

# Groton Daily Independent

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**Oral Interp at Milbank  
7th/8th grade VB match at Hitchcock-Tulare  
has been cancelled  
Varsity Volleyball vs. H-T at Tulare**

**Wednesday  
PSAT testing for sophomores and juniors at  
GHS**

**Thursday  
8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.: Elementary Health  
Screening at Elementary School  
3:30 p.m.: Cross Country regions at Webster  
4:30 p.m.: Volleyball matches at Tiospa Zina.  
C match at 4:30 p.m., JV at 5 p.m. followed by  
varsity match**

**Open:** Recycling Trailer in Groton  
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Rail-  
road Ave.

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

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**Sperry Stump Removal** Tyler: 605/216-8431  
**Over 30 Years of Combined Experience!**  
TJ: 605/380-7915 **TreeLine Tree Service**

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“TRUST  
YOURSELF.  
YOU KNOW  
MORE THAN YOU  
THINK YOU DO.”

-BENJAMIN SPOCK

Chicken Soup  
for the Soul

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All auto owners!

**Save \$2-\$4 /tank**

& grow your local economy  
by choosing low carbon

**Super Premium E30's**

94 octane, more power,  
same mileage, fewer  
carbon deposits, lower  
maintenance costs,  
slashed benzene & related  
genotoxic, carcinogenic  
tailpipe emissions;

\*see sdfu.org's E30 tab for  
info, E30 prices\locations.

**\*Farmers Union's  
PSA: Courtesy Merle  
Anderson (Merle is 94  
year old founder of Ace  
and legendary ethanol  
supporter... "because it is  
the right thing to do")**

## Groton Area Help Wanted

The Groton Area School District is seeking qualified applicants for a part-time Assistant Business Manager. Job description and application materials can be found under the employment tab at [www.grotonarea.com](http://www.grotonarea.com). Questions should be directed to Joe Schwan, Superintendent at 605-297-2351.

## Help Wanted

We are Hiring Nurses – RN or LPN,  
Full or Part Time. Cooks/Dietary Aid.

**NEW WAGE PACKAGE!!!**

Contact Brynn Pickrel or Nellie Peterson at 605-397-2365 or apply in person.

EOE/AA/M/F/V/D-Drug Free Workplace



# GROTON

CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

**1106 N. 2nd Street, Groton  
605-397-2365**

0913.1005

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## KIWANIS CLUB NEWS

Tom Mahan introduced Joseph Schwan, GHS superintendent, who presented a very complete and informative report on our school. Joseph also fielded questions from the fourteen Kiwanians present.

Some of the highlights from his talk were:

1. The elementary school building project is ahead of schedule. but most importantly, the project is estimated to cost \$800,000 to A MILLION DOLLARS under budget.
2. Graduation requirements have not changed for many years now.
3. GHS has a wide selection of elective courses.
4. There are now more than 20 kids in the robotics team, led by Jim Lane.
5. Total enrollment in our school is now 569, 17 less than last year. There are 40 kids in kindergarten, and 33 seniors. Next year is projected to be a higher total number again.
6. There are 14 new staff this year, including 6 teachers and one administrator.

This week's program leader is Sharon Simon, followed by Lee Schinkel and Larry Schelle..

## JUNGLE DAY KIWANIS TAILGATE SUPPER

The Groton Kiwanis Club held their annual tailgate supper at the football field, for Jungle Day.

Lori Giedt and Chuck Padfield were chairmen.

Other Kiwanis working were Roger Rix, Reed Litch, Lee Schinkel, Kathy Sundermeyer, Larry Schelle, Tom Mahan and Chuck Raap.

## Northeast Conference Cross-Country Meet

Thursday, Oct. 5 at Webster

Emily Thompson placed fourth at the Northeast Conference cross-country meet held Thursday, Oct. 5, in Webster, She ran the 5,000m course in a time of 21:19.23. Isaac Smith placed 17th for the boys with a time of 19:27.62.

17, Isaac Smith, 19:27.62; 33, Micah Poor, 21:13.72; 45, Noah Poor, 22:16.18

4, Emily Thompson, 21:19.23; 28, Hannah Lewandowski, 23:52.07; 38, AnneMarie Smith, 25:48.38; 39, Rylee Rosenau, 25:52.60.



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## Gas Prices on Steady One-Month Decline

October 9, 2017 - Motorists are paying on average six cents less for a gallon of gasoline on the week with all states seeing prices at the pump either drop or hold steady. Today's national gas price average is \$2.49, which is 18 cents cheaper than a month ago. With the latest Energy Information Administration (EIA) report measuring gasoline demand at 9.2 million b/d, down 281,000 b/d from the week prior, retail gas prices are showing steady promise of returning to pre-hurricane rates.

South Dakota's statewide average today is \$2.47, the same week over week and twenty cents higher than one year ago. Prices over the last month are nine cents lower.

"Gas prices have fallen steadily for the past four weeks and now we are seeing gasoline demand drop alongside prices," said Marilyn Buskohl, AAA spokesperson. "The latest demand figures show the lowest since the week Hurricane Harvey hit and can likely be the beginning of a downward demand trend indicating even cheaper gas prices to come this fall."

Over the weekend, Hurricane Nate made landfall over the Gulf Coast and is now a tropical depression. Ahead of the storm, many Gulf Coast oil platforms and rigs were shut down and employees evacuated. In addition, two refineries, accounting for six percent of total Gulf Coast refining capacity, shut down. Early reports speculate that refineries did not sustain damage and operations could start up today, Monday.

Overall, motorists will see minimal to no impact to gas prices in the region hit by the storm.

### Quick Stats

The nation's top ten markets with the largest weekly decreases: Georgia (-10 cents), Michigan (-10 cents), South Carolina (-9 cents), Indiana (-9 cents), Ohio (-9 cents), Alabama (-8 cents), Tennessee (-8 cents), North Carolina (-8 cents), Mississippi (-8 cents) and Florida (-8 cents).

The nation's top ten markets with the largest year-over-year changes: New Jersey (+49 cents), Connecticut (+43 cents), Massachusetts (+42 cents), Rhode Island (+39 cents), New Hampshire (+35 cents), New York (+35 cents), Alaska (+34 cents), Utah (+34 cents), Pennsylvania (+33 cents) and Texas (+33 cents).

### Midwest Region

At 10 cents less than last week, Michigan (\$2.40) is the region's one state to see the largest and only double-digit drop in gas prices on the week. All states are paying less on the week. Following closely behind Michigan are Indiana (-9 cents) and Ohio (-9 cents). With a two-cent decrease, North Dakota saw the region's smallest decline.

The region's pump price drop comes alongside a large 1.5 million bbl drop in the Great Lakes and Central states overall gasoline inventory. According to the EIA, this was the largest inventory drop of all regions in the country. At 50 million bbl, total levels are on par with inventory last year at this time.

### Oil Market Dynamics

Last week's EIA report showed that U.S. crude oil stocks fell by 6 million bbl since the end of September with almost 2 million bbl in exports and refinery utilization down half a percentage point to 88.1 percent of total capacity. Decreasing fall demand combined with ample supply and slowed U.S. production has kept downward pressure on crude oil prices. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude oil teetered around the \$50-dollar mark and just below all week, settling \$1.50 lower at \$49.29 per barrel at the close of Friday's formal trading on the NYMEX.

Motorists can find current gas prices along their route with the free AAA Mobile app for iPhone, iPad and Android. The app can also be used to map a route, find discounts, book a hotel and access AAA roadside assistance. Learn more at [AAA.com/mobile](http://AAA.com/mobile).

AAA provides automotive, travel, and insurance services to 58 million members nationwide and nearly 97,000 members in South Dakota. AAA advocates for the safety and mobility of its members and has been committed to outstanding road service for more than 100 years. AAA is a not-for-profit, fully tax-paying member organization works on behalf of motorists, who can now map a route, find local gas prices, discover discounts, book a hotel, and track their roadside assistance service with the AAA Mobile app (AAA.com/mobile) for iPhone, iPad and Android. For more information, visit [www.AAA.com](http://www.AAA.com).

## The benefits of Hometown Power

### Five distinct advantages offered by Groton's public power utility

GROTON, S.D. - Most of us don't give much thought to where our electricity comes from. We flip the switch and the lights come on. It's a service most of us take for granted.

Electricity is a complex business, and there are dedicated individuals right here in Groton making sure the power keeps flowing.

Groton owns and operates a public power utility, meaning it's locally owned, locally controlled and operates on a non-profit basis. Like public schools and libraries, public power utilities are owned by the community and run as a division of local government. Community citizens have a direct voice in utility decisions and policymaking.

Groton provides electricity to 766 commercial, industrial and residential customers. Most of the electricity comes from hydropower generated at the federal dams. Supplemental power is purchased from Heartland Consumers Power District in Madison, SD. Groton also partners with Heartland to offer a number of programs to residents and businesses.

As Public Power Week is celebrated in October, it's a good time to remember all the unique advantages of being served by a local utility.

#### 1. You have ownership.

In Groton, decisions about the utility including rates, system upgrades and infrastructure, are made at city council meetings by locally elected officials. Since 1921, Groton has been conducting business in open meetings where you as citizens have the opportunity to be heard.

#### 2. Your utility is accessible.

If you have questions about your bill or your service, you can make a call or stop in to the local utility office. You may even see a utility employee working around town, who may also be your friend or neighbor. You can also contact your locally elected officials with questions or concerns.

#### 3. Your utility gives back.

On average, public power utilities pay 5.6 percent of electric operating revenues back to the community – through taxes, fees and special services. Groton's council and utility employees also work together to spur local economic development. By partnering with Heartland, Groton offers incentives, low-interest financing and other programs to entice business to set up shop or expand. Groton residents and business owners are also eligible for a variety of energy efficiency programs, which reward investment in energy efficiency lighting, heating and cooling systems, water heaters and more to help save money on electric bills.

#### 4. Your utility creates jobs.

Groton's utility is headquartered here and creates local jobs for administrators, utility managers and line workers. The employees are dedicated and knowledgeable, with over 22 combined years of service. Additionally, each dollar of a public power employee's paycheck circulates through the local economy an estimated four to five times.



**Groton Electric Light Superintendent Shawn Lambertz and Electric Lineman Dan Sunne.** (Courtesy Photo)

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## 5. Your utility provides reliable, top-quality service.

When there's a problem, calls are answered locally. The city can respond to outages faster, and because it's hometown power, your utility is motivated to keep the electric system operating continuously and efficiently. In fact, Groton recently transitioned to LED street lighting, installed automated electric meters and is replacing transformers in order to maintain the highest quality service to customer owners—a number one priority for public power utilities like yours.

The city of Groton takes their job of providing reliable electric service seriously. For them, there is something special about providing hometown power. It means the city is actively working to improve the lives of residents, while making sure the lights always come on when you flip the switch.



**Groton Metering Technician Paul Koesel displays an LED streetlight. The city recently converted all streetlights to LED.** (Courtesy Photo)

## Elementary School projects gets more praise

The elementary school continues to get high praise. Board member Deb Gengerke reported that she had talked with a health professional who visits the Elementary School a couple of times a week. Gengerke said that the professional said that the staff and students are always so welcoming and now the physical aspect of the building is equally welcoming. She also said that the noise level has been drastically reduced.

Superintendent Joe Schwan reported that the official enrollment for the school is 569. That was based on membership on September 29th. There are 15 junior kindergartens students and 40 kindergarten students. The smallest class is the first grade class at 35 students. Last year the enrollment was 580.

Parent-teacher conferences will be held October 24th. It will be the only conferences for the year. The book fair will be held from 1:30 p.m. To 8:30 p.m. on that day. Proceeds from the book fair are used to purchase new books for the elementary library.

The board approved a temporary promissory note from general fund to special education fund in the amount of \$85,000. It will be repaid when when the tax dollars come in, no latter than December 1, 2017.

The board approved a \$135 contribution toward the strict attorney Rodney Freeman for his attendance at the National Education Law Association 2017 Annual Meeting.

Kelly Kjelden is moving out of the district and will have to vacate his position on the school board. The board members discussed if they want to appoint as soon as possible or wait until next year for people to take out petitions. The board decided to post the vacancy and take applications. The board will interview the candidates and make their appointment possibly at the November meeting.

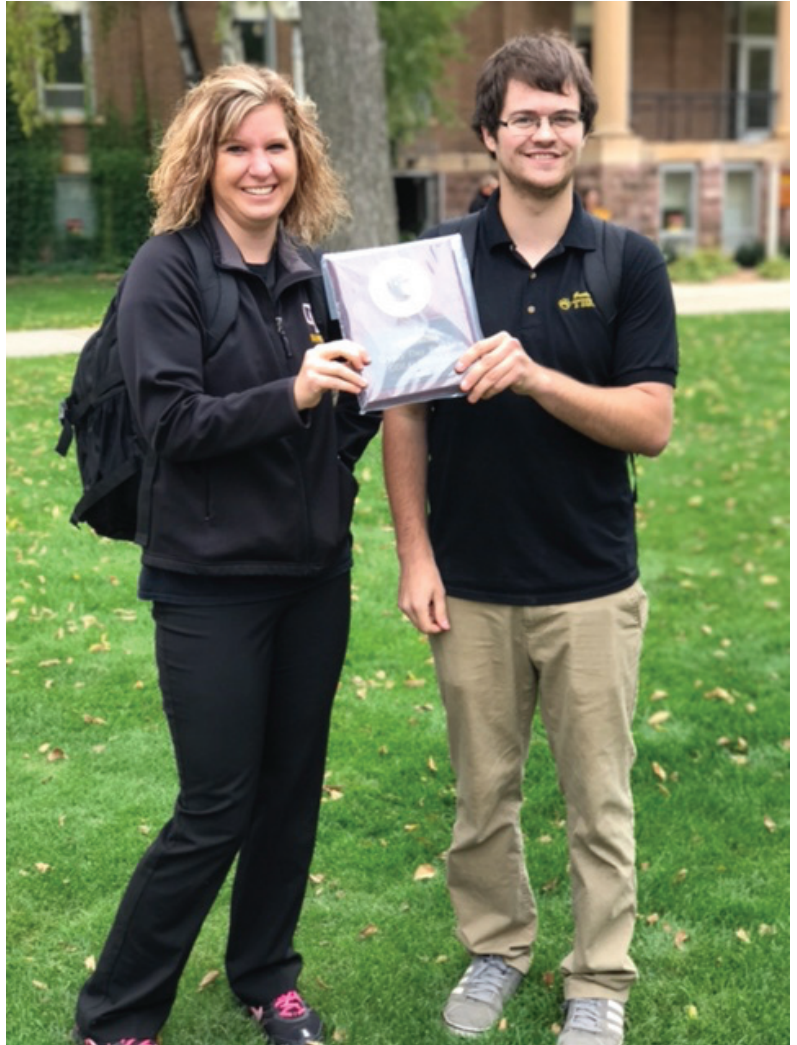
Program overviews were presented for K-12 music, art and Health/PE, Athletics.



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## GHS Marching Band gets Gold rating at Gypsy Day Parade



**Desiree Yeigh and Austin Fordham hold the Gypsy Day Parade plaque earned by the GHS Marching Band. The band was ranked third highest and received a Gold Rating.**



## Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

The Minnesota Vikings traveled to Chicago to take on the Bears for Monday Night Football. The big news leading up to the game was that quarterback Sam Bradford was finally healthy enough to play after sitting out the previous three games due to a knee injury. Unfortunately for Vikings fans, Bradford's return lasted less than a half. Bradford was clearly still hurt and uncomfortable in the pocket, as he was going down whenever a defensive player breathed on him. Bradford attempted 11 passes and completed five of them for 36 yards. However, he finished the game with only one net passing yard, because he was sacked four times for a loss of 35 yards.

Bradford was finally benched in favor of Case Keenum, and the Vikings offense started to show signs of life. Keenum threw for 140 yards (17 completions on 21 attempts) and a touchdown after taking over at quarterback, and perhaps most importantly, he didn't take a sack. With Dalvin Cook injured, Jerick McKinnon and Latavius Murray split the carries. McKinnon thoroughly outplayed Murray in the game, rushing for 95 yards on 16 carries (5.9 yards per carry) – compared to Murray's 31 yards on 12 carries (2.6 ypc). McKinnon also had a beautiful 58-yard touchdown run that was set up by the Vikings no-huddle offense which had Chicago's defense back on its heels.

The Vikings defense had a solid game. Mitch Trubisky, Chicago's first-round pick who got his first start Monday night, only completed 11 of 24 passes for 122 yards, one touchdown and one interception. The Bears did a good job of calling plays that allowed Trubisky to roll out to his right, which negated Minnesota's fearsome pass rush. The Vikings defense really started playing well in the second half. They only gave up one touchdown (not counting the fake-punt trick play that Chicago converted). Everson Griffen had a particularly good game. He racked up two tackles and one for a loss to go along with his strip-sack of Mitch Trubisky that really helped turned the tides in the game.

At the end of the day, the Vikings should have been able to easily dominate this game, but for some reason the Vikings have a hard time winning at Soldier Field. This was only their 2nd win in their last 10 games in Chicago, but a win is a win and the Vikings are now 3-2 for the season.

Next week, the Vikings will play the Green Bay Packers. The game will be on Sunday, October 15 at noon Central Time. The Packers are coming off an impressive come-from-behind win in Dallas against the Cowboys. The Packers have been decimated by injuries this season, but they still have the best quarterback in the NFL throwing the ball, so they remain one of the better teams in the league. After Bradford's performance against the Bears, it's clear that he isn't healthy enough to play and Keenum will likely get the start. A silver lining to this whole quarterback situation is that Teddy Bridgewater will be eligible to be activated after the Packers game, so it's only a matter of time until he reclaims his spot as the Vikings starting QB. Skol!

