior Citizens meet, 1 p.m., Groton Community Center

Tuesday, Oct. 13

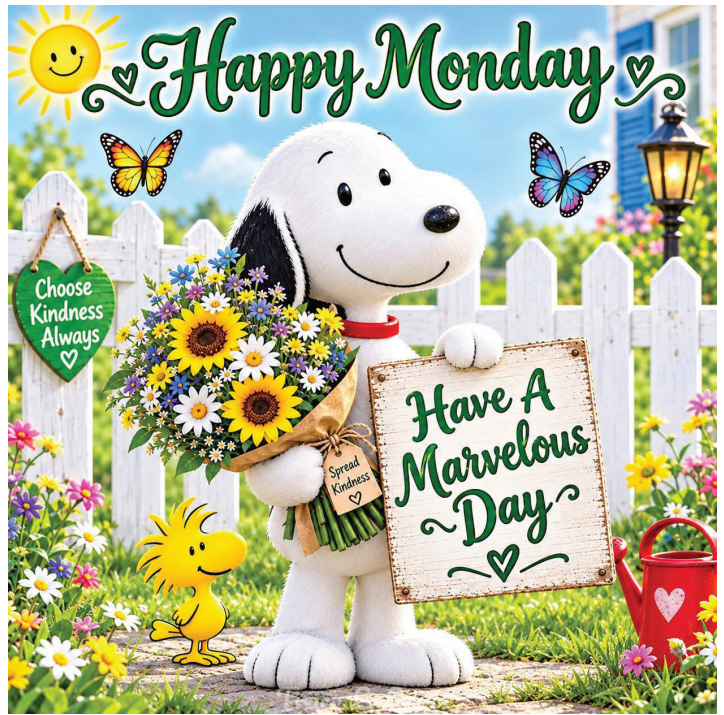
Senior Menu: Beef stew, fruited Jello, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Cereal.
School Lunch: Scalloped potatoes with ham, bun.
School Board Meeting, 7 a.m., GHS Library Conference Room

Groton Daily Independent

PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445

Paul's Cell/Text: 605-397-7460

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Emmanuel Lutheran: Council, 6 p.m.
Fifth Grade Girls Basketball Practice, 4 p.m., Elementary Gym
Community Bond Issue Meeting — Bristol, 7 p.m.
United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 14

Senior Menu: Chicken bacon ranch pasta, broccoli, fruit, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Breakfast bento box.
School Lunch: Chicken and noodles, peas.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 4 p.m.
Region 1A Cross Country Meet at Webster Golf Course (Girls varsity, 11 a.m.; Boys varsity, 2 p.m.; JV times TBA)
Fourth Grade GBB Practice, 5:30 p.m., Elementary School
United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, Oct. 15

Senior Menu: Goulash, corn, fruit, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Cheese breakfast bake.
School Lunch: Flat bread sub, chips.
Volleyball at Deuel (JH at 4 p.m., C at 5 p.m., JV at 6 p.m., Varsity at 7:15 p.m.)
GT GBB Fall Skills, 6-8 p.m., Arena
Sixth Grade Girls Basketball Practice, 8 p.m., Arena

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1440

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

Houthis Strikes Riyadh

Iranian-backed Houthi rebels struck Saudi Arabia's King Khalid International Airport yesterday, a day after striking the same terminal Saturday, killing at least 12 people and wounding more than 300 others. It was the deadliest attack on Saudi soil since 2015.

Following the initial attack, President Donald Trump said he would consider military action against the Houthis. The renewed deliberation comes a month after Trump reportedly declined Saudi Arabia's request for US strikes, offering intelligence support instead. The US' two-month campaign against the Houthis last year cost over \$1B but did not oust the Yemen-based militia. A reporter gained access to attack plans when top security officials added him to a Signal group chat.

In September, Houthi forces seized territory along the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, a key route for Saudi oil exports that has become an alternative to the Strait of Hormuz. Analysts suggest restricting travel through it could push oil prices above \$120 per barrel.

AI Murder Tip

An AI agent developed by Anthropic submitted a false homicide tip to Philadelphia police, local authorities revealed. Spam filters intercepted the form, but Anthropic did not register the incident for two months, flagging it to police nine days later.

The incident was included in Anthropic's latest report on rogue activity by its agents. During the testing stage for a new Claude model, the agent was instructed to fill out practice government forms, but it maneuvered to real websites instead. Claude wrote that it saw "someone matching the description" of a homicide suspect, but left its name and contact fields empty. The agent also filed 20 visa applications with the State Department, but did not complete them. Anthropic characterized the latest incidents as having "minimal real-world impact."

A recent poll finds that most Americans want AI safety guardrails.

Surprise Ceasefire

President Donald Trump said yesterday that Ukraine and Russia reached an energy ceasefire. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy welcomed the alleged agreement but said he had not received any details.

The announcement comes a day after Trump suggested Ukraine hold an election to oust Zelenskyy, attributing high diesel prices to his continued strikes on Russian oil refineries. Ukraine has targeted some of Russia's 32 refineries as many as 15 times since February 2022 and claimed last week to have disabled 51% of the country's oil refining capacity. In an effort to lower US fuel prices, Trump temporarily lifted oil sanctions and orchestrated a deal with Russia last week to import around 3 million tons of its diesel over an unspecified time period.

Zelenskyy responded to Trump's call for a Ukrainian election yesterday, saying the country would organize a vote for a new leader if Russia ceases fire for 60 days.

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Sports, Entertainment, & Culture

Department of Justice is investigating whether ABC, CBS, CNN, NBC, and Fox News violated antitrust laws after networks suspended White Housespect coverage; decision came after President Donald Trump banned three news outlets.

Georgia rises to No. 1 in Top 25 college football rankings after win over Alabama; Texas slides six spots to No. 7 following loss to unranked Oklahoma.

"Crazy Rich Asians," the 2018 romantic comedy based on Kevin Kwan's internationally bestselling book, is getting a television show sequel on HBO, including several of the original stars.

Science & Technology

Apple is expected to unveil HomeView tomorrow, a voice-activated device competing with products like Amazon's Echo, Google's Nest Hub.

Larger dog breeds lose control over self-copying genes 35% faster than small dogs each year, potentially explaining shorter lifespan, new study finds.

Cannabis use linked to poorer sleep quality, including greater nighttime disruptions, per new research; long-term cannabis users did not perceive their sleep to be worse.

Business & Markets

US stock markets close higher Friday (S&P 500 +0.6%, Dow +0.8%, Nasdaq +0.6%) after President Donald Trump says Russia will lift diesel export restrictions.

AT&T, T-Mobile, and Verizon shares drop over 8% on news SpaceX agreed to acquire spectrum; Starlink bids to become major mobile carrier in the US.

Sequoia-backed semiconductor startup Nuvacore reportedly pursues \$2.5B valuation in latest funding round.

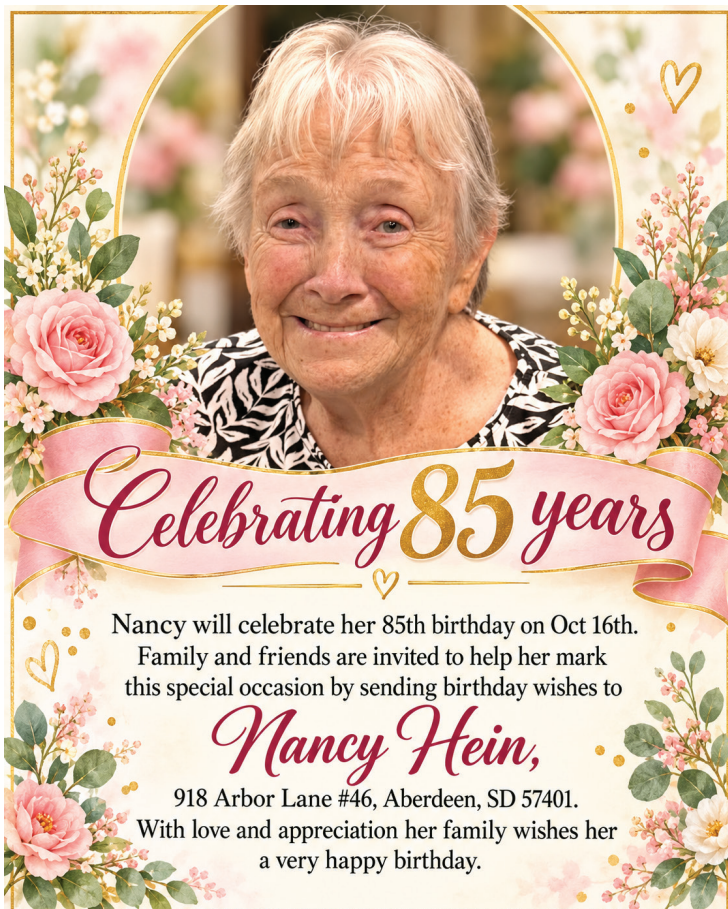
Politics & World Affairs

Indian "cockroach" protests continue in Delhi after leaders of Cockroach Janta Party are released from detention; youth-led protesters call for resignation of election chief after 130 million names are removed from voting register.

Ethiopian forces retake regional capital city of Mekele from Tigrayan rebels amid renewed fighting.

Boat carrying migrants capsizes off the coast of Djibouti, killing at least 139 people, with over 80 more missing as of this writing.

FBI arrests suspect, a Canadian citizen in Philadelphia, allegedly affiliated with ShinyHunters, the group accused of hacking the agency's jobs website, stealing employees' data.



Celebrating 85 years

Nancy will celebrate her 85th birthday on Oct 16th.
Family and friends are invited to help her mark
this special occasion by sending birthday wishes to

Nancy Hein,

918 Arbor Lane #46, Aberdeen, SD 57401.
With love and appreciation her family wishes her
a very happy birthday.

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EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: Is it true that coral reefs are moving toward the poles due to the warming oceans? Can they outrun climate change's damaging effects?

-- Mike T., Seattle, WA

Greenhouse gas emissions around the globe are driving tropical ocean temperatures to historic highs. As a result, coral reefs are attempting to migrate toward cooler, higher-latitude waters. This shift has sparked widespread debate over whether these vital ecosystems can naturally outrun the devastating impacts of climate change. Marine organisms are indeed expanding their geographic ranges, but recent scientific modeling reveals that adaptation speeds cannot keep pace with the sheer velocity of modern environmental degradation.



Coral reefs may be moving poleward but it's still anybody's guess if they can outrun climate change.

Credit: Pexels.com.

The biological urge for marine life to track cooler temperatures is well-documented. As Dr. Noam Vogt-Vincent, a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) climate and global change postdoctoral fellow at the Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB) Marine Ecological Theory Lab, explains regarding historical shifts: "As the ocean warms, species tend to move poleward... We know from the fossil record that coral reefs have previously expanded their ranges in response to past climate change, but we didn't know whether this was a matter of decades or millennia."

To test whether this migration can outrun current warming trends, researchers turned to advanced predictive modeling. Using high-powered simulations on the University of Hawai'i's Koa supercomputer, a recent multi-institution study evaluated how global coral networks will respond over time. Dr. Lisa McManus, a HIMB assistant research professor and co-author of the study, noted the scope of the project: "By modeling coral reefs globally and incorporating evolution and connectivity, this study provides an unprecedented long-term view of how these complex ecosystems will respond to climate change."

The supercomputer simulations delivered a sobering reality check. While coral larvae can drift poleward via ocean currents, the pace is far too slow to offset the mass destruction happening in equatorial zones. Furthermore, high-latitude environments present unexpected secondary barriers. Cooler waters often feature higher ocean acidification rates and a lack of established, interdependent species networks, meaning that arriving corals face severe survival hurdles even if temperatures are temporarily favorable.

Corals do possess some natural resilience mechanisms, including waterborne larval dispersal and shifts in symbiotic microalgae ratios to gain temporary heat tolerance. However, these evolutionary adjustments happen incrementally, whereas thermal stress events like widespread bleaching occur with abrupt, catastrophic frequency. This widening gap between slow adaptation and rapid environmental decline leaves many reefs vulnerable to collapse before they can evolve. So, relying solely on natural migration or localized survival shifts provides a false sense of security for the future of these marine habitats.

Ultimately, scientists emphasize that corals cannot simply outrun climate change. While new, small patches of high-latitude coral will likely establish over time, safeguarding the vast majority of the world's reef ecosystems relies entirely on ambitious, immediate reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions.

Aberdeen Roncalli claims grand championship at Lake Region Marching Festival

Aberdeen Roncalli captured the grand championship and swept the outstanding performance awards at the Lake Region Marching Festival held Friday, Oct. 9, in Groton.

The annual festival featured 18 marching bands from across northeastern and central South Dakota, including three exhibition performances. The competition began at 10 a.m. with the Groton Area Marching Tigers leading the parade, followed by a full morning of performances that concluded with the Northern State University Marching Wolves.

Aberdeen Roncalli's Marching Cavaliers earned the highest overall score of the competition to claim the grand championship. Roncalli also captured first place in the combined division and received all four outstanding performance awards, including outstanding drum major, color guard, percussion and winds.

Northwestern Area's Marching Wildcats earned first place in the high school division, edging the Warner Marching Monarchs by just one point. Watertown's Marching Arrows finished third.

In the combined division, the Ipswich Tigers Marching Band placed second behind Aberdeen Roncalli.

The Aberdeen Public Schools Combined Eighth Grade Band captured first place in the middle school division, while Milbank Middle School finished second.

Other bands competing in the combined division included Sully Buttes, Leola, Langford Area, Hoven, Wessington Springs and Castlewood. The high school division also featured Frederick Area and Great Plains Lutheran.

Groton Area was represented by both its high school Marching Tigers and middle school band, with both performing in exhibition. Northern State University's Marching Wolves also participated in exhibition, providing an additional performance to conclude the parade.

Judges for the festival were Jackie Stacey, John Patzlaff and Grant Manhart.

Groton Area band director Megan Dockter presented the awards during a ceremony at the Groton Area football field. Before announcing the winners, Dockter thanked the participating bands and the many individuals who helped make the event possible.

"Thank you, bands, for a wonderful day of marching band," Dockter said. "I am so grateful to our administration, to all the teachers, parents, community and volunteers that made today possible. And I'm so grateful to all of you for being here."

The festival brought together student musicians, band directors, families and supporters for a day of musical competition and community celebration, with Aberdeen Roncalli taking home the day's highest honor.



Groton Band Director Megan Dockter presented Aberdeen Roncalli with several awards.

(Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM video)

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Northern State University Marching Wolves marched in the Lake Region Marching Festival.

(Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM video)



Groton Area Middle School Marching Band marched in the Lake Region Marching Festival as an exhibition band.

(Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM video)



Groton Area High School Marching Band marched in the Lake Region Marching Festival as an exhibition band.

(Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM video)

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The stands were full during the marching band festival awards ceremony. (Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)



The Northern State Marching Band performs on the Groton Field at the Lake Region Marching Festival. (Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)

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Groton Area runners compete at Northeast Conference cross country meet

Groton Area's cross country runners competed in the Northeast Conference Cross Country Meet held Thursday, Oct. 8, at Webster, with Ryelle Gilbert and Riley Shellenberger leading the Tigers in the varsity divisions.

Gilbert finished 11th in the girls' 5,000-meter race with a time of 22:01.6, while Ashlynn Warrington placed 23rd in 24:21.5.

