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Monday, April 24

Senior Menu: Sloppy joe on wheat bun, oven roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables, crunchy cranberry salad.

School Lunch: Submarines, sweet potato tots, fruit.

School Breakfast: Cheese omelette, muffin, fruit, juice, milk.

10 a.m.: Girls Golf at Milbank

4 p.m.: 7th/8th grade track at Aberdeen Central.

7 p.m.: School Board Meeting

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

United Methodist: Cub Scouts at 7 p.m., Evening Bible Study at 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 25

Senior Menu: Roast pork, baked potato with sour cream, squash, apple sauce, Molasses cookie, whole wheat bread.

School Lunch: Hot dogs, baked beans, fruit, carrots and dip.

School Breakfast: Mini pancakes, fruit, juice, milk.

11:30 a.m.: Track meet in Groton

United Methodist: Bible Study at 10 a.m.

Wednesday, April 26

Senior Menu: Turkey chow mein, rice/chow mein noodles, broccoli, sour cream apple pie square, whole wheat bread.

School Lunch: Shrimp poppers, tater tots, fruit, romaine salad.

School Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, yogurt,

Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave.

The cardboard/paper
recycling trailer at the school is **Closed**

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Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

The NFL draft starts Thursday, April 23 and will be held in Philadelphia this year. After spending the last few decades in New York, the NFL has elected to move the draft around in order to bring the event to fans across the nation. I hope the draft eventually makes its way to Minnesota, and if it does, you better believe I'll be there, decked out in Vikings gear.

The Vikings don't have a first round pick this year, as they traded it to the Eagles in the Sam Bradford trade. Some have called that trade a waste, but if the Vikings hadn't made that trade, they would likely be looking to draft a quarterback in the first round since they don't know when or if Teddy Bridgewater will be back. There are no quarterbacks in this draft who are on the level of Sam Bradford, so in my mind, the trade was a success.

I think there is a good chance the Vikings move up into the first round to get a player they covet. In recent years, the Vikings have moved up into the first round to get players like Harrison Smith and Teddy Bridgewater. General Manager Rick Spielman really likes drafting players in the first round, since first rounders have an extra year on their contracts.

As it sits now, the Vikings have eight picks in the draft. They have one pick in the second round (#48 overall), two picks in the third round (#79 and #86), two picks in the fourth round (#120 and #128), and one pick in each of rounds five through seven (#160, #199, #232).

It's no secret the Vikings need to improve the offensive line. After signing Riley Rieff and Mike Remmers in free agency, the Vikings aren't desperate for a starting tackle, but the team still could use help at guard and possibly center. Luckily for the Vikings, there should still be some quality offensive linemen available when they select in the second and third rounds.

Here are a few names to keep in mind when you're watching the draft.

Taylor Moton, offensive tackle from Western Michigan. Moton flew under the radar during his college career, but started to make a name for himself at the combine. He is big (6'5", 319 pounds), and showed off good athleticism at the combine. He played against inferior competition, so it remains to be seen if he can be productive against NFL caliber players. If he can put it all together, he has the potential to be a starting offensive tackle in the NFL. Moton will likely be drafted in the second round.

Antonio Garcia, offensive tackle from Troy. Another small school offensive lineman who didn't come onto the scene until the NFL combine. Unlike Moton, Garcia is on the smaller side for offensive linemen (6'6", 302 pounds). Luckily, what he lacks in size he makes up in athletic ability. Garcia will need a year or two under the tutelage of a professional strength coach, but he can develop into a starter in the NFL. He will likely be drafted in the second or third round.

Dan Feeney, offensive guard from Indiana. Feeney seems like he has the ability to start right away for an NFL team and be a solid guard for the next decade. He has good size for a guard (6'4", 305 pounds), but my favorite thing about him is his demeanor. I like offensive linemen who have a nasty streak, players who finish the play through the whistle, and that describes Feeney perfectly. He will likely be drafted in the second or third round.

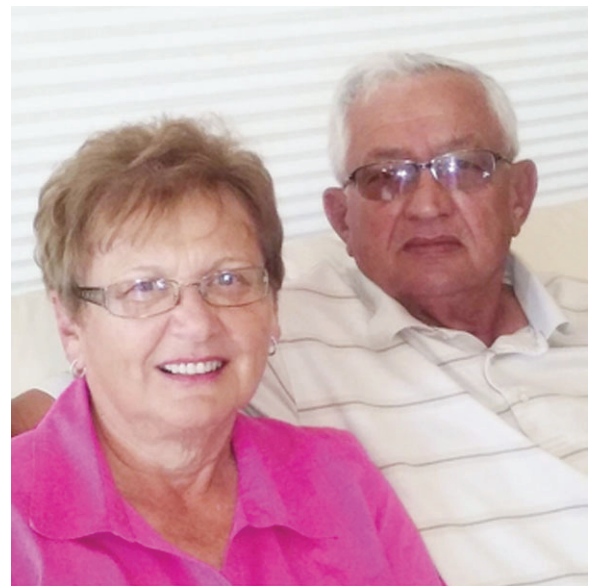
Pat Elflin, offensive guard/center from Ohio State. Elflin is 6'3", 303 pounds, and has the ability to play all three interior lineman positions. He was a team captain and appears to be intelligent and a hard worker. He has a wrestling background, which gives him great core strength, but his agility could use some improvement. He will likely be drafted in the second or third round.

If you have any questions or would like to chat during the draft, follow me on Twitter @SkolJWright



Hansmeier, Hanson engaged

Bethany Hansmeier, Bristol, SD, and Cody Hanson, Groton, SD, are engaged to be married on June 10, 2017, at Bethesda Lutheran Church, Bristol, SD. Parents of the couple are Floyd and Jill Hansmeier, Bristol and Lars and Kelli Hanson, Groton.



50th Anniversary

Dave and Mary Blackmun are celebrating 50 years of marriage. Please join family and friends for an open house Saturday, April 29th, at Olive Grove golf course in Groton, SD from 2-4 pm. No gifts please.

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Wanner qualifies for state in two events

Audrey Wanner qualified for state in two events at the Ipswich Track meet held Saturday. Wanner won both the Long Jump and the Triple Jump and set state qualifying distances. The girls 400m relay team also took first place.

Team Scores: Ipswich 143, Potter County 93.5, Roncalli 88, Groton 85, James Valley Christian 70, Sully Buttes 59, Eureka/Bowdle 58.5, Herreid/Selby 44.5, Warner 33, Aberdeen Christian 32, Edmunds Central 21, Faulkton 9, Highmore/Harold 2.

100m Hurdles: 7, Payton Maine, 18.8; Eliza Wanner, 20.07.

300m Hurdles: 2, Payton Maine, 51.98; 7, Eliza Wanner, 56.19.

100m Dash: Tadyn Glover, 14.0.

200m Dash: Nicole Marzahn, 32.88; Jodi Hinman, 32.78.

1600m Run: 8, Emily Thompson, 6:39.08.

400m Relay: 1, Groton (Audrey Wanner, Katie Koehler, Harleigh Stange, Eliza Wanner), 54.01.

800m Relay: 2, Groton (Audrey Wanner, Payton Maine, Katie Koehler, Harleigh Stange), 1:54.95.

Medley Relay: 7, Groton (Glover, Hinman, Leicht), 5:16.72.

1600m Relay: 7, Groton (Harleigh Stange, Katie Koehler, Eliza Wanner, Paytin Maine), 4:39.88.

High Jump: Nicole Marzahn, 4'4".

Long Jump: 1, Audrey Wanner (SQ), 16'3.5"; 3, Harleigh Stange, 15'5.5".

Triple Jump: 1, Audrey Wanner (SQ), 34'2"; 7, Katie Koehler, 29'11.5".

Discus: 3, Jessica Bjerke, 103'7.5"; 6, Taylor Holm, 98'; 7, Jennie Doeden, 97'4"; Nicole Fey, 96'1/2"; Kaycie Hawkins, 85'8"; Madison Sippel, 88'0".

Shot Put: 5, Madison Sippel, 32'2"; 6, Taylor Holm, 31'7.5"; Nicole Fey, 29'2"; Jennie Doeden, 29'0"; Kaycie Hawkins, 30'1".

Pole Vault: 6, Emily Thompson, 6'9".



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Today in Weather History April 23, 2002:

April 24, 1948: A significant F2 tornado moved northeast from South of Castlewood to near Goodwin. Barns were destroyed on two farms. Also on this day, two other tornadoes were observed in South Dakota. One moved from Turner County on into Minnehaha County, injuring two people. The other touchdown 3 miles Southeast of Sioux Falls, destroying barns and other buildings on the west edge of Brandon.

1880: Several tornadoes affected parts of central and southwest Illinois. One tornado of F4 intensity touched down near Jerseyville and killed one person along an 18-mile path. Another F4 tornado passed just north of Carlinville and lifted near Atwater, destroying 50 buildings. Six people died in Christian County by an F5 tornado, which tracked from 9 miles southwest of Taylorville to near Sharpsburg.

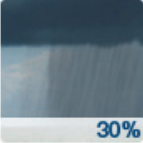






1908: Severe thunderstorms spawned eighteen tornadoes over across the Central Gulf Coast States claiming the lives of 310 persons. The state of Mississippi was hardest hit. A tornado near Hattiesburg, Mississippi killed 143 persons and caused more than half a million dollars damage. Four violent tornadoes accounted for 279 of the 310 deaths. The deadliest of the four tornadoes swelled to a width of 2.5 miles as it passed near Amite, Louisiana. The tornado also leveled most of Purvis Mississippi.

2003: The temperature soared to a maximum of 70 degrees in Juneau, Alaska. This is the earliest record of 70-degree reading to occur in Juneau.

2010: April Tornado Outbreak- During a major severe weather outbreak across the South on April 22-25, 142 tornadoes raked the region, including 77 on April 24 alone. Ten died from the long-track tornado that swept across Mississippi on April 24. A long-lived twister left a trail of destruction extending over 149 miles from Louisiana through Mississippi, resulting in 10 deaths and 75 injuries. This EF4 storm, which grew to a width of 1.75 miles, sported the fourth longest track in Mississippi history. This storm destroyed part of Yazoo City, Mississippi. The Swiss Reinsurance Company estimated insured damages with this outbreak at \$1.58 billion.

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Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Tuesday Night	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday
 30%		 20%	 30% 30%	 20% 20%	 20% 20%	
Chance Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy then Slight Chance Rain	Chance Rain/Snow then Chance Snow	Slight Chance Snow then Slight Chance Rain/Snow	Slight Chance Rain/Snow then Slight Chance Snow	Partly Sunny
High: 53 °F	Low: 34 °F	High: 41 °F	Low: 29 °F	High: 42 °F	Low: 26 °F	High: 50 °F

After The Great Weather This Weekend The Forecast Is Taking A Disappointing Turn Towards Cold And Inclement

Highs :
40s & 50s
Lows:
20s & 30s

**Wet Weather
Mon - Wed**

**A Few Spots
Could See
Snow
Tues - Wed**



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 4/24/2017 4:27 AM Central

Published on: 04/24/2017 at 4:27AM

Spring is now officially on hold. We have a storm system moving across the region today with light rain showers - but more importantly this system is dislodging some unseasonably cold air. Cold air will dominate conditions through the course of the work week and we could even see some localized light snow accumulations early Tuesday and early Wednesday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 71.5 F at 5:52 PM

Low Outside Temp: 34.9 F at 4:40 AM

High Gust: 27.0 Mph at 4:16 PM

Snow: Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 92° in 1962

Record Low: 17° in 1956

Average High: 62°F

Average Low: 35°F

Average Precip in April.: 1.34

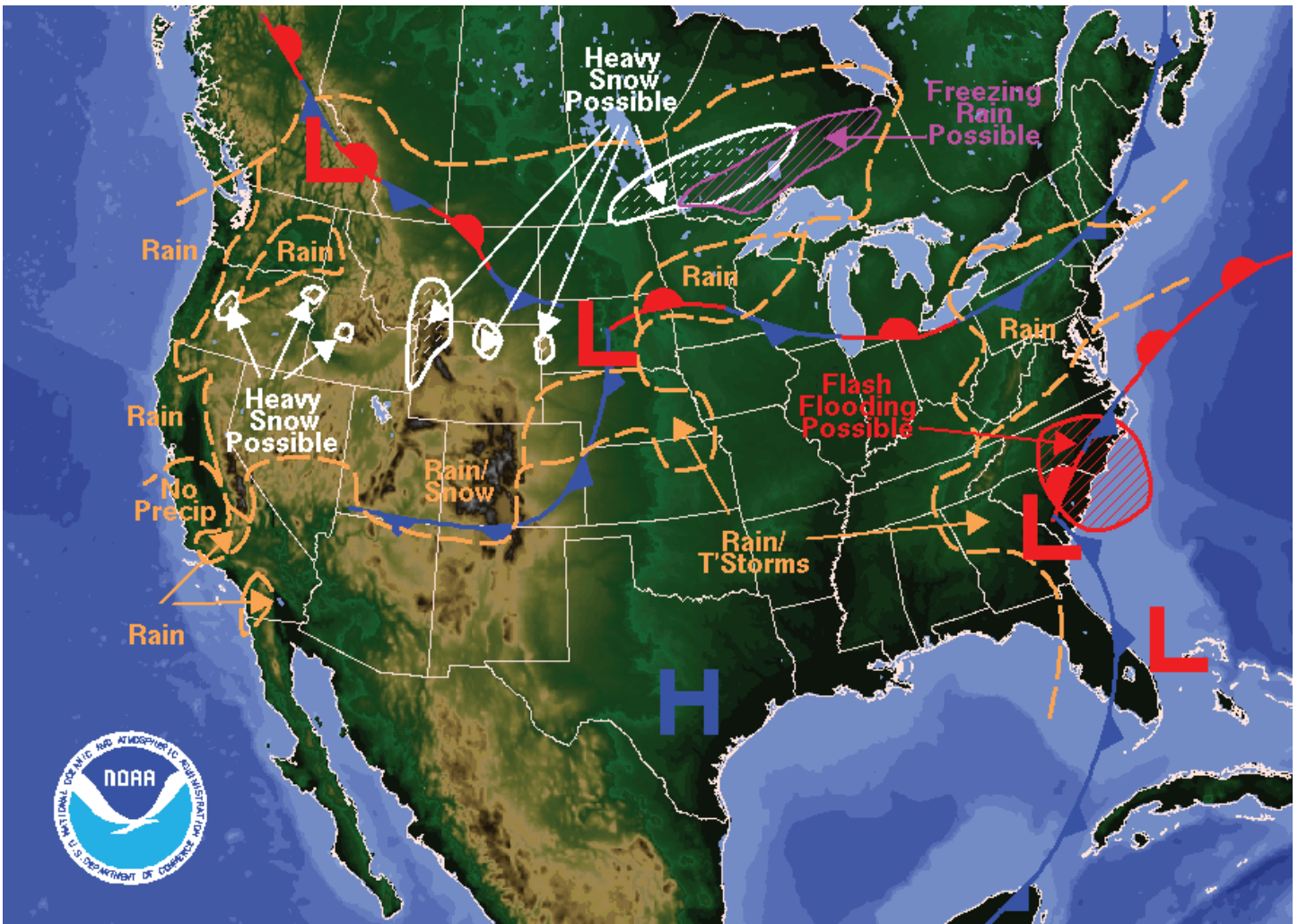
Precip to date in April.: 1.09

Average Precip to date: 3.52

Precip Year to Date: 1.68

Sunset Tonight: 8:31 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 6:30 a.m.