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to reach out to me on Facebook ([facebook.com/SkolJWright](https://www.facebook.com/SkolJWright)) or on Twitter (@SkolJWright).

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## Today in Weather History

October 10, 1928: The temperature reached 90 degrees at Minneapolis, Minnesota their latest such reading on record.

October 10, 1982: October 8th through October 10th, 1982 record amounts of snow piled up in the northern Black Hills. Not only was the storm an unprecedented breaker because it came so early in the season, but it was also a record snowfall producer for any time of year. Amounts of three to six feet were common across the northern hills. On October 9th, 1982 thirty-two inches of snow buried Lead. The thirty-two inches that day is the most on record for a 24 hour period in South Dakota.

1780: The Great Hurricane of 1780 made landfall on the island of Barbados on this day with estimated wind gusts of 200 mph. This hurricane went on to affect the islands of St. Vincent where only 14 of 600 homes stood at Kings Town. St. Lucia, Martinique, Dominica, and Puerto Rico were all impacted by this hurricane. This storm is the deadliest Atlantic hurricane on record with between 20,000 and 22,000 deaths.

1804 - A famous snow hurricane occurred. The unusual coastal storm caused northerly gales from Maine to New Jersey. Heavy snow fell across New England, with three feet reported at the crest of the Green Mountains. A foot of snow was reported in the Berkshires of southern New England, at Goshen CT. (David Ludlum)

1928 - The temperature at Minneapolis, MN, reached 90 degrees, their latest such reading of record. (The Weather Channel)

1949: A rapidly deepening area of low pressure produced gale to hurricane force winds across much of Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Michigan, and the Dakotas. Sustained 1-minute winds reached 85 mph at Rochester, MN and 79 mph at La Crosse, WI during the early afternoon. Winds gusts were as high as 100 mph. This storm produced extensive damage to buildings and power lines. Also, many corn crops were flattened.

2009: Nome, Alaska, experiences its first ever October thunderstorm with five lightning strikes between 8 and 9 PM ADT.

1973 - Fifteen to 20 inch rains deluged north central Oklahoma in thirteen hours producing record flooding. Enid was drenched with 15.68 inches of rain from the nearly stationary thunderstorms, which established a state 24 hour rainfall record. Dover OK reported 125 of 150 homes damaged by flooding. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1979 - A storm blanketed Worcester, MA, with 7.5 inches of snow, a record snowfall total for so early in the season for that location. (The Weather Channel)








1987 - Eleven cities in the north central U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date, including Colorado Springs CO with a reading of 23 degrees, and Havre MT with a low of 11 degrees above zero. Light snow was reported as far south as Kansas. Omaha NE reported their third earliest snow of record. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Sunny and mild weather prevailed across the nation for Columbus Day. The afternoon high of 77 degrees at Kalispell MT was the warmest reading of record for so late in the autumn season. Thunderstorms developing along a cold front produced wind gusts to 56 mph at Lorain OH. Snowflakes were observed at Milwaukee WI around Noon, but quickly changed to rain as temperature readings were in the lower 60s. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

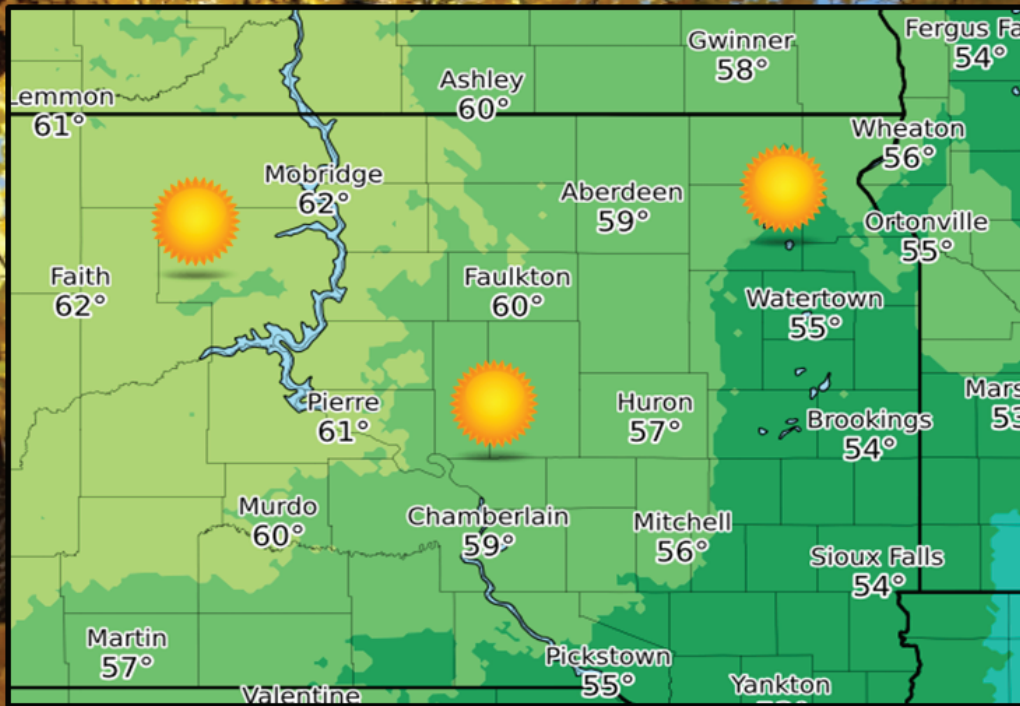
1989 - Thunderstorms produced torrential rains along the northeast coast of Florida. Augustine was deluged with 16.08 inches of rain. The heavy rain caused extensive flooding of homes and businesses, and left some roads under three feet of water. Ten cities from South Carolina to New England reported record low temperatures for the date, including Concord NH with a reading of 23 degrees. Temperatures dipped into the 30s in the Carolinas. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

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Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
						
Frost then Sunny	Mostly Clear	Sunny then Sunny and Breezy	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny
High: 59 °F	Low: 29 °F	High: 63 °F	Low: 43 °F	High: 69 °F	Low: 41 °F	High: 57 °F

## Mostly Sunny and Pleasant



National Weather Service Aberdeen, SD



Updated: 10/10/2017 5:49 AM

Published on: 10/10/2017 at 5:52AM

After sub-freezing conditions this morning, sunny skies will warm temperatures into the 50s and 60s across the region today. These temperatures are near or just slightly below normal for this time of year.



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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 51.2 at Midnight**

**Low Outside Temp: 35.4 at 9:43 PM**

**High Gust: 18 mph at 5:20 AM**

**Precip: 0.00**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 93° in 2015**

**Record Low: 10° in 1919**

**Average High: 61°F**

**Average Low: 35°F**

**Average Precip in Oct: 0.74**

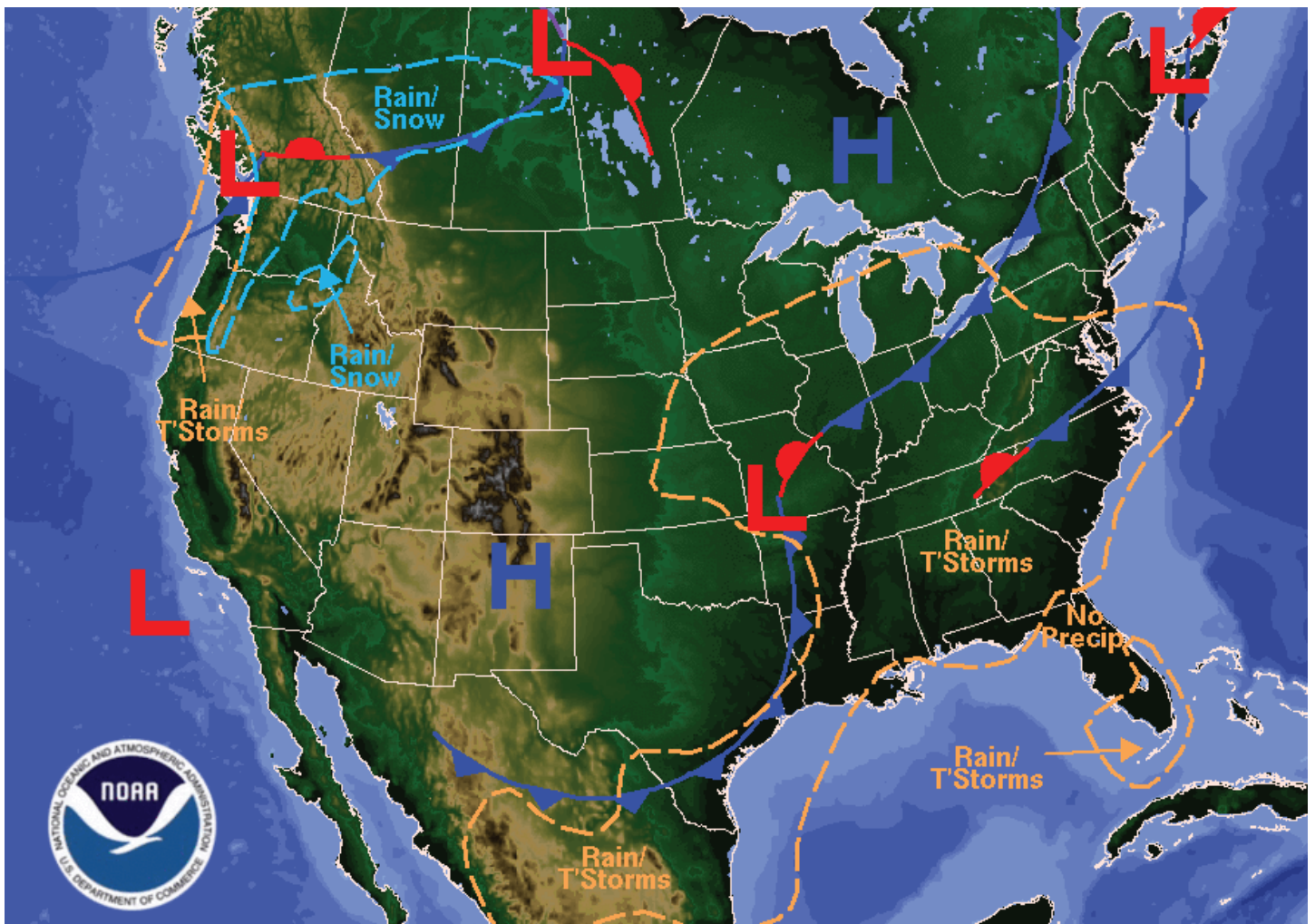
**Precip to date in Oct: 0.19**

**Average Precip to date: 19.22**

**Precip Year to Date: 13.28**

**Sunset Tonight: 6:56 p.m.**

**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:45 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Tue, Oct 10, 2017, issued 4:41 AM EDT  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McReynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain

Rain and T'Storms

Rain and Snow

Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)

Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)

Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)

Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

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## ARE YOU BORED WITH THIS STUFF, GOD?

It was time to climb into bed after reading a story from the Bible. "Now Edie," said her Mom, "be sure to kneel down and say your prayers before climbing into bed." Kissing her gently, she said, "I'll be downstairs if you need me. So, don't be afraid."

The next morning at breakfast her mom said, "Well, Edie, did you say your prayers before you fell asleep?"

"Well, sort of, Mom," she replied. "I got down on my knees and started to pray. Then I thought, 'God, You must get bored with this kind of stuff night after night. Why don't You listen carefully and I'll tell You the story of The Three Bears.' So I snuggled in bed and told Him the story of The Three Bears. I really think He enjoyed it."

God gave us no specific formula to follow when we pray. In Jesus' model prayer we are reminded of all of the important things that we are to take to God in prayer. And, again in Gethsemane, He set another marvelous example of prayer. His prayers were always simple, sincere, significant and straight forward.

David knew that it was not necessary to follow a formula when he prayed. "Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth," is how he began a prayer on one occasion. Then with openness and honesty he said what he had to say and God responded and met his immediate needs.

That's the way God is! When we have a need all we have to do is to go to Him in faith and express our needs and wait for His response.

Prayer: We are so thankful, Lord, that when we pray there are no necessary words. Only a sincere heart. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 54:2 Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth.

## 2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- 11/18/2017-3/31/2018 Groton Lion's Club Wheel of Meal- Saturday Nights 7pm at the Groton Legion (Fall/Winter Months)
- 1/28/2018 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 3/24/2018 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 5/5/2018 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/28/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery, Lunch to follow at the American Legion (Memorial Day)
- 6/14/2018 Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- 6/15/2018 SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
- 6/16/2018 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 7/4/2018 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 7/22/2018 Summer Fest (4th Sunday in July)
- 9/8/2018 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/6/2018 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/12/2018 Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
  
- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events



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## News from the Associated Press

### Monday's Scores By The Associated Press

#### Volleyball

Britton-Hecla def. Leola/Frederick, 25-13, 25-12, 21-25, 25-20

Canistota def. Iroquois, 25-7, 25-13, 25-7

Clark/Willow Lake def. Lake Preston, 25-15, 16-25, 15-25, 26-24, 15-11

Dell Rapids def. Baltic, 25-18, 25-23, 25-14

Ipswich def. Mobridge-Pollock, 25-15, 25-15, 25-12

Madison def. Garretson, 25-14, 25-10, 25-12

Miller def. Kimball/White Lake, 25-22, 25-23, 25-14

Parker def. Beresford, 25-20, 25-21, 16-25, 25-22

Philip def. Wall, 25-16, 25-16, 25-18

Wagner def. Mt. Vernon/Plankinton, 25-13, 25-21, 25-16

### Xcel Energy may split subsidiary for Minnesota, North Dakota

By STEVE KARNOWSKI, Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Xcel Energy has proposed splitting its utility operations in North Dakota and Minnesota, telling regulators that widening policy differences between the two states over clean energy have caused stresses that might best be resolved through a breakup.

But a consultant for the North Dakota Public Service Commission is arguing against the separation, saying there would be “no long-term benefits” for North Dakota, only a “substantial likelihood” of higher costs for customers.

Minneapolis-based Xcel Energy has long had a single subsidiary for its electrical and gas businesses in the two states, Northern States Power Company-Minnesota. Xcel says it's been a successful arrangement for nearly a century, but the policy priorities of the two states began to diverge almost two decades ago, and the best alternative may be a North Dakota subsidiary that wouldn't be subject to regulatory decisions by other states.

Xcel serves around 93,000 electric and 24,000 gas customers in the Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot areas of North Dakota, making it the largest utility in the state. But Xcel says its North Dakota customers consume only about 5 percent of the total load on its upper Midwest system, compared with 75 percent for Minnesota, 15 percent for Wisconsin, with South Dakota and Michigan making up the rest. Altogether, the five-state system serves over 1.6 million customers.

In response to Minnesota's push for cleaner energy, Xcel is phasing out two older coal-fired generators at its big Sherco power plant in Minnesota and has been investing heavily in wind, solar and biomass power. But that shift away from carbon fuels toward renewables comes with costs that Xcel has sought to pass along to customers, leading to pushback from regulators in North Dakota, a major oil, gas and coal producer.

“We believe that this path to a cleaner and more nimble fleet is both in the best interests of our customers and consistent with our business plans,” Aakash Chandarana, an Xcel regional vice president, wrote in a filing with the North Dakota PSC this summer. “We also recognize that this path is consistent with Minnesota's legal and regulatory priorities. We appreciate, however, that this path may not be embraced in North Dakota.”

James Heidell, an outside consultant for the North Dakota PSC, wrote in a filing this month that many projects North Dakota has disputed weren't needed to meet energy demand, and that Xcel pursued them at above-market costs to comply with Minnesota mandates.

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"These legislative requirements of Minnesota are not shared by North Dakota. NSP's requests to recover a share of those costs from North Dakota customers is essentially asking for North Dakota customers to subsidize Minnesota's energy policies," he wrote.

However, Heidell said, a separation isn't necessary. He said North Dakota has several options that could reduce conflict while allowing Xcel to earn a reasonable profit there, such as a pricing mechanism that doesn't pass along costs of other states' mandates. Another option could be selling off Xcel's North Dakota operations, he said.

Xcel proposes a gradual separation that could be completed around 2020. Xcel has estimated the one-time costs at \$8 million to \$15 million, half of which would be allocated to the new subsidiary. Chandarana acknowledged the process could get "acrimonious."

North Dakota Public Service Commissioner Brian Kroshus said the PSC plans to hold a formal hearing in late January and decide later. He declined to predict the outcome but said a top priority during the review process will be whether North Dakota ratepayers benefit.

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission decided last month not to take further action unless and until Xcel presents it with a formal proposal, but to monitor North Dakota's proceedings in the meantime.

## South Dakota Volleyball Polls By The Associated Press

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Here is the South Dakota Media Prep Volleyball Poll for the week of Oct. 9, 2017. Teams are listed with first place votes in parenthesis, record, points and previous ranking.

### Class AA

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs
1. Harrisburg	(15)	13-1	83	1
2. Mitchell (1)	15-1	68	2	
3. R.C. Stevens (1)	(1)	22-3	53	3
4. Aberdeen Central	-	10-4	31	4
5. S.F. O'Gorman	-	11-9	10	

Others receiving votes: Watertown (8-5) 6, Huron (8-7) 2, S.F. Washington (12-10) 2.

### Class A

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs
1. S.F. Christian	(17)	19-4	85	1
2. Dakota Valley	-	19-2	66	2
3. Madison -	16-3	52	3	
4. Parker -	19-6	19	5	
5. Miller -	19-4	18	4	

Others receiving votes: Sioux Valley (19-3) 10, Redfield-Doland (17-7) 4, Belle Fourche (19-3) 2.