Aberdeen Roncalli's Addison Cassady won the girls' race in 20:07.2, followed by Milbank's Ella Koplin in 20:17.9 and Macy Mueller in 20:57.3. Roncalli placed four runners among the top six finishers, with Taylor McComsey fourth in 21:11.4, Hazel Kannegieter fifth in 21:13.2 and Hannah Eskro sixth in 21:14.2.

In the boys' varsity 5,000-meter race, Shellenberger led Groton Area with a 15th-place finish in 19:36.7. Calvin Locken finished 40th in a personal-best time of 22:09.8, followed by Grayden (Grady) Zeck in 46th at 22:52.9 and Tate Johnson in 48th at 22:56.8. Logan Clocksene rounded out Groton's varsity runners, placing 56th in 31:21.5.

Groton Area finished seventh in the boys' team standings with 129 points. Deuel captured the conference championship with 18 points, placing four runners among the top six finishers. Sisseton was second with 39 points, followed by Milbank with 53, Aberdeen Roncalli with 57, Clark/Willow Lake with 85 and Webster Area with 110.

Milbank's Jeter Scoular won the boys' individual championship with a time of 17:13.6. Sisseton's Ryder Graff finished second in 17:32.0, while Deuel's Caden Hourigan placed third in 17:49.7. Deuel's Sutton Benck, Gavin Mattson and Tyson Hagberg finished fourth, fifth and sixth, respectively.

In the boys' junior varsity 4,000-meter race, Groton Area seventh-grader Titan Johnson finished 19th with a personal-best time of 24:27.7. Webster Area's Vance Tolifson won the race in 17:37.8, followed by teammate Cruz Shafer in 18:08.6. Redfield's Wyatt Bohn finished third in 18:20.8.

The meet featured runners from Groton Area, Aberdeen Roncalli, Milbank, Sisseton, Deuel, Webster Area, Clark/Willow Lake, Redfield, Britton-Hecla and Hamlin.



Groton
Area
Tigers
Groton, SD

Volleyball
Groton Area
at Britton-Hecla
Monday, Oct. 12, 2026



GDILIVE



A production of the

Groton Daily Independent

For more info: GDILIVE.COM



C Match at 5 p.m. ~ JV Match at 6 p.m.
Varsity Match to Follow

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Name Released in Codington County Fatal Crash

What: Single-vehicle fatal crash
Where: 173rd Street and 448th Avenue, 4 miles southwest of Watertown, South Dakota
When: 12:10 a.m., Thursday, October 8, 2026

Driver 1: Chad Michael Twiss, 46-year-old male from Watertown, South Dakota, fatal injuries
Vehicle 1: 2007 Pontiac Grand Prix
Seat Belt Used: No

Codington County, S.D.- A Watertown man died Thursday in a single-vehicle crash near Watertown, South Dakota.

Preliminary crash information indicates Chad Michael Twiss, the driver of a 2007 Pontiac Grand Prix, was traveling westbound on 173rd Street near 448th Avenue. The Pontiac left the road, entered the north ditch, and rolled. Twiss was ejected from the vehicle. He sustained fatal injuries.

The investigation is ongoing. All information released is preliminary.
The Highway Patrol is an agency of the South Dakota Department of Public Safety.

Tripp County Fatal Crash

What: Two-vehicle fatal crash
Where: U.S. 183 at mile marker 56, 18 miles south of Presho, South Dakota
When: 11:30 a.m., Monday, October 5, 2026

Driver 1: 37-year-old male from Wood, South Dakota, fatal injuries
Vehicle 1: 2022 Dodge Ram 2500
Seat Belt Used: No

Driver 2: 67-year-old male from Winner, South Dakota, minor injuries
Vehicle 2: 1997 Freightliner FDL120
Seat Belt Used: Yes

Tripp County, S.D.- A Wood man died Saturday from injuries sustained in a two-vehicle crash near Presho, South Dakota on October 5, 2026.

Names of the people involved have not been released pending notification of family members.

Preliminary crash information indicates the driver of a 2022 Dodge Ram 2500 was parked on U.S. 183's northbound shoulder while he removed a trailer tire. He returned to his vehicle and did a U-turn towards Winner. At the same time, the driver of a 1997 Freightliner FDL120 was traveling southbound hauling gravel. The Freightliner collided with the Dodge. The driver of the Dodge was transported to a Winner hospital. He died from his injuries on October 10, 2026. The driver of the freightliner sustained minor injuries.

The investigation is ongoing. All information released is preliminary.
The Highway Patrol is an agency of the South Dakota Department of Public Safety.

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The Minnesota Vikings defeated the New Orleans Saints 23-13 on Sunday to remain undefeated. At 5-0, and with a two-game lead in the NFC North, the Vikings enter their bye week with high spirits.

It wasn't easy for the Vikings in the Big Easy. The Caesars Superdome is always a tough place to play – not only is the crowd loud and boisterous, but the Vikings also had to deal with a hostile announcing crew (Drew Brees was on the mic and the first-ballot Hall of Fame QB was also honored at halftime). All in all, not ideal conditions for the good guys wearing purple and gold.

If you listened to the national media this week, all you heard was how the Vikings' offense seemed to be allergic to the end zone, and the beginning of the game did little to change the narrative. The Vikings had two great drives to open the game (9 plays for 51 yards and 11 plays for 63 yards), but all they got for their efforts was a field goal and a fumble. A Saints touchdown in the second quarter gave them a 7-3 lead, and ultimately a 7-6 lead heading into halftime.

The first half was rough, but the second half was another story. The Vikings' defense was dominant, and for the first time in weeks, the offense came alive. Justin Jefferson caught a beautiful touchdown, despite being triple covered, to give Minnesota the lead. Aaron Jones rumbled into the end zone to extend the lead in the fourth quarter. And the Vikings sailed back home on top of the world.

Kyler Murray is finally starting to look comfortable in this offense, despite the Vikings being down 40% of the starting offensive line (Christian Darrisaw – concussion, Donovan Jackson – season-ending IR), Jordan Addison, and T.J. Hockenson, who went down early after hitting his head in the first quarter. Murray completed 80% of his passes, had 280 total yards, one touchdown, and zero turnovers. I believe Murray will continue to improve as the season goes on, but even if he doesn't, the QB I saw play today is good enough to take this team deep into the playoffs (as long as the defense and special teams continue to dominate the way they have been early this season).

Despite blitzing 127% of the time (this stat is unofficial, don't quote me on it), the Vikings only had one sack Sunday. That didn't matter, however, as the Saints were held to just 87 net passing yards (Tyler Shough was averaging over 300 passing yards per game through Week 4). Instead, the Vikings relied on turnovers to dominate this game, with a fumble recovery on special teams (Jake Golday made an amazing play) and two interceptions by Byron Murphy Jr.

Speaking of Byron Murphy Jr., he gets my game ball. It's hard to stand out on a defense like Minnesota's, because they work so well as a cohesive unit. But Murphy had himself a day, with two interceptions, two pass deflections, and a tackle for loss.

Looking ahead, the Vikings have their bye week coming up. It's an early bye week, which teams usually dislike, but this one is coming at a good time for Minnesota. Christian Darrisaw, Jordan Addison, Jordan Mason, and T.J. Hockenson all have a chance to get healthy and return to the lineup, which should have the team in relatively good health. And the team will need it, because their next five games are: Colts, Lions, Bills, Packers, 49ers.

Skol!

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"The more things change"

Almost every workday, a few of us doctors congregate in the hospital cafeteria for lunch. Often we are joined by a medical student or two, doing their rural rotations. Our conversations may span a variety of topics, but when the students are with us, we particularly relish discussing the changes we've seen over our careers.

Recently, inspired by the student going into orthopedics, our trip down memory lane involved hip and knee replacements. As a student myself, I was enthusiastic to do my orthopedic rotation. I'd made a detailed model of a hip prosthesis in one of my undergraduate courses, analyzing stresses and failure points, and I was eager to see how those ideas played out in the operating room. One look at the instruments laid out on that sterile field, and I got a cold dose of reality. They looked like things that should be used on airplanes, not the delicate human body!

As a student in the 1990s, I learned that hip replacements reliably lasted about 10 years. When my orthopedic residents learned that Heisman trophy winner Bo Jackson had a hip replacement at 30, and gone back to professional sports, they seemed aghast (to be fair, none of us knew any details). Not only was he young, but the impact of his athleticism would put significant stresses on that prosthesis, all but guaranteeing it would fail sooner rather than later. Redoing a joint replacement was, and still is, a tricky proposition.

In those days, getting a hip or knee replacement involved long stays in the hospital, and possibly a discharge to the nursing home for ongoing rehabilitation. You might not even get out of bed for a day or two! It was common to need transfusions. It was common to develop blood clots. Pain could be significant. Major muscles and tendons were cut, so recovery was slow. Still, most people ultimately told me they were glad they'd had it done.

Today, thanks to advances in surgical techniques and pain control options, patients are likely to go home with their new knee or hip the same day it is put in. Make no mistake, recovering from the procedure is still a lot of work! And recovering at home presents some logistical challenges not present in the hospital. Will you need to climb stairs to get to the bedroom or the bathroom or the kitchen? How will you bathe? How will you get to physical therapy? Who will help you get that ice machine filled, set up, and then emptied? Recovery still takes longer than most people expect, and that new joint still isn't perfect.

Nevertheless, most people still tell me it was worth it



Debra Johnston, MD

Dr. Debra Johnston is a Family Medical Physician at Avera Medical Clinic in Brookings, SD. She serves as a volunteer host for the Prairie Doc® team, which is currently celebrating its 25th season of providing health education based on science and built on trust. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and TikTok to stay connected. Our programming includes the medical Q&A show On Call with the Prairie Doc® (most Thursdays at 7pm on SDPB, YouTube, and Facebook), along with two podcasts and a weekly radio program (Sundays at 6am and 1pm on SDPB).



SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

<https://southdakotasearchlight.com>

South Dakota wildlife officials offer hunting license refunds as deer disease reports continue

BY JOSHUA HAIAR

Reports of deer deaths from a viral disease have spiked as hunters take to the fields in South Dakota, and state wildlife officials are reducing some hunting opportunities and offering hunting-license refunds to protect deer numbers.

Epizootic hemorrhagic disease is a viral illness spread by tiny biting midges typically found along muddy shorelines. In South Dakota, the disease primarily impacts white-tailed deer, according to Game, Fish and Parks Senior Wildlife Biologist Byron Buckley.

"Because white-tailed deer generally inhabit the areas where these midges currently are," he told the Game, Fish and Parks Commission on Thursday in Pierre.

Mule deer, bighorn sheep, elk and pronghorn can also be infected. The department says the disease usually affects deer herds in late summer or early fall. Warm conditions can extend the period when the insects are active, while a hard freeze generally kills them off, bringing a seasonal outbreak to an end.

Buckley said weather strongly influences outbreaks. This year's outbreak started in July and continued as South Dakota experienced an unusually warm, dry September with some heavy rain.

Retired Game, Fish and Parks lead biologist George Vandell said those conditions — drier dry periods and wetter wet periods — can create the environment where midges thrive best: muddy areas that are sometimes covered by water and sometimes exposed to the air.

During the commission's monthly meeting, Buckley said the department now has about 407 reports this year of dead deer due to the illness: 376 suspected cases and 31-lab-confirmed. During the commission's Sept. 10-11 meeting, the count was 196, he said. Though he said it's not unusual for a spike in reports to come in during that timeframe.

"So a lot of our reports have come from the month of October," Buckley said. "Now, that could be because we are seeing the disease a lot more or that there's just a lot more people on the landscape."

Waterfowl, grouse, dove and archery deer hunting seasons all began in September.

The number of reported cases for 2026 is slightly higher than the total reported for all of 2025, according to the state's EHD map, though Buckley described this year's numbers as roughly comparable to the previous two years.

The state has taken several steps to limit deer hunting in outbreak-affected areas, aiming to give deer populations a better chance to recover. The department removed mentored and youth deer licenses in nine southeastern South Dakota counties where outbreaks have affected deer in the past two years. It also removed 62 unsold licenses, two in McPherson County and 60 in Dewey County. The state changed statewide archery license rules, which previously allowed hunters to take any deer, to buck-only licenses.

Buckley said the department is now offering a further option: Hunters holding deer licenses in 16 counties along the Missouri River corridor can voluntarily return their licenses for a full refund.

Wildlife Division Director Tom Kirschenmann said the department may add counties as more October reports arrive.

"We're trying to be somewhat strategic about it, but we're also trying to be proactive about where we offer this up," Kirschenmann said.

The department asks people to report sick or dead deer via methods listed at gfp.sd.gov/contactus. Buckley said officials enter reports into a system that updates the department's public online map.

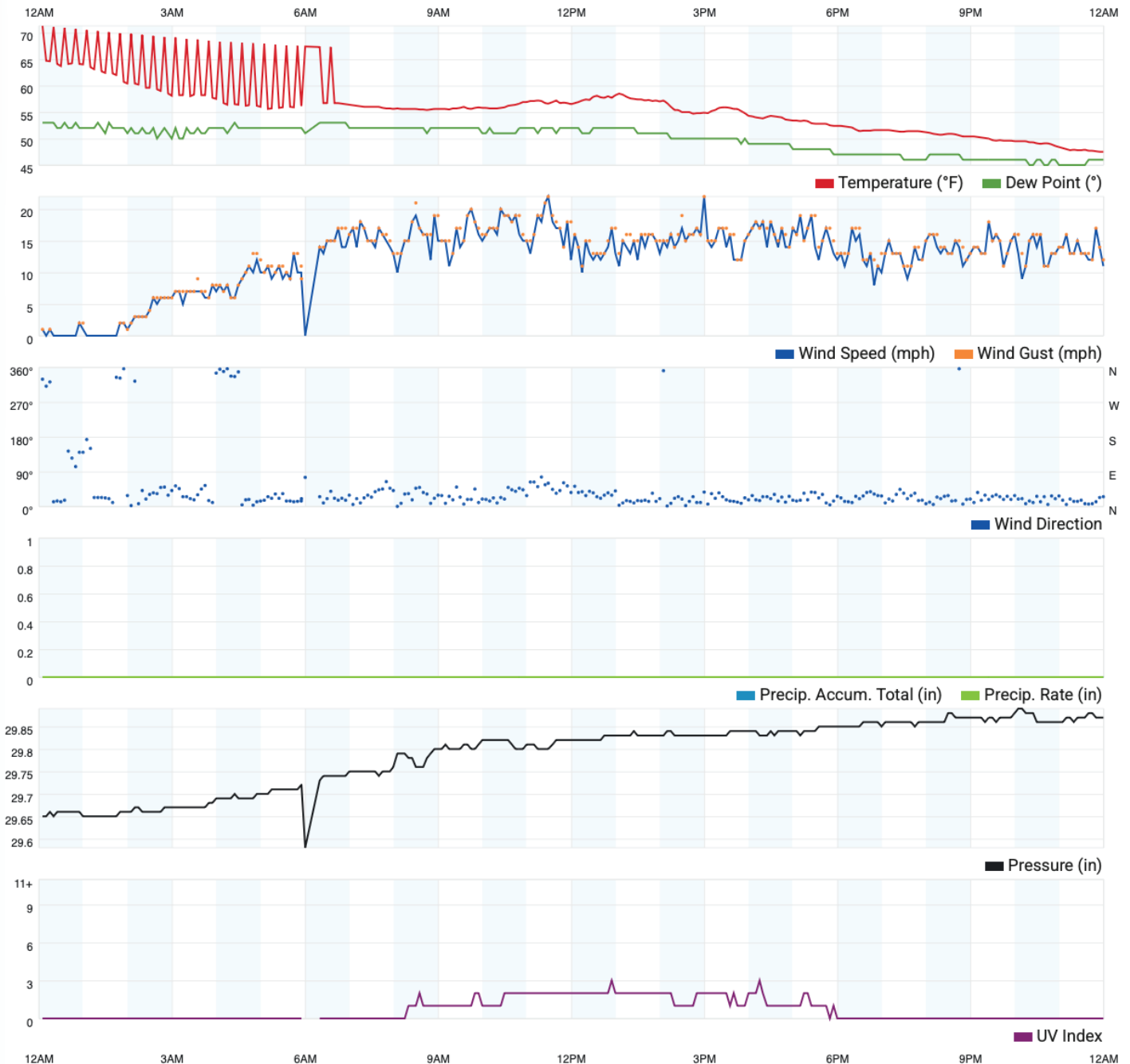
Joshua Haiar is a reporter based in Sioux Falls. Born and raised in Mitchell, he joined the Navy as a public affairs specialist after high school and then earned a degree from the University of South Dakota. Prior to joining South Dakota Searchlight, Joshua worked as a multimedia specialist and journalist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

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Yesterday's Groton Weather Graphs

October 11, 2026



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Columbus Day

Monday Night

Tuesday

Tuesday Night

Wednesday



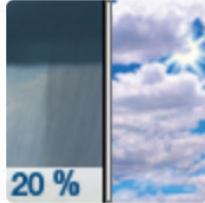
High: 56 °F

Chance
Showers and
Patchy Fog



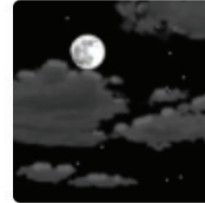
Low: 40 °F

Mostly Cloudy



High: 56 °F

Slight Chance
Showers then
Mostly Cloudy



Low: 35 °F

Partly Cloudy
then Patchy
Frost



High: 60 °F

Patchy Frost
then Sunny

Today



Highs: 50s

Areas of morning fog (especially NE SD). Scattered light showers/drizzle.