Weather Forecast for Mon, Apr 24, 2017, issued 4:48 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds based on WPC, SPC and NHC forecasts

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REFUSE TO BE DISCOURAGED

Dr. Jonas Salk, one of the world's foremost microbiologists, was the first person to discover and develop a vaccine against polio. It was not an easy process and took years.

Once he said, "Ideas come to me as they do to everyone else. But I take each one of them seriously, consider them carefully, examine them thoroughly and study them endlessly. I do not allow anyone to discourage me, though many try."

For the Christian, discouragement overcomes us when we are no longer aware of the presence of God in our lives, become unconcerned for the plans He has for our lives, refuse to believe that He will provide for our every need and doubt that He will fulfill the promises He has made in His Word.

God told Moses to "be strong and very courageous...to study and obey His law..." and then, and only then, could he count on being successful. Why? Because then, and only then, could he count on God to be with him, protect him and empower him wherever he went.

God wanted Moses to know, understand, believe and accept the fact that it was important for him to be obedient and follow "all that is written." He also wanted him to know that faithfulness to God is not a guarantee that he would be successful in the eyes of the world. God did, however, assure Him that He would be successful in His eyes and that type of success lasts throughout eternity.

Prayer: Thank You, Heavenly Father, for assuring us of Your presence and power in our lives if we obey Your Word. Give us strength and courage as we follow You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

News from the Associated Press

South Dakota trombonist with only 2 fingers wins awards

By MEGAN RAPOSA, Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The first three notes of the concerto ring out, and it's clear that Matthew Watt knows his way around a trombone.

The 20-year-old Augustana University student has a clear tone, and when the tempo picks up in Gordon Jacob's "Trombone Concerto," Watt shows just how dexterous a young musician can be.

Not to mention a musician with only two fingers.

Watt was born with only one finger on each hand. There's a medical term for it, but Watt never bothered to learn what it was. He just wanted to play the trombone, partly because he saw his older sister play and partly because it was an instrument he knew he could manage.

"It's something that isn't really limited by, you know, not having any fingers," Watt told the Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2px8zHB>).

Watt's interest in music started when he was in a children's choir in his hometown of Yankton.

In fifth grade, he started playing trombone and as an eighth grader he participated in South Dakota's middle school All-State band.

When he didn't make All-State again as a freshman in high school, he practiced harder so that he wouldn't miss out again. He began taking private lessons and continued to play in both concert and jazz bands.

Watt's playing developed even further when he started studying under Vance Shoemaker at Augustana.

"He developed a big, rich, orchestral sound," Shoemaker said.

Playing among other accomplished trombonists pushed Watt even further. He's not a music major_in fact, he's studying computer science in the hopes of becoming a software developer_but he participates in six ensembles at Augustana.

Watt also was recently recognized as a Concerto-Aria winner, meaning he'll perform a solo with the full Augustana Orchestra during their spring concert on Sunday at the Washington Pavilion.

For a non-music major to win this award is extraordinary, said John Pennington, chair of the music department.

"It is a testament to the talent here at Augustana," he said.

The Concerto-Aria winners compete not only against other musicians in their category (winds, brass, percussion, etc.), but they also compete across categories to earn one of four solo spots accompanied by the orchestra.

Watt had strong competition, but he said playing alongside others who play well has inspired him to work to get better. He recalled listening in awe as a freshmen listening to upperclassmen play in the brass choir.

"I would hear the way that they would play, and just (think), I want to play like that," Watt said.

Watt also listed Shoemaker as one of his role models. Shoemaker plans to retire from Augustana at the end of the spring, and having one of his students win the Concerto-Aria is not only a nice send-off, but also a tribute to his accomplishments as a teacher, Pennington said.

As Watt also looks to the future after college, he plans to keep playing trombone even if it's not his career. He hopes to teach private lessons and plans to audition for the South Dakota Symphony.

He also hopes to develop apps, a passion he's also fostered from a young age.

"You don't have to stick to one thing," Watt said. "You can do more than one of the things that you love."

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

South Dakota museum prepares for big move

By SHAUNA MARLETTE, Yankton Daily Press and Dakotan

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — Lost in the excitement of renovating the Mead Cultural Education Center to become the new home of the Dakota Territorial Museum is the fact that there are more than 35,000 artifacts that must be moved.

According to Crystal Nelson, director and curator of the museum, the planning phase is just about completed and now the transition is beginning, with plans to close the Westside Park location to the public on Oct. 1.

"Right now we still feel very confident that we will be moving in on time and we will have what we need ready to go," she said, noting she was looking forward to having space to display more items. "It is not that (the current) building is horrible; we have outgrown it. In 20 years, they are going to look back at this location and wonder how in the world did we make it work."

Packing and moving may sound simple but Nelson said with three phases planned, plus the process of readying each individual artifact for the move, the next year is going to be a busy one.

"It is a long process making this move," she told the Yankton Daily Press and Dakotan (<http://bit.ly/2px8IuF>). "A lot of people are like 'Can't you just throw it in a box, put in the back of a pickup and move it across town?'"

The simple answer: No.

"The amount of organization and processing that goes with it — we have volunteers right now that spend anywhere from 10-15 minutes per object to get it ready to be moved," Nelson said. "When you are talking 35,000 objects, you are talking a lot of time that needs to be put into this move."

While some collections are not rare or unique — such as the items in the museum's research library — they can be boxed up, labeled and moved. But those items aren't included in the 35,000 objects to be moved.

"The majority of the collection all needs condition reporting so we know if there is a problem in the new facility," she said. "It does happen a lot that when museums and archives move from one consistent environment to a new environment. They don't really know if there is a problem in the new location unless the objects start to show that there is a problem. We are going to try to do everything we can to make sure they are going from a consistent 60-70 degrees at our current facility, staying at 60-70 degrees as it is being moved to the new facility, then staying at 50-60 degrees in the new location."

She added extreme temperature fluctuations cause damage, such as warping.

"That is a big transition and damage can be done to the object," Nelson said. "In that short amount of time, it could really ruin a piece. There is just a lot going on. We are not just talking paper; we are talking photographs that are more than 100 years old. It is a lot of details, and a lot goes into the process."

She said the first phase of the move has already begun as the first permanent display has been removed from the museum in preparation of the move.

"The first phase is going to include mostly the collections that we will use on a regular basis, as well as the collections that will be part of the initial opening exhibits," Nelson said. "We hope to open the first exhibits, which are 'Journeying Forward' and 'Connection Cultures with the Corps,' the children's hands on transportation room, the gift shop, the banquet event hall and operations, all as of June 10,

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2018, at the Mead Building.”

The hope is that moving those first exhibits will free up some space so the staff and volunteers can finish processing and getting everything ready for the transfer.

“This summer, we are going to be pretty much business as usual,” she said. “Our biggest thing is how much things are expanding. When you start to take things that have been in storage, there will be 20 things in a box. When they are getting ready to be moved, each individual item has to have packaging around it. Now, instead of having one box, you might have five boxes where you used to have one.”

The biggest changes people will see at the current location is the sight of more shelving and rolling storage.

However, Nelson stressed there is still time to see the current museum this summer. And, for some exhibits — based on the fact that they will not be able to display everything right away — this may be the last chance for several years to see certain items.

“This summer will also be the last time to see those collections that are housed in our old-time buildings, because they will be closed for two years,” she said. “As we move the collections that are currently housed in the main building over to the new location, the collection currently housed in the out buildings will be moved into this facility, gone through, cleaned up and packed up. We are hoping that late next year, the out buildings will be moved to the new site. Then we would open them up for exhibit again in 2019.

“In June, we will have our last event at this location,” Nelson added. “I encourage people to come out and celebrate the time that we have had here but also to celebrate the opportunity that is ahead of us. It will be an opportunity for them to see what is going on, what volunteer opportunities there are, and it will be the chance to see the museum as it is now.”

The opportunity this transition is offering may also open up new discoveries at the Dakota Territorial Museum.

“The last mass inventory of everything we had was completed when they moved into this building in the 1970s,” Nelson said. “They did keep track for a while, but there was a break of time where things didn’t get an associated number when they were donated. So, we don’t really know what came in at that time. We physically can see it, but we may not know where it came from or who donated it.”

The move has also presented an opportunity to go through the collection, and staff has already found things they didn’t know were in the archives.

“It has also raised a lot of questions, too,” Nelson said. “You will see a reference to something that was donated to us and think, ‘Man, I have never seen that.’ Maybe it will be unearthed yet. I think I have at least looked in every box by now. But to really dig in and research every item, we still have a lot to be done. Fifty percent of the collection needs to be gone through.”

One thing, however, has not changed: The museum needs volunteers, now more than ever.

“We need people to process collections and get them ready to move,” Nelson said. “We had applied for federal funding to help with the move. We have no idea where that is sitting right now. Our advisers in the museum world are telling us to proceed as if we are not going to lose that funding, but we could. If we do, we are already talking with our conservator about what is plan B?”

She said if the museum doesn’t have the money to hire a move coordinator, it may seek a volunteer from the community.

“I can’t, and my staff as it exists can’t, be the move coordinator because there is too much that happens on a daily basis,” Nelson said. “That is not counting the visitors that are coming in. Even when October comes around, there is going to be so much that we need to do to keep our operations active

and to pay the bills that having a move coordinator to keep things going in the new facility and here is going to be very important.”

Anybody that has been part of a large move could learn what needs to be done, Nelson said.

“The only thing that is specialty about it is what is in the box,” she added. “After we have done our job, the only thing they will need to worry about is their job. There is a little bit of education that will need to go into it, but really, it is just somebody that understands how a move needs to happen. We have a pretty good move plan put together, federal funding or no federal funding. We can make it work some way.”

While Nelson hopes that the transition can be made as quickly and effectively as possible, it will depend on the volunteers that show up.

“There is a list of things that people can do to help,” she said. “It won’t be a matter of asking people to handle 35,000 items; they will be in boxes and on pallets. But, if there are people who feel confident in their ability to help on a management- or hands-on level with the move, I can almost guarantee I can find something for them to do, as long as they are physically able to do it.”

Nelson said if there are organizations or individuals that are interested in helping, the more people they know are available the better.

“If we knew now who intends to help or who can help, we can help plan things that much more,” she said. “There are so many different talents that can be used.”

Information from: Yankton Press and Dakotan, <http://www.yankton.net/>

Restoration of South Dakota opera house making strides

By TOM GRIFFITH, Rapid City Journal

LEAD, S.D. (AP) — In the Dirty '30s, Ki Caserio was a youngster hell-bent on finding something to do in this mile high town that didn't cost much, because coins were as rare as the elusive gold that miners were digging from the ground.

Every Saturday morning, Caserio would join a throng of classmates gathered in front of the Homestake Opera House in a line extending to Main Street, waiting for the doors to open about 9:30 a.m.

“It was a big deal,” 90-year-old Caserio said. “I think pretty near all the kids in town went.”

For a nickel, youngsters were treated to the tunes of an organ player who performed until the lights dimmed and the real show started.

“They had a comedy, then a Western cowboy and Indian show, then a serial, and it would last until noon,” Caserio recalled, lamenting how even a nickel then seemed an extravagance. “You could buy penny candy, so a nickel was quite a bit at the time. Nobody had much money in the '30s, so you didn't get many nickels.”

In the tightest of times, Caserio told the Rapid City Journal (<http://bit.ly/2pm92sm>), he and his cohorts eventually found a way to avoid even paying the 5-cent entry fee.

“One guy would pay to get in,” he reluctantly admitted. “After the show started, when it was dark, he would go to the balcony and open the exit door, and a half-dozen of us would scramble up the fire escape and go sit in the dark theater until the show was done.”

With its opulent theater, swimming pool, bowling alley and billiard room, the Homestake Opera House quickly became a fixture in the mining town after philanthropist Phoebe Hearst gifted it to the Black Hills community in August 1914. But when a devastating 1984 fire gutted the structure, and the Homestake Mining Co. later shuttered its shafts in 2002, few gave the facility's future much hope.

Despite the setbacks, and more than a century after it opened to fanfare, the Historic Homestake Opera House is experiencing a modern-day renaissance and a new lease on life.

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More than \$3 million has been invested in the fabled structure since the conflagration that took its roof and charred an ornate interior that featured gold-leaf, plaster corbels and an angel-topped proscenium. Those investments helped fund a "smart center," complete with statewide teleconferencing capabilities, to assist out-of-work miners in gaining new employment.

In 2015 alone, the opera house hosted 83 events, including musical and theatrical performances, conferences and presentations, said Executive Director Sarah Carlson. Restoration of its large lobby was done from 1999 to 2002, returning it to its original grandeur, she noted.