### Class B

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs
1. Northwestern	(17)	25-1	85	1
2. Warner -	20-4	62	2	
3. Hanson -	19-1	53	3	
4. Chester Area	-	17-4	31	4
5. Phillip -	19-1	20	5	

Others receiving votes: Ethan (16-3) 2, Andes Central-Dakota Christian (17-2) 1, Herreid-Selby Area (21-2) 1.

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## South Dakota Prep Polls By The Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - The South Dakota Prep Media football poll for the week of Oct. 9 is listed below, ranking the top-five teams and listing the team's record, points received and ranking in the previous poll. First-place votes received are indicated in parentheses.<

### Class 11AAA

Rank-School;FPV;Rcd;TP;Pvs

1. Sioux Falls Washington;(30);7-0;150;1
2. Sioux Falls Roosevelt;-;6-1;119;2
3. Sioux Falls O'Gorman;-;5-2;90;3
4. Brandon Valley;-;5-2;61;4
5. RC Stevens;-;4-3;28;5

Others receiving votes: Aberdeen Central 2.<

### Class 11AA

Rank-School;FPV;Rcd;TP;Pvs

1. Pierre;(30);6-1;150;2
2. Mitchell;-;5-2;116;1
3. Harrisburg;-;4-3;93;3
4. Douglas;-;3-4;53;5
5. Brookings;-;2-5;27;4

Others receiving votes: Yankton 11.<

### Class 11A

Rank-School;FPV;Rcd;TP;Pvs

1. Madison;(30);7-0;150;1
2. Dakota Valley;-;7-0;118;2
3. Dell Rapids;-;6-1;89;3
4. Tea Area;-;5-2;43;4
5. St. Thomas More;-;5-2;28;RV

Others receiving votes: Tri-Valley 13, Milbank 5, Pine Ridge 2.<

### Class 11B

Rank-School FPV;Rcd;TP;Pvs

1. Sioux Valley (23);7-0;142;1
2. Bridgewater-Emery-Ethan (7);6-1;115;2
3. SF Christian -;6-1;90;3
4. Winner -;6-1;61;4
5. Woon.-Wess. Spr-S. Central -;6-1;35;5

Others receiving votes: McCook Central-Montrose 7.<

### Class 9AA

Rank-School FPV;Rcd;TP;Pvs

1. Gregory (30);7-0;150;1
2. Hamlin -;7-0;119;2
3. Miller-Highmore-Harrold -;6-1;74;3
4. Bon Homme -;5-2;52;4
5. Baltic -;6-1;40;5



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Others receiving votes: Irene-Wakonda 6, North Border 6, Arlington-Lake Preston 3.<

## Class 9A

Rank-School;FPV;Rcd;TP;Pvs

1. Corsica-Stickney;(30);7-0;150;1
2. Warner;-;6-1;109;2
3. Howard;-;6-1;96;3
4. Britton-Hecla;-;6-1;56;4
5. Clark-Willow Lake;-;6-1;24

Others receiving votes: Canistota-Freeman 8, Avon 7.<

## Class 9B

Rank-School FPV;Rcd;TP;Pvs

1. Colman-Egan (29);7-0;147;1
2. Sully Buttes (1);7-0;116;3
3. Colome -;6-1;77;2
4. Harding County -;8-0;63;5
5. Castlewood -;7-1;24;4

Others receiving votes: Wall 22, Faulkton Area 1.<

## 38 South Dakota school districts face teacher-pay penalty

CORSICA, S.D. (AP) — Some South Dakota school districts face penalties for not following state requirements for using a portion of sales tax revenue to boost teacher pay.

Thirty-eight districts violated either one or both of the requirements set by the state Legislature.

South Dakota ranks lowest in the nation in average teacher salary. The accountability requirements are meant to make sure schools are using the appropriate amount of funds generated by a half-percent sales tax hike aimed at increasing teacher salaries.

The Daily Republic reports 32 districts violated one requirement for increasing teacher pay while six others violated the second. The nearly 40 schools will each face penalties, unless the state School Finance Accountability Board waives them.

"There could be unique circumstances as to why some districts didn't meet the accountabilities," said Mary Stadick Smith, spokeswoman for the South Dakota Department of Education. "There are lots of reasons how and why that would happen, and legislators realized that. That's why they set up this board to take a look at those unique circumstances."

Officials with the state Education Department say they are pleased with the state's progress as a whole. South Dakota increased its average teacher salary by 8.8 percent between fiscal years 2016 and 2017. While the state average sits at \$45,625, nearly \$3,000 behind the \$48,500 goal, Gov. Dennis Daugaard said he anticipates the upward trend will continue.

The Colome School District implemented an average salary increase of 18 percent, but Superintendent Ryan Orrock said it's not enough.

While the increase likely will help retain teachers already employed by the district, Orrock said he does not expect the \$41,038 average salary will draw new teachers to fill vacant positions.

"Teacher pay is still a real issue as we try to compete with surrounding states," Orrock said. "It's great for our teachers, they enjoy being paid more, but ultimately it doesn't help our general fund."

Information from: The Daily Republic, <http://www.mitchellrepublic.com>

## South Dakota corrections officials may face trial

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A federal judge has cleared the way for a trial against two South Dakota corrections officials accused of deliberate indifference to an inmate's medical needs and retaliation.

The lawsuit was filed by James Elmer Shaw against Associate Warden Troy Ponto and Unit Manager Al Madsen, alleging cruel and unusual punishment, the Argus Leader reported .

Shaw said he spent days in disciplinary segregation after a 2015 knee surgery for requesting a handicap cell. He said he was denied ice and the ability to elevate his knee while there, and was then investigated for allegedly stealing his medical records after announcing plans to sue.

Court documents indicate that Madsen admitted to denying Shaw's request for pain medication and ice, but argued that he hadn't seen the medical orders. But other corrections employees testified that medical orders follow inmates who move between cells within the facility.

U.S. District Judge Karen Schreier said the officials' behavior toward a person who had just returned from surgery could be seen as evidence of deliberate cruelty.

"There is a question of fact as to whether Madsen was deliberately indifferent to Shaw's medical needs," Schreier said.

She ruled on Sept. 29 that a jury should decide if those actions amounted to retaliation for Shaw taking his complaints to court.

"The court finds that a cell search paired with being placed in the SHU (special housing unit) could be considered an adverse action that would chill an ordinary person from taking part in a protected activity," the judge said.

The Corrections Department hasn't responded to the order.

Shaw is in prison for attempted murder and aggravated assault.

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

## South Dakota OSHA office handles 105 inspections in 1st year

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Occupational Safety and Health Administration office in South Dakota plans to add another inspector after its first year of operation because of the volume of inspections it's handling.

The five-person office conducted 105 inspections in the last fiscal year, which runs from October to September. OSHA area director Shelia Stanley says for a relatively new crew, that's a significant amount of inspections.

The Argus Leader reports 74 percent of inspections involved the construction industry. And more than four out of five inspections resulted in citations for violations considered serious, willful or repeated. The majority of incidents involved falls, or amputations.

Stanley says she suspects some employers are likely failing to report employee injuries to federal authorities. She says a worker fatality must be reported within 8 hours, while an inpatient hospitalization, amputation or eye loss must be reported within 24 hours. The employer faces a fine if it fails to do so.

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

## Sioux Falls VA changes course on pin-ups' visit

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The Sioux Falls VA Health System has reversed its decision on a visit by a group of women posing as 1940s-era calendar pin-ups.

The VA just days ago canceled the Sioux Falls hospital appearance by "Pin-Ups for Vets" after a critical Facebook post which said the women's visit and their calendar were inappropriate and objectified females. The Argus Leader says the critical post on the VA's Facebook page was followed by hundreds of comments by supporters of the pin-up group.

The California-based group sells a calendar featuring female veterans dressed as pin-ups, as well as other nostalgic memorabilia. The funds are donated to VA Health Systems nationwide. The pin-up volunteers

have visited more than 60 hospitals.

VA spokeswoman Shirley Redmond says the women are expected to visit Tuesday.

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

## ] 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. DEADLY WILDFIRES ALREADY AMONG CALIFORNIA'S WORST

The fires across the northern part of the state swallowed up wineries and trailer parks and tore through both tiny rural towns and the subdivisions and strip malls of bigger cities, killing at least 10 and injuring dozens.

### 2. TRUMP GETTING MIXED SIGNALS ON MUELLER PROBE

The president's advisers are encouraging him to accept the realities of the special counsel's probe, but longtime friends and allies are pushing him to fight back, citing an existential threat.

### 3. VEGAS SHOOTER'S MOTIVE STUMPS INVESTIGATORS

What led a 64-year-old high-stakes gambler to kill 58 people and wound hundreds of others at an outdoor country music concert is an answer they may never find.

### 4. CATALAN PRESIDENT FACES DILEMMA

Separatist lawmakers want him to declare Catalan independence, but Spain's Constitutional Court orders the regional parliament's session suspended and promises a harsh response.

### 5. AP: BRAZIL BRANCHES OF US-BASED CHURCH TARGET OF PROBES

Brazilian authorities are investigating potential labor infractions and a land deal connected with Word of Faith Fellowship church, along with allegations of abuses and censorship at both church schools.

### 6. WHAT EXPERTS ARE SAYING ABOUT MEXICAN CONSTRUCTION

Engineers say dozens of lives likely could have been saved in Mexico City's strong earthquake last month if officials had outlawed a building technique called flat slab.

### 7. HOW 1 COLLEGE IS ESPOUSING HEALTHY LIVING

It has become a bona fide lifestyle at the University of Vermont as "incentivized" students are meditating, working out, practicing yoga and eating healthfully.

### 8. BILLIONS IN ILLINOIS BILLS NOT SENT FOR PAYMENT

The state is trying to dig out of the nation's worst budget crisis, and \$7.5 billion worth of unpaid bills hadn't even been sent to the official who writes the checks by the end of June, AP finds.

### 9. ESPN SUSPENDS ANCHOR FOR BREAKING SOCIAL MEDIA RULES

After Cowboys owner Jerry Jones stated that players who disrespect the flag would not play for his team, Jemele Hill suggested on Twitter that fans should boycott the team's advertisers and not buy their merchandise.

### 10. 'WE'VE GOT A SHOT NOW'

Those are the words of Yankees manager Joe Girardi as New York is headed back to Cleveland for a decisive Game 5 after a 7-3 win over the Indians in the AL Division Series.

## Chemist says Kim had 1.4 times lethal dosage of VX on face

By EILEEN NG, Associated Press

SHAH ALAM, Malaysia (AP) — The estranged half brother of North Korea's leader had about 1.4 times the lethal dosage of VX nerve agent on his face after he was attacked at a Malaysian airport, a government chemist testified Tuesday.

VX was found on Kim Jong Nam's face, in his eye and in his blood plasma, Raja Subramaniam, who heads the Center of Chemical Weapons Analysis laboratory, said at the murder trial of two women accused of

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smearing the chemical weapon on Kim in the brazen assassination in February.

VX and related products were also detected on the clothes the women were wearing on the day of the attack. On Monday the trial moved temporarily to a high-security laboratory so the judge, attorneys and the defendants could examine the clothing before it was officially accepted as evidence.

Resuming his testimony Tuesday, Raja described VX's lethal potential. He said animal studies showed the lethal dosage is 0.142 milligrams per kilogram of body weight, and that 50 percent of the tested population will die when exposed to this dosage on their skin.

Raja estimated the concentration on Kim's facial skin was 0.2 milligram per kilogram of body weight.

Asked if this amount was enough to kill him, Raja said: "I can't give a direct answer on this. Based on concentrate estimate, it is about 1.4 times the lethal dosage."

He acknowledged that more of the poison might be needed to kill a heavier person but had no data on it.

He said the VX concentrate in Kim's eye was estimated at only 0.03 milligrams per kilogram of his body weight, but that correlated to VX penetrating faster through the eye than through the skin. VX was also found on the collar and sleeves of Kim's blazer, probably because he wiped his face on his blazer after the attack, Raja said.

The two defendants, Doan Thi Huong from Vietnam and Siti Aisyah from Indonesia, pleaded not guilty at the start of the trial last week to murder charges that carry a mandatory death sentence if they are convicted.

Raja's finding of VX on the women's clothing and on Huong's fingernails was the first evidence linking VX to the two suspects. Their attorneys have said the women were duped by suspected North Korean agents into believing they were playing a harmless prank for a hidden camera TV show.

Under cross-examination, Raja said it wasn't possible that the VX used to kill Kim was a "binary" concoction of two non-fatal elements because high temperature would have been required to create VX.

He agreed with the defense's assertion that actual VX could have been smuggled into Malaysia or a non-fatal compound could have been smuggled into the country and mixed with sulfur to create VX in a clandestine laboratory.

One item where Raja detected VX was not officially admitted as evidence in the case: the blazer Kim was wearing when he was attacked. Raja testified it was not available because police told him to return Kim's personal belongings, including his blazer and bag, to North Korea.

Police officer Wan Azirul Nizam Che Wan Aziz, the chief investigating officer in the murder, told the court that an airport security video taken before the attack on Kim showed Huong softly wiping the face of another person at the same airport terminal, in what he described as a practice session for the attack on Kim. Huong then clasped her hands together and bowed her head as if she was apologizing before retreating slowly, he said.

However, a security video taken of the actual murder showed her being rough, "as if she was attacking" Kim, he said.

"To me, her action was quite aggressive," Wan Azirul said, adding that Huong then retreated in haste.

Prosecutor Wan Shaharuddin Wan Ladin told reporters that the earlier video was taken on Feb 11, two days before the murder. He said prosecutors will show videos to the court on Wednesday of the two women carrying out the attack.

"We have an uphill battle in this case. We are the underdogs. They have the upper hand but we have our own strategy," he told reporters.

VX is banned by an international treaty as a weapon of mass destruction but is believed to be part of North Korea's chemical weapons arsenal.

Kim was the eldest son in the current generation of North Korea's dynastic rulers but lived in virtual exile as an apparent family outcast. North Korea experts say he may have been killed because he was perceived as a threat to the nation's current leader, Kim Jong Un.

An airport security video reviewed by The Associated Press on Monday shows what may be Kim's final recorded moments of life after he fell perilously ill at the Kuala Lumpur airport. The video shows Kim ap-



parently unconscious on a gurney and being given oxygen by medical attendants waiting for an elevator to take him to an ambulance.

The video was first broadcast late Sunday by Japan's Fuji TV.

## Smoke, wildfires damage California's famed wine country

By HAVEN DALEY and JANIE HAR, Associated Press

NAPA, Calif. (AP) — Workers in Northern California's renowned wine country picked through charred debris and plotted what to do with pricey grapes after wildfires swept through lush vineyards, destroying at least two wineries and damaging many others.

The wind-driven wildfires came as Napa and Sonoma counties were finishing highly anticipated harvests of wine grapes. Monday normally would have found workers picking and processing the ripe grapes to make chardonnay and other wines.

Instead, melted and blackened wine bottles decorated the ruined Signorello Estate winery in Napa Valley. People at Paradise Ridge Winery in Sonoma County posted photos of debris and haze, saying they were "heartbroken to share the news" that the winery had burned.

A maintenance worker watched and hoped for the best Monday as flames crept down a hillside by the Gundlach Bundschu Winery.

"It's right behind the main office. It's working its way down the hillside. What can I say? It's slowly working its way in," Tom Willis said.

The Napa Valley Vintners, a trade association, said Monday that most wineries were closed because of power outages, evacuation orders and employees who couldn't get to work. The organization said it did not have firm numbers on wineries burned or how the smoke might affect this year's harvest or the industry in general. But it said most grapes had already been picked.

About 12 percent of grapes grown in California are in Sonoma, Napa and surrounding counties, said Anita Oberholster, a cooperative extension specialist in enology at the University of California, Davis. But they are the highest value grapes, leading to the highest value wines, she said.

It's hard to predict correctly, but she said chances are good this year's crop won't carry much smoke damage.

"Even if wines now were heavily affected by smoke, it doesn't carry over to the next season, only in the fruit itself," she said.

Gloria Ferrer, Ravenswood and Kenwood were among well-known wineries closed for the day because of the fires, according to social media posts. Chateau Montelena Winery, which helped put California on the global wine map when it won a French wine-tasting competition in 1976, escaped damage.

Wineries that escaped damage grappled with the lack of power, which they need to process the grapes.

"Some of our growers did pick for us last night. So we had to unload the fruit into our cold barrel room and wait until tomorrow to process it," said Alisa Jacobson, vice president of winemaking at Joel Gott Wines.

"I think we'll be OK, but it's not an ideal situation. But more importantly, all our employees seem to be doing OK," she said.

She said she was stunned by the speed of the fires, falling asleep around 10 p.m. Sunday only to wake during the night to the smell of smoke. By 3 a.m. people were being evacuated.

Lise Asimont, director of grower relations for the Family Coppola wineries, was among the people being urged to leave her Santa Rosa home. She said explosions that made her think of war woke her around 2 a.m. She opened the front door to a sky snowing ash.

Authorities told her family to prepare to flee, but Asimont was also worried about her grapes, four truckloads of cabernet sauvignon machine-picked in Lodi on Sunday with no way of getting to Coppola facilities Monday because of a closed highway.

She called a wine maker with LangeTwins winery and vineyards, who had a tank available to crush the grapes and was happy to be able to help. In turn, she passed on the favor to another winery.

"There's a lot of people helping each other, which is amazing," she said.

Har reported from San Francisco.