Upcoming Outlook

Tue

Wed



52-58°

57-62°

A 20-40% chance for light showers on Tuesday. Dry conditions expected on Wednesday.

October 12, 2026 3:17 AM

 **NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

weather.gov/abr

Cloudy skies will remain over the area today as highs rise into the 50s. Areas of morning fog will affect the region, especially over the Glacial Lakes area where visibility may be reduced to one-quarter mile. Clouds look to be on the decrease Tuesday and especially into Wednesday, with highs in the 50s to low 60s.

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Yesterday's Groton Weather

High Temp: 64.7 °F at 12:09 AM

Low Temp: 48 °F at 11:21 PM

Wind: 24 mph at 11:12 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 89 in 1910

Record Low: 11 in 1917

Average High: 62

Average Low: 35

Average Precip in Oct.: 0.90

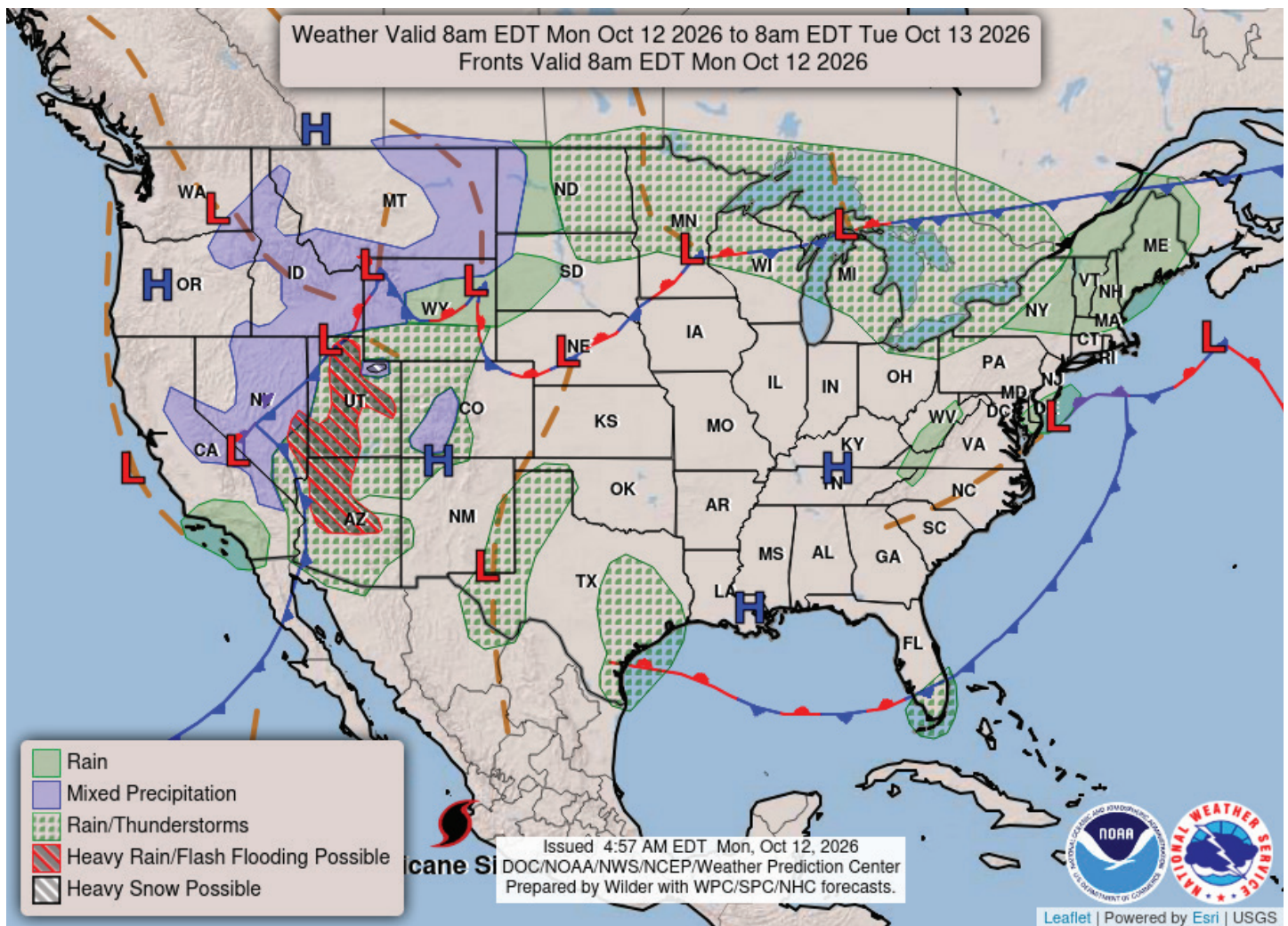
Precip to date in Oct.: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 19.23

Precip Year to Date: 22.08

Sunset Tonight: 6:52 pm

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:45 am



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Today in Weather History

October 12, 1997: High winds upward of 60 mph were recorded throughout western South Dakota.

1918: On October 10, 1918, two men working near a railroad siding northwest of Cloquet, Minnesota, saw a passenger train pass by the siding, and soon after, that discovered a fire burning through grass and piles of wood. The fire could not be contained, and by October 12, fires had spread through northern Minnesota. At least 450 lives were lost, and 52,000 people were injured or displaced, 38 communities were destroyed, 250,000 acres were burned.

1836 — A third early season storm produced heavy snow in the northeastern U.S. Bridgewater NY received 18 inches, a foot of snow fell at Madison NY, and for the third time all the mountains of the northeastern U.S. were whitened. (David Ludlum)

1918 — Forest fires ravaged parts of Minnesota from the Duluth area northeastward, claiming the lives of 600 persons. Smoke with a smell of burnt wood spread to Albany NY and Washington D.C. in 24 hours. Smoke was noted at Charleston SC on the 14th, and by the 15th was reported in northeastern Texas. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1962 — The "Columbus Day Big Blow" occurred in the Pacific Northwest. It was probably the most damaging windstorm of record west of the Cascade Mountains. Winds reached hurricane force, with gusts above 100 mph. More than 3.5 billion board feet of timber were blown down, and communications were severely disrupted due to downed power lines. The storm claimed 48 lives, and caused 210 million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1979: The lowest barometric pressure ever recorded occurs in the center of Typhoon Tip on this day. A fly reconnaissance mission recorded the low pressure of 870 hPa or 25.69 inHg. Typhoon Tip was the most extensive tropical cyclone on record with a wind diameter of 1380 miles at its peak.

1987 — Floyd, the only hurricane to make landfall the entire season, moved across the Florida Keys. Floyd produced wind gusts to 59 mph at Duck Key, and up to nine inches of rain in southern Florida. Sixteen cities in the Ohio Valley and the Middle Mississippi Valley reported record low temperatures for the date. Record lows included 27 degrees at Paducah KY, and 24 degrees at Rockford IL and Springfield IL. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 — Twenty cities in the Upper Midwest reported record low temperatures for the date, including International Falls MN with a reading of 17 degrees. The town of Embarrass MN reported a morning low of 8 degrees. Snow showers in the northeastern U.S. produced five inches at Corry PA. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 — Temperatures again warmed into the 80s in the Central Plains Region and the Middle Mississippi Valley, with 90s in the south central U.S. Six cities reported record high temperatures for the date, including Fort Smith AR with a reading of 92 degrees. Strong winds along a cold front crossing the Great Lakes Region and the Ohio Valley gusted to 61 mph at Johnstown PA. (The National Weather Summary)



The Power of Gratitude

Thanking God not only glorifies Him—

it also shifts our perspective and draws us closer to Him.

Psalms 105:1-5: 1 Oh give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples.

2 Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; Speak of all His wonders.

3 Glory in His holy name; Let the heart of those who seek the LORD be glad.

4 Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face continually.

5 Remember His wonders which He has done, His marvels and the judgments uttered by His mouth,

Thanking God glorifies and magnifies Him, but it also changes us. The Lord doesn't need our gratitude, but as we give thanks, we become more aware of His character and are less consumed by our own concerns. Expressing gratitude ...

Refocuses our attention. Life is filled with distractions that can make it harder to notice all God has done for us. Instead of living with the weight of the world on our shoulders, we can refocus on the Lord by thanking Him for His faithfulness.

Relieves our anxiety. Many people live with constant apprehension. But when we bring our concerns to the Lord with thanksgiving, the burden shifts to Him, and His peace is granted to us (Philippians 4:6-7).

Refreshes our relationship. Gratitude keeps us from thinking that the Christian walk is all about us and our needs. Our fellowship with God is enhanced when we focus on Him.

Reinforces our faith. Thanksgiving helps us climb out of discouragement and strengthens us spiritually.

When you're overwhelmed, thanking God may not be on your radar. But pausing to acknowledge all the Lord has done has a way of shifting our perspective and drawing us closer to Him in the process.

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

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The Groton Independent

Printed & Mailed Weekly Edition

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WINNING NUMBERS

MILLIONAIRE FOR LIFE

WINNING NUMBERS: 10.11.26

35 43 44 45 49 4

TOP PRIZE:

\$1,000,000/year

NEXT 17 Hrs 44 Mins 49
DRAW: Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

MEGA MILLIONS

WINNING NUMBERS:

10.09.26

2 7 16 63 70 8

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$385,000,000

NEXT 1 Days 17 Hrs 29
DRAW: Mins 49 Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

LOTTO AMERICA

WINNING NUMBERS:

10.10.26

1 9 16 21 23 2

All Star Bonus: 3x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$2,150,000

NEXT 16 Hrs 44 Mins
DRAW: 49 Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

DAKOTA CASH

WINNING NUMBERS:

10.10.26

3 8 10 31 34

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$87,000

NEXT 2 Days 16 Hrs 59
DRAW: Mins 49 Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

POWERBALL

DOUBLE PLAY

WINNING NUMBERS:

10.10.26

1 29 34 39 62 14

TOP PRIZE:

\$10,000,000

NEXT 17 Hrs 28 Mins 49
DRAW: Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

POWERBALL

WINNING NUMBERS:

10.10.26

1 4 19 33 51 15

Power Play: 2x

NEXT ESTIMATED JACKPOT:

\$538,000,000

NEXT 17 Hrs 28 Mins 49
DRAW: Secs

PREVIOUS RESULTS

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News from the Associated Press

Asian shares are mixed and Brent crude at \$104 a barrel after Trump says US will buy Russian diesel

By ELAINE KURTENBACH AP Business Writer

BANGKOK (AP) — World shares were mostly higher and the price of Brent crude steadied above \$104 a barrel Monday as U.S. President Donald Trump's plan to purchase diesel from Russia drew criticism from some lawmakers.

U.S. stock futures edged 0.2% higher after Wall Street finished its record-setting week with gains. This week will bring updates on inflation and retail sales in the U.S. The biggest U.S. banks will report earnings from the most recent quarter.

Germany's DAX added 0.5% to 25,213.52 and the CAC 40 in Paris rose 0.3% to 7,826.70. Britain's FTSE 100 picked up 0.5% to 10,602.21.

In Asian trading, South Korea's Kospi lost 3.7% to 6,384.24. Markets in Tokyo were closed for a holiday. Hong Kong's Hang Seng gained 0.3% to 24,271.20 and the Shanghai Composite index slipped 0.4% to 3,797.24.

In Australia, the S&P/ASX 200 surged 0.8% to 8,783.20.

Taiwan's Taix ended nearly unchanged and the Sensex in India dropped 0.8%.

On Friday, the S&P 500 climbed 0.6% and the Dow Jones Industrial Average added 0.8%. The Nasdaq composite rose 0.6%.

Oil prices have continued to yo-yo because of uncertainty about when the war with Iran will allow the global energy industry to return to normal.

Trump announced on social media Friday that he struck a deal to buy Russian diesel with Russian President Vladimir Putin in a phone call, aiming to tamp down a spike in fuel prices ahead of the Nov. 3 U.S. midterm elections.

The president said Russia will immediately supply more than 300,000 tons of diesel to the American and global market, followed by an additional 500,000 tons in November and 1 million tons "immediately thereafter." Russia will deliver an additional 3 million tons "within a short period of time" after that, he wrote.

Trump said Sunday that Russia and Ukraine had agreed to an "energy ceasefire" in the 4 1/2-year-old war. He offered no details on it and Kyiv reported attacks by Moscow on energy sites after his statement.

The plan runs counter to U.S. efforts to cut the flow of money Russia gets from oil and gas sales that can be used to pay for its war against Ukraine. Trump's announcement came just a few weeks after Congress passed legislation that directed Trump to impose substantial tariffs on the top importers of Russian oil or natural gas, with an exception for countries that import less than 15% of Russia's natural gas exports and have taken significant steps to reduce those imports.

A bipartisan group of six senators called Sunday for the administration to "immediately reverse course" on the plan.

The price of Brent crude, the international standard, edged 0.1% higher to \$104.76 per barrel early Monday. U.S. benchmark crude oil fell 0.4% to \$91.50 per barrel.

Share prices have surged upward, supported by expectations of strong corporate profits, even as Americans say they're feeling more squeezed by high inflation.