"This building was built by Homestake for Homestake miners and their families, and the citizens of Lawrence County and the Black Hills," Carlson said last week. "It was restored by former miners. And now, it is continuing to be restored with the Homestake name in place and the miners' legacy in mind."

While a 2013 assessment by TSP Inc., a Rapid City-based architectural and design firm, pegged costs of restoring the theater's stage area at \$8 million, Homestake Opera House supporters have been content to tackle the massive project one wall at a time.

Evidence of their commitment came last week in the form of a newly restored wall near the stage — the first stride toward returning the elegance of a bygone era to the interior of the performance venue.

"People have wanted to see the color come back to the theater for a long time and this is the first step, so very important," Carlson said.

This historic and painstaking work was completed by Jerry Aberle, a former Homestake engineer and also restoration project lead for the Homestake's building restoration from 1999 to 2004; and Dennes Barrett, Homestake facility manager and former Black Hills Power lineman; with assistance from Chad Aberle of Avid Painting. All three men are natives of Lead, Carlson noted.

Funded through an anonymous \$10,000 donation in honor of the late Jim and Betty Dunn, longtime Homestake supporters and community activists, and a matching grant from Deadwood Historic Preservation, the project has restored a 30-by-10-foot wall near the stage. Homestake supporters already have contributed \$25,000 toward restoring a similar section of the opposite wall, a project Carlson said would be completed by the end of August, marking the 104th anniversary of the historic opera house.

"This project wouldn't be happening if it weren't for those who have come before us who also saw this work as important — not only for our history, but for our future, and the likes of Jim and Betty Dunn, Jerry Aberle and hundreds of people who have believed in this building over the years," Carlson said. "It is almost a tribute to their tenacity, and we are only trustees of this building for those who come after us."

For Caserio, who spent a lifetime in Lead and long ago created lasting memories sneaking into the Homestake theater with his buddies for Saturday morning shows, the transformation of the opera house has been nothing short of remarkable.

"When it first burned down, I didn't give it much hope and I thought they were putting money into a dead horse," he said. "But now there's something going on all the time, and I think it will make it."

Information from: Rapid City Journal, <http://www.rapidcityjournal.com>

Dying South Dakota man gets 1 last rodeo

By JOHN HULT, Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — When a trucker left Roger Kipperchuck penniless at the Flying J two years ago, he had nowhere to go and no idea how he'd get there.

He was angry, deathly ill and out of options. He had no home to return to and no one in Sioux Falls to help him get there if he had.

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He fled an abusive, alcoholic home in Brandywine, West Virginia, at age 13 before learning to read and write. He'd been on the road ever since, working rodeos, ranches and hard labor for anyone who'd take him.

"I went in the corner, said my prayers and said, 'God, I hope you find this guy before I do, because if I find him, I'll be going to hell,'" Kipperchuck told the Argus Leader (<http://argusne.ws/2pwS6De>). "I got screwed."

Two years later, Kipperchuck was laughing with the caregivers who'd become the closest thing to family he'd ever known.

They gathered at the Good Samaritan Center in Canistota to feed him his favorite foods, sing him happy birthday and shower him with gifts.

It was his first birthday celebration in 25 years, and the only one in his life to include multiple gifts, cards and the song "Happy Birthday to You."

"I'm going to run out of space here," Kipperchuck said as he opened a package containing a bright blue cowboy shirt.

Kipperchuck is dying, but he's living in peace for the first time.

There was a gentle soul beneath that anger, said AseraCare Hospice Chaplain Charles Issac, one whose humor and gratitude wins over everyone who helps him as he works through his fatal liver cancer diagnosis.

"When he first got here, he was a little withdrawn," Issac said. "Now, this is his family. The community has really adopted him."

Almost every hospice patient has at least a few family members to visit them in their final days, Issac said.

Kipperchuck has no one.

Karen Bialas, a nurse with AseraCare, said the details he's shared about his life over the past year — like a beating with a baseball bat that broke his shoulder or spending his childhood fending for himself — inspired her to deck the Canistota's center's dining hall with cowboy paraphernalia.

"He's probably never had a big birthday party thrown for him," said Bialas, whom Kipperchuck jokingly refers to as one of his "pink ladies" because of AseraCare's pink nursing smocks.

She was right. Kipperchuck said his parents never bought him a thing.

"Why should they waste their money on me when they could spend it on drugs and booze?" he said.

Bialas applied for and received a small grant from the Lighthouse Hope Fund for the party on March 24 and for the gift Kipperchuck received on April 2, his actual birthday: A trip to a professional bull-riding event in Sioux Falls.

Kipperchuck was glad to be there. He worked rodeos all over the country, starting with stall-cleaning duty as a teen and later riding as a young man. He said he hadn't taken part in one for 40 years.

"I remember hitting gates, jumping fences," he said, wearing the bright new cowboy hat he'd gotten at the party. "I remember all that good stuff."

The whole experience left him feeling touched. He said he'll never forget the moment he rolled into the dining hall and saw just how far his new friends had gone to make his 69th birthday memorable.

"I loved it," he said. "I had tears running in my eyes."

Information from: Argus Leader, <http://www.argusleader.com>

Man's body pulled from Big Sioux River in South Dakota park

GARRETSON, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say divers have recovered the body of a 19-year-old man who drowned in the Big Sioux River at Palisades State Park.

Minnehaha County emergency management officials say the man had jumped in the water about 5 p.m. Saturday. His body was found Sunday morning near where friends say he entered the water.

Officials say the man was found in a hole about 12 feet deep. His name has not been released.

The park reopened Sunday after the man's body was recovered.

Chickens may be allowed in South Dakota city

LEAD, S.D. (AP) — It may soon be legal for residents in a western South Dakota city to keep chickens. A proposed ordinance could come before the Lead city commission early May.

The proposal has a \$100 registration fee for residents who want to keep chickens. Residents would not be allowed to keep roosters and would be limited to six hens, with secure and well ventilated coops needing to be at least 15 feet from neighboring properties.

"A lot of people are open to the idea as long as there's regulation," said Sarah Canida, one of the Lead residents supporting the proposal.

She added that fresh eggs would be an important nutritional resource for Lead families who are struggling financially.

Some residents are concerned about noise from the chickens, the possibility of them carrying diseases and the droppings they might leave. The Lead Garden Club said they would take the chicken manure and use it for fertilizer.

City commissioner David Vardiman said there was one recent incident where a resident housed several roosters on his property, in violation of the current ordinance. When officers responded to neighbors' complaints, the man had to be restrained as officers tried to remove the chickens.

The current 1998 ordinance only allows chickens on larger lots where coops are placed at least 100 feet from a dwelling.

This week the city commission voted 5-0 to table a proposal which would have outlawed keeping fowl, livestock or rabbits within city limits.

Study shows income decline for farmers, ranchers in 2016

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — Farms enrolled with the South Dakota Center for Farm and Ranch Management reported a 68 percent decrease in their net income.

More than 100 farms, mostly located in eastern South Dakota, are part of the program run by Mitchell Technical Institute. Statistics from the center show the average net income decreased to \$13,308 last year, down from \$38,898 in 2015.

This follows a 77 percent decrease between 2014 and 2015.

"I've heard it said many times in this business: good times don't last, but neither do the bad," said William Walter, the program's director.

Walter said depressed commodity prices, unchanged production costs and land costs are part of the reason for the dip. He said while there's not much promise in the short-term, farmers who own land are in good shape. Some farmers have opted to plant cover crops, in an effort to save money.

"The cover crops have really become a widespread use of using another thing in your crop rotation. It's giving a value added to the field, especially for beef producers who use it for grazing," Walter said.

While some farmers are unsure if they will continue in the business, others are moving forward opti-

mistically.

"It's spring," Walter said. "Farmers are optimistic. It's beautiful today outside. People don't stay in this business looking at last year. They plow on forward and stay optimistic and that's what you've got to do."

Growing Black Hills city proposes \$20 million event center

BOX ELDER, S.D. (AP) — A Black Hills city is looking to build a \$20 million event center.

The Rapid City Journal reports (<http://bit.ly/2q4gats>) that the city of Box Elder and Liv Hospitality are discussing a public-private partnership for the facility in the fast-growing commercial area east of Rapid City. It would be built near an indoor waterpark resort.

The proposal comes at a time when Rapid City officials are deciding what to do with its own aging convention center, Rushmore Plaza Civic Center. The Box Elder area already boasts several hotels, restaurants, convenience stores, the Black Hills State University satellite campus and a truck stop.

To pay for the center, the Box Elder City Council has proposed creating a district to levy special assessment taxes against current and future hotels in the area.

Information from: Rapid City Journal, <http://www.rapidcityjournal.com>

New Orleans takes down 1st of 4 Confederate statues

By JESSE J. HOLLAND and GERALD HERBERT, Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Workers in New Orleans removed the first of four prominent Confederate monuments Monday morning, becoming the latest Southern institution to sever itself from symbols viewed by many as a representation racism and white supremacy.

The Liberty Place monument, which commemorates whites who tried to topple a biracial post-Civil War government in New Orleans, was taken away on a truck in pieces around 5:35 a.m. after a few hours of work.

The removal happened early in the morning in an attempt to avoid disruption from supporters who want the monuments to stay, some of whom city officials said have made death threats.

Workers who took the monument down Monday could be seen wearing bulletproof vests, military-style helmets and scarves that obscured their faces. Police were also on hand, including officers who watched the area from atop the parking garage of a nearby hotel.

Three other statues to Confederate Generals Robert E. Lee and P.G.T. Beauregard and Confederate States of America President Jefferson Davis will be removed in later days now that legal challenges have been overcome.

"There's a better way to use the property these monuments are on and a way that better reflects who we are," New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu said in an interview Sunday with The Associated Press.

Nationally, the debate over Confederate symbols has become heated since nine parishioners were killed at a black church in South Carolina in June 2015. South Carolina removed the Confederate flag from its statehouse grounds in the weeks after, and several Southern cities have since considered removing monuments. The University of Mississippi took down its state flag because it includes the Confederate emblem.

New Orleans is a majority African-American city although the number of black residents has fallen since 2005's Hurricane Katrina drove many people from the city.

The majority black City Council in 2015 voted 6-1 to approve plans to take the statues down, but legal

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battles over their fate have prevented the removal until now, said Landrieu, who proposed the monuments' removal and rode to victory twice with overwhelming support from the city's black residents.

People who want the Confederate memorials removed say they are offensive artifacts honoring the region's slave-owning past. But others call the monuments part of the city's history and say they should be protected historic structures.

Robert Bonner, 63, who said he is a Civil War re-enactor, was there to protest the statue's removal.

"I think it's a terrible thing," he said. "When you start removing the history of the city, you start losing money. You start losing where you came from and where you've been."

Since officials announced the removals, contractors hired by the city have faced death threats and intimidation in this deep South city where passions about the Civil War still run deep.

Landrieu refused to say who the city would be using to remove the statues because of the intimidation attempts. And the removal will begin at night to ensure police can secure the sites to protect workers, and to ease the burden on traffic for people who live and work in the city, Landrieu said.

"All of what we will do in the next days will be designed to make sure that we protect everybody, that the workers are safe, the folks around the monuments are safe and that nobody gets hurt," Landrieu said.

Landrieu said the memorials don't represent his city as it approaches its 300th anniversary next year. The mayor said the city would remove the monuments, store them and preserve them until an "appropriate" place to display them is determined.

"The monuments are an aberration," he said. "They're actually a denial of our history and they were done in a time when people who still controlled the Confederacy were in charge of this city and it only represents a four-year period in our 1000-year march to where we are today."

The first memorial to come down, the Liberty Place monument, was an 1891 obelisk honoring the Crescent City White League.

Landrieu has called the Liberty Place monument "the most offensive of the four" and said it was erected to "revere white supremacy."

"If there was ever a statue that needed to be taken down, it's that one," he said.

The Crescent City White League attempted to overthrow a biracial Reconstruction government in New Orleans after the Civil War. That attempt failed, but white supremacist Democrats later took control of the state.

An inscription added in 1932 said the Yankees withdrew federal troops and "recognized white supremacy in the South" after the group challenged Louisiana's biracial government after the Civil War. In 1993, these words were covered by a granite slab with a new inscription, saying the obelisk honors "Americans on both sides" who died and that the conflict "should teach us lessons for the future."

The Liberty Place monument had been the target of a previous lawsuit after the city removed it from a location on the main downtown thoroughfare of Canal Street during a federally-financed paving project in 1989. The city didn't put the monument back up until it was sued, and moved the monument to an obscure spot on a side street near the entrance to a parking garage.

Jesse J. Holland covers race and ethnicity for The Associated Press. Contact him at jholland@ap.org, on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/jessejholland> or on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/jessejholland>.

Associated Press writer Bernard McGhee in Atlanta contributed to this report.

An earlier version of this report had an incorrect name for the Liberty Place monument.

Arkansas prepares for 1st double execution in US since 2000

By **ANDREW DeMILLO, Associated Press**

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Two condemned Arkansas killers who admit they're guilty but fear their poor health could lead to extreme pain during lethal injections set for Monday might become the first inmates put to death in a double execution in the U.S. in more than 16 years.

Jack Jones and Marcel Williams are set to die in what would be the second and third executions in Arkansas this month. The state set an aggressive plan to execute several inmates before one of its lethal injection drugs expires at the end of April.

The state executed Ledell Lee last week in the state's first use of capital punishment since 2005. Gov. Asa Hutchinson originally scheduled four double executions over an 11-day period in April. The eight executions would have been the most by a state in such a short period since the U.S. Supreme Court reinstated the death penalty in 1976. The state said the executions needed to be carried out before its supply of the sedative midazolam expires on April 30.

Courts have blocked four of the eight scheduled executions.

The last state to put more than one inmate to death on the same day was Texas, which executed two killers in August 2000.

Williams was sent to death row for the 1994 rape and killing of 22-year-old Stacy Errickson, whom he kidnapped from a gas station in central Arkansas.

Authorities said Williams abducted and raped two other women in the days before he was arrested in Errickson's death. Williams admitted responsibility to the state Parole Board last month.

"I wish I could take it back, but I can't," Williams told the board.