## Amid cooperation, some Trump allies urge Russia probe fight

By TOM LOBIANCO and ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even as President Donald Trump's advisers encourage him to accept the realities of special counsel Robert Mueller's probe, longtime friends and allies are pushing Trump to fight back, citing concerns that his lawyers are naive to the existential threat facing the president.

Trump supporters and associates inside and outside the White House see the conciliatory path as risky to the maverick president's tenure. Instead, they want the street-fighting tweeter to criticize Mueller with abandon.

The struggle between supporters of the legal team's steady, cooperative approach, and the band of Trump loyalists who yearn for a fight, comes as the Mueller probe begins lapping at the door of the Oval Office. Mueller, who is investigating the firing of former FBI director James Comey and other key actions of the Trump administration, has signaled that his team intends to interview multiple current and former White House officials in the coming weeks and has requested large batches of documents from the executive branch.

In private, Trump remains relatively calm for now, but that doesn't mean he thinks the Russia probe is legitimate, and he could return to fighting Mueller at any moment, according to a group of about 15 Trump allies, advisers and former campaign aides, who spoke on condition of anonymity to speak candidly about private conversations with the White House.

The president still periodically flashes his anger, blasting the Senate intelligence committee's investigation in a tweet last Thursday and urging them to investigate journalists instead of his campaign and family. And in a private dinner with social conservatives last month, Trump expressed frustration over Attorney General Jeff Sessions' recusal, which helped pave the road to Mueller's appointment.

"The president respects what Bob Mueller is doing and has fully cooperated and asked everyone around him to fully cooperate with Bob," said Trump's attorney, John Dowd. "And as a result," he added, there has been for months "a very productive, professional relationship."

Ty Cobb, the White House lawyer responsible for responding to Mueller's information requests, said it's important to Trump "and the country to get this behind us."

"The White House is working diligently in full cooperation with the special counsel to complete the responses to all pending requests, and the president's frustration does not extend to the special counsel personally in any way," he added.

Lawyers have been gathering documents requested by Mueller's investigators — which include records about the brief tenure of ex-national security adviser Michael Flynn — and working to schedule interviews with aides. In recent weeks, they've also discussed a legal defense fund that could cover the cost of lower-level White House officials who may get wrapped up in the probe, and about the possibility of a single "pool counsel" to represent some aides.

But the question of cooperation is far from settled for Trump's allies, many of whom are pressing him to fight Mueller more aggressively.

That tension was apparent at a private dinner of close to a dozen conservative leaders with Trump and his top aides on Sept. 25, though accounts of the gathering vary.

In one version, one guest peppered Trump with questions about what he was going to do about the special counsel's investigation. While Trump was dismissive, the president said he was keeping his head low and such questions should be posed to Sessions himself, according to two people who were present and spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the private dinner.

But a third person in the room said that Trump was visibly angry with Sessions and made a flippant

remark about the attorney general's decision to recuse himself from overseeing the federal Russia probe.

One former Trump campaign aide in contact with the president said Trump's feelings about Sessions have evolved in the last few months. Trump believes Sessions hurt him by not disclosing his interactions with Russian ambassador Sergey Kislyak during the vetting process for attorney general.

Sessions should have been upfront with Trump and alerted him to those encounters rather than waiting for word of them to become public, the former campaign aide said. But the president's anger with Sessions also has diminished greatly in recent months, the same aide noted.

Supporters of Trump's legal team and the discipline imposed by Chief of Staff John Kelly are hoping that Trump will remain even-keeled and not jeopardize himself with public outbursts. They consider Mueller's appointment the product of the most serious of self-inflicted wounds — Trump's firing of Comey — but are confident Trump will survive the investigation.

The president, the White House staff and others are "relieved" to have some structure inside the White House after months of chaos growing from the combative approach, said one White House official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss private talks inside the White House.

But others, including many who worked closely with Trump on his successful election campaign, don't trust Mueller and believe White House lawyers are foolhardy to cooperate when the president is at risk.

The president and his team need to understand that this is a "political brawl" — not just a legal fight — and take that fight to Mueller, said the former campaign aide, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss private discussions with the president and his team.

Trump will remain under control, one associate noted, as long as Mueller remains focused on Flynn and former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort, both of whom are under investigation. If the federal probe turns back toward the Trump family and business empire, then Trump may try to fire Mueller, the associate predicted.

The lay-low strategy is a departure in style for a president accustomed to rhetorical bombast. But after a period several months ago in which his advocates discussed ways to undercut the credibility of Mueller's investigation, his attorneys now talk openly about their respect for Mueller and their desire for full cooperation.

The anger inside and outside the White House stems from almost everyone in the president's orbit seeing the allegations of collusion as a "nothing burger." But, with the reality of the investigations, it's a "nothing burger" they're now acknowledging they have to deal with.

## Deadly California wildfires force thousands to evacuate

By JEFF CHIU and ELLEN KNICKMEYER, Associated Press

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (AP) — An onslaught of wildfires across a wide swath of Northern California broke out almost simultaneously then grew exponentially, swallowing up properties from wineries to trailer parks and tearing through both tiny rural towns and urban subdivisions.

At least 10 were dead, at least 100 injured and at least 1,500 homes and businesses have been destroyed, authorities said. All three figures were expected to surge in the coming days as more information is reported.

Taken as a group, the fires are already among the deadliest in California history.

Residents who gathered at emergency shelters and grocery stores said they were shocked by the speed and ferocity of the flames. They recalled all the possessions they had left behind and were lost.

"All that good stuff, I'm never going to see it again," said Jeff Okrepkie, who fled his neighborhood in Santa Rosa knowing it was probably the last time he would see his home of the past five years standing.

His worst fears were confirmed Monday, when a friend sent him a photo of what was left: a smoldering heap of burnt metal and debris.

Some of the largest of the 14 blazes burning over a 200-mile region were in Napa and Sonoma counties, home to dozens of wineries that attract tourists from around the world. They sent smoke as far south as San Francisco, about 60 miles (96 kilometers) away.

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Sonoma County said it has received more than 100 missing-person reports as family and friends scramble to locate loved ones.

The reports have come via calls to a hotline the county set up for the missing, according to Scott Alonso, communications director for Sonoma County.

It's possible that many or most of the missing are safe but simply can't be reached because of the widespread loss of cell service and other communications.

Much of the damage was in Santa Rosa, a far larger and more developed city than usually finds itself at the mercy of a wildfire. The city is home to 175,000 residents, including both the wine-country wealthy and the working class.

The flames were unforgiving to both groups. Hundreds of homes of all sizes were leveled by flames so hot they melted the glass off of cars and turned aluminum wheels into liquid.

Former San Francisco Giants pitcher Noah Lowry, who now runs an outdoor sporting goods store in Santa Rosa, was forced to flee in minutes along with his wife, two daughters, and a son just over 2 weeks old.

"I can't shake hearing people scream in terror as the flames barreled down on us," Lowry said.

His family and another evacuating with them tried to take U.S. 101 to evacuate but found it blocked by flames, and had to take country roads to get to the family friends who took them in.

A 90-mile (145-kilometer) stretch of the highway is framed by the flames and a major concern overnight, said Brad Alexander, a spokesman for the California Office of Emergency Services.

Highway 12, which winds through the heart of wine country, was also rendered unusable by the flames.

"Sonoma and Napa counties have been hit very hard," Alexander said.

The ferocity of the flames forced authorities to focus primarily on getting people out safely, even if it meant abandoning structures to the fire.

Firefighters rushed to a state home for the severely disabled when flames reached one side of the center's sprawling campus in the historic Sonoma County town of Glen Ellen.

Crews got the more than 200 people from the threatened buildings, one firefighter said, as flames closed within a few dozen feet.

Fires from ruptured gas lines dotted the smoky landscapes of blackened Santa Rosa hillsides. Fire trucks raced by smoldering roadside landscaping in search of higher priorities.

The flames were fickle in some corners of the city. One hillside home remained unscathed while a dozen surrounding it were destroyed.

Kim Hoe, a 33-year-old tech worker from Penang, Malaysia, was staying at the Hilton Sonoma Wine Country, which was gutted by flames. He said the power went out around 1 a.m., and he and his colleagues started packing up when someone knocked on the door and told them to run.

"We just had to run and run. It was full of smoke. We could barely breathe," Hoe said.

The large majority of the injured were treated for smoke inhalation, according to St. Joseph Health, which operates hospitals in the Santa Rosa area. Two were in critical condition and one was in serious condition. The number of injured is expected to climb as information comes in for all the other areas affected by the firestorm consuming the state.

October has generally been the most destructive time of year for California wildfires. What was unusual Sunday, however, was to have so many fires take off at the same time.

Other than the windy conditions that helped drive them all, there was no known connection between the fires, and no cause has been released for any of them.

But the conditions late Monday and early Tuesday were calmer than they were 24 hours earlier, bringing hopes of progress against the flames.

Gov. Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency for the fire areas, and asked the federal government to do the same. Vice President Mike Pence, who is visiting California, said at an event near Sacramento that the federal government stands with California as it takes on the blazes, but he made no specific promises.

To the south in Orange County, more than 5,000 homes were evacuated because of a fire in the Anaheim area. The blaze had grown to nearly 10 square miles and had destroyed 24 structures.



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Knickmeyer reported from Sonoma, California. Associated Press writers Paul Elias, Jocelyn Gecker, Sudhin Thanawala, Juliet Williams and Janie McCauley in San Francisco, John Antczak and Andrew Dalton in Los Angeles and Martha Bellisle in Seattle contributed to this report.

## Astros beat Red Sox 5-4 in Game 4, advance to ALCS

By JIMMY GOLEN, AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — The Houston Astros poured back onto the field after advancing to their first AL Championship Series, posing for pictures with the Green Monster as a backdrop before a few players bellyflopped in the puddles in the infield dirt.

No matter, they were already soaked from celebratory beer and sparkling wine.

"Both teams were throwing their guys, and that's what you live for," Houston third baseman Alex Bregman said on Monday after Justin Verlander came out of the bullpen to beat Chris Sale in an aces-turned-relievers role reversal and helped the Astros eliminate the Red Sox in four games with a 5-4 victory.

"When we saw Verlander run to the 'pen we said, 'Our horse is on the mound, we need to win this game,'" said Bregman, who homered off Sale to tie it in the eighth before Josh Reddick's single gave the Astros the lead. "That's kind of the whole energy that he's brought since we brought him over here. He's brought an energy with him that, 'Hey, when he's out there, we're going to win.'"

Verlander, who was acquired for the playoff run after spending his first 13 seasons in Detroit, gave up the go-ahead homer to Andrew Benintendi — the first batter he faced — before shutting Boston down for the next 2 2/3 innings.

The former AL MVP and Cy Young winner earned the victory in his first relief appearance after 424 starts in a major and minor league career.

"All the things that you would like to do as a starter, and I was able to do that," Verlander said. "Top to bottom, man, these guys grinded against two of the toughest competitors in this game in Sale and (closer Craig) Kimbrel."

The Astros will open the ALCS on Friday, either at Cleveland or at home against the New York Yankees. The Indians and Yankees will play a decisive Game 5 on Wednesday night.

The Red Sox forced a Game 4 after losing the first two games in Houston, and then took a 3-2 lead in the fifth on Benintendi's homer. Bregman tied it before Reddick's single off closer Craig Kimbrel made it 4-3.

Carlos Beltran added to his postseason legacy with an RBI double in the ninth — an insurance run that became the game-winner when Rafael Devers hit an inside-the-park homer off closer Ken Giles over leaping center fielder George Springer and off the Green Monster toward center.

The 20-year-old Red Sox rookie easily circled the bases before the throw to make it 5-4.

Giles retired the next three batters for the six-out save.

"The two big boys, Sale and Verlander, both get into the game. Everybody did well," Houston manager A.J. Hinch said. "Nobody really wanted to concede the game."

The Astros last reached the league championship series in 2005 as a National League team, and were swept in the World Series by the White Sox. This year's team, wearing "Houston Strong" patches to support the city that was flooded in Hurricane Harvey, is hoping to finish the job.

"The city of Houston is still rebuilding," Hinch said. "It's easy for us to look in the rearview mirror and think that the hurricane is over (but) the rebuild is not going to stop for a long time. ... We want to win for them, we want to win for us, we want to win because we showed up in spring training to try to win a World Series."

Springer and Yuli Gurriel each had three hits for the AL West champions, and Reddick's go-ahead single made up for misplaying a fly ball into a home run in Game 3 to force a fourth game. Reddick got a post-game drenching in the clubhouse while wearing a red, white and blue flag Speedo.

Verlander also beat Sale in the playoff opener and is now 7-0 for his new team. Sale, who had never appeared in the postseason before 2017, pitched 4 2/3 innings, allowing two runs and four hits, striking

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out six.

"This is what we show up to spring training for. It's what we work all offseason for. Ups and downs, all around the country," Sale said. "This is what we live for."

On a rainy day at Fenway Park — the fourth straight day game — the Red Sox again saw a starter struggle early, with Rick Porcello giving up Houston's eighth first-inning run of the series. The reigning AL Cy Young winner, who led the AL with 22 wins last year and the majors with 17 losses in 2017, gave up two runs in three innings, walking three and striking out four while allowing five hits.

Xander Bogaerts also homered for the AL East champion Red Sox, and Hanley Ramirez had two hits a day after going 4 for 4 in Boston's only postseason win since the end of the 2013 World Series.

SEE YA

Red Sox manager John Farrell was ejected by home plate umpire Mark Wegner in the bottom of the second inning after coming out to argue a called third strike on Dustin Pedroia. The previous batter, Jackie Bradley Jr., had also been called out strikes on a close pitch.

It is the 19th ejection of Farrell's career and his third this season.

INTERFERENCE

The Red Sox ball girl was called for interference when she tried to field Gattis' fair-ball grounder down the third base line in the eighth. Instead of a potential double, Gattis was sent back to first; pinch-runner Cameron Maybin took second on a wild pitch and scored the go-ahead run on Reddick's single.

PLAYING THE SCHEDULE

The teams finished Game 3 before 6:30 p.m. on Sunday but didn't find out until about 11 p.m. what time they would be playing Game 4, because TV wanted to keep the Yankees in prime time. That left the Red Sox and Astros with a brief afternoon window before the rain began to fall, as expected.

The game started on time and was not delayed, but the rain kept the grounds crew busy raking drying agent on the infield.

More AP baseball: <https://apnews.com/tag/MLBbaseball>

## Bellinger, Dodgers beat D-backs 3-1 to return to NLCS

By BOB BAUM, AP Sports Writer

PHOENIX (AP) — Led by a big Japanese right-hander and a rookie from just down the road, the Los Angeles Dodgers are headed back to the NL Championship Series.

Cody Bellinger homered, drove in two runs and flipped over a dugout railing to steal an out for a dominant Yu Darvish, helping the Dodgers beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 3-1 Monday night to finish a three-game sweep in their NL Division Series.

"We have a great team," said Bellinger, a rookie from nearby Chandler, Arizona. "And to come here and sweep them, beat them on their home turf is hard to do and pretty special."

Darvish, acquired from Texas in a trade deadline deal, struck out seven over five innings to outpitch Arizona's Zack Greinke and earn the righty his first postseason victory in three tries.

"Yu's one of the best pitchers in the world," said Dodgers catcher Austin Barnes, who also homered. "When he's on his game, it's tough for any lineup."

Four Los Angeles relievers combined to preserve a three-hitter. Kenley Jansen worked around a single by David Peralta for a three-out save, striking out Paul Goldschmidt to end it. Only four batters reached base all night for the Diamondbacks, including Daniel Descalso with a homer.

"It was about finishing them off," Darvish said, "because momentum can go their way."

The Dodgers, who won 104 games for the best record in baseball and home-field advantage throughout the playoffs, face the winner of the Nationals-Cubs series in the NLCS. Los Angeles fell there to World Series champion Chicago last year.

The Dodgers confined most of their celebration to the clubhouse, never making a move for the pool beyond the outfield wall. Los Angeles distressed the locals by taking a dip there after clinching the NL West

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in 2013, but for this party, police officers on horses waited at the warning track to keep the Dodgers away.

That was fine by the Dodgers. This wasn't the bash they're after, anyway.

"Being around this team for long enough, this is where we expect to be," ace Clayton Kershaw said. "We are fortunate enough to be in a big market, have a big payroll, have a lot of good players, a lot of talent. They did a great job of putting this team together. They expect us to be here and we expect us to be here, too."

Bellinger hit his homer in the fifth, then made a daring catch to end the bottom of the inning. The rookie first baseman fell into the Dodgers dugout as he snagged Jeff Mathis' popup, nearly dropping into the lap of manager Dave Roberts.

"I should have been a little quicker to save him," Roberts said, "but that was a heck of a play."

The 22-year-old Bellinger is the youngest Dodger ever to homer in the postseason — he's 75 days younger than Corey Seager was when he set the mark last fall. Bellinger was just 1 for 12 with five strikeouts in his first postseason before hitting Greinke's 3-1 pitch over the wall in left for a 2-0 lead.

Bellinger, who may follow Seager as NL Rookie of the Year, also brought home Chris Taylor with a groundout in the first inning. Barnes chased Greinke with a leadoff homer in the sixth.

After Ketel Marte's first-inning bunt single, Darvish sent down 13 in a row before Descalso hit his second homer of the series. The two-out shot barely cleared the right-field fence over Yasiel Puig's glove to cut the lead to 2-1.

The Dodgers tinkered with Darvish's mechanics after the trade, and he was masterful through most of the night, mixing a 98 mph fastball with his deep repertoire of offspeed pitches. He allowed two hits and didn't walk any over 74 pitches.