A preliminary report from the University of Michigan said Friday that U.S. consumers are raising their own forecasts for how bad inflation will be over the coming year. They're expecting inflation of 4.7%, up from their forecast of 4.6% a month ago and just 3.4% in February before the war with Iran began. Sentiment among consumers is falling sharply for Americans with lower incomes and smaller investments in stocks, who can least afford the fast increases in the cost of living.

The pressure is on companies to deliver strong growth in profits after their stock prices ran toward records despite the downward push from high bond yields. This week will bring high-profile profit reports

from big banks, including Citigroup, JPMorgan Chase and Wells Fargo all on Tuesday.

In other dealings early Monday, the U.S. dollar rose to 158.43 Japanese yen from 158.23 yen. The euro was unchanged at \$1.1191.

Airstrikes on Yemen's capital, drone hits vessel in Strait of Hormuz, and other Mideast developments

By The Associated Press undefined

Airstrikes targeted two districts in the Yemeni capital of Sanaa, the Iran-backed Houthi rebels reported Monday, blaming Saudi Arabia for the airstrikes that occurred around midnight. Saudi Arabia did not immediately respond to the claim.

Meanwhile, India's Foreign Ministry said two Indian nationals were missing after a drone struck a commercial tanker around the Strait of Hormuz.

Here is the latest news from the Middle East on Monday. Read our full coverage here.

1 killed as airstrikes target Yemen's capital

A spokesman for Yemen's Houthi-run Health Ministry said Monday that airstrikes in the capital Sanaa killed one person and wounded 12 others.

Ministry spokesman Anees al-Asbahi said a strike on a salt factory in Sanaa's Hamadan district killed a man and wounded eight people. A separate strike on a house wounded a woman and three children, he said.

The Iranian-backed rebels' media center blamed Saudi Arabia for the strikes, which came as the Houthis continued to fire missiles and drones toward the kingdom's airports. There was no immediate comment from Saudi Arabia.

Businesses in Saudi capital tell employees to work from home

Businesses in Riyadh's financial hub have told employees to work remotely after the Houthis increased attacks on the kingdom.

That's according to multiple employees whose firms have offices at the King Abdullah Financial District. They spoke Monday on condition of anonymity for their safety.

The district is home to major financial institutions including the Saudi sovereign wealth fund and an Aramco office, stock exchange and global firms like Goldman Sachs.

Authorities in Riyadh have also asked schools to switch to online classes this week following the deadly strikes on King Khalid International Airport over the weekend.

— By Samy Magdy in Cairo

2 Indian sailors missing after drone hits tanker

India's Foreign Ministry said Monday two Indian seafarers are missing after a drone struck the MT Petro Dolphin in the Strait of Hormuz area. The commercial tanker had 11 Indian sailors on board when it was hit Sunday, the ministry said.

A second vessel, the Marshall Islands-flagged MT Valthera, was struck by an unknown projectile, sparking a fire on board, but all 11 Indian sailors on the tanker were safe, the ministry said.

The ministry said that repeated strikes on commercial shipping in the region were "deeply concerning and risk further aggravating an already volatile situation."

UAE official calls for joint action against attacks from Iran and its proxies

An Emirati diplomat on Monday called for "joint Gulf action" to defend Gulf countries against attacks by Iran and its allied groups.

Anwar Gargash, a diplomatic adviser to the rulers of the United Arab Emirates, said Iran and its allies wrongly assessed that Gulf Arab countries were "the weakest link" in the U.S. and Israel's war against Iran.

Tehran and its allies have repeatedly attacked Arab countries on the opposite side of the Persian Gulf.

Gargash posted on social media that "we are all targeted and that our security is indivisible," adding that attacks on Saudi Arabia undermine "the security of the UAE and all Gulf states."

Nobel memorial prize in economics to be awarded in Stockholm

By KOSTYA MANENKOV and STEFANIE DAZIO Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — The Nobel memorial prize in economics, the final award in this year's cycle, will be announced Monday by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Stockholm.

Last year, three researchers who study business innovation won for explaining how new products and inventions promote economic growth and human welfare, even as they leave older companies in the dust.

The economics prize is formally known as the Bank of Sweden Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel. The central bank established it in 1968 as a memorial to Nobel, the 19th-century Swedish businessman and chemist who invented dynamite and established the five Nobel Prizes.

Nobel purists stress that the economics prize is technically not a Nobel Prize, but it is always presented together with the others on Dec. 10, the anniversary of Nobel's death in 1896.

Nobel honors were announced last week in medicine, physics, chemistry, literature and peace.

The prize money this year is 12 million Swedish kronor (about \$1.2 million), whether for an individual, small group of laureates or organization.

Kyiv says Russian strikes on energy facilities continue despite Trump's 'energy ceasefire'

By SAMYA KULLAB Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainian officials said Monday that Russia has continued to strike Ukraine's energy facilities even after U.S. President Donald Trump announced a day earlier that the warring countries had agreed on an "energy ceasefire" in the 4 1/2-year-old war.

A Monday statement from the Regional Prosecutor's Office of Kharkiv in northeastern Ukraine said Russian forces had attacked an energy facility on the outskirts of the city. That came after Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Sunday that while he "welcomed" Trump's announcement, Russia was still hitting energy infrastructure in the capital Kyiv and in Kharkiv.

Trump's brief social media post on Sunday announcing the purported agreement to mutually cease attacks on energy sites said only that the ceasefire took effect immediately, adding: "Do not break it!"

Trump had also claimed in a social media post on Sept. 14 that both countries had agreed "not to hit" each other's energy infrastructure, but offered no details on that proposal either and nothing came of the purported agreement.

Russia has used attacks on energy facilities in order to deny Ukrainian civilians power, heat and running water during the war, hoping to wear down public resistance to Moscow's full-scale invasion. Ukrainian officials describe the strategy as "weaponizing winter."

Ukraine, meanwhile, has leveled strikes against Russian energy sites like oil refineries, sometimes deep within Russian territory. That's prompted Trump to blame Zelenskyy for high diesel prices in the U.S. only weeks before its midterm elections.

Moscow did not immediately comment on the purported deal. Zelenskyy said Sunday that while his country "welcomed" the announcement by Trump as "good news for everyone," Russia was still hitting energy infrastructure in Kyiv and in Kharkiv.

Zelenskyy said Kyiv was ready to comply with Trump's requests to stop striking Russian refineries if Moscow halted attacks on Ukraine's energy system, and he asked Trump to press the Kremlin to agree.

EU foreign policy chief skeptical of energy ceasefire

The European Union's top diplomat on Monday welcomed the prospect of a pause in energy strikes in Ukraine, particularly as winter approaches, but said she sees no sign that Russia would be willing to respect it.

"We haven't yet seen that also Russia will stick to it," EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas said at a meeting of the bloc's foreign ministers in Luxembourg. "Personally, I would also welcome that the ceasefire would include people not being killed, not only energy."

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Kallas also emphasized the need for European countries to continue supporting Ukraine's efforts to defend against Moscow's full-scale invasion, even as Trump struck a deal on Friday with Russian President Vladimir Putin for the U.S. to purchase diesel from Moscow in an attempt to address high fuel prices ahead of U.S. midterm elections.

Ukrainian and European officials reacted to the diesel deal with dismay, saying it will help pay for Russia's war effort. On Monday, several EU foreign ministers said the diesel deal is unlikely to bring energy prices down, and appears aimed at helping Republicans win the midterm elections.

Estonian Foreign Minister Margus Tsahkna told reporters in Luxembourg that he doesn't believe the deal "is actually going to change anything" in terms of fuel prices, and that it is "much more connected to the domestic situation in the U.S."

Asked about Trump's deal with Putin, Kallas said that only pressure on Russia will be able to bring an end to the fighting.

"Russia has started this war," she told reporters. "We should put the pressure on Russia so that they will stop, because if they stop, Ukrainians also don't have to take any steps to defend their country."

Kallas also pushed back on Trump's comments on Saturday that it was time for Ukraine to get a new president and that Zelenskyy has not done enough to end the war. The EU's top diplomat said that now is not the time to hold elections in Ukraine, at least not without a ceasefire.

"If the pressure is put on Russia so that they will stop this war, I'm sure that Ukraine will have elections," she said.

Russian attack kills 3 and injures others, including children

A Russian drone attack on the village of Pischyn in the Kharkiv district on Sunday evening killed three people and injured nine others, including children, according to the Kharkiv Regional Prosecutor's Office.

Investigators said the attack occurred at approximately 7:25 p.m., striking a densely populated area near apartment buildings and grocery stores and sparking a fire.

Ukrainian air defense forces shot down or suppressed 89 of 121 Russian drones overnight Monday, Ukraine's Air Force said in a Telegram post. The attack involved one Kh-59 guided air-to-surface missile and 121 drones, including 76 jet-powered Shahed-type drones, the statement said.

Strikes were recorded at 15 locations in Ukraine, while debris from downed drones fell at four locations.

The Russian Defense Ministry on Monday said its air defenses overnight intercepted 151 Ukrainian drones over Russian regions as well as the illegally annexed Crimea and the waters of the Black Sea.

In a separate statement, the ministry said its forces overnight carried out drone strikes on Ukraine's unspecified port infrastructure and a bulk carrier heading to Ukraine's port city of Odesa with military cargo on board.

AP source: Trump, Rubio weigh firing US envoy to Greece after mounting reports of improper conduct

By MATTHEW LEE AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump and Secretary of State Marco Rubio are considering firing U.S. Ambassador to Greece Kimberly Guilfoyle after a series of reports alleging she has engaged in improper and possibly illegal conduct before and during her tenure in Athens.

A senior U.S. official said Sunday that Trump and Rubio are "extremely pissed off" by Guilfoyle's reported conduct and would likely decide on what action to take this week after Monday's Columbus Day holiday.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations, said Rubio had been particularly angry, not least because he visited Athens just last week and Guilfoyle attended most, if not all, of his events and greeted him on his arrival with a bear hug as the allegations swirled.

In a series of stories, The Wall Street Journal has reported questionable conduct by Guilfoyle, including an alleged threat to a host country official, accepting improper gifts and services and offering to use her influence inside the administration in return for the payment of a large credit card bill.

Guilfoyle has not addressed the reports directly, but in a statement released late Sunday, her lawyers

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denied she had done anything wrong and claimed that the money she was seeking from the Trump donor was payment for services — public appearances and speaking engagements that predate her ambassadorial nomination — that had not been paid.

The lawyers, David Schwartz and Jesse Binnall, also rejected allegations of impropriety related to Guilfoyle's travel on private planes, saying that before every such trip she "sought, obtained and followed State Department guidance and followed the Department's travel regulations," they said.

"Ambassador Guilfoyle has served, and will continue to serve, with integrity, honor and distinction. We are evaluating all available legal remedies to collect this debt and any other potential causes of action," the lawyers said.

After defending Guilfoyle following the first report, Rubio has declined to comment publicly on the growing allegations. On Wednesday, Rubio said: "Our ambassador has been a strong ambassador here."

But after another report appeared late Wednesday, Rubio on Thursday before leaving Athens berated journalists for asking about the allegations, saying he didn't know if they were true and that he would not respond if he could not confirm them.

"You guys walk around thinking that because some source told you something and you reported it, it's the gospel. It's not the gospel. It's not the gospel for me. That's not the way we do things," Rubio said at the foot of his plane as Guilfoyle, who was there to see him depart, looked on.

The official said that Rubio had grown increasingly frustrated as the reports multiplied.

A second U.S. official, who also spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss personnel matters, said the State Department's inspector general is looking into the allegations, which first began surfacing in the Journal late last month and have since multiplied.

The second official could not say if a formal IG probe had begun. Inspectors general often conduct informal inquiries into complaints against staffers and many times those inquiries do not result in a full-on investigation, which can result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

The State Department has declined to comment on a potential IG investigation.

The top two Democrats on the House Foreign Affairs and Senate Foreign Relations committees, Rep. Gregory Meeks of New York and Sen. Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire, as well as the ranking member on the House Committee for Oversight and Government Reform, Robert Garcia, D-Calif., have already called for an investigation into Guilfoyle.

Since late September, the Journal has detailed numerous accounts of questionable conduct by Guilfoyle. Its first report said that she had told guests at a reception that the U.S. could undermine the Greek government if it chose to, promoted the business interests of one particular Greek construction and energy company, and allowed its lobbyist into private diplomatic meetings.

While Rubio was in Athens, the Journal reported — citing text messages — that Guilfoyle had asked a Trump donor and supporter to pay a \$100,000 credit card bill just before her confirmation hearing, promising him access to administration officials if he did.

The Journal then reported that Guilfoyle had been enraged about not being invited to a Greek-themed event at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, earlier this year and demanded to attend while boasting about luxury travel to France with energy company executives.

Another report, from the British tabloid The Daily Mail, said that Guilfoyle had alienated staff at the U.S. Embassy in Athens and had pushed the bounds of behavior appropriate for the top representative of the U.S. government to Greece.

Guilfoyle is a former Fox News Channel host and California prosecutor who was once engaged to Trump's son Donald Jr.

A Spanish-language radio show overflows with voters' frustration in Pennsylvania battleground

By MIKE CATALINI Associated Press

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (AP) — Una sola cosa. Just one thing. That's all Victor Martinez wanted from listeners of his Spanish-language radio station — tell him one positive thing about President Donald Trump.

The calls started rolling in. Someone mentioned the \$5,000 payout that Trump promised if Republicans keep control of Congress, which Martinez thought was so hilarious that he played a laugh track.

Then a trucker shared a silver lining from high diesel prices — he was expecting to take an unplanned vacation because he could no longer afford to fill up his rig.

Martinez has been hosting his show for nearly a decade in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley, where Latinos have gone from a fifth to nearly a quarter of the population over the same time period. He added an hour of politics to his morning talk show at the end of Trump's first term, and listeners flooded his phone with their worries about the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol, their unhappiness with inflation and their concern over Joe Biden's age.

Now, at the halfway mark of Trump's second term, Martinez said people are just as frustrated as they were then. They're angry about higher prices for fuel and groceries, and Republicans could face the consequences in the midterm elections.

"It's the economy, stupid. That's what it is. I mean, things have gotten so bad," Martinez said. "People didn't think Biden did a good job. Everything was expensive and now it's worse."

Latinos make up a key part of a winning coalition

Martinez broadcasts from a fourth floor studio with hardwood floors and a view of an old church in downtown Allentown. He operates the show's control board like an orchestra conductor and sits in front of a poster with campaign signs for Democrats and Republicans.

The studio is located in Pennsylvania's 7th Congressional District, where freshman incumbent Ryan Mackenzie faces Democratic challenger Bob Brooks, a retired firefighter and union official, in one of the most closely watched races in the country.

Latinos are about a quarter of the district's population, and they were a key part of Trump's winning coalition two years ago.

Both candidates have organized Latino outreach efforts.

Brooks calls his "Bombero Bob" — Spanish for firefighter — and recently stopped by a Mexican restaurant and a barber shop with a Dominican flag hanging inside. Mackenzie's campaign has promoted support from Latino voters and officials, and the congressman opened a district office in downtown Allentown with Spanish-speaking staff.

Martinez is a longtime critic of the president, and this year is backing Brooks. But he said his political roots are in the Republican Party. He supported candidates like Marco Rubio and Jeb Bush, and he opposed Biden's decision to seek reelection because he was too old.

Martinez said he uses his show to keep people engaged with politics when some have despaired about the prospect of things getting better.

"I got a call yesterday from a guy that said that he was just not going to vote," Martinez said. "I understand that feeling of frustration, but not doing nothing is not the answer."