Jones was given the death penalty for the 1995 rape and killing of Mary Phillips. He strangled her with the cord to a coffee pot.

In a letter earlier this month, Jones said he was ready to be killed by the state.

"I forgive my executioners; somebody has to do it," wrote Jones, who had a leg amputated in prison because of diabetes and uses a wheelchair.

The letter, which his attorney read aloud at his clemency hearing, went on to say: "I shall not ask to be forgiven, for I haven't the right."

The inmates have suffered several legal setbacks as the executions near. A federal judge on Friday rejected their request to stop the executions over their health concerns.

Two federal judges ruled against the inmates in separate cases Sunday. One denied a stay of execution to Williams, saying that the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals has jurisdiction in the case. Another federal judge denied the inmates' request for changes to the rules for witnesses to view the executions.

After the setback in a lower court, both inmates on Sunday asked the appeals court to halt their executions based on their poor health.

Lawyers for Jones' say he suffers from diabetes and is on insulin, has high blood pressure, neuropathy and had one leg amputated below the knee. He is on heavy doses of drugs they say could prevent the lethal injection drug midazolam from working and lead to a "tortuous death."

Williams' lawyers say he weighs 400 pounds and it will be difficult to find a vein for lethal injection, so the drugs are unlikely to work as intended.

Associated Press writer Jill Bleed contributed to this report.

Follow Andrew DeMillo at www.twitter.com/ademillo

Pence cites 'challenging times' to troops in American Samoa

By KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa (AP) — U.S. Vice President Mike Pence has thanked American service members based in American Samoa, citing "challenging times" for the military in the Asia-Pacific.

Completing a visit to the region and en route back to the United States, Pence addressed some 200 soldiers during a refueling stop in Pago Pago. He told the troops the Trump administration was seeking a large increase in military funding.

During his stop, Pence also dedicated a sign that will greet visitors at a veterans clinic. He met with American Samoan officials and troops and then flew to Hawaii at the last stop on a tour that included a visit to the Demilitarized Zone separating North and South Korea.

The trip offered evidence that Pence has become one of President Donald Trump's chief emissaries on the world stage, patching up relations, reassuring allies still wondering what to expect from Trump and diving into international crises like North Korea.

Meanwhile, it was revealed that the vice president was shortening his stay in Hawaii to a few hours so that he could fly back to Washington in what promises to be a very busy week for the administration and Congress.

Pence's office said he would depart Hawaii on Monday afternoon after meeting with U.S. Pacific Command leaders and troops stationed in Honolulu. Plans for a Tuesday visit to the USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor have been postponed, Pence's office said.

Pence's trip to Asia was planned weeks ago. But it dropped him in South Korea just in time to deliver North Korea a stern warning from the U.S.: that "all options are on the table" when it comes to curbing the North's nuclear ambitions, and that the Trump administration will seek support from its allies to pressure Pyongyang to give up its nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs.

His foray into the DMZ and his meetings with South Korean and Japanese leaders allowed Pence to shape a key American foreign policy issue, presenting a new challenge for a politician whose prior foreign policy experience was limited to trips to the Middle East as a congressman and trade missions to Japan, China, Israel and Europe as Indiana's governor.

Pence's early foreign travel schedule contrasts sharply with a mostly homebound Trump, who is not scheduled to travel overseas until late May for NATO meetings in Belgium and a gathering of the Group of Seven major industrial nations in Italy. Pence partly covered that ground when he visited Germany and Belgium in February.

Trump's predecessor, Barack Obama, had visited nine countries by late April 2009, his first three months in office, checking in with allies such as Canada, Britain and Germany. The last first-term president to wait until May to take his first foreign trip was Jimmy Carter in 1977.

Enter Pence, whose still-evolving diplomatic playbook includes several components, all steeped in humility, personal ties and his religious faith.

In some ways, Pence is the advance team: His earlier trip to Europe and his Asia trip that ends Tuesday are partly laying the foundation for journeys being planned for Trump. In other ways, Pence is the face of reassurance, offering in-person outreach to world leaders Trump has clashed with or who have doubted Trump's commitment to them at the start of his presidency.

In meetings with his counterparts, Pence frequently passed along "greetings" from Trump and told his hosts how much America valued their alliance, language that's commonplace in diplomacy but under-

stated compared to the more free-wheeling Trump.

On Thursday, for example, Pence told Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo how "proud" he and Trump were to partner with him and spoke of their hopes of working together.

Corrects America Samoa to American Samoa in introductory paragraph.

On Twitter follow Ken Thomas at <https://twitter.com/KThomasDC>

Mainstream politics shut out as Le Pen, Macron win in France

SYLVIE CORBET and ELAINE GANLEY, Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — French voters shut out the political mainstream from the presidency for the first time in modern history, and on Monday found themselves being courted for the runoff election between populist Marine Le Pen and centrist Emmanuel Macron.

French politicians on the moderate left and right, including the Socialist and Republicans party losers in Sunday's vote, immediately urged voters to block Le Pen's path to power in the May 7 contest.

Voters narrowed the presidential field from 11 to two. Both that vote and the May 7 runoff are widely seen as a litmus test for the populist wave that last year prompted Britain to vote to leave the European Union and America to elect Donald Trump president.

The defeated far-left candidate, Jean-Luc Melenchon, pointedly refused to back Macron, and Le Pen's National Front is hoping to do the once unthinkable and peel away voters historically opposed to a party long tainted by racism and anti-Semitism.

"The voters who voted for Mr. Melenchon are angry voters. They can be in agreement with us," Steeve Brios, a vice president of Le Pen's National Front party, told The Associated Press. He said they express a choice "outside the system."

Choosing from inside the system is no longer an option. Voters rejected the two mainstream parties that have alternated power for decades, in favor of Le Pen and the untested Macron, who has never held elected office and who founded his own political movement just last year. Turnout was 78 percent, down slightly from 79 percent in the first round of presidential voting in 2012.

Socialist candidate Benoit Hamon, whose party holds a majority in the legislature, got just 6 percent. Socialist President Francois Hollande is the most unpopular in modern French record-keeping. He did not seek re-election.

"We are in a phase of decomposition, demolition, deconstruction," said former Socialist prime minister Manuel Valls. "We didn't do the work — intellectual, ideological and political — on what the left is, and we paid the price."

Francois Fillon, the scandal-plagued conservative Republicans candidate, fared marginally better, coming in third with just shy of 20 percent of the vote.

Both center-right and center-left fell in behind Macron, whose optimistic vision of a tolerant France and a united Europe with open borders is a stark contrast to Le Pen's darker, inward-looking "French-first" platform that calls for closed borders, tougher security, less immigration and dropping the shared euro currency to return to the French franc. Le Pen on Monday called her opponent "weak" against Islamic terrorism.

European stock markets surged as investors welcomed the first-round results, with Macron favored to win. German Chancellor Angela Merkel wished Macron "all the best for the next two weeks."

Merkel's chief of staff, Peter Altmaier, tweeted that "the result for Emmanuel Macron shows: France

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AND Europe can win together! The center is stronger than the populists think!"

Le Pen's father, Jean-Marie, made it to the second round against Jacques Chirac in 2002 and was crushed in the runoff. Many commentators expect the same fate for his daughter, but she has already drawn far more support than he ever did and she has transformed the party's once-pariah image.

Chirac refused to debate Jean-Marie Le Pen on principle; Macron has already agreed to share a stage with his daughter.

Le Pen offers an alternative for anyone skeptical of the European Union and France's role in it, said Louis Aliot, the vice president of the National Front party.

"I'm not convinced that the French are willing to sign a blank check to Mr. Macron," he said.

But Macron's party spokesman, Benjamin Griveaux, said the far-right candidate is hardly a vector of change.

"She's been in the political system for 30 years. She inherited her father's party and we will undoubtedly have Le Pens running for the next 20 years, because after we had the father, we have the daughter and we will doubtless have the niece," he said. "So she is in a truly bad position to be talking about the elites and the people."

Macron came in first in Sunday's vote, with just over 23 percent; Le Pen had 21 percent; Melenchon and Fillon each had 19 percent. Fillon, a former prime minister, bested the former Trotskyist Melenchon by just 94,998 votes.

Protesters overnight burned cars, danced around bonfires and dodged riot police at the Place de la Bastille and Republique. Twenty-nine people were detained at the Bastille, where protesters waved red flags and sang "No Marine and No Macron!" in anger at the results.

Ganley reported from Henin-Beaumont. Lori Hinnant and Thomas Adamson contributed from Paris.

This story has been corrected to show that the Socialist candidate was Benoit Hamon.

Nearing 100-day mark, Trump says milestone not 'meaningful'

By JULIE PACE, AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — For nearly 100 days, President Donald Trump has rattled Washington and been chastened by its institutions.

He's startled world leaders with his unpredictability and tough talk, but won their praise for a surprise strike on Syria.

He's endured the steady drip of investigations and a seemingly endless churn of public personnel drama.

"It's a different kind of a presidency," Trump said in an Oval Office interview with The Associated Press, an hour-long conversation as he approached Saturday's key presidential benchmark.

Trump, who campaigned on a promise of instant disruption, indirectly acknowledged that change doesn't come quickly to Washington. He showed signs that he feels the weight of the office, discussing the "heart" required to do the job. Although he retained his signature bravado and a salesman's confidence in his upward trajectory, he displayed an understanding that many of his own lofty expectations for his first 100 days in office have not been met.

"It's an artificial barrier. It's not very meaningful," he said.

Trump waffled on whether he should be held accountable for the 100-day plan he outlined with great fanfare in his campaign's closing days, suggesting his "Contract with the American Voter" wasn't really

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his idea to begin with.

"Somebody put out the concept of a 100-day plan," he said.

One hundred days are just a fraction of a president's tenure, and no president has quite matched the achievements of Franklin D. Roosevelt, who set the standard by which all are now judged.

Still, modern presidents have tried to move swiftly to capitalize upon the potent, and often fleeting, mix of political capital and public goodwill that usually accompanies their arrival in Washington.

Trump has never really had either.

A deeply divisive figure, he lost the popular vote to Democrat Hillary Clinton and had one of the narrower Electoral College victories in history. Since taking office on Jan. 20, his approval rating has hovered around 40 percent in most polls.

Trump's early presidency has been dogged by FBI and congressional investigations into whether his campaign coordinated with Russians to tilt the race in his favor. It's a persistent distraction that Trump would not discuss on the record.

Furthermore, his three months-plus in office have amounted to a swift education in a world wholly unfamiliar to a 70-year-old who spent his career in real estate and reality television.

For example, his two disputed travel ban executive orders are languishing, blocked by federal judges.

On Capitol Hill, majority Republicans muscled through Trump's nominee for the Supreme Court, Judge Neil Gorsuch, but had to blow up long-standing Senate rules to do so. Then there was the legislative debacle when Trump's own party couldn't come together to fulfill its long-sought promise of repealing President Barack Obama's health care law.

H.W. Brands, a history professor at the University of Texas at Austin, said Trump is learning that "the world is the way it is for a whole bunch of complicated reasons. And changing the guy at the top doesn't change the world."

Trump won't concede that point.

But he acknowledged that being commander in chief brings with it a "human responsibility" that he didn't much bother with in business, requiring him to think through the consequences his decisions have on people and not simply the financial implications for his company's bottom line.

"When it came time to, as an example, send out the 59 missiles, the Tomahawks in Syria," Trump said of his decision to strike a Syrian air base in retaliation for a chemical weapons attack. "I'm saying to myself, 'You know, this is more than just like 79 (sic) missiles. This is death that's involved because people could have been killed. This is risk that's involved.'"

"Here, everything, pretty much everything you do in government involves heart, whereas in business most things don't involve heart," he said. "In fact, in business you're actually better off without it."

As for accomplishments, Trump cited "tremendous success" on an undefined strategy for defeating the Islamic State group. He talked at length about saving taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars on the price of F-35 fighter jets. Trump held meetings during the transition and in the White House with the CEO of Lockheed Martin, which produces the F-35, but the cost-savings were already in the works when he took office.

He promised a tax overhaul plan that would give Americans a tax cut bigger than "any tax cut ever."

A man accustomed to wealth and its trappings, Trump has embraced life in the Executive Mansion, often regaling guests with trivia about the historic decor. With the push of a red button placed on the Resolute Desk that presidents have used for decades, a White House butler soon arrived with a Coke for the president.

It's too soon to say whether the presidency has changed Trump in substantive ways. He's backpedaled

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on an array of issues in recent weeks, including his critiques of NATO and his threats to label China a currency manipulator. But his self-proclaimed flexibility means he could move back to where he started just as quickly.

Stylistically, Trump remains much the same as during the campaign.

He fires off tweets at odd hours of the morning and night, sending Washington into a stir with just a few words. Trump still litigates the presidential campaign, mentioning multiple times during the interview how difficult it is for a Republican presidential nominee to win the Electoral College.

He is acutely aware of how he's being covered in the media, rattling off the ratings for some of his television appearances. But he says he's surprised even himself with some recent self-discipline: He's stopped watching what he perceives as his negative coverage on CNN and MSNBC, he said.

"I don't watch things, and I never thought I had that ability," he said. "I always thought I'd watch."

For the moment, Trump seems to have clamped down on the infighting and rivalries among his top White House staffers that have spilled into the press and created a sense of paranoia in the West Wing. He praised his national security team in particular and said his political team in the White House doesn't get the credit it deserves for their work in a high-pressure setting.

"This is a very tough environment," he said. "Not caused necessarily by me."

Follow Julie Pace at <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC>

10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

Your daily look at late-breaking news, upcoming events and the stories that will be talked about today:

1. 100-DAY MARK NEARS AS BUDGET DEADLINE LOOMS

As the symbolic milestone approaches, Trump juggles a renewed health care push and his demands that a government funding bill should include money for the border wall with Mexico.

2. WHO SHUT OUT POLITICAL MAINSTREAM FOR FRENCH PRESIDENCY

The May 7 runoff will be between far-right leader Marine Le Pen and centrist Emmanuel Macron, and French politicians on the moderate left and right are urging voters to block Le Pen's path to power.