"Yu really stepped up," Roberts said. "He was in command from the first pitch."

Darvish left after hitting pinch-hitter Christian Walker in the bill of his helmet to begin the sixth.

Greinke — the ex-Dodger signed to a \$206.5 million, six-year contract by Arizona before the 2016 season — gave up three runs and four hits in five-plus innings. He struggled with his command, walking a season-high five and throwing 103 pitches through five innings. Greinke faced 3-2 counts against five of his first eight batters and was at 54 pitches through two innings.

"They're ready to hit, which is tough, but they're not chasing the pitch you want them to chase," Greinke said. "That's kind of what they do best. They did that the whole series."

Arizona won its last six regular-season games against the Dodgers, but Los Angeles dominated its NL West rival when it mattered most, sweeping an opponent in the postseason for the first time since the 2009 NLDS against St. Louis.

It was a tough ending to a big turnaround season for the Diamondbacks, who went from 69-93 in 2016 to 93-69 this year.

"I want to remember how I feel," first-year manager Torey Lovullo said, "because I think it will motivate me, and the pain and frustration that we're all experiencing right now."

UP NEXT

Diamondbacks: Open next season at home against Colorado on March 29.

Dodgers: Face either the Washington Nationals or Chicago Cubs in the National League Championship Series.

More AP baseball: <https://apnews.com/tag/MLBbaseball>

## 1,000 leads later, authorities still stumped by Vegas gunman

By KEN RITTER and MICHAEL BALSAMO, Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — More than a week after the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history investigators are stumped about the key question: What led a 64-year-old high-stakes gambler to kill 58 people and wound hundreds of others at a country music concert?

It's an answer they may never find.

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The FBI and Las Vegas police have sorted through more than a thousand leads and examined Stephen Paddock's politics, finances, any possible terrorist radicalization and his social behavior. By Monday they had repeatedly searched his homes and interviewed his brother, girlfriend and others he's done business with.

But the typical investigative avenues that have helped uncover the motive in past shootings have yielded few clues about Paddock, a professional gambler who spent nearly every waking hour playing video poker at casinos. That closeted existence has covered the trail for investigators.

"This individual purposely hid his actions leading up to this event and it is difficult for us to find the answers to those actions," Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo said Monday, conceding he's frustrated.

The FBI has brought in behavioral profilers as they continue questioning Paddock's live-in girlfriend, Marilou Danley, about his gun purchases and what she may have noticed about his behavior, Lombardo said.

Paddock had stockpiled 23 guns, a dozen of them modified to fire continuously like an automatic weapon inside his 32nd-floor Mandalay Bay hotel room, where he busted out two windows before opening fire on the crowd.

The sheriff changed the timeline of the shooting Monday, explaining that a security guard in the hotel's hallway responding to a report of an open door heard drilling from Paddock's room. Paddock, who had installed three cameras to monitor the approach to his suite, opened fire through the door, spraying 200 shots down the hall and wounding the guard, who alerted other security officials.

A few minutes later, Paddock began the 10-minute attack on those on the ground.

Previously the sheriff had said the guard's arrival in the hallway may have caused Paddock to stop firing. He said Monday he didn't know what prompted Paddock to end his deadly gunfire.

The gunman had shot at aviation fuel tanks, stocked his car with explosives and had personal protection gear as part of an escape plan, authorities said Monday.

Paddock's life has remained somewhat of a mystery and most people who have interacted with him said nothing really stood out about him.

"It's his actual normalcy that makes him a fascinating study," said David Gomez, a former FBI profiler.

The small group people who knew Paddock well has said the one-time IRS agent and the son of a notorious bank robber did essentially nothing except gamble, sleep and travel between casinos. Investigators are sifting through every piece of Paddock's life from birth to death, Lombardo has said.

"Every piece of information we get is one more piece of the puzzle," the sheriff said Monday.

Experts say it is extremely unusual to have so few clues more than a week after a mass shooting. In past mass killings or terrorist attacks, killers left notes, social media postings and information on a computer, or even phoned police.

In this case, there was no suicide note, no manifesto, no evidence the gunman was motivated by any ideology and Paddock has no clear presence on social media, police said.

The FBI is working around-the-clock and a "comprehensive picture is being drawn as to the suspect's mental state," the sheriff said. Though at this point, they haven't found any one particular event in Paddock's life that triggered the shooting, he said.

Clark County Coroner John Fudenberg said Monday an autopsy was done but could not discuss results of whether it yielded any clues to Paddock's actions.

But even as investigators work to try to figure out what might've led Paddock to commit the shooting, there may never be a clear answer.

"Sometimes there isn't an understandable explanation for why someone commits a horrific crime," Gomez said.

What has become very clear to investigators is that Paddock meticulously planned the attack. He requested an upper-floor room overlooking the country music festival and set up cameras inside and outside his room to watch for approaching officers.

After the shooting, police found a piece of paper on a nightstand in Paddock's hotel room that contained a series of numbers that helped him calculate a more precise aim, accounting for the trajectory of shots being fired from that height and the distance between his room and the concert, a federal official said.



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The official wasn't authorized to discuss the details of the ongoing investigation publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

In not leaving behind an easily accessible manifesto, Paddock defied societal expectations that mass murderers will want their disturbed motives known to the world, said Clint Van Zandt, a former FBI profiler and hostage negotiator.

"The reason you want to engage in an attack is you want to be promoting your extremist ideology — you want publicity," said Erroll Southers, director of homegrown violent extremism studies at the University of Southern California. "You want people to be afraid of what you believe and what you do."

But although most killers may want to take credit for their act, Paddock might have reveled in the riddle he's presented for investigators, Van Zandt said.

"He may even find some solace knowing that, 'I've left so few footprints, they're going to have a helluva time figuring out who I am.' And that, in his challenged mind, might bring him a terrible level of satisfaction," he said.

Despite the absence of easy answers, investigators may still be able to fill out a portrait of Paddock's mindset in the coming weeks, Van Zandt said.

"Instead of a eureka moment, I think what investigators are doing is they're putting an ounce of information at a time on the scale," he said.

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Balsamo reported from Los Angeles. Associated Press writers Eric Tucker and Sadie Gurman in Washington and Regina Garcia-Cano in Las Vegas contributed to this report.

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For complete coverage of the Las Vegas shooting, click here: <https://apnews.com/tag/LasVegasmassshooting> .

## Hollywood condemnation of Weinstein grows louder

By LINDSEY BAHR, AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Hollywood establishment, slow to react to the initial sexual harassment allegations against Harvey Weinstein, began speaking out against him more forcefully Monday after the powerful studio boss was fired by his own company.

Among those weighing in were his longtime allies and beneficiaries Meryl Streep, Kate Winslet, Kevin Smith and Judi Dench. They spoke up with a combination of disgust over his alleged behavior and remorse or defensiveness over their own business entanglements with him. Even the actors' labor union SAG-AFTRA joined the chorus in condemning the disgraced movie mogul, calling reports of his alleged conduct "abhorrent and unacceptable."

Director Kevin Smith, whose movies "Clerks" and "Chasing Amy" were produced by Weinstein, noted on Twitter that the producer financed the first 14 years of his career.

"Now I know while I was profiting, others were in terrible pain," Smith wrote. "It makes me feel ashamed."

Weinstein, 65, was fired Sunday by the Weinstein Co., the studio he co-founded, three days after a bombshell New York Times expose alleged decades of crude sexual behavior on his part toward female employees and actresses, including Ashley Judd. The Times said at least eight settlements had been reached with women.

Jennifer Lawrence condemned Weinstein in statement released late Monday, writing that she had never experienced any harassment by him and had not heard allegations of inappropriate behavior before the Times story was published.

"I was deeply disturbed to hear the news about Harvey Weinstein's behavior. I worked with Harvey five years ago and I did not experience any form of harassment personally, nor did I know about any of these allegations. This kind of abuse is inexcusable and absolutely upsetting," Lawrence's statement said.

The actress won an Academy Award for 2012's "Silver Linings Playbook," which was produced by The Weinstein Co.

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"My heart goes out to all of the women affected by these gross actions. And I want to thank them for their bravery to come forward," Lawrence said.

Streep, who once called Weinstein "God" while accepting the Golden Globe for "The Iron Lady," condemned his alleged conduct as "inexcusable" while also saying she did not know about it before.

"The disgraceful news about Harvey Weinstein has appalled those of us whose work he championed, and those whose good and worthy causes he supported," Streep said in a statement.

Stories of his behavior, she said, were not universally known in Hollywood.

"Harvey supported the work fiercely, was exasperating but respectful with me in our working relationship, and with many others with whom he worked professionally," Streep continued. "If everybody knew, I don't believe that all the investigative reporters in the entertainment and the hard news media would have neglected for decades to write about it."

Similarly, Dench, whose awards and nominations have been inextricably linked for two decades to Weinstein, first at his company Miramax and then at the Weinstein Co., said in a statement that she was "completely unaware" of the "horrifying" offenses.

"I offer my sympathy to those who have suffered and wholehearted support to those who have spoken out," she wrote.

Dench won a best supporting actress Oscar for "Shakespeare in Love" and a nomination for "Philomena."

Not all were completely blindsided, however.

Kate Winslet, who won an Oscar for The Weinstein Co.'s "The Reader" said in a statement that the alleged behavior is "without question disgraceful and appalling."

"I had hoped that these kind of stories were just made up rumors, maybe we have all been naïve," Winslet wrote.

Glenn Close had also heard the "vague rumors" of his inappropriate behavior toward.

"Harvey has always been decent to me, but now that the rumors are being substantiated, I feel angry and darkly sad," Close said in a statement to the New York Times. "I'm angry, not just at him and the conspiracy of silence around his actions, but also that the 'casting couch' phenomenon, so to speak, is still a reality in our business and in the world: the horrible pressure, the awful expectation put on a woman when a powerful, egotistical, entitled bully expects sexual favors in exchange for a job."

Close called on everyone to unite on both an institutional and personal level to create a new culture of "respect, equality and empowerment."

In ousting him from the company, the Weinstein board of directors said it was reacting to "new information about misconduct by Harvey Weinstein that has emerged in the past few days." It did not elaborate.

A studio insider who was not authorized to discuss the matter and spoke on condition of anonymity told The Associated Press that the Weinstein Co. plans to change its name.

Also, Weinstein's name will be stripped from the TV series "Waco" and "Yellowstone," among other projects.

Actress Lena Dunham tweeted Sunday night, "Easy to think Weinstein company took swift action but this has actually been the slowest action because they always always knew."

Under Weinstein's leadership, the Weinstein Co. has been a dominant force at the Oscars. It accomplished the rare feat of winning back-to-back best picture Academy Awards with "The King's Speech" and "The Artist."

In recent years, however, Weinstein's status has diminished because of money shortages, disappointing box-office returns and executive departures.

His other movie credits over the years include "Pulp Fiction" and "The English Patient"

Since the Times article, more accounts of predatory behavior have followed.

In a HuffPost report, TV anchor Lauren Sivan detailed an alleged 2007 encounter with Weinstein. Sivan, then working at a New York cable channel, said Weinstein cornered her in the hallway of a New York City restaurant closed to the public and masturbated in front of her.

Sivan said she had rejected an attempt by Weinstein to kiss her, and he responded: "Well, can you just stand there and shut up?"

The swift fall of one of Hollywood's most powerful figures has turned up the pressure on many in the industry to speak out.

"What Harvey Weinstein did was abhorrent. He admits he did it. Why should anyone be silent in their disgust and support for his victims?" director Judd Apatow said on Twitter.

SAG-AFTRA said in its statement Monday said that everyone has the right to work in an environment free of discrimination and harassment. It provided the number for their safety hotline too.

"There is more to be done by all of us to ensure the safety of women in the industry," the organization said.

AP Film Writer Jake Coyle contributed to this report.

## **Sheriff: Shooter shot guard before he fired on concert-goers**

**By REGINA GARCIA CANO and KEN RITTER, Associated Press**

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Law enforcement authorities on Monday made a significant change to the timeline of the Las Vegas mass shooting, saying the gunman shot a hotel security guard before he opened fire on concert-goers.

Clark County Sheriff Joe Lombardo had previously said the guard was shot after gunman Stephen Paddock fired at the country music festival and that the guard's arrival in the hallway of the Mandalay Bay hotel may have caused Paddock to stop firing.

It was not immediately clear why the timeline of the shooting changed a week later and what the impact could be on the investigation.

On Monday, Lombardo said security guard Jesus Campos was in a hallway of the Mandalay Bay hotel responding to a report of an open door when he heard drilling from Stephen Craig Paddock's room.

Paddock, who had installed three cameras to monitor the approach to his suite, opened fire through the door, spraying 200 shots down the hall and wounding the guard, who alerted other security officials, Lombardo said.

A few minutes later, Paddock began raining down bullets for 10 minutes in an attack that killed 58 people — the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history, Lombardo said.

Authorities also said Monday that Paddock targeted aviation fuel tanks, stocked his car with explosives and had personal protection gear as part of an escape plan.

Paddock had power tools and was attempting to drill a hole in an adjacent wall, perhaps to mount another camera or to point a rifle through, but he never completed the work, Lombardo said. He also drilled holes and bolted a metal bar to try to prevent the opening of an emergency exit stairwell door near the door of his room.

Lombardo again expressed frustration with the pace of the investigation, but not with the investigators who have yet to pinpoint the motive behind the shooter's decision to fire from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay hotel casino on a Las Vegas Strip concert crowd of 22,000 on Oct. 1.

"It's because this individual purposely hid his actions leading up to this event, and it is difficult for us to find the answers to those actions," Lombardo said. "We believe he decided to take the lives he did and he had a very purposeful plan that he carried out."

There is still no evidence Paddock was motivated by ideology, or that there was another shooter, he said. Investigators have found 200 incidents of Paddock moving through the city, and at no time was he with anyone else, Lombardo said.

Lombardo said police and FBI agents, including behavioral profilers, still haven't found a particular event in Paddock's life that might have triggered the shooting. The sheriff added that a complete evaluation of Paddock's mental condition was not yet done. Authorities didn't find a note in his room, only a paper with numbers, he said.

Investigators believe the numbers represented calculations for more precise shots, according to a law enforcement official who wasn't authorized to discuss the details of the ongoing investigation publicly and

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spoke on condition of anonymity.

The sheriff also confirmed investigators are talking with Paddock's brother Eric Paddock, who traveled to Las Vegas, and continue to speak with the shooter's girlfriend, Marilou Danley, to get insight.

Lombardo declined to reveal what they've said, but he stated, "Every piece of information we get is one more piece of the puzzle."

Eric Paddock said he came to Las Vegas to retrieve his brother's body in hopes of sending the cremated ashes to their 89-year-old mother in Orlando.

Clark County Coroner John Fudenberg said Monday he could not discuss the results of an autopsy done on Stephen Paddock, who police said shot himself dead before officers arrived at the Las Vegas Strip hotel suite from which he rained gunfire on a concert crowd below.

Eric Paddock told the Las Vegas Review-Journal that he plans to put his brother's assets in a trust that would benefit the shooting victims.

Law enforcement interviews with Paddock's brother Saturday and Sunday were part of an exhaustive search through the 64-year-old's life.

Meanwhile, friends and relatives of the victims and other concert-goers who survived returned Monday to reclaim baby strollers, shoes, phones, backpacks and purses left behind in the panic as they fled.

The personal effects being recovered were strewn across the massive grassy concert venue where 22,000 country music fans attended the Route 91 Harvest festival have become sentimental memories of loved ones for some and haunting reminders of the night of terror for others.

People left behind thousands of items, Clark County Emergency Manager John Steinbeck said.

Those who were in two areas of the concert grounds were being allowed to retrieve their things in groups, with authorities expanding the offer Monday to include people who were seated west of the stage. Authorities are powering up cellphones and asking people to text their full names to the phones to ensure they are returned to the correct owners.

At the assistance center set up at a convention center in Las Vegas, a steady stream of individuals walked in on Monday looking for purses, wallets, cellphones and even a wedding bracelet. Volunteers filled out intake forms with detailed descriptions of their lost items, and later, FBI victims assistance agents asked for additional questions.

People received their belongings in re-sealable plastic bags and were asked to check them. After identifying their items, some smiled and others hugged the FBI agents or Red Cross volunteers who had helped them.

The somber mood inside the hall was occasionally deepened by the weeping of some.

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Associated Press writers Michael Balsamo in Las Vegas and Andrew Dalton in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

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For complete coverage of the Las Vegas shooting, click here: <https://apnews.com/tag/LasVegasmassshooting>.

## At least 10 dead as fires rage in California wine country

By JEFF CHIU and ELLEN KNICKMEYER, Associated Press

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (AP) — Wildfires whipped by powerful winds swept through California wine country Monday, killing at least 10 people and injuring at least 100, destroying 1,500 homes and businesses and sending thousands fleeing as flames raged unchecked through high-end resorts, grocery stores and tree-lined neighborhoods.

The fires broke out nearly simultaneously and then exploded overnight, sending residents fleeing as embers rained down and flames raged around them. Two hospitals in Santa Rosa, the largest city in the region with 175,000 people, were forced to evacuate patients.

Taken as a group, the fires are already among the 10 deadliest in California history, and the death toll is expected to grow.



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Fires from ruptured gas lines dotted the smoky landscapes of blackened Santa Rosa hillsides. Fire trucks raced by smoldering roadside landscaping in search of higher priorities.

The flames were fickle in some corners of the city. One hillside home remained unscathed while a dozen surrounding it were destroyed.

One of the homes that was reduced to ash had a Mercedes Benz in the garage. Two cars parked across the street were untouched.