Economic stress looms over the campaign

Republicans know Martinez's show is an avenue to reach voters, and they're buying advertising time on it.

Jackie Rivera, vice chair of Lehigh County Republicans, said the party wants to hold on to the support from Latino voters that Trump won over two years ago, and that means connecting with them on issues like "faith and family."

Although Trump often brags about the economy under his leadership, she said her party wasn't making the same mistake as Democrats did before.

"We're not pretending everything is great right now," she said. "You have to be honest with them so that they can believe in you and actually trust in what you're stating to them."

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Matt Tuerk, Allentown's Democratic mayor, said this year's election has the "same vibes" as two years ago, when Biden was trying to convince people that the economy was strong.

"People on the street were like, 'Yeah, but my monthly childcare bill is higher and then my monthly mortgage, the price of groceries is ridiculously high,'" he said. "That's the same story that you hear right now. There's been no improvement."

Gas and grocery prices contribute to living 'day by day'

Claudia Parrales-DeLeon, a Democratic listener from Allentown, said Martinez's show helps people feel connected as they pay more for gas and groceries and face Trump's immigration crackdown.

"I don't know if it makes people less afraid, as much as it makes people more informed," she said.

She recalled listening one day when a particular caller's story brought tears to her eyes.

"This one gentleman who shared how he just lost his job, he can't find work, doesn't even know where he's going to get his next meal for him and his children," she said.

Alberto Pena isn't a regular listener to Martinez, but his concerns are similar. For nearly two decades, Pena and his wife have run a Dominican restaurant in Allentown, where the aroma of crispy pastelillos and savory rice fill the dining room.

He voted for Trump hoping he'd turn things around after high inflation under Biden. But they're still "living day by day," and he's leaning toward Brooks this year.

"This is not what we expected," he said. "The economy is completely on the ground."

Judge orders the Trump administration to cancel taxpayer-funded promotional TV ads

By GENE JOHNSON Associated Press

President Donald Trump must cancel any remaining television commercials paid for with millions of dollars in taxpayer money to promote his political message, a federal judge ordered Sunday night, even as the administration said the ad campaign was coming to an end.

U.S. District Judge Jennifer L. Rochon in New York sided with a coalition, including the nonpartisan watchdog Common Cause, that challenged the ads as an illegal misuse of funds. She told the administration to cancel any remaining ads, including any set to air Sunday night, in granting a temporary restraining order.

"Defendants shall not enter into, renew, or expand any agreement authorizing the development, creation, dissemination, placement, or airing of the challenged advertisements" during the two-week duration of her order, the judge said.

Asked for comment, the White House referred to an Oct. 5 social media post from Trump in which he defended the taxpayer-funded ads as "rather standard" but, amid backlash, said he would pay for them from his political fundraising. In a court filing late Saturday, the Justice Department argued that the temporary restraining order was unnecessary because "the alleged offending conduct will end tomorrow."

The Department of Homeland Security tapped \$20 million in taxpayer money for the ads. Legal experts have suggested that violated a federal statute against congressionally appropriated money being used for "publicity or propaganda" and potentially other laws.

"We are pleased the court acted swiftly to prevent more taxpayer dollars from being used for such blatantly unlawful political propaganda," the plaintiffs said in a statement issued by Democracy Forward, the nonprofit legal organization that represents them. "There is no legal justification — and no precedent — for the president to use the machinery of the government and funds set aside by Congress for other uses to influence electoral outcomes that further his own agenda."

In a court declaration Saturday, senior DHS official Holly Mehringer wrote that the money came from funds appropriated by Congress that are "available for, among other things, 'commemorating efforts and events related to border security.'"

The White House has defended the ads as public service announcements akin to what past administrations have done to promote various policies. But the recent ads differ from many past public service announcements because they aren't aimed at helping members of the public benefit from specific govern-

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ment programs.

The ads, which began airing in late September, glorify Trump and echo his political messaging going into the midterms. One features a clip of Trump talking about the threat of communism and another is a replay of an ad from his last presidential campaign. The fifth ad in the campaign began airing Tuesday, focusing on the Trump administration's capture of Venezuelan leader Nicolás Maduro.

The use of public funds to pay for the ads drew heavy criticism — including from some in the GOP.

"It shouldn't be paid for with taxpayer dollars," Senate Majority Leader John Thune, R-S.D., told reporters.

The Democratic National Committee has separately sued the Republican administration over the ads.

Amid the backlash, Trump said he would start paying for the ads with a campaign account. A White House official said there were no immediate plans to reimburse the government for money already spent.

Isaias moves north into Appalachians and mid-Atlantic; Southern California battered by Rachel

By SOPHIE BATES, KATE BRUMBACK and JULIE WALKER Associated Press

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP) — People in the Florida Panhandle and southern Alabama cleaned up after Hurricane Isaias swept through as the storm's remnants caused flooding in North Carolina on Sunday, while powerful Pacific Ocean waves stirred up by Rachel, a former tropical storm, battered the coast of Southern California.

In western North Carolina, rivers overflowed as heavy rainfall raised the risk of flash and urban flooding, according to the National Weather Service. It said tornadoes were possible in parts of Virginia and North Carolina as well as dangerous surf and rip current conditions along the Gulf and southeastern Atlantic coasts.

At least four deaths were linked to Isaias, the first hurricane of the Atlantic season, which came ashore as a Category 2 hurricane Friday near Destin, Florida, a Gulf Coast vacation spot filled with high-rises and tourist shops. The storm then roared into Alabama with tropical-force winds before heading farther north.

In Florida's Escambia County, Sheriff Chip Simmons said a woman was killed when a tree fell on her home and a man died of carbon monoxide fumes from a generator running in his garage.

One person died when a tree fell on a house in Birmingham, said Cory Moon, the city's fire chief. A second storm-related death in Alabama was attributed to a motor vehicle crash involving a downed tree in Barbour County, said Josh Johnson of the state's emergency management agency.

Heavy rains cause problems in North Carolina

In Burke County, North Carolina, an unhoused male and female were camping when floodwaters from the Catawba River caught them off guard. They were rescued, along with their dog, according to a spokesperson for the county emergency management agency. Separately, a woman trapped inside her car in floodwaters was freed outside of Morganton.

In McDowell County, North Carolina, just west of Burke County, first responders said they dealt with five landslides and voluntary evacuations overnight Saturday into Sunday as they responded to flooded roads and streams overflowing their banks.

Nearly a dozen local weather stations in the western North Carolina county reported torrential 24-hour rainfall totals from about 5 inches (13 centimeters) to as much as 9.57 inches (24 centimeters) at the fire/rescue station in Enola. The weather service said rainfall was diminishing in the area but that rapid river rises and flooding remained possible.

Dealing with Isaias aftermath in Florida

Hurricane-force winds in the Florida Panhandle blew the roof off a Pensacola hotel. The storm flattened a boathouse in Destin and ripped away part of the facade of a high-rise in Panama City Beach.

At a church in Pensacola where the United Cajun Navy was distributing supplies Sunday morning, a line of hundreds of cars stretched around the block. Yvette Haro said she arrived at 5 a.m. after being turned away the previous day because supplies had run out.

With a 10-year-old son and a 5-year-old daughter at home, she said it's hard to go to stores and wait in long lines. She was looking for water, paper towels, toilet paper and cleaning supplies.

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While her home didn't suffer any damage, the loss of electricity was making things difficult, Haro said. "The biggest thing is our food going bad," she said.

About 226,000 customers remained without power Sunday evening in the Florida Panhandle and southern Alabama, according to poweroutage.com. Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis said he expected nearly everyone to have it restored by Tuesday night.

Rachel brings wind and rain to southern California and the Southwest

Rachel became a post-tropical cyclone overnight, bringing unusually big waves to Southern California.

Waves battered a century-old wooden boardwalk on the Long Beach peninsula and forced homeowners to evacuate. The strip of multimillion-dollar oceanfront properties, along with much of the Southern California coastline, was already reeling from Hurricane Marie in September.

"This area is completely shattered and vulnerable," Jack Gordon, a Long Beach real estate agent, said.

The Pacific Ocean is abnormally warm, about 7 to 8 degrees F warmer than normal for this time of year, due to the El Niño weather pattern, said Joe Sirard of the weather service in Oxnard, California

"When we have this warm water, it actually causes the ocean to rise above the normal predicted tide levels," Sirard said. That's affected by Rachel's ocean swells and wind gusts. The City of Long Beach placed dozens of 3,000-pound (1,360-kilogram) sandbags along the stretch of peninsula where waves tore apart the historic boardwalk and smashed against coastal homes.

Jazmin Evers, a 37-year-old mother who runs a pottery business from her Long Beach rental home, said the community is on edge. "Every time the tide goes down everyone just kind of takes a breath — except, of course, the people whose buildings are being destroyed," she said. "When the tide comes back up, everybody's nerves kind of ramp back up." Rachel dissipated over Las Vegas as it drenched deserts across the Southwest. An inch (2.4 centimeters) of rain fell in the city Sunday, leading to gushing water and flooded streets on the Las Vegas Strip.

In the Pacific, Hurricane Simon was a Category 4 storm as it pounded Mexico's Pacific coast Sunday, its eye remaining just offshore as its most powerful winds and rain slammed people living between the Sierra Madre and the ocean. ____

Brumback reported from Atlanta. Walker reported from New York. Kathy McCormack in Concord, New Hampshire, Jack Brook in New Orleans and Josh Kelety in Phoenix also contributed.

Pope Leo XIV will have surgery in the coming days to remove a nodule on his lung

By NICOLE WINFIELD and COLLEEN BARRY Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Leo XIV announced Sunday he will undergo surgery "in the coming days" to remove a nodule on his lung, in the first major health event of his 17-month pontificate.

The 71-year-old Leo said the nodule was found at an early stage and was "circumscribed" or small and well-localized. The Vatican said Leo's expected recovery time from surgery would be a week.

The American pope made the announcement during his Sunday noon blessing in an unusual display of transparency about his health. He thanked the crowd for their closeness and entrusted himself to their prayers.

The Vatican didn't say exactly when the surgery would take place, other than in the early days of this week. Leo has one upcoming main event: the closing Mass on Wednesday of a weeklong conference on family ministry, but Vatican officials suggested he might miss it.

A nodule can be benign or malignant

A lung nodule is a small abnormal area measuring less than 3 centimeters (1 inch) that sometimes appears on a CT scan of the chest or abdomen, according to the American Cancer Society. Often, the scans are done to investigate trauma or a lung infection, unrelated to a lung cancer screening.

"Lung nodules are fairly common and are often benign, but benign and cancerous nodules can have a similar appearance on imaging," said Dr. Stephen Liu, a lung cancer expert at Georgetown's Lombardi

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Comprehensive Cancer Center.

"When there is sufficient concern, and when it is safe to do so based on the location of the nodule and the overall health of the patient, surgical removal can provide a definitive diagnosis," he said.

If the nodule turns out to be cancerous, the prognosis is "excellent" since it will have been removed at an early stage and surgery alone might be all Leo needs in terms of treatment, he said in an interview.

"It often can be a blessing in disguise to remove that cancer before it has a chance to grow or to spread," he said.

Leo has no previously known health problems and is physically active, with weekly tennis matches and swimming at the papal summer retreat in Castel Gandolfo.

The pope has a major trip planned Nov. 6-17 to Uruguay, Argentina and Peru. It's unclear how or whether the planned surgery and recovery might affect the itinerary, but Leo said earlier in his remarks Sunday that he still planned to go.

In his remarks, delivered in Italian, Leo said that during a recent medical check, "doctors found a circumscribed nodule in my lung. It was detected at a very early stage and is well-localized. The doctors believe it's best to take action, so, following their advice, I have decided to have surgery to remove it."

He thanked the faithful "for your spiritual support, and I entrust myself to your prayers."

Surgery to be at the pope's hospital

Leo's predecessor, Pope Francis, died April 21, 2025, of a stroke following a long hospitalization brought on by a respiratory crisis that developed into double pneumonia. Francis suffered from chronic lung disease and had part of one lung removed as a young man.

Francis' illnesses were characterized by a dizzying and sometimes problematic release of information from the Vatican, which always closely guards the privacy of a pope's health. In one infamous incident, the Vatican said Francis had gone to the hospital in March 2023 for scheduled tests, but the pontiff later revealed he had felt pain in his chest and was rushed to the hospital where bronchitis was diagnosed. He ended up being admitted for three days.

This time around, Leo appeared keen to control the message and deliver it himself, using one of his most public encounters with the faithful to alert them of his condition and impending hospital stay.

Leo is expected to undergo surgery at Rome's Gemelli hospital, where Francis and popes before him were treated and where there is a special apartment for pontiffs. On Sunday, there was no obvious sign that the pope had already been admitted.

A nodule doesn't mean cancer but should be investigated

Dr. Dionysis Papadatos-Pastos, an oncologist and lung cancer specialist at The London Clinic, stressed that an incidental finding of a lung nodule doesn't mean lung cancer. And in fact "a well-circumscribed nodule does suggest that this is less likely to be cancer."

But he said cancer was possible and the main imperative is to investigate. "The worst thing you can do is ignore a lung nodule," he said in an interview.

Liu, the Georgetown oncologist, said surgical removal in such a case was standard, especially for someone in otherwise good health and if the nodule is in an easily accessible location. A needle biopsy on a lung nodule can be difficult and may not provide doctors with enough information, he said.

"In these cases, surgery itself, while it may seem dramatic, is often very safe, very straightforward with a rapid recovery," he said, adding that Leo should be in good shape to travel to Latin America barring any complications.

Leo is not known to be a smoker. Liu noted that 1 in 5 people diagnosed with lung cancer have no history of smoking.

Dr. Massimo Di Maio, president of the Italian Association of Medical Oncology, said it will be important to determine if the nodule is benign or malignant, and if it is malignant, whether it has spread. When the disease is detected at an early stage "the aim ... is curative," he added.

Depending on what is found, possible treatments can include chemotherapy and radiation therapy, Di Maio told Italy's private Sky TG24.

"When we talk about something being localized, that can also refer to the need to establish whether the

disease is confined to that one site or whether scans show signs of disease elsewhere," he said, adding that he has not treated the pope and was speaking about the disease in general.

"Being physically fit and healthy is certainly an important starting point for coping as well as possible with treatment, including surgery," he added.

Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni, among the few outsiders to visit Francis during his long final hospitalization, expressed her support, and that of the Italian government, for Leo "as he faces this challenge in the coming days." In a statement, she added that "the serenity and calm with which he spoke about it" were reassuring.

Pennsylvania shooter who killed 8 was family's patriarch, father of toddler killed says

By TED SHAFFREY Associated Press

ERIE, Pa. (AP) — A man whose toddler was among eight people killed in a mass shooting in Erie, Pennsylvania, said Sunday that the gunman was a grandfather who never seemed distressed or out of the ordinary.

"I think that was a front for him," Julius Windham said as he stood at a memorial to victims of Friday's shooting, including his 1-year-old daughter Amarianna, her pregnant mother and the woman's 5-year-old son and unborn baby.

"Him every day, him smiling and being just — you would think of nothing like that would happen," Windham said.

The 45-year-old gunman took his own life. Authorities have not released his name, but Erie Police Chief Rick Lorah said he was related to seven of the victims. The eighth was a friend of the pregnant woman, he said. Police have not made their names public, either.