3. NEW ORLEANS TO TAKE DOWN CONFEDERATE STATUES

Louisiana would be the latest Southern institution to sever itself from symbols viewed by many as a representation racism and white supremacy.

4. ARKANSAS SET FOR FIRST DOUBLE EXECUTION IN US SINCE 2000

Two inmates who say they're in poor health after decades on death row argue that their medical conditions could lead to extreme pain during lethal injections.

5. WHO IS CONCERNED ABOUT TRUMP'S IMMIGRATION PLAN

Farmers, nursery and winery owners who depend on immigrant labor are predicting a catastrophe if those workers are arrested for being in America illegally.

6. WHO IS BRACING FOR NORTH KOREA'S NEXT ACT

Trump speaks by phone with both the Japanese and Chinese leaders as the allies urge restraint and calm in dealing with Kim Jong Un.

7. AARON HERNANDEZ'S HOMETOWN PREPARES FOR FUNERAL

Family and friends of the former NFL player will say their farewells during a private ceremony in Bristol, Connecticut.

8. REPORT: ANTI-JEWISH BIAS INTENSIFIED DURING ELECTION

The Anti-Defamation League found an increase in cases of anti-Semitic intimidation and vandalism last year.

9. SHERYL SANDBERG CHOOSES 'OPTION B' FOR RESILIENCE

The new book by the Facebook executive recounts the death of her husband, her grief, and how she recovered from it.

10. HOW DODGERS, YANKEES MAY AFFECT FREE AGENTS

The free-wheeling franchises are cutting payroll and their luxury tax bills — just as Bryce Harper, Manny Machado and perhaps Clayton Kershaw near the market.

South Korea, allies brace for North Korea follow-up act

By KIM TONG-HYUNG, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea marks the founding anniversary of its military on Tuesday, and South Korea and its allies are bracing for the possibility that it could conduct another nuclear test or launch an intercontinental ballistic missile for the first time.

North Korea often marks significant dates by displaying its military capability. It so far has carried out five nuclear tests.

Such a move could test the developing North Korea policies of U.S. President Donald Trump, who has reportedly settled on a strategy that emphasizes increased pressure on North Korea with the help of China, the North's only major ally, instead of military options or trying to overthrow North Korea's government.

Trump spoke by phone with both the Japanese and Chinese leaders Monday. Chinese state broadcaster CCTV quoted President Xi Jinping as telling Trump that China strongly opposes North Korea's nuclear weapons program and hopes "all parties will exercise restraint and avoid aggravating the situation."

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Trump agreed to urge North Korea to refrain from what Abe called provocative actions. "The North Korean nuclear and missile problem is an extremely serious security threat to not only the international community but also our country," the Japanese leader told reporters in Tokyo afterward.

Recent U.S. commercial satellite images indicate increased activity around North Korea's nuclear test site, and third-generation dictator Kim Jong Un has said the country's preparation for an ICBM launch is in its "final stage."

South Korea's Defense Ministry has said North Korea appears ready to conduct such "strategic provocations" at any time. South Korean Prime Minister Hwang Kyo-ahn, the country's acting leader in place of ousted President Park Geun-hye, who has been arrested over corruption allegations, has instructed his military to strengthen its "immediate response posture" in case North Korea does something significant on Tuesday's anniversary.

There is also a possibility that North Korea, facing potential changes in regional dynamics as Washington presses Beijing to pressure North Korea more aggressively, opts to mark the anniversary with a missile launch of lesser magnitude. North Korea separately fired what U.S. officials said were a Scud-type missile and a midrange missile earlier this month, but the launches were analyzed as failures.

While the U.S. has dispatched what Trump called an "armada" of ships to the region, including an aircraft carrier, U.S. officials have told The Associated Press that the administration doesn't intend to militarily respond to a North Korean nuclear or missile test. South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported Monday that South Korean naval ships will conduct a training exercise with the aircraft carrier, the USS Carl Vinson.

In a statement released late Friday, North Korea's Foreign Ministry accused Trump of driving the re-

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gion into an "extremely dangerous phase" with the dispatch of the aircraft carrier and said the North was ready to stand up against any threat posed by the United States.

With typical rhetorical flourish, the ministry said North Korea "will react to a total war with an all-out war, a nuclear war with nuclear strikes of its own style and surely win a victory in the death-defying struggle against the U.S. imperialists."

Adding to the tensions, North Korea detained a U.S. citizen on Saturday, bringing the number of Americans being held there to three. The reasons for the detention of Tony Kim, who taught accounting at the Pyongyang University of Science and Technology, weren't immediately clear.

Under Kim's leadership, North Korea has been aggressively pursuing a decades-long goal of putting a nuclear warhead on an ICBM capable of reaching the U.S. mainland.

Last year, North Korea conducted two nuclear tests, which would have improved its knowledge in making nuclear weapons small enough to fit on long-range missiles. It also launched a long-range rocket last year that delivered a satellite into orbit, which Washington, Seoul and others saw as a banned test of missile technology.

On April 15, North Korea offered a look at its advancing nuclear weapon and missile programs in a massive military parade in Pyongyang honoring late state founder Kim Il Sung, the grandfather of the current ruler.

The displayed military hardware included prototype ICBMs and new midrange solid-fuel missiles that can be fired from land mobile launchers and submarines, making them harder to detect before launch.

The parade also featured previously unseen large rocket canisters and transporter erector launcher trucks, or TELs. This indicated that North Korea is developing technologies to "cold-launch" ICBMs, ejecting them from the launch tubes before they ignite in midair, which would prevent its limited number of ICBM-capable launcher trucks from being damaged and also allow the missiles to be fired from silos.

Analysts say North Korea is also likely developing solid-fuel ICBMs, and that some of the canisters might have contained prototypes.

North Korea had earlier shown signs it was working on a new ICBM.

In March, North Korean state media reported that the country successfully conducted a ground test of a new high-thrust rocket engine, which it said was a breakthrough for its space program and efforts to create "Korean-style strategic weapons." Kim was quoted as saying "the whole world will soon witness what eventful significance the great victory won today carries."

While North Korea almost certainly needs more time to create a solid-fuel ICBM, test launches for its existing liquid-fuel ICBMs, including KN-08s and KN-14s, could come much sooner.

Experts say these missiles could one day be capable of hitting targets as far as the continental United States, although North Korea has yet to flight test them.

As budget deadline looms, Trump pushes border wall funding

By CATHERINE LUCEY and HOPE YEN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — With a budget deadline looming, President Donald Trump plans a whirlwind of activities seeking to highlight accomplishments while putting fresh pressure on congressional Democrats to pay for a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border, even if that pressure risks a possible government shutdown.

Trump approaches the symbolic 100-day mark for his administration this coming week juggling a renewed health care push and his demands that a must-pass government funding bill should include money for the wall.

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In a tweet Sunday, Trump jabbed at Democrats, who vigorously oppose wall funding. "The Democrats don't want money from budget going to border wall despite the fact that it will stop drugs and very bad MS 13 gang members."

He added: "Eventually, but at a later date so we can get started early, Mexico will be paying, in some form, for the badly needed border wall."

The 100-day mark falls on Saturday, the same day government could shut down without a budget deal. Trump has announced a rally in Pennsylvania that day.

Despite Trump's dismissal that the 100-day marker is "artificial," the White House has packed his schedule. Trump will sign executive orders on energy and rural policies, meet with the president of Argentina and travel to Atlanta for a National Rifle Association event. Top aides will also fan out around the country to promote the administration.

Trump also plans to outline an ambitious tax cut plan on Wednesday, telling The Associated Press last week that it would include a "massive" tax break for both individuals and corporations.

Aides stressed on Sunday talk shows that funding for a border wall and a vote on an effort to repeal and replace President Barack Obama's health care law were immediate priorities. They asserted that both still could be accomplished in the coming week.

"I don't think anyone foresees or expects or would want a shutdown," said budget director Mick Mulvaney on "Fox News Sunday."

Trump would like to revive a failed effort by House Republicans to replace the Affordable Care Act, or "Obamacare." He also hopes to use the \$1 trillion catchall spending bill to salvage victories on his promised border wall, a multibillion-dollar down payment on a Pentagon buildup, and perhaps a crackdown on cities that refuse to cooperate with immigration enforcement by federal authorities.

So far, negotiations have proven difficult, with disputes over the wall and health law subsidies to help low-income people afford health insurance. House members received little information from leaders on a conference call this past Saturday.

White House chief of staff Reince Priebus said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that he's confident the spending bill will include something "satisfactory" to reflect Trump's desire to build a wall. The legislation would keep the government running through Sept. 30, the end of the fiscal 2017 budget year.

"We expect the priorities of the president to be reflected," Priebus said, citing ongoing talks with the House and the Senate. "It will be enough in the negotiation for us to move forward with either the construction or the planning, or enough for us to move forward through the end of September to get going on the border wall and border security."

House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi of California described a border wall as "immoral" and "expensive" when asked if there was any scenario in which Democrats would agree to money for a wall.

"Democrats do not support the wall," she said, speaking also on NBC. "Republicans on the border states do not support the wall."

Pelosi noted that when Trump promised to build a wall during the presidential campaign, he never indicated he would "pass billions of dollars of cost of the wall onto the taxpayer." With Republicans now controlling Congress and the White House, she said, the burden to keep government open "is on Republicans."

Trump has repeatedly asserted that Mexico would pay for the wall, which he says is necessary to stop the flow of immigrants crossing the border illegally, as well as drug smugglers.

On Obama's health law, Priebus said he'd like to have a vote on the GOP repeal-and-replace bill in the House this week. But he insisted it didn't make too much difference to the White House whether the vote came "Friday or Saturday or Monday."

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"In the grand scheme of things, it's a marathon, not a sprint," Priebus said.

Trump tweeted a separate warning at Democrats on Sunday, saying: "ObamaCare is in serious trouble. The Dems need big money to keep it going — otherwise it dies far sooner than anyone would have thought."

On Trump's coming tax cut plan, Mulvaney said on Fox to expect "some specific governing principles, some guidance, also some indication on what the rates are going to be." He added: "I don't think anybody expects us to roll out bill language on Wednesday."

The White House is eager to tout progress on the litany of agenda items Trump promised to fulfill in his first 100 days, despite setbacks including court bans on his proposed immigration limits and the high-profile failure in repealing and replacing "Obamacare."

The president told the AP on Friday that he spent his first 100 days laying the "foundation" for progress later in his administration, including by building relationships with foreign leaders.

French vote for Macron, Le Pen shuts out mainstream politics **SYLVIE CORBET and ELAINE GANLEY, Associated Press**

PARIS (AP) — French voters shut out the country's political mainstream from the presidency for the first time in the country's modern history, and on Monday found themselves being courted across the spectrum for the runoff election.

The May 7 runoff will be between the populist Marine Le Pen and centrist Emmanuel Macron, and French politicians on the moderate left and right immediately urged voters to block Le Pen's path to power.

The defeated far-left candidate, Jean-Luc Melenchon, pointedly refused to do the same, and Le Pen's National Front is hoping to do the once unthinkable and peel away voters historically opposed to a party long tainted by racism and anti-Semitism.

"The voters who voted for Mr. Melenchon are angry voters. They can be in agreement with us," said Steeve Brios, a vice president of Le Pen's National Front party. He said they express a choice "outside the system."

Choosing inside the system is no longer an option for French voters, who rejected the two mainstream parties that have alternated power for decades in favor of Le Pen and the untested Macron, who has never held elected office and who founded his own political movement just last year. Turnout was 78 percent.

Socialist candidate Manuel Valls, whose party holds a majority in the legislature and whose President Francois Hollande is the most unpopular in modern French record-keeping, got just 6 percent. The conservative candidate fared marginally better, coming in third with just shy of 20 percent of the vote.

"We are in a phase of decomposition, demolition, deconstruction," said Valls. "We didn't do the work — intellectual, ideological and political — on what the left is, and we paid the price."

Both center-right and center-left fell in behind Macron, whose optimistic vision of a tolerant France and a united Europe with open borders is a stark contrast to Le Pen's darker, inward-looking "French-first" platform that calls for closed borders, tougher security, less immigration and dropping the shared euro currency to return to the French franc.

European stock markets surged on the open as investors welcomed the first-round results, with Macron favored to win. German Chancellor Angela Merkel wished Macron "all the best for the next two weeks."

Merkel's chief of staff, Peter Altmaier, tweeted that "the result for Emmanuel Macron shows: France

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AND Europe can win together! The center is stronger than the populists think!”

Le Pen’s father, Jean-Marie, made it to the second round against Jacques Chirac in 2002 and was crushed. Many commentators expect the same fate for his daughter, but she has already drawn far more support than he ever did and she’s transformed the party’s once-pariah image.

Le Pen offers an alternative for anyone skeptical of the European Union and France’s role in it, said Louis Aliot, the vice president of the National Front party.

“I’m not convinced that the French are willing to sign a blank check to Mr. Macron,” he said.

But Macron’s party spokesman, Benjamin Griveaux, said the far-right candidate is hardly a vector of change.

“She’s been in the political system for 30 years. She inherited her father’s party and we will undoubtedly have Le Pens running for the next 20 years, because after we had the father, we have the daughter and we will doubtless have the niece,” he said. “So she is in a truly bad position to be talking about the elites and the people.”

Macron came in first in Sunday’s vote, with just over 23 percent; Le Pen had 21 percent; Melenchon and losing conservative candidate Francois Fillon each had 19 percent. Fillon, a former prime minister, bested the former Trotskyist by just 94,998 votes.

Protesters overnight burned cars, danced around bonfires and dodged riot police at the Place de la Bastille and Republique. Twenty-nine people were detained at the Bastille, where protesters waved red flags and sang “No Marine and No Macron!” in anger at the results.

Ganley reported from Henin-Beaumont. Lori Hinnant and Thomas Adamson contributed from Paris.

Fearing a worker shortage, farmers push back on immigration

By ANDREW SELSKY, Associated Press

JUNCTION CITY, Ore. (AP) — The head of Bethel Heights Vineyard looked out over the 100 acres of vines her crew of 20 Mexicans had just finished pruning, worried about what will happen if the Trump administration presses ahead with its crackdown on immigrants.