The large majority of the injured were treated for smoke inhalation, according to St. Joseph Health, which operates hospitals in the Santa Rosa area. Two were in critical condition and one was in serious condition. The number of injured is expected to climb as information comes in for all the other areas affected by the firestorm consuming the state.

The flames were unforgiving throughout Santa Rosa, torching block after block with little to salvage.

Hundreds of homes in the Fountain Grove area were leveled by flames so hot they melted the glass off of cars and turned aluminum wheels into liquid. One neighborhood of older homes was scorched, leaving only brick chimneys and downed power lines.

Residents who gathered at emergency shelters and grocery stores said they were shocked by the speed and ferocity of the flames. They recalled all the possessions they had left behind and were lost.

"All that good stuff, I'm never going to see it again," said Jeff Okrepkie, who fled his neighborhood in Santa Rosa knowing it was probably the last time he would see his home of the past five years standing.

His worst fears were confirmed Monday, when a friend sent him a photo of what was left: a smoldering heap of burnt metal and debris.

In the rush to leave, Okrepkie and his wife were able to gather important documents, photos and mementos, like letters from his wife's late father. Still, Okrepkie was tortured by the things he left behind, including a framed photo of his grandfather that his grandmother had carried with her for a decade after he died.

Some of the largest of the 14 blazes burning over a 200-mile region were in Napa and Sonoma counties, home to dozens of wineries that attract tourists from around the world. They sent smoke as far south as San Francisco, about 60 miles (96 kilometers) away. The causes of the fires were unknown.

Winds have posed a challenge to firefighters in the state this year despite a relatively wet winter that followed years of drought. The fires that broke out Sunday burned "at explosive rates" because of 50 mph winds, said Ken Pimlott, director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

October has generally been the most destructive time of year for California wildfires. What was unusual Sunday, however, was to have so many fires take off at the same time.

Gov. Jerry Brown declared a state of emergency in Napa, Sonoma, Butte, Lake, Mendocino, Nevada and Yuba counties. Authorities imposed a sunset-to-sunrise curfew in Santa Rosa, saying they were on the lookout for looters.

The ferocity of the flames forced authorities to focus primarily on getting people out safely, even if it meant abandoning structures to the fire.

Elsewhere in the state, a fire churning through canyons in hilly neighborhoods of Orange County burned at least half a dozen homes and forced residents of about 1,000 homes to evacuate. Brown also declared a state of emergency for Orange County.

The inferno in Northern California blackened miles along Highway 12, one of the main gateways into wine country.

Wooden fence posts and guard rails burned fiercely. Thick smoke roiled from the JR Cohn winery.

The fires also damaged the Silverado Resort in Napa and a Hilton hotel in Santa Rosa.

Kim Hoe, a 33-year-old tech worker from Penang, Malaysia, was staying at the Hilton Sonoma Wine Country, which was gutted by flames. He said the power went out around 1 a.m., and he and his colleagues started packing up when someone knocked on the door and told them to run.

"We just had to run and run. It was full of smoke. We could barely breathe," Hoe said.

They returned in the morning to find the hotel had been destroyed along with most of their possessions.

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Hoe was relieved he had taken his passport and a few essential items.

Santa Rosa lost a Kmart, restaurants, businesses and homes.

Firefighters rushed to a state home for the severely disabled when flames reached one side of the center's sprawling campus in the historic Sonoma County town of Glen Ellen. Emergency workers leapt from their cars to aid the evacuation.

Crews got the more than 200 people from the threatened buildings, one firefighter said, as flames closed within a few dozen feet.

Mike Turpen, 38, was at a bar in Glen Ellen early Monday when a stranger wearing a smoke mask ran in and yelled that there was a fire. Turpen raced home through flames in his Ford F-250.

"It was like Armageddon was on," Turpen said. "Every branch of every tree was on fire."

He stayed to try to defend his own rental home.

By late morning, Turpen, wearing shorts, a kerchief mask and goggles, was the last man standing for miles along one abandoned road. His yard and all those around him were burned, smoking and still flaming in a few spots. But his home was still standing.

Knickmeyer reported from Sonoma, California. Associated Press writers Paul Elias, Jocelyn Gecker, Sudhin Thanawala and Juliet Williams in San Francisco, John Antczak in Los Angeles and Martha Bellisle in Seattle contributed to this report.

## Severino, Judge help Yankees top Indians 7-3 to force Game 5

By **MIKE FITZPATRICK, AP Baseball Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — Luis Severino, Aaron Judge and the New York Yankees are headed back to Cleveland for a decisive Game 5 — thanks to plenty of help from the Indians.

Severino rebounded from his playoff debacle, Judge delivered a big hit and the Yankees took advantage of shoddy defense by Cleveland to beat the Indians 7-3 Monday night and even their AL Division Series at two games apiece.

"We've got a shot now," said New York manager Joe Girardi, harshly criticized for his Game 2 decisions. "So it's a totally different feeling than it was the other day, and these guys have picked me up."

Gary Sanchez homered and a slumping Judge laced an early two-run double for his only hit of the series to go with 12 strikeouts in 15 at-bats.

Cleveland starter Trevor Bauer struggled on three days' rest and was chased in the second inning. But it was on the wet Yankee Stadium field where the Indians really flopped, committing a season-high four errors that marked a franchise record for a postseason game and led to six unearned runs.

The defending AL champions made only 76 errors all season, the lowest total in the league.

"The whole night, we made it hard on ourselves to win," manager Terry Francona said.

After preventing a three-game sweep with a 1-0 win Sunday night, the wild-card Yankees will start CC Sabathia against his original team in Game 5 on Wednesday. Indians ace Corey Kluber gets the ball in a rematch from Game 2, when he was hit hard by New York.

"It's hard to imagine giving it to somebody better," Francona said. "We're looking forward to it."

The winner faces Houston in the AL Championship Series after the Astros finished off Boston in four games Monday to win their ALDS.

"We've got a young team and they're hungry," Severino said.

Simply taking two in a row to send the series back to Cleveland was no small feat for the Yankees. The last time the Indians lost consecutive games was Aug. 22-23 at home against Boston, just before starting their AL-record 22-game winning streak. From that point on, Cleveland had gone 35-4 before arriving in the Bronx for Game 3 of the ALDS.

Minus injured slugger Edwin Encarnacion, the Indians have scored three runs in two games since.

Severino got only one out in the wild-card game against Minnesota last Tuesday, but was bailed out by his teammates as New York advanced with an 8-4 victory. This time, the 23-year-old ace was determined

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to come through, and he did.

"I think he was able to relax a lot more. He was able to control his adrenaline," Girardi said. "He was able to channel things down and make his pitch, as opposed to just trying to power his way through it."

Handed an early 5-0 lead and showing lots of emotion on the mound, the fired-up righty struck out nine in seven innings. With the crowd of 47,316 chanting his name, Severino threw 113 pitches and gave up four hits — including Carlos Santana's two-run homer and Roberto Perez's solo shot.

"I told him after the game, he grew up a lot today," Girardi said.

Tommy Kahnle relieved a wild Dellin Betances in the eighth and got six straight outs — five on strikeouts — for his first save of the season as New York improved to 3-0 when facing playoff elimination this year.

"There's a lot of confidence in that room," Girardi said.

Sanchez hit his second home run of the series off Bryan Shaw in the sixth to make it 7-3.

A rainy day in the Big Apple prevented both teams from taking batting practice on the field. But the tarp was pulled and play started right on time, with fans in hooded ponchos bunched below the overhangs seeking cover from a heavy drizzle.

Showers dissipated in the bottom of the first, though a few puddles remained on the slick warning track all night.

The first of two costly errors by normally sure-handed third baseman Giovanny Urshela, a .224 hitter in the lineup for his defense, was a painful one. Starlin Castro's sinking line drive in the second struck him just above the left ankle and caromed away.

Shaken up, Urshela was checked by a trainer but stayed in the game.

With two outs, Todd Frazier pulled a 78 mph curve to deep left and it landed smack on the foul line for an RBI double. A frustrated Bauer gestured with his hand when he didn't get a strike-three call on a checked swing by Aaron Hicks, who soon singled home a run.

Brett Gardner singled and, after a mound visit from Indians pitching coach Mickey Callaway, Judge had a gritty at-bat. The rookie slugger was 0 for 11 with nine strikeouts in the series before fighting back from 0-2 to a full count and lining a two-run double to the left-field wall on one hop.

"Just had to grind it out," Judge said.

After pulling in at second base, he clapped and pointed to the Yankees dugout.

Bauer managed only five outs after tossing two-hit ball with eight strikeouts over 6 2/3 innings during a 4-0 win in the series opener last Thursday. All four runs he allowed were unearned.

"I thought my stuff was better than Game 1," Bauer said. "Just a couple of little things went their way instead of mine."

Urshela's two-out throwing error with the bases loaded in the third made it 5-0.

Frazier reached on pitcher Danny Salazar's two-base throwing error to start the fifth. He scored on Gardner's shallow sacrifice fly to center fielder Jason Kipnis, a second baseman moved to the outfield late this season. Kipnis began the year on the disabled list with a shoulder problem.

"As a team, we didn't play the greatest defense tonight," Bauer said.

## TRAINER'S ROOM

Indians: Encarnacion sat out again after leaving Game 2 with a sprained right ankle. Before the game, Francona said the team hoped Encarnacion would be available to pinch-hit. ... OF Brandon Guyer is scheduled for surgery Wednesday in Arizona to repair a tendon in his left wrist, ending any chances of him playing in this postseason.

## UP NEXT

Indians: A favorite to win his second Cy Young Award next month, Kluber went 18-4 with a 2.25 ERA and 265 strikeouts this season. Those impressive numbers included a 2-0 mark with a 1.59 ERA against New York that left him 5-1 with a 1.80 ERA in seven career regular-season starts vs. the Yankees. But they got to him in Game 2 last Friday for six runs and seven hits over 2 2/3 innings.

Yankees: If they don't win Game 5, it could be Sabathia's final outing for the Yankees. The 37-year-old lefty was 14-5 with a 3.69 ERA this season and can become a free agent after the World Series. He was removed with an 8-3 cushion in Game 2 at Cleveland after only 77 pitches. New York's vaunted bullpen

squandered the lead and the Yankees lost 9-8 in 13 innings.

More AP baseball: <https://apnews.com/tag/MLBbaseball>

## Engineers: lives lost in Mexico quake could have been saved

By GARANCE BURKE, Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Nearly two-thirds of the buildings that collapsed in Mexico City's monstrous earthquake last month were built using a construction method that is now forbidden in seismic hotspots in the United States, Chile and New Zealand, according to new data compiled by a team of structural engineers at Stanford University.

The suspect building technique called flat slab — in which floors are supported only by concrete columns — caused 61 percent of the building collapses in last month's magnitude 7.1 quake, which killed 369 people and blanketed tree-lined avenues in rubble.

Now, several prominent engineers say some of those structure failures could have been prevented and lives could have been saved had Mexico City officials only gone forward with a proposal to forbid that type of construction when they toughened building codes after the 1985 earthquake in Mexico's capital.

"We have known for 30 years that this system killed lots of people, so why are we still using it?" asked Eduardo Miranda, a professor of civil and environmental engineering at Stanford and global expert on earthquake-resistant design who compiled the data obtained by The Associated Press. "The right decision after '85 would have been to completely ban this kind of construction. We could have saved lives."

Anahi Abadia and her husband were among the fortunate: they were in Home Depot when the earthquake hit, shaking the store so fiercely the structure screeched. Minutes later, a text came in from their neighbor: The elegant apartment they had purchased only six months earlier had collapsed, rendering their new home a pile of crushed concrete.

Two women working in Abadia's trendy apartment building died on Sept. 19 when the structure collapsed after a corner column failed, and the flat-slab structure pancaked, Miranda said.

The concrete slabs used to build floors and ceilings can be cast to include some rebar for reinforcement, and give builders greater flexibility in room layout and allow for higher ceilings.

But in an earthquake, without reinforced concrete walls or lateral bracing to resist forces pushing structures sideways, buildings with that design can move too much. The columns, and connections between the slabs and columns, can easily break, prompting collapse, as was the case at a school where 26 people died, most of them children.

But at Abadia's building, the construction method was only the start of the problems: The units were designed by an architect whose license lapsed, and approved in a borough where auditors previously found illegal construction occurred unchecked.

Experts concur that the devastation caused by last month's earthquake in the city of 8.9 million people could have been much worse had the building codes not been so strong, but it also has forced an uncomfortable conversation about their shortcomings. Now, as experts race to toughen standards to retrofit hundreds of damaged buildings, they are grappling with the reality that corruption has allowed hundreds of structures to be built outside the rules atop the soft soils of Mexico City's ancient lakebed.

In the crisis following the 1985 quake, a group of academics, building officials and engineers drafted emergency recommendations to strengthen Mexico City's seismic codes, which were swiftly passed into law.

Some architects and builders were opposed to an outright ban on flat slab construction, said Miranda, who wrote reports that informed the committee.

"There were lots of builders and owners who were not going to be happy that you just stopped their construction," said Miranda, who later served on Mexico's code committee in the 1990s, and on committees funded by the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency. "These things start as technical conversations but then you run into policy and politics."

The new codes allowed flat slab construction if developers designed the building to be seismically stron-



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ger than structures with beams or concrete walls.

Authorities did not pay enough attention to evaluating if existing flat slab structures needed a seismic retrofit, Miranda said.

"It would have been better to have insisted very much about not using flat slab," said Roberto Meli, a renowned structural engineer who served on the code committee in 1985, and went on to head the federal Center for Disaster Protection founded after that quake.

The new codes gave more responsibility to a network of private engineers who are hired and paid by developers, and who submit structural plans to borough authorities. In practice, that means private engineers — not government experts — vet projects' structural safety, and corruption can intervene.

"Corruption can come in many forms, from the moment someone accepts a bribe to when someone falsifies documents, or fails to present the right structural plans to borough authorities," said Renato Beron, head of the Institute for the Security of Constructions of Mexico City, a city agency.

In recent decades, middle-class enclaves close to the city's center have experienced vertiginous growth, and many unpermitted helipads and illegal, multi-floor garages have sprouted up between historic homes. In the last 15 years, residents of Abadia's Benito Juarez borough and two others nearby have sent in the highest number of complaints about land-use violations to a city watchdog agency.

Now, those same boroughs are home to dozens of damaged buildings, according to data from the Mexican Society of Structural Engineering. Miranda, whose team compiled the data on the 44 collapses through in-person visits and detailed structural analysis, estimates that hundreds of damaged buildings were built with flat slab systems, including some built relatively recently.

Meli said he and the committee will seek to strengthen retrofitting standards first, and by early next year may reexamine flat slab, although he is not convinced prohibiting the method outright would have worked.

Abadia said she hopes shoddy builders will be held responsible.

"A new building should not fall down," she said.

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Associated Press writer Mark Stevenson in Mexico City contributed to this report.

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This story has been corrected in paragraph 15 to say 'Authorities did NOT pay enough attention...'

## As Trump challenges Iran nuclear deal, those in Tehran worry

By **NASSER KARIMI**, Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — As U.S. President Donald Trump threatens the Iran nuclear deal, those living in Tehran feel that an accord they have yet to benefit from may already be doomed, hardening their skepticism about America.

Trump is set to deliver a speech on Iran this week in which he is expected to decline to certify Iran's compliance in the landmark 2015 agreement, referring it to Congress, and perhaps targeting the country's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard with new sanctions.

In the streets of the Iranian capital on Monday, The Associated Press spoke to a series of people about the nuclear deal: students and teachers, young and old, men in fashionable clothes and women in chadors.

Nearly all had the same concerns: Benefits from the 2015 accord have yet to reach Iran's 80 million people despite its government signing billion-dollar airplane deals. Inflation remains high, job opportunities stay low.

They also said Trump's threats fall in line with what Iranian leaders since the 1979 Islamic Revolution have warned: Americans can't be trusted. That feeling has unified hard-liners supporting Iran's clerically overseen government, as well as reformists seeking to change it.

"I have not seen any benefit from the deal, so what is Trump going to add to nothing?" asked Gholamreza Haeri, a 21-year-old architecture student. "Is he going to add zero to zero?"

The faith of the average Iranian has eroded over time in the nuclear deal, which saw Iran agree to limit its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions. It was sealed in July 2015

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after 18 months of negotiations by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — the U.S., Britain, China, France and Russia — as well as Germany.

In September 2015, a telephone survey by the Toronto-based opinion research firm IranPoll for the University of Maryland found 45 percent of 1,000 Iranians said they were not confident the U.S. would live up to its obligations in the nuclear deal. By September 2017, an IranPoll telephone survey of 700 urban Iranians found 77 percent were not confident. The margins of error for the polls were 3.1 percentage points and 3.7 percentage points respectively.

"The trend has continuously been increasing," said Amir Farmanesh, the president and CEO of IranPoll.

That suspicion extended to Tehran's streets Monday. Bahram Safari, a 39-year-old junior high school teacher, said he initially supported the nuclear deal but slowly became disenchanted by Trump's constant attacks. Safari pointed to comments by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who repeatedly called the Americans untrustworthy during the negotiations.

"During the nuclear talks, I was wondering why the supreme leader was saying so, now I understand that he was right," Safari said. "Americans are not loyal to their signatures."

Ashkan Ashtari, a 30-year-old electronics importer, said breaching the deal will be problematic for both sides.

"Iranians are worried about a breach of the nuclear deal because Iran has kept with all of its commitments and has been loyal to the agreement," he said. "Chances are that the U.S. president will break his country's commitment, as he has done so before."

For Iranians, they still do not have access to international credit cards. While Iranian banks have reconnected to the SWIFT network, which allows for international wire transfers, many complain they still don't have access to global financial markets.