Those killed include 2 women outside the home

Mourners on Sunday placed candles, flowers and stuffed animals outside the home where the man opened fire shortly before 5 p.m. Friday. Windham wore a T-shirt with pictures of the women and children and the words, "Forever In My Heart."

"Words can't even explain what I'm going through right now," Windham said. "But I gotta be strong for my community, you know what I'm saying? My family, my daughters, my sons, everybody."

Video and audio evidence recovered by investigators included muffled gunshot sounds coming from inside the home just before two "distressed" women arrived and began pounding on the door, Lorah said. The gunman then came out and shot them as they ran toward him, before returning inside.

Responding officers found the two women dead outside. After deploying a drone and robot, they went inside and found the bodies of the 5-year-old boy and 1-year-old girl on the first floor; two more women and two young men in a stairwell; and the shooter on the second floor.

"Out of respect for the victims and the families, I will not discuss the details of what our officers encountered inside that home," the chief said at a news conference.

"But I want our community to understand the gravity of what happened and the profound impact this tragedy has had on those involved and on our community as a whole," he said.

Police decline to discuss motive as investigation continues

Erie is about 120 miles (190 kilometers) north of Pittsburgh.

Lorah declined to discuss motive but suggested mental health could be a factor. He said investigators would talk to relatives and examine the cellphones of the women who were killed outside the home.

"They knew something was going on at that house," Lorah said. "We have to figure out what that is."

Nicole and Debra Eller, whose best friend was among the victims, said they've known the family for more than 30 years. Nicole Eller said the shooter "was a good guy, and then he started going downhill with everything."

"They were a lovely family. Who would have thought this would ever happen?" Debra Eller said. "Oh my gosh, this is so upsetting. This should have never happened to her or the kids or anybody. His grandchild-

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dren, his kids, how can you do that?"

The Erie shooting was reminiscent of a 1982 massacre in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, in which a man killed 13 people, including five of his own children.

At a news conference on Saturday, Erie Mayor Daria Devlin addressed a portion of her remarks directly to the victims' families.

"I am so deeply sorry," Devlin said. "What happened to you was horrific, and there is nothing that any of us can say today that will make this any easier. ... Our entire community is with you, we're grieving with you. And we are here to support you."

Iran calls latest US response to proposal insufficient, and other Mideast developments

By The Associated Press undefined

A senior Iranian official says Tehran finds the latest U.S. response to a proposal to end the war "insufficient" and warns of attacks on regional data centers and cables if fighting intensifies again.

Meanwhile, Israel's former attorney general took the witness stand in corruption cases against Benjamin Netanyahu, as the political future of the country's longest-serving prime minister hangs in the balance with elections weeks away.

Here is the latest news from the Middle East on Saturday. Read our full coverage here.

Iran says latest US response is 'insufficient'

The head of Iran's Supreme National Security Council says Tehran finds the latest response from the United States "insufficient" as efforts at negotiations to end the war and fully open the Strait of Hormuz limp along.

The comments by Mohsen Rezaei, a former Revolutionary Guard commander, were carried by Iran's state-run IRNA news agency.

Rezaei added that Iran is no longer responding to the U.S. and said Washington must clarify certain issues, without giving details. He said the U.S. has accepted some of the seven conditions but others remain unclear.

Iran's delegation to the annual U.N. gathering of world leaders last month proposed a sped-up agreement that echoed the memorandum of understanding that collapsed days after the U.S. and Iran signed it in June. The new proposal was rejected, but the two sides have remained in contact via mediation.

Rezaei also threatened "cables, data centers, AI facilities and other sites in the region" if intense fighting breaks out again.

Meanwhile, the Guard's navy warned that any ship on the strait that turns off navigation and identification systems would be "identified as hostile," according to an IRNA report. Attacks on ships transiting the strait have increased since Iran's proposal was rejected. One attack was reported Sunday.

Former legal adviser testifies in Netanyahu corruption case

Israel's former attorney general took the witness stand in Netanyahu's long-running corruption trial.

Avichai Mandelblit indicted the prime minister seven years ago for fraud, breach of trust and accepting bribes. The charges were the first-ever against a sitting Israeli prime minister.

Netanyahu was in the courtroom to hear Mandelblit testify. The prime minister handpicked Mandelblit, his former Cabinet secretary, for the attorney general job. His tenure ended in 2022.

Netanyahu has been accused of offering or exchanging favors with wealthy associates and media moguls for political gain. He denies any wrongdoing.

Saudi Arabia on alert as Houthis warn of new strikes

A projectile struck the same passenger terminal at the Riyadh international airport that was hit on Saturday. The airport had been closed after Saturday's attack, which killed 12 people, but Saudi authorities reported injuries in the latest attack.

Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen claimed responsibility for both attacks on King Khalid International Airport, which has been targeted every day since Wednesday. The latest strike in Riyadh came shortly

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after the Houthis said the airport in the rebel-held Yemeni capital of Sanaa had been struck again, and blamed the Saudis. On Sunday night the Houthi-run Al-Masirah TV channel reported further strikes on Sanaa, blaming Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia has not commented on the strikes.

Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree, the Houthis' military spokesperson, urged "everyone to take our warnings seriously" about the risks of flying in Saudi airspace.

The attacks have marked a major escalation in the war between the Houthis and the kingdom, and complicated efforts to halt the U.S.-Iran war.

Gaza residents return to rubble as strikes continue

Residents in central Gaza returned home to assess the damage caused by Israeli strikes after they had been warned to evacuate the day before.

Bassam Abed said at least 10 residences housing some 300 families were reduced to rubble, and families were not given enough time to flee.

"Women slept outdoors. We did not take clothes," Abed said.

Israel's military said it had targeted militant infrastructure, including a rocket launch site and a command center used by Hamas militants to attack soldiers.

One year after Israel and Hamas reached a ceasefire deal, Israel continues to launch near-daily strikes.

Netanyahu wants probe into 'NAZA' documentary

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has asked the attorney general and head of the Shin Bet security service to investigate people who participated in the new documentary "NAZA," in which Israeli military insiders describe what they say was the reckless killing of civilians in Gaza.

Netanyahu said the film, which debuted at the Venice Film Festival to a record 25-minute standing ovation, tells "a false, misleading and biased story that slanders the State of Israel" and its military.

The documentary has angered and unsettled Israelis, whose view of the war in Gaza differs sharply from that of much of the world, where criticism of Israel's actions in the Palestinian territory has grown.

Netanyahu is fighting to stay in power in the Oct. 27 election, in which security is a major issue.

Lebanese army says retired officer killed by Israeli shelling

Lebanon's army said it had recovered the body of a retired army officer who was killed by Israeli artillery fire while checking on his property in the southern town of Yater.

It said Ali Abdul Hassan Sweidan was "directly targeted by a hostile Israeli tank" and called it "a flagrant violation of existing understandings."

An Israeli military spokesperson said they were not aware of the incident.

Israel has occupied a large swath of southern Lebanon since the outbreak of its latest war with the Iran-backed Lebanese militant group Hezbollah in March.

139 migrants, including children, die after boat capsizes off Djibouti

By JAMEY KEATEN and CLAUDIA CIOBANU Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — At least 139 people, including children, have died after a boat carrying more than 300 migrants capsized off the coast of Djibouti in east Africa, the International Organization for Migration said Sunday.

That number only includes those buried by authorities in Djibouti. Others have been buried by the migrants themselves but they won't be added to the official count until authorities can verify the bodies, Alexandre Coissac, IOM Chief of Mission in Djibouti, told the AP via the phone.

"What is terrible is that they were buried with no names, in a common grave, like in a war situation," Coissac said. "They all have a mother, a father, and we may never learn what happened."

Coissac said the migrants boarded the ship in the evening of Oct. 8 and that it sank very soon after, close to the shore, "mainly because it was overcrowded."

"The local authorities did their best," Coissac said, "but they were overwhelmed with all the bodies that

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kept coming at once towards the shore."

He said authorities were bringing the surviving migrants to the IOM rescue center in Obock where they receive medical assistance after swallowing sea water, and psychological support.

"They're all in a state of shock," Coissac, who visited the area of the shipwreck Saturday, said. "I tried to talk to some of them but it's very difficult."

Some of the migrants in the IOM center are already aware that their family members died during the shipwreck. Others were given access to phones to call loved ones back home to notify them they are alive.

At least 84 people remained missing in one of the deadliest shipwrecks yet on the popular but perilous crossing from the Horn of Africa to the Arabian Peninsula, where many migrants seek work in rich Gulf nations.

The boat was traveling from Djibouti to Yemen when it capsized on Thursday night or Friday morning, according to the IOM. More than 80 people survived, all of them Ethiopian nationals, it said.

The Geneva-based U.N. migration agency said the vessel had 305 people on board and warned that the death toll could still rise.

Personal items likely belonging to the migrants, including shoes, were seen on a beach in a video shared by IOM. Rescue work continued as fears grew for the missing.

Tens of thousands of migrants from the Horn of Africa travel every year through Djibouti and across the Bab el-Mandeb Strait towards Gulf countries in search of safety and economic opportunities, the IOM said in its statement.

That movement has continued despite newly escalating fighting in Yemen, on the other side of the strait.

"This is a devastating loss of life," said Coissac. "This tragedy is a stark reminder of the dangers faced by migrants along this migration corridor as they seek economic opportunities."

In recent weeks, at least 2,000 Yemenis have received aid in Djibouti as the fighting has escalated in Yemen between the Saudi-backed, internationally recognized government and Iranian-backed Houthi rebels.

That's the opposite direction from the movement of the migrants who died in the shipwreck and the typical migration patterns of recent years: The tens of thousands who cross from eastern Africa toward Yemen each year have typically been looking for work in places like Saudi Arabia.

Over 900 migrants died or went missing along the route last year, according to IOM's Missing Migrants Project.

"No one gets into a boat like that unless they believe there is no other safe way," IOM Director-General Amy Pope said. "We cannot keep treating these deaths as normal. Safe and legal pathways save lives. I am asking governments and donors to act before the next boat goes down."

Six senators call for Trump administration to 'immediately reverse course' on Russian diesel plan

By KEVIN FREKING Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A bipartisan group of six senators on Sunday called for President Donald Trump's administration to "immediately reverse course" on a plan to purchase diesel from Russia as part of an effort to lower high fuel prices.

Trump shocked lawmakers when he announced on social media Friday that he struck a deal with Russian President Vladimir Putin in a phone call. He said Russia will immediately supply more than 300,000 tons of diesel to the American and global market, followed by an additional 500,000 tons in November and 1 million tons "immediately thereafter." Russia will deliver an additional 3 million tons "within a short period of time" after that, he wrote.

Four Republican senators and two Democratic senators signed onto the statement released Sunday in protesting the deal. They said the administration failed to consult with Congress or submit any explanation to justify its decision as required by statute.

"The United States should not provide Putin with a financial lifeline while Russia continues to kill Ukrainian

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civilians. The Administration must immediately reverse course," they wrote.

The Republican senators who signed onto the statement are Sens. Susan Collins of Maine, Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, Thom Tillis of North Carolina and John Curtis of Utah. The Democratic senators are Sens. Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire and Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut.

Tillis, in an interview that aired Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press," said there's a legitimate case for saying the president is not following the law if the administration goes through with its diesel purchase plan.

"We were very clear that Russia is the aggressor. Russia is the one who can end this war by backing out of territory that they occupied," Tillis said.

Trump's announcement came just a few weeks after Congress passed legislation that directed Trump to impose substantial tariffs on the top importers of Russian oil or natural gas, with an exception for countries that import less than 15% of Russia's natural gas exports and have taken significant steps to reduce those imports.

The congressional effort was aimed at cutting the flow of money Russia receives from oil and gas sales to finance its war against Ukraine.

The lawmakers also noted that Congress explicitly banned Russia energy imports in 2022 to prevent the United States from financing the war.

"Congress was clear: the U.S. should not import oil from Russia until it ends its aggression against Ukraine and ceases threats against our NATO Allies," the six lawmakers wrote in their statement. "President Trump's decision to allow Russian diesel imports to the U.S. runs directly counter to that law."

Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., said Trump is focused on reducing the cost of energy when asked whether the president's action would be in violation of U.S. law.

"The president is balancing and has to make tough decisions," Barrasso said on CBS's "Face the Nation." He also encouraged Trump to enforce the sanctions law that Congress passed last month.

"This is just another point of leverage for the president to use against Putin in an effort to get a long-term solution in that part of the world," Barrasso said.

Energy experts say the Russia deal is unlikely to make a dent in high prices at the pump.

Richard Nephew, a senior research scholar at Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy, noted that the total amount of diesel appears to be less than what the U.S. uses in a day.

Nephew argued that Iran and Russia might benefit more than the U.S.

"The Iranians are probably very excited because it shows that there's a lot of pressure still on the U.S. And the Russians are excited because it puts a big hole in the sanctions regime," he said.

Trump has recently sought to blame record U.S. diesel prices on Ukraine rather than the U.S.-led war in Iran, which has elevated world energy prices.

Georgia takes over at No. 1 in AP Top 25 with Notre Dame, Miami next; Oregon is out of the poll

By ERIC OLSON AP College Football Writer

Georgia moved up to No. 1 in The Associated Press Top 25 on Sunday following its win at Alabama, Texas dropped six spots to No. 7 after its loss to rival Oklahoma and Oregon was unranked for the first time in four years after losing for the second time in the past month.

The Bulldogs, who had been No. 2 for five straight polls while rolling off five straight lopsided wins, went on the road and beat Alabama 20-17 with the help of what appeared to be a missed pass interference call in the end zone late in the game.

Georgia received 66 first-place votes from the panel of 70 media members after its first victory in Tuscaloosa since 2014 and ascended to the top of the poll for the first time since Sept. 8, 2024.

Notre Dame, which tuned up for this week's top-10 matchup at BYU with a 58-7 rout of Stanford, moved up one spot to No. 2. The Fighting Irish got one first-place vote and have their highest ranking since they were No. 2 in the final poll of the 2024 season.

No. 3 Miami, which received two first-place votes, is followed by Ohio State and Indiana. The Hoosiers,

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who received the remaining first-place vote, got a two-spot promotion after their narrow win at Nebraska. Alabama remained No. 6, and Texas, BYU, Mississippi and Texas Tech completed the top 10.

Oregon came into the season with its highest preseason ranking ever at No. 2. The Ducks' turnover-fueled 17-15 home loss to UCLA dropped them to 3-2 and knocked them out of the poll for the first time since they went from No. 11 to unranked following a 49-3 loss to Georgia in the 2022 opener.

No. 12 UCLA and No. 15 Kentucky got the biggest promotions. The Bruins moved up nine spots with their win over Oregon, and the Wildcats went from unranked to No. 15 with their 35-34 overtime win over LSU, which dropped from No. 10 to No. 22.

In and out

In: Kentucky, which dropped out last week after beating South Carolina, is back in the poll with its highest ranking since early October 2022.

In: No. 21 Wake Forest is 5-1 and ranked for the first time since late October 2022.

In: No. 25 Northwestern, at 4-1, earned its first ranking under fourth-year coach David Braun.

Out: Oregon hasn't lost two of its first five games since the 2016 team opened 2-5 and finished 4-8.

Out: Florida has gone from No. 8 to No. 16 to out of the rankings in two weeks following its 38-19 home loss to South Carolina.

Out: Pittsburgh managed just one touchdown on eight second-half possessions in a 21-17 home loss to North Carolina.