From tending the plants to harvesting the grapes, it takes skill and a strong work ethic to produce the winery’s pinot noir and chardonnay, and native-born Americans just aren’t willing to work that hard, Patricia Dudley said as a cold rain drenched the vineyard in the hills of Oregon.

“Who’s going to come out here and do this work when they deport them all?” she asked.

President Donald Trump’s hard line against immigrants in the U.S. illegally has sent a chill through the nation’s agricultural industry, which fears a crackdown will deprive it of the labor it needs to plant, grow and pick the crops that feed the country.

Fruit and vegetable growers, dairy and cattle farmers and owners of plant nurseries and vineyards have begun lobbying politicians at home and in Washington to get them to deal with immigration in a way that minimizes the harm to their livelihoods.

Some of the farm leaders are Republicans who voted for Trump and are torn, wanting border security but also mercy toward laborers who are not dangerous criminals.

Farming uses a higher percentage of illegal labor than any other U.S. industry, according to a Pew Research Center study.

Immigrants working illegally in this country accounted for about 46 percent of America’s roughly 800,000 crop farmworkers in recent years, according to an Associated Press analysis of data from the U.S. Departments of Labor and Agriculture.

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Stepped-up deportations could carry “significant economic implications,” a 2012 U.S. Department of Agriculture study said. If America’s unauthorized labor force shrank 40 percent, for example, vegetable production could drop by more than 4 percent, the study said.

The American Farm Bureau Federation says strict immigration enforcement would raise food prices 5 to 6 percent because of a drop in supply and because of the higher labor costs farmers could face.

In addition to proposing a wall at the Mexican border, Trump wants to hire 10,000 more Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers and has served notice that he intends to be more aggressive than the Obama administration in deporting immigrants.

ICE agents have arrested hundreds of immigrants since Trump took office, though how much of a change from the Obama administration that represents is a matter of debate.

Field hands have been among those targeted, with apple pickers detained in upstate New York and Guatemalans pulled over in Oregon on their way to a forest to pick a plant used in floral arrangements.

It doesn’t appear the arrests themselves have put a sizable dent in the agricultural workforce yet, but the fear is taking its toll.

Some workers in Oregon are leaving for job sites as early as 1 a.m. and staying away from check-cashing shops on payday to avoid dragnets. Farm employers are worried about losing their workforces.

“They say, ‘Don’t go out, don’t get drunk, don’t do nothing illegal’ because they need us too. They worry too,” said Moses Maldonado, who is in the U.S. illegally and has worked for nearly four decades tending wine grapes and picking fruit in Oregon.

In Los Banos, California, asparagus farmer Joe Del Bosque said workers are so afraid of being arrested in the field that he struggled to find enough hands in March to pick his crop.

When immigration attorney Sarah Loftin held a recent seminar in the Oregon wine-region town of Newberg to talk about immigrants’ legal rights, she was surprised to see about half of those present were winery owners or farmers.

By law, job seekers must provide documents establishing their eligibility to work in the U.S. But the papers are often fake. Many agricultural employers say that it’s not their responsibility — and that they lack the expertise — to determine if they’re genuine.

At the same time, they say that U.S.-born workers have little interest at laboring in the dirt and the cold at the crack of dawn.

As 18 Guatemalans in hoodies and rubber boots toiled in such conditions recently in Oregon’s Willamette Valley, their boss expressed admiration for their willingness to do the back-breaking work he said native-born Americans won’t do.

“Homeless people are camped in the fir forest over there,” the farmer said, pointing to a stand of trees. “And they’re not looking for work.”

He lamented that crackdowns may force him to retire because he won’t be able to find workers. Fearing reprisals from federal agents, he spoke on condition of anonymity and didn’t want even his crop identified.

Some immigration hardliners say people who are in the U.S. illegally steal jobs from Americans. But a 2013 study by an economist at the Center for Global Development looked at farms in North Carolina and found that immigrant manual laborers had “almost zero” effect on the job prospects of native-born U.S. workers.

“It appears that almost all U.S. workers prefer almost any labor-market outcome — including long periods of unemployment — to carrying out manual harvest and planting labor,” Michael Clemens wrote.

While lobbying for visa and immigration reforms, agricultural employers are also looking into contingency plans such as mechanization or a switch to less labor-intensive crops. In Vermont, officials are

considering a vocational program to train inmates in dairy farming.

Dudley, the vineyard owner, isn't optimistic about some of the alternatives.

"I don't trust that temps off the street, or jailhouse labor, or whatever alternative they come up with would work," she said.

AP reporters Scott Smith in Fresno, California; Wilson Ring in Montpelier, Vermont; Gillian Flaccus in Salem, Oregon; and Paul Wiseman in Washington contributed to this story.

Follow Andrew Selsky on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/andrewselsky>

APNewsBreak: Dodgers, Yankees cut projected luxury tax bills

By RONALD BLUM, AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Los Angeles Dodgers and New York Yankees are cutting payroll and their luxury tax bills — just as Bryce Harper, Manny Machado and perhaps Clayton Kershaw near the free-agent market after the 2018 season.

The Dodgers are on track to slice their tax bill by about a quarter this year and the Yankees by two-thirds. The San Francisco Giants also are set to slice their payment in the first season of baseball's new collective bargaining agreement, but the Detroit Tigers are slated to pay more despite saying they want to reduce payroll.

If a team doesn't pay tax in 2018, its tax rate would drop to 20 percent in 2019 — allowing perennially high-spending clubs to sign stars at a lower cost.

"What the market produces is what the market's going to produce," baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred said.

The Dodgers are forecast to pay a \$25.1 million competitive balance tax this year, according to opening-day calculations by the commissioner's office obtained by The Associated Press, down from \$43.6 million in 2015 and \$31.8 million last year. The Yankees' bill is slated to be just under \$9 million, their lowest since the tax began in 2003 and less than one-third of the \$27.4 million they owed last season.

"The new CBA has had no influence on my belief that you don't need a 200-plus million dollar payroll to win championships," Yankees owner Hal Steinbrenner said in an email to the AP.

The tax threshold increased from \$189 million to \$195 million under the new labor contract, and rates were simplified to three levels: 20 percent for first-time payers, 30 percent for those owing for a second straight season and 50 percent for clubs paying three times in a row or more.

A pair of surtaxes were added to discourage high rollers: 12 percent on the amount from \$215 million to \$235 million this year and a 42.5 percent and 45 percent above that, depending on how many consecutive years a team is paying.

Another change calls for a team more than \$40 million above next year's tax threshold of \$197 million to have its top draft pick moved back 10 places — with an exception that if a club has a pick among the top six, that would be protected and its second pick would be moved back 10 slots.

The Yankees appear to be trying to get below the threshold in 2018 to reset their tax rate in anticipation of that fall's free-agent class.

"I think it's too early to make a judgment about the success of the new CBA," Manfred said. "I also think that while there's a lot of change in the CBT area in terms of the structure and rates and whatnot, there has been a certain cyclical nature to the CBA over time, irrespective of the change, right? Clubs get to a certain point, they step to go younger, they come down."

The Dodgers have a major league-high \$238 million payroll for purposes of the tax, which uses the

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average annual values of contracts for players on 40-man rosters and includes \$13.96 million per team in benefit costs.

Actual tax is assessed on season-ending payrolls in December.

Los Angeles is projected to pay both new surtaxes. Under transition rules for 2017, the Dodgers' projected tax is at the midpoint of what they would pay under the new rules (\$25.58 million) and old (\$24.68 million).

Dodgers president Stan Kasten declined comment on the team's payroll and the tax.

With a projected payroll of \$216.9 million, Detroit has a tax projected to be \$6.8 million, an increase from \$4 million. The Tigers pay at a 30 percent rate as an offender for the second straight season while the other teams over the threshold pay at 50 percent because they have been above for three or more consecutive years.

Tigers general manager Al Avila declined comment through club spokesman Craig Hughner.

The Yankees, at \$212.9 million, are just under the surtax level. San Francisco is next at \$199.6 million, leaving its tax set to decline to \$2.3 million from \$3.4 million. The Giants could have dropped below the tax threshold entirely, but decided to give reliever Mark Melancon a \$62 million, four-year contract.

"The costs add up, as does revenue sharing," Giants general manager Bobby Evans.

The Tigers, Yankees and Giants pay at the new calculation because they would have owed more under the old rules: \$11.96 million for New York, \$8.4 million for Detroit and \$4.2 million for San Francisco.

Washington (\$188.6 million), St. Louis (\$186.5 million) and Boston (\$183 million) have room to increase payroll without incurring a tax. The Red Sox would pay at a 50 percent rate after owing \$4.5 million last year and \$1.8 million in 2015. The others would pay at 20 percent because they have not been over the threshold.

AP Baseball Writer Janie McCauley contributed to this report.

France's far-right reaches across spectrum as runoff looms

PARIS (AP) — France's far right is reaching out to voters who backed the defeated far-left contender, hoping to peel away voters from the extremes of the political spectrum.

The May 7 runoff will be between the populist Marine Le Pen and centrist Emmanuel Macron, and French politicians on the moderate left and right immediately urged voters to block Le Pen's path to power. The defeated far-left candidate, Jean-Luc Melenchon, pointedly refused to do the same.

Le Pen offers an alternative for anyone skeptical of the European Union and France's role in it, said Louis Aliot, the vice president of the National Front party.

He spoke Monday to RTL radio after the earthshaking vote that saw France's mainstream political parties shut out of the presidency for the first time in modern history.

Sheryl Sandberg picks 'Option B' in her book on resilience

By BARBARA ORTUTAY, AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Though perhaps best known as Facebook's No. 2 executive, Sheryl Sandberg is also a mentor, a mother, a billionaire and an author. When her husband Dave Goldberg died suddenly in 2015 while they were vacationing in Mexico, she added "widow" to the list.

"The grief felt like a void, like it was sucking me in and pushing on me, pulling me in and I couldn't even see or breathe," she said in an interview with The Associated Press. "People who have been through things like this told me it gets better. And I really didn't believe them.... I want other people

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going through things to believe it does get better.”

Her new book — “Option B: Facing Adversity, Building Resilience and Finding Joy,” written with psychologist Adam Grant — chronicles the devastating loss, her grief and how she emerged from it with a new perspective on life. A humbled follow-up to her first book, “Lean In,” it’s also a how-to, drawing from studies and the experiences of others to describe techniques for building strength and resilience and ways to support those going through hard times.

Sandberg also uses the new book to address what she now sees as shortcomings in the career advice she offered women in “Lean In.” Surveying the world as a wealthy corporate executive rendered her oblivious to the circumstances faced by less fortunate women, she acknowledged. Not everyone can lean in; not everyone wants to.

“I didn’t get it,” she wrote. “I didn’t get how hard it is to succeed at work when you are overwhelmed at home.”

THE FIRST MONTHS

The most affecting parts of the book recount not just Sandberg’s grief, but that of her children. When she had to tell them that their father died. When, arriving at the cemetery for his funeral, they “got out of the car and fell to the ground, unable to take another step. I lay on the grass, holding them as they wailed,” unable to protect them from their sorrow.

It did get better, though slowly. Sandberg returned to work at Facebook in a haze, unable to summon her previous self-confidence.

“I couldn’t understand when friends didn’t ask me how I was. I felt invisible, as if I was standing in front of them but they couldn’t see me,” she writes, adding later, that by staying silent in such situations “we often isolate friends, family and co-workers.”

At Facebook, Sandberg has long been an advocate of “bringing your whole self to work,” meaning a willingness to share your personal life with co-workers. But this can get tricky when it comes to facing trauma. Sandberg found it difficult, and even considered carrying around a stuffed pachyderm to encourage co-workers and even friends to talk about the “elephant in the room.”

PICKING UP THE PIECES

Then one day, about a month after Goldberg died, she decided to post on Facebook about her grief, her gratitude toward her friends, and her related tumultuous feelings — for instance, coming to believe she would never again feel real joy. She wrote it out, not planning to share it publicly. After some more thought, she decided it couldn’t possibly make things worse.

The change was immediate. Friends, co-workers and strangers — many of whom had dealt with loss themselves — began reaching out. It helped, Sandberg wrote. The post has been shared more than 400,000 times and has some 74,000 comments. It opened up a conversation.

“I know it almost sounds silly because I certainly work at Facebook and I know what Facebook’s mission is,” she said. “But experiencing it for myself was a very ... deep experience.”

Talking about these things, as difficult as it might be, can be a lifeline. As is getting help at work, something Sandberg acknowledged not everyone can. Facebook has recently extended its bereavement policies to allow employees more time off after the death of a loved one. But Sandberg says supporting people once they are back at work — including reminding them that their contributions are needed and welcome — is just as important.

“Death is not the only kind of adversity that summons up the elephant,” Sandberg wrote in the book. “Anything that reminds us of the possibility of loss can leave us at a loss for words. Financial difficulties. Divorce. Unemployment. Rape. Addiction. Incarceration. Illness.”

BUILDING STRENGTH

A few weeks after she lost her husband, Sandberg was talking with a friend, making plans for some-

one to fill in for a father-child activity. Crying, she told the friend "But I want Dave." He put his arm around her and said, "Option A is not available. So let's just kick the s--- out of Option B."

Sandberg said she believes strongly in pre-traumatic growth — people's ability to build up resilience before something bad happens so that they are able to deal with it better. She has peppered the book with anecdotes and studies about resilience, from the story of Malala Yousafzai, the 19-year-old Pakistani activist and Nobel Peace laureate, to that of the survivors of a 1972 plane crash in the Andes described in the book (and movie) "Alive."

"Tragedy does not have to be personal, pervasive or permanent, but resilience can be," she writes. "We can build it and carry it with us throughout our lives."

N. Korea detains US citizen; 3rd American being held

By ERIC TALMADGE, Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — North Korea has detained a U.S. citizen, officials said, bringing to three the number of Americans now being held there.

Tony Kim, who also goes by his Korean name Kim Sang-duk, was detained on Saturday, according to Park Chan-mo, the chancellor of the Pyongyang University of Science and Technology.