"I know that under the deal, Western banks were supposed to enter Iranian market, but they have not come in practice," said 31-year-old Zohreh Lavasani, who works at a private bank. "So I do not expect the new move by Trump can lead to a meaningful change."

Iran's stock market dropped 1.2 percent in the last week as the price of hard currencies like dollars and euros edged up against the Iranian rial.

Mehdi Abedi, a 30-year-old tire dealer, said despite the challenges, Iran could handle facing more U.S. sanctions.

"The world community is not just America. Iran can still continue its dealings with other countries," he said. "We have been at odds with the United States for about 40 years now and have managed to survive despite conflicts."

Also on Monday, Gen. Mohammad Ali Jafari, the top commander of the Revolutionary Guard, said in a statement that Iranian officials will have a "unified" approach toward the U.S. threats, the official IRNA news agency reported.

"Rest assured Mr. Trump that we (the Guard), foreign ministry and administration are united and our hearts are synchronized," the report quoted Jafari as saying.

Some people continue to hold out hope for the nuclear deal. On Sunday, the German Embassy in Tehran put a placard on its wall saying: "Yes to Barjam" — nuclear deal in Farsi. Germany was involved in negotiating the agreement.

"I still want the deal to remain in place and both sides remain faithful to it so that we can finally see its positive impact on the lives of the people," said Hassan Aghaei, a 23-year-old street food vendor.

But some saw fault in both sides.

"Iran's actions have probably provoked America, such as testing missiles and similar things," said Mehdi Shakeri, 42, who imports and sells car parts. "Iran could have dealt with Trump more cautiously because he is a radical leader and many of his actions are not always based on logic. Perhaps if Iran had not made Trump sensitive toward itself, we would not be in the situation we are today."

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Associated Press writers Mohammad Nasiri in Tehran and Jon Gambrell in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, contributed.

## Reports: Google uncovers ads by Russian operatives

NEW YORK (AP) — Russian operatives likely spent tens of thousands of dollars on ads across Google products, including YouTube and Google search, according to reports.

Accounts connected with the Russian government spent \$4,700 on search and display ads, while another \$53,000 was spent on ads with political material that were purchased from Russian territory, from Russian internet addresses, or with Russian currency, The New York Times reported. The Times cited an unnamed person familiar with the ongoing inquiry by the search giant.

The Washington Post earlier reported that the technology behemoth uncovered the Russian-backed disinformation campaign as it considers whether to testify before Congress next month, also citing anonymous sources familiar with the investigation. Social media companies Facebook and Twitter have already agreed to testify.

The reports said the company discovered the Russian presence by analyzing information shared by Twitter and Facebook, as well its own research and tips from outside researchers.

In a statement, Google said it has a "set of strict ads policies including limits on political ad targeting and prohibitions on targeting based on race and religion."

"We are taking a deeper look to investigate attempts to abuse our systems, working with researchers and other companies, and will provide assistance to ongoing inquiries," the statement continued.

Facebook recently shared about 3,000 Russian-backed ads with Congress.

U.S. intelligence agencies have concluded that Russian President Vladimir Putin directed a disinformation campaign aimed at helping Donald Trump win the presidential election.

## Corker's attacks on Trump highlight broader concerns in GOP

By ERICA WERNER, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Bob Corker is hardly the only Republican lawmaker raising dark concerns about harm President Donald Trump might cause the U.S. and the world. But he's one of the few willing to air those worries in public.

Most GOP senators were silent Monday, a day after Corker charged that the White House was an "adult day care" and Trump could set the nation "on the path to World War III."

The only senator who publicly hinted at similar concerns was Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley, who said both Trump and Corker should "cool it."

"And I think it would help if the president would be the first to cool it," he added.

Tennessee's Corker, with his Twitter broadsides and an explosive weekend New York Times interview, gave voice to concerns that circulate widely on Capitol Hill about an unpredictable president whose tendency to personalize every issue creates risks for the GOP agenda. But Trump's enduring popularity with a segment of the GOP base serves as a political muzzle that keeps most elected Republicans from saying anything similar, even those who believe it to be true.

Grassley, who won't be up for re-election until 2022, responded bluntly when asked about the situation.

"I don't see how it's productive, and I think that two words would kind of answer your question from my point of view: Cool it," he said. "I think it would be better if we stuck to the issues and leave personalities out of it."

A few other Republican senators who provided public views Monday avoided aligning themselves with Corker.

"You'll have to ask Sen. Corker what led him to make that statement. I haven't made that statement," Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida said of Corker's suggestion that Trump could take the country into another world war.

Sen. Jeff Flake has been outspoken in his criticism of Trump, who's attacked him in return. But the Arizona Republican was restrained during a joint interview with Rubio after a re-election fundraiser in Scottsdale.

"Any of us who've worked with Sen. Corker know that he speaks his mind," Flake said, demurring on

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whether he shares Corker's view that the White House has become an "adult day care center."

"I agree with him on some things, I've supported a lot of his agenda, some things I've disagreed with and continue to do so," Flake said of Trump.

The Associated Press sought to contact all 52 Republican senators Monday for their response to Corker's comments and ask whether they believe Trump is fit for office, a question Corker declined to answer in the Times interview. With the Senate on recess this week and many offices closed for Columbus Day, the inquiries elicited few responses, and those who did largely declined comment.

Corker offered no solution to the problem he identified so graphically. Trump is the president, and few doubt that he will remain so, despite constitutional provisions for impeachment or for the vice president to take over if the commander in chief cannot discharge his duties.

Moreover, Republicans' political fortunes remain tied to the president's. They need his signature if they are to rescue a flagging agenda and pass a tax overhaul, a goal many believe is imperative if the GOP is to retain control of Congress in next year's midterm elections. So unlike Corker, who recently announced he is not running for re-election in Tennessee, even GOP Trump critics will continue to mute their concerns about his behavior and try to work with the administration.

"Sen. Corker, who's been a strong supporter of the president in the past, is essentially saying the emperor has no clothes," said Michael Steel, who served as spokesman to former House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio.

But, Steel added: "The president was elected under our constitutional system and that's where we stand. Congressional leaders are going to continue concentrating on doing everything they can to get big things done for the American people, and they hope to have as much support from the administration as possible."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the target of Trump attacks after the Senate's failure to pass health care legislation, didn't directly answer when asked at an event in Hazard, Kentucky, whether he shared Corker's sentiments.

"Sen. Corker is a valuable member of the Senate Republican caucus and he's also on the Budget Committee and a particularly important player as we move to the floor on the budget next week," McConnell said.

His comments underscored what has frustrated Republicans most about the Trump-Corker feud, which burst open Sunday when Trump began tweeting, inaccurately, that Corker had begged for his endorsement and decided not to run for re-election when Trump turned him down. Trump will need Corker if he is to get big tax changes through the Senate, where the narrow GOP majority was unable to pass McConnell's efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act. And Corker also figures to be a key player if Trump moves as expected to unwind the Iran nuclear deal.

Vice President Mike Pence, in a statement that never mentioned Corker, praised the president for "achieving real results on the international stage. While critics engage in empty rhetoric and baseless attacks."

Republicans do frequently complain about Trump's attacks on fellow Republicans like McConnell, his failure to stay focused on his legislative agenda and his tendency to make demands on Congress and then blame lawmakers for poor results. But those GOP comments are nothing like Corker's apocalyptic statements.

For House Republicans, who face voters every two years and largely represent conservative districts where support for the president remains strong, there's even less incentive to turn against the commander in chief. Sixty-eight percent of Republican voters approve of Trump, though that's down from 80 percent in March, according to a recent AP-NORC poll.

Rep. Mark Meadows of North Carolina, chairman of the conservative House Freedom Caucus, criticized Corker, saying he finds "those type of comments to not be appropriate especially coming from the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, and certainly not in keeping with what I know of the way that things are conducted in the West Wing, having been there multiple times."

"It's really easy to be bold when you're not coming back," Meadows added of Corker.

Associated Press writers Adam Beam in Hazard, Kentucky, and Bob Christie in Scottsdale, Arizona, contributed to this report. Marcy Gordon, Kevin Freking, Alan Fram, Andrew Taylor and Matthew Daly contributed from Washington.



## Trump's immigration demands threaten DACA deal

By JILL COLVIN and ANDREW TAYLOR, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's long list of immigration demands has landed with a thud among lawmakers hopeful for a deal to protect hundreds of thousands of young immigrants from deportation.

The list of demands released late Sunday includes funding for a southern border wall and a crackdown on so-called sanctuary cities — items that are cheered by the president's most loyal supporters, but are non-starters among Democrats and could divide Republicans, who will have to come together on any deal.

The demands have left pro-immigration activists alarmed. And some are scratching their heads, given that the president appeared to sign off on a more palatable deal with Democrats just weeks ago.

"To stall the progress that Democrats and Republicans have been fostering in giving permanent relief to more than 800,000 DREAMers is sabotage," said U.S. Rep. Raúl Grijalva, an Arizona Democrat and frequent Trump critic.

House and Senate leaders on both sides of the aisle have said they want to find a legislative solution to extend protections first granted under former President Barack Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA. Trump announced last month that he was phasing out DACA, but gave Congress six months to act before recipients' work permits begin to expire.

Trump suggested at the time that he was eager for a deal, telling reporters, "I have a love for these people and hopefully now Congress will be able to help them and do it properly."

Days later, he appeared to reach the broad outlines of an agreement with the House and Senate's top Democrats, Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer, in which the president would be open to extended DACA protections in exchange for a package of border security measures.

While Trump made clear that he still expected funding for his border wall, he said repeatedly that the funding could come later, in separate legislation.

In a joint statement Sunday night, Pelosi and Schumer said Trump could not "be serious about" the plan the White House had unveiled, which includes not only the wall, but dozens of other controversial measures, including a crackdown on unaccompanied immigrant minors and a complete overhaul of the legal immigration system.

Some of those who hope to see DACA protections extended said they remain optimistic the president will show flexibility, treating the priorities as a policy wish-list and starting point for negotiation.

Others see the demands as part of a plot orchestrated by Trump's chief policy adviser, Stephen Miller, an immigration hardliner, to derail any chance of a DACA deal.

"I don't think President Trump wants to be the president who deports 700,000 young people," said Ali Noorani, executive director of the National Immigration Forum, who described the list as a "big torpedo" to bipartisan negotiations already under way.

"I think the president's staff have led him into a corner," Noorani said, predicting the president would "not be happy when he realizes it."

But one person familiar with the president's thinking said the list was intended to make clear that Trump is no longer interested in forging a DACA deal, the same message sent by a White House official's insistence Sunday that any path to citizenship for DACA recipients was off the table.

After backing an establishment Senate candidate who lost by 10 points in an Alabama special election last month, the president is working to please his base supporters, signing a new religious liberty executive order and broadcasting his intention to decertify the Iran nuclear deal.

"The president has made clear he wants Congress to act and pass responsible immigration reform in conjunction with any legislation related to DACA, which will include legal authorities to close border security loopholes, restoring interior enforcement, and reforming the legal immigration system," said White House spokeswoman Kelly Love.

Presidential counselor Kellyanne Conway told Fox News the president was "open to a deal" on DACA but

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only "along with all these other critical functions."

"You know for years, this country, including Capitol Hill and the swamp, they've always asked: what more can we do for the illegal immigrant, what's fair to the illegal immigrant? This president is asking: what's fair to America? What's fair to the American worker? What's fair to the American community?" she said.

Both Democrats and Republicans have pointed to a hoped-for year-end package of spending bills as the likely vehicle to tackle immigration issues, including any potential DACA deal.

Democratic votes will be required to enact the year-end measure, but many Democrats have said they won't support any legislation that doesn't address DACA recipients, raising the possibility of a government shutdown just before Christmas.

Controversy over border wall funding already meant the year-end package would be difficult. But one potential opening is that the White House has been willing in the past to accept border fencing and other security steps that fall short of Trump's vision for a wall along the entire length of the border.

Either way, Trump's zig-zagging seemed likely to erode the trust that will likely be required to seal any agreement.

Rep. Luis Gutiérrez, D-Ill., said that, after Sunday, the president should not be considered a reliable negotiating partner. "Any decision the president makes one day is likely to be completely reversed another, depending on which extremist adviser he is listening to that day," he said.

Still others, including Sen. David Perdue, R-Ga., applauded the measures, calling the president "spot on."

House Freedom Caucus chairman Mark Meadows said: "We look forward to the administration's insistence on these principles in any deal that is signed into law."

## Hall of Fame QB Y.A. Tittle dead at 90

By The Associated Press

Y.A. Tittle, the Hall of Fame quarterback and 1963 NFL Most Valuable Player, has died. He was 90.

His family confirmed to LSU, where Tittle starred in college, that he passed away Sunday night at Stanford Hospital near his home in Atherton, California.

Known as "The Bald Eagle" as much for his sturdy leadership as his prematurely receding hairline, Tittle played 17 seasons of pro football. He began with the All-America Football Conference's Baltimore Colts in 1948 and finished with the NFL's New York Giants. He played 10 years in between with the San Francisco 49ers, but had his greatest success in New York, leading the Giants to three division titles in four years in a remarkable late-career surge.

"Y.A. was one of the finest men I have ever known," said Giants co-owner John Mara, whose late father, Wellington, was a close friend of Tittle's. "He was a Hall of Fame quarterback and a Hall of Fame person. He brought our team to new heights in the early 1960s, and left an indelible mark on our franchise."

Tittle never won a championship, but came to personify the competitive spirit of football, thanks to an iconic photo taken by Dozier Mobley during Tittle's final season in 1964.

The frame caught the then-37-year-old quarterback, who looked older than his years, after throwing an interception returned for a touchdown by Pittsburgh's Chuck Hinton. Tittle is seen kneeling in exhaustion and pain from an injured rib, blood dripping down his face from a head gash.

Tittle, also called "YAT" by his teammates, was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1971. He threw 36 touchdown passes while winning the MVP award in '63, and held the NFL record for most TD passes in a season until Dan Marino threw 48 in 1984.

Tittle passed for 33,070 yards and 242 touchdowns in two leagues during his career, including 13 300-yard passing games in an age when the running game dominated the sport. Tittle was the only quarterback of his generation to throw at least 30 touchdown passes in back-to-back seasons when he did it with the Giants.

Born Yelberton Abraham Tittle in Marshall, Texas, on Oct. 24, 1926, he led LSU to the Cotton Bowl before he was drafted by the NFL's Detroit Lions in 1948. He joined Baltimore of the AAFC instead, sticking with the Colts when they joined the NFL in 1950 until they temporarily disbanded the following year, when he

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was redrafted by San Francisco, another former AAFC club.

Tittle then started 78 games and earned four of his seven Pro Bowl selections during a decade with the 49ers. He even became the first pro football player to be featured on the cover of Sports Illustrated in 1954.

For three seasons, he was part of the 49ers' "Million Dollar Backfield" with Hugh McElhenny, Joe "The Jet" Perry and John Henry Johnson — the only full backfield in NFL history with every member in the Hall of Fame.

"The San Francisco 49ers organization and our faithful fans have lost a dear member of our family," 49ers CEO Jed York said Monday. "Y.A. Tittle will forever hold a special place in not only 49ers history but that of the National Football League. His individual accomplishments speak for themselves, but as a member of the 'Million Dollar Backfield' he was part of one of the most storied offensive attacks the game of football has ever seen."

The group was broken up in 1957, and Tittle lost his job to John Brodie for most of his final three seasons with San Francisco. Tittle still teamed up with receiver R.C. Owens to create another piece of football history with the "alley-oop" pass — a high-arching downfield throw with Owens' exploiting his superior jumping ability against smaller defensive backs.

Tittle's career appeared nearly finished when San Francisco traded him to New York, but the quarterback was an improbable hit in the Big Apple. He became the Giants' starter in 1961, winning over fans and teammates who had favored 40-year-old Charlie Conerly.

Tittle became one of the NFL's most dependable passers, and New York reached the league's title game from 1961-63, but lost each time, leaving Tittle agonizingly short of his only remaining goal. The Giants plummeted to 2-10-2 in 1964, and Tittle retired after one of his worst pro seasons.

Tittle established Y.A. Tittle & Associates Insurance Services during his playing days, and he ran the business in Palo Alto, California, well past the standard retirement age. He appeared briefly in the 1999 movie "Any Given Sunday," playing a coach, and was a favorite presence at memorabilia shows and NFL alumni functions.

"During his 15 years as a player and a coach," York said, "Y.A. made many significant contributions to this organization and the Bay Area. Our best wishes are with his family and the many friends and fans he leaves behind."

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AP Pro Football Writer Barry Wilner and Sports Writer Tom Canavan contributed.

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For more NFL coverage: <http://www.pro32.ap.org> and [http://www.twitter.com/AP\\_NFL](http://www.twitter.com/AP_NFL)

## Nobel goes to Richard Thaler who made economics human again

By PAUL WISEMAN and JIM HEINTZ, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — People make poor economic choices. They don't save enough for retirement. They refuse to cut their losses on plummeting investments because they won't own up to mistakes. They buy houses and stocks when prices are high, thinking that what's going up today will keep going up tomorrow.

Richard Thaler of the University of Chicago Booth School of Business on Monday won the Nobel economics prize for documenting the way people's behavior doesn't conform to economic models that portray them as perfectly rational. As one of the founders of behavioral economics, he has helped change the way economists look at the world.

"Thrilling news," said Thaler's collaborator, Cass Sunstein of Harvard Law School. "He changed economics, and he changed the world."

Far from being the rational decision-makers described in economic theory, Thaler found, people often make decisions that don't serve their best interests.