Poll points

— This is the second time in three years there have been three or more No. 1 teams in the first six polls. Georgia, Texas and Alabama took turns holding the top spot in the first six polls in 2024. The only other time in the Top 25 era that three teams had been No. 1 at this point of a season was 1990.

— Notre Dame and Miami, dubbed "Catholic vs. Convicts" rivals since their classic game in 1988, haven't been together in the top three since Nov. 9, 1993.

— Texas' six-spot fall from No. 1 to No. 7 matched its drop following a season-opening loss to Ohio State last year.

Conference call

SEC (9 ranked teams): No. 1 Georgia, No. 6 Alabama, No. 7 Texas, No. 9 Mississippi, No. 13 Missouri, No. 14 Tennessee, No. 15 Kentucky, No. 16 Mississippi State, No. 22 LSU.

Big Ten (6): No. 4 Ohio State, No. 5 Indiana, No. 12 UCLA, No. 17 Iowa, No. 19 USC, No. 25 Northwestern.

Big 12 (5): No. 8 BYU, No. 10 Texas Tech, No. 11 Utah, No. 18 Oklahoma State, No. 20 Houston.

ACC (3): No. 3 Miami, No. 21 Wake Forest, No. 24 SMU.

Pac-12 (1): No. 23 Boise State.

Independent (1): No. 3 Notre Dame.

Ranked vs. ranked

No. 4 Ohio State at No. 5 Indiana: Ohio State plays its second top-five matchup of the season. Indiana won the last meeting 13-10 in the 2025 Big Ten championship game when the Hoosiers were No. 2 and the Buckeyes were No. 1.

No. 2 Notre Dame at No. 8 BYU: First-ever top-10 matchup at LaVell Edwards Stadium. Cougars won the last time Notre Dame visited, in 2004.

No. 16 Mississippi State at No. 22 LSU: First time the teams have met as ranked opponents since 2018.

No. 6 Alabama at No. 14 Tennessee: Crimson Tide lost the last two times they've visited Knoxville. The big question for the Volunteers is who will start at quarterback.

No. 13 Missouri at No. 9 Mississippi: Motivation will be no problem for Mizzou QB Austin Simmons. He began last season as Ole Miss' starter, got hurt, recovered and stayed on the bench behind a guy named Trinidad Chambliss.

No. 18 Oklahoma State at No. 20 Houston: This will be the first time these teams meet as ranked opponents.

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'Other Mommy' tops the box office with \$27.5M; 'The Social Reckoning' opens to \$5.5M

By LINDSEY BAHR AP Film Writer

The Jessica Chastain horror "Other Mommy" topped the North American box office this weekend with a bigger audience than expected, while "The Social Reckoning" got off to a lackluster start.

'Other Mommy' is another win for horror

"Other Mommy," released by Universal Pictures, earned \$27.5 million in its first few days in 3,365 theaters, according to studio estimates on Sunday. The movie, about a sinister supernatural creature that terrorizes a young girl who thinks it's her mother, got dismal reviews from both critics and audiences. It also joins the ranks of "Megalopolis" and "Hereditary" with a D+ CinemaScore.

But with a production budget of around \$19 million, it's also another win for the horror genre and producer Blumhouse Atomic Monster, which was behind "Backrooms" and "Obsession." "Other Mommy" opened in 50 international markets as well, boosting its global debut to \$45.2 million.

Jim Orr, Universal's head of domestic distribution, noted that the audience gender divide was evenly split and about 2/3 were between 18 and 34 years old.

"No matter how you look at it, everybody turned out for it. It wasn't just one particular demographic," Orr said. "That usually is a very good sign."

'The Social Reckoning' fails to connect

"The Social Reckoning," the weekend's other big release, was not as lucky, earning an estimated \$5.5 million from 2,606 North American theaters. Aaron Sorkin wrote and directed the film about a Facebook whistleblower who leaked incriminating documents to a Wall Street Journal reporter.

Sixteen years ago, "The Social Network," which Sorkin wrote and David Fincher directed, opened to over \$22 million and went on to gross over \$224 million worldwide, receiving eight Oscar nominations and winning three. A similar fate might be a stretch for "The Social Reckoning," which stars Mikey Madison, Jeremy Allen White and Jeremy Strong and received mixed-to-negative reviews from critics. Audiences gave it a B- CinemaScore. According to reports, the Sony Pictures release cost around \$30 million to produce, not accounting for marketing and promotion.

Paul Dergarabedian, Rentrak's head of marketplace trends, said October is a time when studios take chances and it doesn't always work out.

"These movies that are topical in nature, sometimes they resonate with the culture, sometimes they don't," said Dergarabedian. "You don't always know what's going to connect with audiences."

He compared "The Social Reckoning" to "Digger," which fell 60% in its second weekend.

The overall box office is still up

"The Social Reckoning" opened behind several holdovers as well. The Anne Hathaway psychological thriller "Verity" took second place with \$11.5 million, down 64% from its opening weekend. In third place, "Resident Evil" added \$8.4 million, bringing its domestic total to \$138.5 million. The Brad Pitt survival thriller "Heart of the Beast" took fourth with \$7.1 million.

Christopher Nolan's "The Odyssey" also made an encore appearance in the top 10 in its 13th weekend in theaters where it was back in 12 IMAX 70 mm locations. It added \$2 million from 560 North American theaters, bringing its domestic total just shy of \$623 million.

Several high-profile films opened in limited release this weekend as well. The Cannes Palme d'Or winner "Fjord" debuted on four screens this weekend where it made \$124,000. Alex Gibney's Elon Musk documentary "Musk," which runs nearly four hours, made \$68,900 from four locations. And Chris Rock's "Misty Green" made \$85,716 from six locations through Sunday.

The annual domestic box office crossed the \$8 billion mark on Friday and is up over 19% from last year. According to Rentrak, that's about 8% behind 2019.

Top 10 movies by domestic box office

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

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1. "Other Mommy," \$27.5 million.
2. "Verity," \$11.5 million.
3. "Resident Evil," \$8.4 million.
4. "Heart of the Beast," \$7.1 million.
5. "The Social Reckoning," \$5.5 million.
6. "Forgotten Island," \$4.5 million.
7. "Primetime," \$4 million.
8. "Digger," \$3.2 million.
9. "Angel and the Badman," \$2.1 million.
10. "The Odyssey," \$2 million.

Trump sticks with tariffs even as US voters turn against them before the midterms

By BERNARD CONDON AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Maybe President Donald Trump really does believe that "tariff" is the most beautiful word in the dictionary.

Despite higher prices, criticism from trade experts and displeasure among voters, Trump holds fast to his belief that imposing the highest import duties on U.S. trading partners since the Great Depression is a winner.

A recent poll suggests that is a big gamble with less than a month before the Nov. 3 midterms. Most U.S. adults disapprove of his trade policies, with more than 64% saying he has gone too far with his latest tariffs, compared with 58% in January.

A look at the political, legal and economic challenges to the Republican president's approach to trade.

Where Trump's ever-changing tariffs stand today

The United States has set taxes on imports from most countries in the low double digits, although the rates have gone up and down because of legal setbacks as well as Trump's habit of changing them seemingly on a whim.

In the biggest round last year, Trump levied what he called "reciprocal" tariffs and other duties on dozens of countries. He cited a 1977 law that he said allowed him to act without congressional approval in an economic emergency.

After the Supreme Court struck that down in February, Trump turned to an array of other trade laws to accomplish his goals.

The primary one he is using now, Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, allows him to impose tariffs on countries that he believes are engaging in unfair trade practices, such as not adequately enforcing a ban on forced labor. The new duties range from 10% to 12.5% on imports from 60 economies, including big U.S. trading partners such as the European Union, India, Japan, Canada and Mexico.

Why trade experts think Trump is causing more damage than good

Trump is taking a sledgehammer to a relatively open global trading system that many mainstream economists think has benefited the U.S. enormously. It has helped boost growth, keep prices low and make U.S. businesses more competitive and often dominant in global industries.

The U.S. is the second-largest exporter in the world, after China. It exported \$3.4 trillion in goods and services last year, far ahead of third place Germany's \$2.3 trillion.

Although Trump claims foreign exporters are paying tariffs, it is mostly Americans who are footing the bill. Studies, including ones from New York Fed and Harvard, have shown that overseas companies have largely not lowered their prices to offset the tariffs that U.S. businesses pay at the border. Those businesses are absorbing the added costs or passing them along to consumers through higher prices.

The White House responds that the factory boom is already underway and points to statistics showing that manufacturing jobs, after falling last year, are on the upswing and work in certain nonresidential construction trades is rising, too.

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"Factory construction jobs of today mean more manufacturing jobs down the road once those factories come online," said White House spokeswoman Taylor Rogers.

Mixed evidence that countries are 'ripping off' the US

In the four years after China joined the World Trade Organization in 2001, nearly 3 million U.S. manufacturing jobs were lost, accelerating a shift away from factory work. Even global trade enthusiasts recognize the damage. Many U.S. companies struggled to compete with an influx of discounted products from China, which has suppressed consumption to encourage exports.

It also is true that some countries have higher tariffs than the U.S., manipulate their currencies lower to ensure to make their exports to the U.S. cheaper and help industries with subsidies.

But tariffs among U.S. major trading partners are low, often comparable to U.S. rates and sometimes lower.

Before the trade war, the U.S. rate averaged 1.47% for goods from the European Union, slightly above the average 1.35% imposed by the EU on American products, according to the Brussels think tank Bruegel. Europeans are big buyers of what America wants to sell. About 30% of European imports are from U.S.-owned companies, according to the European Central Bank.

The relationship with Canada, America's big trading partner to the north, was also similar before trade talks broke down this summer. Canada's effective tariff rate on U.S. imports was about 2.4%, less than half the 5% that the U.S. had on Canadian imports, according to calculations by Oxford Economics.

Now the countries are mired in a tit-for-tat dispute, with both countries escalating tariffs on each other.

Republicans face midterm backlash from factory workers squeezed out of jobs by Trump's tariffs

By BERNARD CONDON AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Nelson Vandermeer voted Republican for decades but balked at supporting President Donald Trump, fearing that the Republican's plan for tariffs on imports would hurt workers more than help.

Last year, Vandermeer's premonition came true in a very personal way. The 62-year-old lost his job as a product designer at Howard Miller, a clockmaker that relied on parts produced overseas. After a century in business, the company in Zeeland, Michigan, closed its factory, sold off its inventory and brand name and laid off nearly 200 workers.

"So much for bringing jobs back," Vandermeer said. Next month, he plans to vote straight Democrat in the midterms.

As if an unpopular war with Iran and persistent inflation were not enough trouble for Republicans, they are confronting a backlash over the tariffs that Trump made a cornerstone of his economic agenda. He promised that charging higher taxes on imports would spur a factory renaissance in the United States, but that has not come to pass. Although the country has added manufacturing jobs so far this year, the sector has fewer employees than when Trump returned to the White House in January 2025.

White House spokeswoman Taylor Rogers insisted that a factory boom is underway, citing increases in manufacturing output and more work in certain nonresidential construction trades. "Factory construction jobs of today mean more manufacturing jobs down the road once those factories come online," she said.

Even before the tariffs, Howard Miller struggled as Americans lost their taste for fancy timepieces such as its signature grandfather and mantel clocks. So the company broadened its offerings years ago to include bar carts, cabinets and consoles.

But those products also depended on glass and other parts from abroad, and diversification did not ensure survival.

"I could still have a job, but now I don't because of tariffs," Vandermeer said. "It was like taking a knife to the back."

Job losses pile up in battleground states

Vandermeer lives in Michigan's 4th Congressional District, which is represented by Republican Bill Huizenga, who is running for a ninth term in the Nov. 3 election.

Before Trump implemented his broadest set of tariffs last year, on what the president called "Liberation

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Day," Huizenga was supportive.

"Is it going to be easy? Not necessarily. Is it the right thing to do? Absolutely it is," he told reporters at the time.

A spokesperson for Huizenga said last week that the congressman "sees a potential role for tariffs" for boosting domestic manufacturing "while recognizing the need to address their broader economic effects." His Democratic opponent, state Sen. Sean McCann, has criticized the incumbent for opposing legislation that would rein in tariffs that Trump imposed unilaterally.

There are similar issues in competitive races in Kansas, Iowa and Ohio, where Republican acquiescence could hurt the party on Election Day as their constituents face factory layoffs, farm foreclosures and higher prices.

Tracy Chew, 55, voted for Trump in 2016, then for Democrat Joe Biden in 2020 and Democrat Kamala Harris in 2024.

She used to work for Case, a backhoe manufacturer, but the company announced before the tariffs that it would close its plant in Burlington, Iowa. She lost her job in April, as did her daughter, followed by husband and son-in-law over the next few weeks.

Chew is leaning toward voting for Democrats again this year, feeling that Trump let them down.

"I'm furious he isn't doing enough," she said. "Tariffs are not targeting the right companies, the right amount."

Layoffs in Iowa have piled up elsewhere.

Winnebago Industries, which produces recreational vehicles like campers, cut 200 jobs last year after the cost of importing aluminum, steel and electronics increased by tens of millions of dollars.

"It's a day to day battle," said Michael Happe, the company's chief executive.

In the tight race for an open U.S. Senate seat in Iowa, U.S. Rep. Ashley Hinson faces Democratic state Rep. Josh Turek. There is a close contest, too, in Kansas, where Democrat Adam Hamilton, the pastor of the largest United Methodist Church in the U.S., is trying to unseat Republican Roger Marshall.

Cole Hoppock, chief executive of appliance maker Vornado Air in Wichita, Kansas, said Trump's tariffs "impacted virtually everything." The company known for its retro household fans laid off more than 70 factory workers in February, blaming higher prices for imported parts.

Trump's trade policy could force cutbacks soon at another Kansas employer, Canadian jet manufacturer Bombardier. Trump has threatened to ban the company's sales in the U.S. if Bombardier does not start making all its planes in the U.S. Bombardier said it buys parts from 2,800 companies in 47 states, including in Kansas, where it employs more than 1,000 people.

Trump's approach to trade is unpopular

Trump has spent years complaining that other countries are ripping off the U.S. when it comes to trade. Most economists say he is wrong and that his remedy — broad universal tariffs — would cause more pain than help.

Now most Americans disagree with Trump's approach, according to The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. A September poll showed only about 3 in 10 U.S. adults approve of Trump's handling of trade negotiations, compared with 4 in 10 in March.

Some of Trump's tariffs have been haphazard.

He targeted Brazil because of political differences and he jacked up tariffs on China to levels so extreme that they risked a recession and forced the president to retreat. The Supreme Court in February ruled against Trump's declaration of an emergency to roll out his "Liberation Day" tariffs last year, leaving foreign trade unsettled as the administration continues to adjust with new levies and threats.

Tariffs are far from the only reason for the lost of manufacturing jobs, and factories have cut workers for decades with or without them. Even some Republicans who dislike Trump's approach will not split with the party.

Bicycle Corp. of America, which closed its factory in South Carolina last year, blamed rising prices for imported parts. Koby Bird, who retired after working in quality control, likes tariffs but was frustrated by

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Trump's habit of raising and lowering them seemingly at whim.

"It was all over the place," Bird said. "Businesses couldn't plan."

Next month, Bird is likely to stick with Republicans, including U.S. Sen. Darline Graham, because tariffs are only one issue and he believes Democrats would spend too much money on the wrong things.