Park said Kim, who is 58, taught accounting at the university for about a month. He said Kim was detained by officials as he was trying to leave the country from Pyongyang's international airport. A university spokesman said he was trying to leave with his wife on a flight to China.

The Swedish Embassy in Pyongyang said Sunday it was aware of a Korean-American citizen being detained recently, but could not comment further. The embassy looks after consular affairs for the United States in North Korea because the two countries do not have diplomatic relations.

The State Department also said it was aware of the report about a U.S. citizen being detained, but declined further comment "due to privacy considerations."

Park said he was informed that the detention had "nothing to do" with Kim's work at the university but did not know further details.

Kim previously taught Korean at the Yanbian University of Science and Technology in Yanji, China, not far from the North Korea border, said the school's Communist Party Committee secretary, who would only give his surname, Huang.

Kim resigned last August and has not contacted the school since, Huang said. "We don't know anything about his trip to North Korea."

As of Monday morning, North Korea's official media had not reported on the detention.

The Pyongyang University of Science and Technology is the only privately funded university in North Korea. It held its first classes in 2010. It is unique in the North for its large number of foreign staff.

Colin McCulloch, the director of external affairs, said the university was not under investigation and was continuing its normal operations. He said he could not immediately confirm Kim's hometown.

Though no details on why Kim was detained have been released, the detention comes at a time of unusually heightened tensions between the U.S. and North Korea. Both countries have recently been trading threats of war and having another American in jail will likely up the ante even further.

Last year, Otto Warmbier, then a 21-year-old University of Virginia student from suburban Cincinnati, was sentenced to 15 years of hard labor in prison after he confessed to trying to steal a propaganda banner.

Kim Dong Chul, who was born in South Korea but is also believed to have U.S. citizenship, is serving a sentence of 10 years for espionage.

Another foreigner, a Canadian pastor, is also being detained in North Korea. Hyeon Soo Lim, a South

Korean-born Canadian citizen in his 60s, was convicted and sentenced to life in prison in 2015 on charges of trying to use religion to destroy the North Korean system and helping U.S. and South Korean authorities lure and abduct North Korean citizens.

Associated Press researcher Liu Zheng in Beijing contributed to this story.

AP Exclusive: The sad saga of North Korea's ATMs

By ERIC TALMADGE, Associated Press

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — No modern airport terminal is complete without an ATM, and Pyongyang's now has two. But they don't work — because of new Chinese sanctions, according to bank employees — and it's not clear when they will.

ATMs are an alien enough concept in North Korea that those in the capital's shiny new Sunan International Airport have a video screen near the top showing how they work and how to set up an account to use them. The explanatory video is in Korean, but the machines, which are meant primarily for Chinese businesspeople and tourists, don't give out cash in the North Korean currency.

ATMs are not entirely new to the North.

Years ago, the Ryugyong Commercial Bank installed one in a midrange tourist hotel in central Pyongyang frequented by Chinese. Another ATM was spotted at the airport last year, but it never appeared to be turned on. Additionally, customers who flash the bank's gold or silver ATM cards at two upscale stores that sell a wide array of imported foods and luxury items qualify for discounts.

How much North Korea's ATMs have actually been used is a matter of debate.

Booking office employees said the ATMs at the airport's international terminal were installed a few months ago but are still in a "test phase." According to tellers at the bank's small office in the hotel where it has its other ATM, none of the machines are working because of Chinese sanctions that they said kicked in last month.

The Ryugyong Commercial Bank isn't a very well-known entity outside of North Korea. According to Curtis Melvin, a senior fellow at the U.S.-Korea Institute at the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University and a frequent contributor to the North Korea-watching "38 North" website, it is part of a larger conglomerate of entities that includes the Ryugyong Kimchi Factory, the Ryugyong Household Goods Factory and the Ryugyong Electric Appliances Factory, along with a popular fitness center and spa in Pyongyang.

China's banking regulator did not immediately respond to an emailed request for comment on whether China has imposed restrictions on Chinese bank users' ability to make transactions at the ATMs in Pyongyang.

If sanctions are in fact why the ATMs aren't working, that could be a sign that Beijing is squeezing Pyongyang over its nuclear weapons and long-range missile programs. China is isolated North Korea's main economic lifeline and has been under increasing pressure from President Donald Trump to do more to rein in its neighbor. The North's finance and banking sectors are major targets.

But how much Chinese policy toward North Korea has changed is hard to gauge.

Though China banned coal imports from the North in February, overall trade between the two countries has grown in recent months. Trade in the first quarter was actually up 37 percent from the same period in 2016, reaching \$1.2 billion. About \$720 million of that were exports from China to North Korea.

In any case, there will likely soon be fewer Chinese tourists for the ATMs to serve.

Several Chinese tourism companies are eliminating or offering fewer North Korea tours because of

increasing tensions on the Korean Peninsula and sagging demand amid safety fears. Air China also announced this month that it has discontinued its underperforming Beijing-Pyongyang route.

That leaves North Korea's Air Koryo as the only airline regularly flying into and out of Pyongyang's international airport.

Most foreigners arriving at the airport are whisked out of the terminal lobby before they have time to notice the ATMs anyway.

But now, at least, they're plugged in.

Associated Press writer Gillian Wong and researcher Yu Bing in Beijing contributed to this report.

Trump heads into tough week with budget, health care battles

By CATHERINE LUCEY and HOPE YEN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is heading into one of the most challenging weeks of his presidency, juggling a renewed health care push and a looming budget deadline. It's all complicated by a potential showdown with Democrats over paying for a border wall.

The symbolic 100-day mark for the administration is Saturday. That's the same day government could shut down without a budget deal. Trump has announced a rally in Pennsylvania that day.

Despite Trump's dismissal that the 100-day marker is "artificial," the White House is planning a packed week of activities leading up to Saturday. Trump will sign executive orders on energy and rural policies, meet with the president of Argentina and travel to Atlanta for a National Rifle Association event. Top aides will also fan out around the country to promote the administration.

Aides stressed on Sunday talk shows that funding a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border and a vote on an effort to repeal and replace President Barack Obama's health care law were priorities. But they also suggested a shutdown could be avoided.

"I don't think anyone foresees or expects or would want a shutdown," said budget director Mick Mulvaney on "Fox News Sunday."

Trump would like to revive a failed effort by House Republicans to replace the Affordable Care Act, or "Obamacare." He also hopes to use a \$1 trillion catchall spending bill to salvage victories on his promised border wall, a multibillion-dollar down payment on a Pentagon buildup, and perhaps a crackdown on cities that refuse to cooperate with immigration enforcement by federal authorities.

But so far, negotiations have proven difficult, with disputes over the border wall and health law subsidies to help low-income people afford health insurance. House members received little information from leaders on a conference call Saturday.

White House chief of staff Reince Priebus said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that he believes the spending bill will include "something satisfactory" to reflect Trump's desire to build a wall. The legislation would keep the government running through Sept. 30, the end of the budget year.

"We expect the priorities of the president to be reflected," Priebus said, citing ongoing talks with the House and the Senate. He added that "it'll be enough in the negotiation to move forward either with construction or the planning ... to get going on the border wall and border security."

House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi of California described a border wall as "immoral" and "expensive" when asked if there was any scenario in which Democrats will agree to money for a wall to avoid a shutdown.

"Democrats do not support the wall," she said, speaking also on NBC. "Republicans on the border states do not support the wall."

"The Republicans have the votes in the House and the Senate and the White House to keep government open. The burden to keep it open is on the Republicans," Pelosi said. She noted that when Trump promised to build a wall during his campaign, he never indicated he would "pass billions of dollars of cost of the wall onto the taxpayer."

Trump weighed in on his proposed border wall Sunday on Twitter, saying "Eventually, but at a later date so we can get started early, Mexico will be paying, in some form, for the badly needed border wall."

Trump has repeatedly asserted that Mexico would pay for the wall, which he says is necessary to stop the flow of immigrants crossing the border illegally as well as drug smugglers.

On Obama's health law, Priebus said he'd like to have a vote on the GOP repeal-and-replace bill in the House this coming week. But he insisted it didn't make too much difference to the White House whether the vote came next "Friday or Saturday or Monday."

"It's a marathon, not a sprint," he said.

Trump tweeted a warning at Democrats on Sunday, saying: "ObamaCare is in serious trouble. The Dems need big money to keep it going - otherwise it dies far sooner than anyone would have thought."

Trump is also planning to outline a tax cut plan on Wednesday. He told The Associated Press on Friday that it would include a "massive" tax cut for both individuals and corporations.

On Fox, Mulvaney said to expect "some specific governing principles, some guidance, also some indication on what the rates are going to be." He added: "I don't think anybody expects us to roll out bill language on Wednesday."

The White House is eager to tout progress on the litany of agenda items Trump promised to fulfill in his first 100 days, despite setbacks including court bans on his proposed immigration limits and the high-profile failure in repealing and replacing Obamacare.

The president said Friday he spent his first 100 days laying the "foundation" for progress later in his administration, including by building relationships with foreign leaders.

James helps Cavs hold off Pacers, earn sweep into 2nd round

By MICHAEL MAROT, AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — LeBron James stuck to the old script Sunday.

Again, he bailed out the Cleveland Cavaliers. And again, he sent the Indiana Pacers home for vacation.

On yet another milestone day for basketball's king, James' crowning achievement was making the go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:08 to play and helping the defending champions hold on for a series-clinching 106-102 victory at Indiana.

"You have to mentally challenge yourself every year and go out and try to do what's right — putting your body on the line, putting your team on the line and trying to be successful," James said. "It's very hard."

But the four-time MVP makes it look easy. He finished with 33 points, 10 rebounds, four assists, four steals and two blocks.

By winning his 21st consecutive first-round game, James broke a tie with Michael Cooper, Magic Johnson and James Worthy for the longest streak under the NBA's current playoff format. By sweeping a series for the 10th time, James broke a tie with Tim Duncan for the most in a career, according to Elias Sports Bureau. By going 13 of 25 from the field, he pulled into a tie with Kobe Bryant for the fourth highest postseason field goal total with 2,014.

And by holding on for the win, James improved to 52-0 in the playoffs when his team takes a double-digit lead into the fourth quarter.

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James considered the milestones a footnote on a day the Cavs blew a 13-point lead and allowed the Pacers to come all the way back and take a 102-100 lead with 1:31 to go.

"They were giving it all they had," James said. "Obviously, a loss would have ended their season. We just had to weather the storm once again."

Of course that's when James took the cue and came to the rescue.

He made the long 3 to give Cleveland the lead, poked the ball away from Young on the next possession, grabbed the rebound when Paul George missed a 3 with 1.9 seconds to go that could have forced overtime and, of course, made 1 of 2 free throws to seal the win.

Now Cleveland takes a seven-game winning streak into the conference semifinals against either Milwaukee or Toronto.

For Indiana, it will go down as yet another tormenting chapter in their rivalry with James.

James' teams have eliminated the Pacers four times in six years and completed the first-four game sweep in Indiana's NBA history. Cleveland finished the season 7-1 against the Pacers, winning the last four with a defensive stand, a rare 25-point game from three players, the largest second-half comeback in playoff history and now James' knockout punch.

Lance Stephenson led the Pacers with 22 points. George had a series-low 15.

"It's real frustrating to continue on losing to the same team or same person," George said. "Ultimately, he (James) is who I'm always going to have to see and face."

The Pacers sure didn't make it easy, though.

They charged back from a 96-83 deficit with a 7-0 spurt early in the in the fourth quarter. Then they methodically continued chipping away until Young tied the score at 100 and then gave them the lead.

But James answered with the go-ahead 3.

TIP-INS

Cavaliers: Improved to 8-0 when taking a 3-0 series lead. ... Kyrie Irving added 28 points, Deron Williams added 14 and Kevin Love had 16 rebounds. ... Tristan Thompson grabbed 11 rebounds, giving at least 10 in all four games.

Pacers: Have lost five straight postseason games and six of their last eight. ... Indiana lost the four games by a total of 16 points, tying the smallest margin in a four-game sweep in league history. ... Teague scored 15 points and was the catalyst in the final spurt, including blocking one of James' shots. ...Myles Turner had 20 points and nine rebounds, while Young had 13 points and 10 rebounds.

UNCERTAIN FUTURE

Now the Pacers' attention turns to the future of George, the 26-year-old All-Star who can become a free agent in 2018. He didn't drop any hints about which way he's leaning after the game and there has been rampant speculation he could be traded this summer.

"I'm not at that point yet. Next question," George said.

GETTING PHYSICAL

Things got physical and painful Sunday.

James stayed down on one knee after taking a shot to the head in the first half. George was writing in pain after taking a knee to the groin. Teague also remained on the ground briefly when he got hit in the head, too.

All three finished the game.

UP NEXT

Cleveland gets some extra rest before finding out who it will play in the second round. Indiana embarks on a crucial offseason that could dictate the franchise's future.

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More AP NBA: apnews.com/tag/NBAbasketball

Unconventional Macron faces unprecedented challenge

By SYLVIE CORBET, The Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — French centrist Emmanuel Macron faces an unprecedented challenge in his quest for the French presidency: A newcomer to politics, he was virtually unknown to most of his countrymen just three years ago.

Now the tenacious 39-year-old with strong pro-business and pro-European views, and an unconventional love story, is poised to face far-right National Front leader Marine Le Pen in the May 7 presidential runoff.

A joyful crowd of some 2,000 supporters gathered at his election headquarters in Paris cheered wildly at the announcement that Macron will advance to the second round. Their enthusiasm only grew when major rivals Socialist Benoit Hamon and conservative Francois Fillon conceded defeat, then urged voters to vote for Macron in the runoff in order to defeat Le Pen.

In an American-style move unusual in French politics, Macron appeared on stage hand in hand with his wife, Brigitte, both waving at the crowd with tears in their eyes.

Brigitte Macron is 24 years his senior — the same age difference as Donald and Melania Trump— and Macron doesn't hide that she is his closest adviser.

In his speech, Macron praised supporters for a campaign that "changed the course of our country." Urging hope in a future with Europe instead of fear — a reference to Le Pen's anti-European Union campaign — he declared: "The challenge is to open a new page of our political life."

Many in the jubilant crowd waved both the French tricolor and the European Union flags, chanting, "We will win!"

Charlotte Rousselet, 31, said she used to vote for the Socialist party but believes Macron has "more modern, reformist views."

"He represents a new way to do politics, he promotes women, youth, people for the civil society and he's not afraid to say that he is pro-Europe", she said.

Macron has a strong stance on economic issues, but he has also put more focus on security and the fight against terrorism in recent weeks, pledging to boost the police and military as well as the intelligence services and to put pressure on internet giants to better monitor extremism online.

To improve Europe's security, he wants the EU to deploy some 5,000 European border guards to the external borders of the bloc's passport-free travel zone.

A strong advocate of a free market and entrepreneurial spirit, Macron has called for France to focus on getting benefits from globalization rather than the protectionist policies advocated by both the far right and the far left.

"We need Europe, my friends, so we will rebuild it," he told a crowd at a rally in Paris this week. "Because we will be stronger, I will rebuild a strong and balanced alliance with Germany in order to give Europe a new boost."

Macron has also promised to shake up the political landscape by appointing a government mostly composed of new figures, some of them coming from business and civil society.

Macron has never held elected office. Socialist president Francois Hollande named him economy minister in 2014, after he worked for two years as a top adviser on economic issues at the presidential palace.

He launched his own political movement, En Marche! (In Motion!) last year to support his candidacy.

Macron and his wife have publicly described the unusual way their romance started — when he was a student at the high school where she was a teacher in the town of Amiens in northern France. A

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married mother of three children at the time, she was supervising the drama club. Macron, a literature lover, was a member.

Macron moved to Paris for his last year of high school. At that time, "we called each other all the time, we spent hours on the phone, hours and hours on the phone," Brigitte Macron recalled in a televised documentary. "Little by little, he overcame all my resistances in an unbelievable way, with patience."

She eventually moved to the French capital to join him, and divorced. They've been together ever since.

The couple married in 2007 and Brigitte Macron has campaigned avidly by his side.

"I don't hide her," Macron told BFM TV this week. "She's here in my life, she has always been."

Macron studied philosophy and then attended France's elite Ecole Nationale d'Administration for graduate school.

After working as a public servant for several years, he became an investment banker at Rothschild. As economy minister, he promoted a package of economic measures — known as the Macron law— aiming at loosening some of France's stringent labor rules in the hope of boosting job hiring. The law notably allows more stores to open on Sundays and evenings and opens up regulated sectors of the economy.

Macron was accused by many on the left of destroying workers protection. The parliamentary debate on the law drove tens of thousands of people into the streets for months of protests across France.

Bloomberg to world leaders: Ignore Trump on climate

By STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — New York billionaire Michael Bloomberg urged world leaders not to follow President Donald Trump's lead on climate change and declared his intention to help save an international agreement to reduce carbon emissions.

Bloomberg, who considered a presidential bid after serving three terms as New York City's mayor, addressed his intensifying focus on climate change in an interview with The Associated Press. He said there was no political motive tied to last week's release of his new book, "Climate of Hope: How Cities, Businesses, and Citizens Can Save the Planet," co-authored by former Sierra Club executive director Carl Pope.

"I'm not running for office," the 75-year-old Bloomberg said.

Instead of helping to re-ignite his political career, he said the new book offered a specific policy objective: To help save an international agreement, negotiated in Paris, to reduce global carbon emissions.

The Trump administration is debating whether to abandon the pact as the president promised during his campaign. Under the agreement, the U.S. pledged that by 2025 it would reduce its annual greenhouse gas emissions by 26 to 28 percent below 2005 levels, which would be a reduction of about 1.6 billion tons.

Bloomberg said he believed the U.S. would hit that goal regardless of what Trump does because of leadership at the state level and market forces already at play in the private sector.

"Washington won't determine the fate of our ability to meet our Paris commitment," he said in an email Saturday to the AP. "And what a tragedy it would be if the failure to understand that led to an unraveling of the agreement. We hope this book will help to correct that wrong impression — and help save the Paris deal."

Bloomberg already plays a significant role in shaping some of the nation's fiercest policy debates, having invested millions of dollars in one advocacy group that pushes for stronger gun control and another that promotes liberal immigration policies. In the new book, which follows what a spokeswoman

described as \$80 million in donations to the Sierra Club in recent years, the New York businessman solidifies his status as a prominent climate change advocate as well.

His policy repertoire aligns him with core values of the Democratic Party, although the Democrat-turned-Republican-turned independent has no formal political affiliation.

In the interview, Bloomberg shrugged off conservatives who condemn him as a paternalistic New York elitist. He noted that policies he helped initiate in New York City — including a smoking ban and high taxes on sugary drinks — have eventually caught on elsewhere.

“My goal has been to save and improve lives,” he said. “Some ways of doing that can be controversial at first, but end up being highly popular and successful.”

In his new focus on climate change, Bloomberg directs particularly aggressive language at the coal industry.

“I don’t have much sympathy for industries whose products leave behind a trail of diseased and dead bodies,” he wrote in the book. He added: “But for everyone’s sake, we should aim to put them out of business...”

Similar language haunted Hillary Clinton’s presidential bid last year and fueled criticism from Trump and other top Republicans that Democrats were engaged in a “war on coal.”

Bloomberg offered a pragmatic approach when asked about the political consequences for politicians who embrace such a stance.

“The fact is, coal in Appalachia is running out,” he said, adding that “Washington can’t put generations of people back to work in a dying industry.”

Saying that coal miners “have paid a terrible price,” Bloomberg also disclosed for the first time plans to donate \$3 million to organizations that help unemployed miners and their communities find new economic opportunities. Bloomberg Philanthropies highlights the plight of coal miners in a new film to be featured at the Tribeca Film Festival on Wednesday.

He avoided condemning the Trump administration directly, however, largely casting the new president’s steps on climate change as irrelevant. The White House declined to comment when asked about Bloomberg’s statements.

“As it turns out, Trump’s election makes the book’s message — that the most important solutions lie outside of Washington — even more important and urgent,” Bloomberg said.

This story has been corrected to show that Carl Pope is the former, not current, Sierra Club executive director.

Author and conservationist Kuki Gallmann shot in Kenya

By TOM ODULA, Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — The Italian-born author and conservationist Kuki Gallmann was shot at her Kenyan ranch and airlifted for treatment after herders invaded in search of pasture to save their animals from drought, officials said Sunday.

Gallmann, known for her bestselling book “I Dreamed of Africa,” which became a movie by the same name starring Kim Basinger, was patrolling the ranch in Laikipia when she was shot in the stomach, local police chief Ezekiel Chepkowny said.

The 73-year-old Gallmann had been with rangers from the Kenya Wildlife Service, assessing damage done to her property Saturday by arsonists who burned down buildings at one of Laikipia Nature Conservancy’s tourism lodges, said Laikipia Farmers Association chairman Martin Evans.

After the attack, the rangers transported her to a location where she could be airlifted to Nanyuki

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town, Evans said. British Army medics attended to her before she was airlifted to the capital, Nairobi, he said.

On Sunday night, Evans said Gallmann was in stable condition after surgery but had serious injuries. He cited a family member.

Richard Constant, the association's deputy chairman, said suspicion falls on herders from the Pokot community who have invaded Gallmann's ranch several times. Lodges belonging to Gallmann were burned by the herders last month.

This East African nation is facing a drought that has affected half the country and has been declared a national disaster.

Herders, whose livelihoods depend on their cattle, and large-scale farmers in parts of Kenya's Rift Valley have been desperately waiting for seasonal rains that were to start last month to ease the drought and conflicts over grazing land in which more than 30 people have died.

Kenya's military and police have been working to disarm and drive the hundreds of herders and their animals out of ranches they've invaded, but their actions appear to have escalated the violence. When the military and police drive herders from one ranch they move into another, the farmers' association said.

The association has accused politicians campaigning for the August elections of inciting the herders to invade the ranches, saying the owners' leases have come to an end and that herders can take over the land and distribute it among themselves.

"The LFA is conscious that a small handful of inciters are driving this violence and that they have deployed militias to cause mayhem in parts of Laikipia. For months these criminals have been rampaging around with their illegal weapons, destroying lives and livelihood," Evans said.

The land invasions started late last year. British national and ranch owner Tristan Voorspuy was killed last month when he went to inspect damage done by the herders on one of his lodges.

Opposition leader and former Prime Minister Raila Odinga said ranch owners deserve protection under the law like all Kenyans.

"Unfortunately, we have watched in bewilderment as hooligans take advantage of the drought to subject these ranchers to unwarranted attacks," Odinga said. "Even more depressing is the apparent helplessness of the government that is clearly unable or unwilling to bring these attacks to a stop."

Many of the ranches, some of which double as wildlife conservancies, were acquired during the period of British colonial rule, some as early as 1900, according to a government report. Others were purchased after Kenya became independent in 1963.

Many of the farmers' association's members are in the tourism business, Evans said.

"Though times are very tough for those properties affected by the invasions, the extent of the troubles are restricted to parts of north and west Laikipia," he said. "These events do not affect other parts of Kenya which remain safe to visit."

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Monday, April 24, the 114th day of 2017. There are 251 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On April 24, 1967, Soviet cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov was killed when his Soyuz 1 spacecraft smashed into the Earth after his parachutes failed to deploy properly during re-entry; he was the first human

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spaceflight fatality.

On this date:

In 1792, Capt. Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle began composing "War Song for the Rhine Army," later known as "La Marseillaise" (lah mahr-say-YEHZ'), the national anthem of France.

In 1800, Congress approved a bill establishing the Library of Congress.

In 1898, Spain declared war on the United States. (The United States responded in kind the next day.)

In 1915, in what's considered the start of the Armenian genocide, the Ottoman Empire began rounding up Armenian political and cultural leaders in Constantinople.

In 1916, some 1,600 Irish nationalists launched the Easter Rising by seizing several key sites in Dublin. (The rising was put down by British forces five days later.)

In 1932, in the Free State of Prussia, the Nazi Party gained a plurality of seats in parliamentary elections.

In 1947, novelist Willa Cather, author of "My Antonia," died in New York at age 73.

In 1953, British statesman Winston Churchill was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II.

In 1962, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology achieved the first satellite relay of a television signal, using NASA's Echo 1 balloon satellite to bounce a video image from Camp Parks, California, to Westford, Massachusetts.

In 1970, the People's Republic of China launched its first satellite, which kept transmitting a song, "The East Is Red."

In 1980, the United States launched an unsuccessful attempt to free the American hostages in Iran, a mission that resulted in the deaths of eight U.S. servicemen.

In 1997, comedian Pat Paulsen died in Tijuana, Mexico, at age 69.

Ten years ago: In a harsh exchange, Vice President Dick Cheney accused Democratic leader Harry Reid of personally pursuing a defeatist strategy in Iraq to win votes at home — a charge dismissed by Reid as President George W. Bush's "attack dog" lashing out. Seven people were killed by a tornado in Maverick County on the Texas-Mexico border. European astronomers announced they had found a potentially habitable planet outside the solar system. Warren Avis, the founder of Avis Rent A Car, died in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama went after the college vote, telling students at the University of North Carolina that he and first lady Michelle Obama had "been in your shoes" and didn't pay off their student loans until eight years ago. Republican Mitt Romney swept primaries in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New York. Lakers forward Metta World Peace was suspended for seven games by the NBA two days after a vicious elbow on Oklahoma City's James Harden.

One year ago: President Barack Obama, visiting Hannover, Germany, defended international trade deals in the face of domestic and foreign opposition, saying it was "indisputable" that they strengthened the economy and made American businesses more competitive. British astronaut Tim Peake completed the London Marathon from 250 miles above the Earth, running the 26.2-mile race harnessed to a treadmill aboard the International Space Station, with a simulation of the route through London's streets playing on an iPad. (Peake finished in 3 hours and 35 minutes.) Billy Paul, 80, a jazz and soul singer best known for the No. 1 hit ballad and "Philadelphia Soul" classic "Me and Mrs. Jones," died in Blackwood, New Jersey.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director-producer Richard Donner is 87. Actress Shirley MaLaine is 83. Author Sue Grafton is 77. Actor-singer Michael Parks is 77. Actress-singer-director Barbra Streisand is 75. Former Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley is 75. Country singer Richard Sterban (The Oak Ridge Boys) is 74. Rock musician Doug Clifford (Creedence Clearwater Revival) is 72. Rock singer-musician Rob Hy-

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man is 67. The prime minister of Ireland, or Taoiseach (TEE'-shuk), Enda Kenny, is 66. Actor-playwright Eric Bogosian is 64. Rock singer-musician Jack Blades (Night Ranger) is 63. Actor Michael O'Keefe is 62. Rock musician David J (Bauhaus) is 60. Actor Glenn Morshower is 58. Rock musician Billy Gould is 54. Actor-comedian Cedric the Entertainer is 53. Actor Djimon Hounsou (JEYE'-mihn OHN'-soo) is 53. Rock musician Patty Schemel is 50. Actress Stacy Haiduk (TV: "The Young and the Restless") is 49. Rock musician Aaron Comess (Spin Doctors) is 49. Actor Aidan Gillen is 49. Actress Melinda Clarke is 48. Actor Rory McCann is 48. Latin pop singer Alejandro Fernandez is 46. Country-rock musician Brad Morgan (Drive-By Truckers) is 46. Rock musician Brian Marshall (Creed; Alter Bridge) is 44. Actor Derek Luke is 43. Actor Eric Balfour is 40. Actress Rebecca Mader is 40. Country singer Rebecca Lynn Howard is 38. Country singer Danny Gokey is 37. Actress Reagan Gomez is 37. Actor Austin Nichols is 37. Actress Sasha Barrese is 36. Contemporary Christian musician Jasen Rauch (Red) is 36. Singer Kelly Clarkson is 35. Rock singer-musician Tyson Ritter (The All-American Rejects) is 33. Actor Joe Keery is 25. Actor Jack Quaid is 25. Actor Doc Shaw is 25. Golfer Lydia Ko is 20.

Thought for Today: "That is happiness; to be dissolved into something completely great." — Willa Cather (1873-1947).