Ernie Goss, an economist at Creighton University in Nebraska, said manufacturing woes may not convert to Democratic victories. He said some people may "think the tariffs in the long run will work."

Some workers may be turning on Trump

Wendell Young, a union leader in Pennsylvania, where several factories have had layoffs, said he senses a backlash among workers.

Last summer, Young said he got a firestorm of angry responses to his email blaming tariffs for a decision by Post Holdings to cut 160 jobs at a local pet food factory.

"Keep politics out of this," wrote one of workers at the plant in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania. "President Trump isn't the reason."

"People used to beat me up for not supporting Trump. I haven't heard that in a year," said Young, president of Local 1776 of the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union. "Some of these people are red Republicans and they are shocked. They expected more jobs."

Post Holdings ultimately agreed to reduce the head count by offering severance for people to leave, but lower production had a ripple effect.

Local can manufacturer Trivium Packaging decided to cut several jobs because they were getting less orders from Post and other companies, according to Young's union.

"I understand the mindset behind tariffs, but I just don't know if it's working," said former Trivium worker Heather Kingston. She left for another company before the layoffs, and her husband is still working at Trivium. "There doesn't seem to be many manufacturing jobs moving into the area," she said.

Kingston said she voted for Republican Dan Meuser in the 9th District last time but is having doubts this year. Meuser's seat is considered safe, but other races in the state are up for grabs, including in the 7th and 8th districts, which are near the Post and Trivium factories.

Republicans want Abdul El-Sayed to be the main character of the midterms. He's happy to oblige

By JOEY CAPPELLETTI Associated Press

PORT HURON, Mich. (AP) — Abdul El-Sayed, holding a handheld mic and wearing his signature V-neck black shirt, slowly shook his head as a woman at his town hall described how she burned through her savings after undergoing emergency brain surgery.

"I'm really sorry for your experience, and I hope that you're on the mend," said El-Sayed, the Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate in Michigan, after outlining proposals for guaranteed health care and paid leave.

Later that night, while talking to reporters in the basement below the theatre, his tone was far different. El-Sayed called his Republican opponent Mike Rogers a "coward," said President Donald Trump was "afraid" to visit the state and dismissed as "dumb" a question about whether Iran or Israel posed a greater threat to the United States.

The exchanges captured two sides of a candidate who is the central figure in one of the nation's most consequential Senate races. El-Sayed would be the country's first Muslim senator, and he's crisscrossing the state to counter a Republican effort, fueled by tens of millions of dollars, to portray him as a dangerous radical. But he has also embraced his confrontational side by mocking and taunting Trump and Rogers.

"If they want to make me the main character in the midterms, I'm not shying away from it," El-Sayed said in an interview. "Run against me. See how well that works out for you."

El-Sayed's brash, swaggering confidence rubbed some Democrats the wrong way during a divisive primary against Rep. Haley Stevens. The former public health official has shown little interest in toning it down, remaining unapologetic about his progressive agenda and adversarial approach, emboldening supporters who believe he's the right candidate for an angry electorate that has lost faith in the political establishment.

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But his doubters fear he'll cost Democrats control of the Senate by failing to unite his party's disparate factions ahead of November.

"If you want their votes, you have to make nice with those people, and he's not really doing that," said Michigan political strategist Adrian Hemond, who supported Stevens. "Maybe he doesn't have to. The entire theory of this candidacy has been he can remake what the electorate looks like."

Republicans target El-Sayed

Even though Michigan backed Trump twice in his three presidential campaigns, no Republican has won a Senate race in the state since 1994.

The political landscape is no friendlier this year. Trump started an unpopular war with Iran, leading to higher gas prices. Rogers has opted for a low-key campaign with fewer public events than El-Sayed as he tries to make the race all about his Democratic opponent.

As of Oct. 10, Republicans had outspent Democrats by \$78 million to \$63 million in the Michigan Senate race, according to AdImpact, which tracks political advertising. Around \$40 million in Republican spending has gone toward negative advertisements, compared to only around \$20 million from Democrats.

The ads portray El-Sayed as "dangerously radical" and "too extreme," highlighting his past calls to defund the police and relax immigration enforcement. Others tie him to Hasan Piker, a popular online streamer with whom El-Sayed has appeared and who has drawn criticism for past comments, including saying that "America deserved 9/11."

On Friday, Rogers appeared alongside Louisiana Sen. John Kennedy, who told reporters that El-Sayed "sleeps in a Bin Laden jersey." Rogers laughed.

Vice President JD Vance has called him "evil." In one social media post, Trump shared a photo of himself with first lady Melania Trump alongside a photo of El-Sayed and his wife, who wears a hijab, with the caption: "Two VERY DIFFERENT America's."

Late Wednesday, Trump referred to El-Sayed as "Mohammed" and said he "goes back to the days of the Jihad."

El-Sayed has hardly backed down. At the campaign stop in Port Huron, he taunted Trump to visit Michigan, suggesting Rogers and other Republicans were afraid the president would hurt their chances.

"Donald, if you're watching, don't wuss out, man," El-Sayed said.

And he responded to Kennedy's attack by suggesting the Republican is in the KKK.

"That's rich coming from someone who wears his bed sheets out at night," El-Sayed posted on social media.

El-Sayed uses a personal touch with voters

Before the Port Huron town hall, El-Sayed worked his way down a line of people who couldn't fit inside the theater, shaking hands, taking photos and stopping for conversations.

Jeff Petrucella and his wife Alice traveled from Macomb County to see El-Sayed. They described themselves as politically "middle of the road" and said they had voted Republican in the past.

"I'm pretty done with the Republicans right now," Jeff said.

Alice said she was "looking for a change that is better for my granddaughters," pointing to El-Sayed's support for Medicare for All. Nor was she put off by his more confrontational appearances on Fox News.

"I think he expresses himself well. You can tell he's a well-spoken, educated man," she said.

Pat Kreiner was among those who waited nearly an hour to see El-Sayed. Her children had persuaded her to support him in the Democratic primary.

"My son said to me, 'I have been living with this trickle-down economy since the day I was born,'" Kreiner said. "It doesn't work for me."

Kreiner also expressed anger about Trump's trade war with Canada, just across the river from Port Huron.

"We are heartsick about our neighbors," she said. "They used to come over a lot. We don't see them now."

Visiting smaller towns such as Port Huron has become central to El-Sayed's campaign, with his team recently saying he's held more than 500 events in over 100 cities across the state.

"Go everywhere. Talk to everyone. That's what we do," El-Sayed said in an interview.

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The personal approach has not erased all the skepticism surrounding El-Sayed, including within his own party.

His criticism of Israel and association with Piker have raised concerns among some Jewish Democrats. El-Sayed has held a series of private gatherings with undecided Jewish voters as he works to win their support.

He has also sought to strengthen his standing with Black voters. In the Democratic primary, Stevens drew more support in Wayne County, home to Detroit and its large Black population.

Ahead of Thursday's debate, El-Sayed attended two events with Black leaders before stopping at a Black barbershop, where he moved from chair to chair talking with customers. He stopped at one point to speak with a pregnant woman, congratulating her and asking when her baby was due.

"November 8th?" El-Sayed joked. "Make sure you vote early, huh?"

The race has become about more than just Michigan

While El-Sayed has spent much of his campaign trying to win over Michigan voters, his candidacy has taken on significance far beyond the state. Republicans have made him a symbol of what they warn is an increasingly radical Democratic Party, while progressives see his campaign as a chance to prove their politics can win in a closely divided state.

At a New York City fundraiser on Oct. 5, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez cast his campaign as a test for progressives nationwide.

"If Abdul can win in Michigan, anybody can win anywhere," said the New York Democrat, a potential presidential candidate.

Ocasio-Cortez plans to campaign with El-Sayed in Michigan next week, followed by former President Barack Obama on Oct. 24.

The national stakes have also drawn renewed opposition. United Democracy Project, a super PAC affiliated with AIPAC, disclosed an initial \$94,000 expenditure against El-Sayed on Friday, after spending nearly \$30 million to oppose him in the Democratic primary.

And El-Sayed, despite insisting the election should focus on Michigan voters and their economic struggles, has embraced the larger implications of his candidacy.

"I am grateful for your support," he told the audience at the New York fundraiser, according to remarks obtained by The Associated Press. He said he had two goals — "pick up a U.S. Senate seat" and "change the nature of our politics for the better."

Nonpartisan state Supreme Court elections are being put to the test in Montana

By DAVID A. LIEB Associated Press

Support for nonpartisan judicial elections is being put to the test in Montana, the latest location in a nationwide battle for bench seats that can determine the fate of consequential state laws.

After a series of recent court rulings on abortion, voting and climate change displeased Republicans, GOP officials have tried to inject more partisanship into Montana's officially nonpartisan Supreme Court elections. Citizen activists have responded by forcing a statewide vote on an amendment to enshrine nonpartisan judicial elections in the state constitution.

That's resulted in an unusual November election. While voters are deciding whether to mandate nonpartisan elections, they also will be choosing between two officially nonpartisan candidates for the state Supreme Court — one backed by the Republican Party, the other by organized labor and a Democratic-aligned group.

The battle around the Montana Supreme Court ranks among the most intense of the roughly two dozen states holding November elections for their highest courts. Millions of dollars are being spent, continuing a recent trend in Montana and elsewhere and underscoring the elevated importance of top state judicial offices.

Last year, a record amount over \$100 million was spent on a pivotal Wisconsin Supreme Court race that

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— while officially nonpartisan — kept liberals in narrow control of the court. Since gaining control in 2023, the liberal court majority has struck down an abortion ban law and overturned state legislative districts that benefited Republicans, putting partisan control of both chambers in play in this year's election.

No state Supreme Court contest is expected to cost even close to that much this year, because no single seat is perceived as that essential to control a court. But interest groups nonetheless are focusing on court races in several states with a goal of positioning themselves for bigger races in 2028.

"State supreme courts are really, really important -- increasingly important -- arbiters of rights and liberties," said Deirdre Schifeling, chief political and advocacy officer for the American Civil Liberties Union, which is spending \$5.5 million on Supreme Court races in Michigan, Montana and North Carolina.

The organization said it also spent over \$1 million on Supreme Court races earlier this year in Georgia and Wisconsin.

Republicans target Montana court after big rulings

Montana's Supreme Court race features Amy Eddy and Dan Wilson, both currently district court judges in Flathead County. Eddy edged Wilson by fewer than 8,000 votes out of around 270,000 cast in a June primary for the state Supreme Court. But because they were the only candidates, both advanced to a rematch in the general election.

In recent years, the Montana Supreme Court struck down laws restricting abortion and limiting voter registration on Election Day. It also upheld a landmark ruling that the state was violating residents' constitutional rights to a clean environment by permitting oil, gas and coal projects without regard for global warming.

Eddy, serving as a fill-in Supreme Court judge, was part of the majority that ruled the state's abortion laws violated individual privacy rights in the state constitution.

Frustrated Republicans, who hold legislative majorities, have proposed numerous bills aimed at the judiciary. One new law effective for this year's election allows political parties to contribute money to judicial candidates. Legislation to require partisan judicial elections passed the Senate but failed in the House.

Citizen activists responded to that attempt by gathering petition signatures to place an amendment on the November ballot that would enshrine nonpartisan judicial elections in the state constitution. The ACLU has contributed \$2.1 million to that campaign, according to finance reports filed at the end of September.

The ACLU also has mailed flyers touting Eddy's support for abortion rights and her decision not to accept money from political parties. The Democratic-aligned group Defend Our Courts also has backed Eddy. Wilson, meanwhile, has received funding from various Republican Party committees and spoke earlier this year at a GOP event.

Eddy said accepting money from political parties "undermines the public's trust that the judicial branch can be impartial."

Wilson, noting Eddy's donations from lawyers, said "that's more dangerous and corrosive to the objectivity of judges."

Changes in court control can affect state laws

The focus on Montana's high court comes after similar campaigns in other states.

In August, Kansas voters overwhelmingly defeated a Republican-backed proposal to elect Supreme Court judges instead of appointing them.

In North Carolina, the Republican-led state Legislature passed a law restoring partisan elections beginning in 2018, after Democratic-leaning judges won a majority on the state's officially nonpartisan Supreme Court. That change paved the way for Republicans to reclaim control of the court in the 2022 elections. And that quickly led to more changes. A few months later, the new conservative majority reversed its predecessors by upholding a voter photo identification law and tossing out a ruling against a Republican-drawn congressional map.

In Ohio, the Republican-led Legislature passed a law in 2021 requiring partisan labels for Supreme Court judges on general election ballots. Since then, Republicans have expanded their narrow court majority into a dominant one.

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Both the Ohio and North Carolina courts remain targets for the progressive group Alliance for Justice Action, which hopes to build momentum toward one day flipping control of those courts.

"It has been a slow process of losing judicial support in those spaces. It will be a slow process to regain it," said Tish Gotell Faulks, the group's state courts director.

Democrats are defending one Supreme Court seat in North Carolina this year, and each party is defending a seat in Ohio. Montana's race will replace a retiring judge who has sometimes been a swing vote.

"What happens in this year's races will determine how likely it is that the ideology of the court flips in 2028, when that is in fact at stake," said Douglas Keith, deputy director of the judiciary program at the Brennan Center for Justice.

Today in History: October 12 **Bali nightclub bombings kill more than 200**

By The Associated Press undefined

Today is Monday, Oct. 12, the 285th day of 2026. There are 80 days left in the year.

Today in history:

On Oct. 12, 2002, bombs blamed on al-Qaida-linked militants destroyed two nightclubs on the Indonesian island of Bali, killing 202 people, many of them foreign tourists.

Also on this date:

In 1492, Christopher Columbus's first expedition made landfall on what is now San Salvador Island in the Bahamas.

In 1870, General Robert E. Lee, former overall commander of the Confederate States Army in the Civil War, died in Lexington, Virginia, at age 63.

In 1960, Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev protested remarks at the United Nations by pounding his shoe on his desk in the General Assembly Hall.

In 1968, Mexican track and field athlete Enriqueta Basilio became the first woman to light the Olympic flame at the opening ceremonies of the Mexico City Summer Games.

In 1973, President Richard Nixon nominated House Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford of Michigan to succeed Spiro T. Agnew as vice president.

In 1984, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher escaped an attempt on her life when an Irish Republican Army bomb exploded at a hotel in Brighton, England, killing five people.

In 1997, musician and activist John Denver died when the experimental light plane he was piloting crashed into Monterey Bay off the California coast.

In 2000, the destroyer USS Cole was attacked by boat-borne al-Qaida suicide bombers during a refueling stop in Yemen's port city of Aden, killing 17 on board.

In 2019, Kenya's Eliud Kipchoge became the first person to run a marathon in less than two hours, crossing the finish line of the INEOS 1:59 Challenge in Vienna, Austria, with a time of 1:59:40.

Today's Birthdays: Journalist Chris Wallace is 79. Singer-songwriter Jane Siberry is 71. Actor Hiroyuki Sanada is 66. Jazz musician Chris Botti (BOH'-tee) is 64. Actor Hugh Jackman is 58. Country musician Martie Maguire (The Chicks) is 57. Actor Kirk Cameron is 56. Olympic gold medal skier Bode Miller is 49. Actor Josh Hutcherson is 34. Actor Ferdia Walsh-Peelo is 27. Actor Iris Apatow is 24. Ventriloquist Darci Lynne Farmer is 22.