Illogical human behavior has economic consequences: Baby Boomers haven't saved enough for old age. Americans kept buying houses even as prices soared in the mid-2000s, creating a bubble that burst and triggered the biggest economic downturn since the 1930s. To limit the damage, behavioral economists

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say, economic policy needs to take human foibles into account.

"I try to teach people to make fewer mistakes," Thaler told the Associated Press. "But in designing economic policies, we need to take full account of the fact that people are busy, they're absent-minded, they're lazy and that we should try to make things as easy for them as possible."

Thaler's work is grounded in day-to-day reality and connected to popular culture in a way that isn't always true of Nobel-winning economists. "He's made economics more human," said Peter Gardenfors, a member of the prize committee.

Thaler had a cameo alongside pop star Selena Gomez in the film "The Big Short" and once analyzed the flawed strategies of participants in the game show "Deal or No Deal." He's looked into how taxi drivers decide to spend their days and how school cafeterias should display their food.

Thaler won the 9-million-kronor (\$1.1-million) prize for "understanding the psychology of economics," Swedish Academy of Sciences secretary Goran Hansson said Monday. He is the 13th Nobel-winning economist from the University of Chicago.

Oddly, the University of Chicago is closely associated with the classical economic views that Thaler has challenged. "There's nothing people like better at the University of Chicago than a good argument," Thaler says. In fact, Thaler is golfing buddies with an intellectual rival, Eugene Fama, the classical Chicago economist who won the Nobel in 2013 for arguing that financial markets are rational.

Asked in a news conference immediately the announcement what he planned to do with the prize money, Thaler joked that he intended to spend it "as irrationally as possible."

Speaking with AP later, he said "in traditional economic theory, it's a silly question. And the reason is that money doesn't come with labels. So once that money is in my bank, how do I know whether that fancy bottle of wine I'm buying (is being paid for by) Nobel money or some other kind of money? The serious answer to the question is that I plan to spend some of it on having fun and give the rest away to the neediest causes I can find."

The irrational labeling of money is, in fact, part of Thaler's work. He's found that people's tendency to assign money to certain categories can lead to financial mistakes. For example, consumers might spend more they need to when they put, say, a new washing machine on a high-cost credit card because they don't want to tap money they've labeled as savings.

In one study, Thaler and his colleagues looked at how taxi drivers try to balance making money versus enjoying their leisure time. The driver might respond by setting a goal: Once his take from fares reaches a certain amount, he calls it a day. But that would mean that he works shorter hours when demand for taxis is high and longer ones when business is slow. If he took another approach, he could make more money working fewer hours — and there would be more cabs in the street when customers need them.

Thaler and other behavioral economists also found that people hold notions of fairness that confound classical economic expectations. They resent, for example, an umbrella peddler who raises prices in the midst of a downpour; traditional economists would say the peddler is just responding to increased demand.

Thaler says that kind of thinking can keep people from buying things they'd enjoy. A supporter of baseball's Chicago Cubs, Thaler suspects that some of his fellow fans will balk at paying higher-than-usual prices this week to see their team play the Washington Nationals in the playoffs this week. (He says he secured tickets for Tuesday's game "at a very reasonable price.")

But consumer attitudes also suggest there's a risk for companies that raise prices aggressively — even when it's seemingly justified by surging demand. The car service "Uber has learned this lesson or is in the process of learning it," he says. "When they surge-price during a blizzard in New York, that's not a smart business decision."

Thaler's research has implications for economic policy. In their 2008 "Nudge" book, Thaler and Sunstein suggested that policymakers find ways to coax, rather than coerce, people into making the right decisions.

They look at a school cafeteria. Suppose the cafeteria staff realized that students choose food based on the order in which it is presented. It would make sense, Thaler argues, for the school to put the healthiest food where kids would be most likely to grab it.



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Some critics call such policies manipulative. But returning to the cafeteria example, Thaler argues that the food has to be displayed somehow; so why not choose the one that promotes good health?

Thaler says behavioral economics is nothing new. Adam Smith, author of the 1776 classic "The Wealth of Nations," dealt with behavioral issues back in the 18th century, including the need to control impulses and avoid overconfidence.

But after World War II, Thaler says economics became dominated by mathematical models. And those were easier to use if economists assumed that people acted rationally. The mathematical approach "caused some of the people in the profession to take those assumptions more seriously than they should have."

A series of financial crises, including the dotcom crash of 2000-2001 and the collapse of the American housing market in the mid-2000s, have put a dent in the view that people and markets are rational.

"Each crisis," he says, "has been good for behavioral economics."

\_\_\_ Heintz reported from Moscow. David Keyton in Stockholm and Matt Ott in Washington contributed to this report.

## Nate remnants drench Northeast; most power back on in South

BILOXI, Miss. (AP) — Remnants of Hurricane Nate buffeted the U.S. Northeast with wind and rain Monday while power crews restored most electrical service on the Gulf Coast and an overdue cruise ship delayed by the storm finally headed into port.

With the center of the tropical depression located near the eastern shore of Lake Erie, forecasters said parts of Pennsylvania and New York could receive 2 inches (5 centimeters) of rain or more. Police in Amherst, New York, shared photos of water covering some roads.

Meanwhile, in the Southeast, utilities said crews had restored electrical service to all but a few thousand of the more than 100,000 homes and businesses that lost power because of Nate in Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana and Florida.

Stuck in the Gulf of Mexico for two days because of Nate, the Carnival Fantasy began moving toward its berth after the Coast Guard reopened the port of Mobile, Alabama. The ship originally was supposed to dock on Saturday after a five-day trip; it was due in at 4 p.m. Monday.

Some passengers complained about the unscheduled delay on social media, but Carnival spokeswoman Christine De La Huerta said the ship had plenty of provisions and would return when able.

The ship has a total guest capacity of 2,056 people and carries a crew of 920.

At Dauphin Island, Alabama, Mayor Jeff Collier said workers were using heavy equipment to remove as much as 6 feet (1.8 meters) of sand that washed across a more than 3-mile (4.8-kilometer) stretch of the island's main road and more than 20 side streets.

"It moved the beachfront on to the roadway," said Collier. Also on the Alabama coast, workers were fixing a more than 1,500-foot-long (457-meter-long) fishing pier that was damaged by Nate.

Mississippi's worst damage was in coastal Jackson County, where Emergency Manager Earl Etheridge said officials have received reports of about 200 damaged buildings. Some had flooding from storm surge, he said, but most had roof damage from high winds.

County and state officials also are investigating barrels and large containers that washed ashore and may be holding hazardous chemicals, he said.

Ruth Adams, a Massachusetts native riding out her first hurricane in her beach house in Jackson County near Ocean Springs, said Nate stripped off her metal roof.

"The one thing I have learned is, I don't intend to stay even for a Category 1," said Adams, whose house on a narrow strip of land was cut off by rising waters.

No storm-related deaths or injuries were immediately reported in the United States, but Nate left at least 22 people dead in Central America.

The Hurricane Center said a depression in the open Atlantic had strengthened into Tropical Storm Ophelia on Monday, but the system didn't pose any threat to land.

\_\_\_ This story corrects to show Ocean Springs is in Jackson County.

## Melania Trump filling out her agenda as first lady

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — It was a moment eight months in the making: Melania Trump bounding down the White House lawn to the vegetable garden made famous by her predecessor.

Clad in a red plaid shirt, her eyes obscured by dark sunglasses, she greeted members of the local Boys and Girls Club who came to help her harvest and plant new crops. One skeptically asked, "Are you Melania Trump?"

"Yes, I'm the first lady" came her cheerful reply. It included two words Mrs. Trump has been using more often lately: first lady.

She says "my platform" a lot more, too.

As Mrs. Trump becomes more comfortable with her new role, she is speaking out about how she envisions using that platform to help children. She's going beyond cyberbullying, which she'd identified during the presidential campaign as an issue that she would tackle if her husband became president but on which she has yet to announce any formal plan of action.

In a recent flurry of solo public appearances from the United Nations to an international sports event in Canada to the White House, Mrs. Trump has provided clues about her plans in a role that has thrust her into a spotlight far different from the bright lights she grew accustomed to during her career as a fashion model. She tweeted Monday that she'll be in West Virginia on Tuesday to visit a care center for babies born addicted to opioids.

The first lady called on attendees at a U.N. luncheon last month to set good examples for children. She invited experts and people affected by drug addiction and opioid abuse, including a recovered addict, to the White House for a listening session and told them she plans to "use my platform as first lady" to help as many kids as possible.

During a visit to storm-ravaged Puerto Rico with her husband, Mrs. Trump told Puerto Rico's non-voting representative in Congress that she was "passionate" about trying to help more communities on the island and asked how she might be able to do that, according to Rep. Jenniffer González-Colón.

The first lady also took her first solo trip — to Canada — to cheer Americans participating in an athletic competition for wounded service members and veterans.

And, on that sunny afternoon in the garden that was the brainchild of former first lady Michelle Obama, she encouraged the children helping her to make healthy eating a priority.

"I'm a big believer in healthy eating because it reflects on your mind and your body," she said before telling the group to "come with me and have some fun." She later pulled leeks from the ground and clipped an artichoke from a nearby plant. "I encourage you to continue and eat a lot of vegetables and fruits so you grow up healthy and take care of yourself. ... It's very important."

The first lady showed some pique Monday when Donald Trump's first wife, Ivana, referred to herself as "first lady" in an interview on ABC's "Good Morning America."

Ivana Trump said she tries not to call her ex-husband too much because "I don't want to cause any kind of jealousy or something like that because I'm basically first Trump wife. I'm first lady, ok?"

Melania Trump's spokeswoman, Stephanie Grisham, called that comment "attention-seeking and self-serving noise."

Mrs. Trump is a unique first lady: a native of Slovenia and former fashion model fluent in several languages. But like her predecessors, she's still going through an adjustment period.

She was rarely seen in the weeks after the inauguration, and was usually at Trump's side when she did appear in public. In an unusual move for modern first ladies, she and Barron, the couple's now-11-year-old son, lived at the family's Trump Tower penthouse in New York for several months after the inauguration so he wouldn't have to switch schools in the middle of the year.

They joined Trump at the White House in June, and Barron started sixth grade at a private school in Maryland after Labor Day.

"I still have a feeling she looks at this and says, 'Am I really in this position?'" said Myra Gutin, a profes-

sor at Rider University who writes about first ladies.

Others attribute the first lady's more visible, though still low, profile to her satisfaction that her only child is OK after the big move.

"The more comfortable she becomes in the position, the more great work she's going to be able to do," said Sam Nunberg, a former Trump campaign aide.

Melania is the most popular Trump in the White House, according to a recent CNN survey in which 44 percent of those polled said they have a favorable opinion of the first lady. Mrs. Trump bested the president, stepdaughter Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner, Ms. Trump's husband, in the late-September poll.

It's typical for first ladies to be more popular than their husbands, who are called upon to sound off on a host of difficult issues. Christopher Ruddy, CEO of the Newsmax website and one of the president's longtime friends, said he thinks the American people respect the fact that the first lady put her son's needs first.

"She wasn't just going to rush down to Washington because her husband was elected," Ruddy said.

Even Trump, who has experienced some of the lowest public approval ratings of a first-year president, has called attention to his wife's popularity.

"She's become very, very popular, I'll tell you that," Trump said after she introduced him at a recent event at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland. He said she has become an "incredible emissary" for the American people. "Very proud of her."

But the higher profile brings sharper scrutiny, too.

On Trump's first trip to Texas after the hurricane, the first lady's decision to wear stilettos as she left the White House was panned on social media. Many criticized her footwear as inappropriate for the circumstances, leading Grisham to lament the focus on shoes during a natural disaster. Mrs. Trump changed into sneakers for the arrival of Air Force One in Corpus Christi.

Trump defended his wife's shoe choice, saying in an interview with former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee on Trinity Broadcasting Network Saturday that she has "taken tremendous abuse."

"She wants to look, out of respect for the White House, wants to look good leaving the front entrance to the White House. So she dresses up, she puts on formal shoes, high-heels, and she leaves the White House going to Texas," Trump said.

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Associated Press writer Jill Colvin contributed to this report.

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Follow Darlene Superville on Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/dsupervilleap>

## Environmental groups denounce Trump override of climate plan

By MICHAEL BIESECKER and ADAM BEAM, Associated Press

HAZARD, Ky. (AP) — A coalition of left-leaning states and environmental groups are vowing to fight the Trump administration's move to kill an Obama-era effort to limit carbon emissions from coal-fired power plants.

Speaking Monday in the coal-mining state of Kentucky, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt said he would be issuing a new set of rules overriding the Clean Power Plan, the centerpiece of President Barack Obama's drive to curb global climate change.

"The war on coal is over," Pruitt declared, adding that no federal agency should ever use its authority to "declare war on any sector of our economy."

It was not immediately clear if Pruitt would seek to issue a new rule without congressional approval, which Republicans had criticized the Obama administration for doing. Pruitt's rule wouldn't become final for months, and is then highly likely to face a raft of legal challenges.

New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman was among those who said they will sue.

"The Trump Administration's persistent and indefensible denial of climate change — and their continued assault on actions essential to stemming its increasing devastation — is reprehensible, and I will use every available legal tool to fight their dangerous agenda," said Schneiderman, a Democrat.

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For Pruitt, getting rid of the Clean Power Plan will mark the culmination of a long fight he began as the elected attorney general of Oklahoma. Pruitt was among about two dozen attorney generals who sued to stop Obama's 2014 push to limit carbon emissions, stymieing the limits from ever taking effect.

Closely aligned with the oil and gas industry in his home state, Pruitt rejects the consensus of scientists that man-made emissions from burning fossil fuels are the primary driver of global climate change.

President Donald Trump, who appointed Pruitt and shares his skepticism of established climate science, promised to kill the Clean Power Plan during the 2016 campaign as part of his broader pledge to revive the nation's struggling coal mines.

In his order Tuesday, Pruitt is expected to declare that the Obama-era rule exceeded federal law by setting emissions standards that power plants could not reasonably meet.

Pruitt appeared at an event with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell at Whayne Supply in Hazard, Kentucky, a company that sells coal mining supplies. The store's owners have been forced to lay off about 60 percent of its workers in recent years.

While cheering the demise of the Clean Power Plan as a way to stop the bleeding, McConnell conceded most of those lost jobs are never coming back.

"A lot of damage has been done," said McConnell, a Kentucky Republican. "This doesn't immediately bring everything back, but we think it stops further decline of coal fired plants in the United States and that means there will still be some market here."

Obama's plan was designed to cut U.S. carbon dioxide emissions to 32 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. The rule dictated specific emission targets for states based on power-plant emissions and gave officials broad latitude to decide how to achieve reductions.

The Supreme Court put the plan on hold last year following legal challenges by industry and coal-friendly states. Even so, the plan helped drive a recent wave of retirements of coal-fired plants, which are also being squeezed by low cost natural gas and renewable power. In the absence of stricter federal regulations curbing greenhouse gas emissions, many states have issued their own mandates promoting energy conservation.

The withdrawal of the Clean Power Plan is the latest in a series of moves by Trump and Pruitt to dismantle Obama's legacy on fighting climate change, including the delay or roll back of rules limiting levels of toxic pollution in smokestack emissions and wastewater discharges from coal-burning power plants.

On Thursday, Trump nominated former coal-industry lobbyist Andrew Wheeler to serve as Pruitt's top deputy at EPA — one of several recent political appointees at the agency with direct ties to the fossil fuel interests.

The president announced earlier this year that he will pull the United States out of the landmark Paris climate agreement. Nearly 200 countries have committed to combat global warming by reducing carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming.

"This president has tremendous courage," Pruitt said Monday. "He put America first and said to the rest of the world we are going to say no and exit the Paris Accord. That was the right thing to do."

Despite the rhetoric about saving coal, government statistics show that coal mines currently employ only about 52,000 workers nationally — a modest 4-percent uptick since Trump became president. Those numbers are dwarfed by the jobs created by building such clean power infrastructure as wind turbines and solar arrays.

Environmental groups and public health advocates quickly derided Pruitt's decision as short sighted.

"Trump is not just ignoring the deadly cost of pollution, he's ignoring the clean energy deployment that is rapidly creating jobs across the country," said Michael Brune, executive director of the Sierra Club.

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Associated Press writer Michael Biesecker reported from Washington. Follow him at <http://twitter.com/mbieseck>

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This story has been corrected to show the percentage of coal jobs created under Trump was 4 percent.



## First lady vs first wife: Melania and Ivana spar over roles

WASHINGTON (AP) — It's first lady versus first wife.

Melania Trump is pushing back at Donald Trump's first wife for referring to herself as "first lady."

Ivana Trump told ABC's "Good Morning America" on Monday that she talks to the president about every two weeks and has a direct number to the White House.

She added: "I don't want to call him there because Melania is there and I don't want to cause any kind of jealousy or something like that because I'm basically first Trump wife. I'm first lady, ok?"

Melania Trump's spokeswoman, Stephanie Grisham, says there was "clearly no substance to this statement from an ex," and she calls it "attention-seeking and self-serving noise."

Ivana Trump is promoting her book, "Raising Trump." Grisham suggests Ivana Trump is trying to "sell books."

## NATO chief: 'We don't want a new Cold War' with Russia

By ALISON MUTLER, Associated Press

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP) — NATO doesn't want a "new Cold War" with Russia despite members' concerns about the Russian military buildup close to NATO's border, the alliance's secretary general said Monday.

Jens Stoltenberg was speaking at the end of a four-day NATO parliamentary assembly in the Romanian capital, Bucharest.

"We are concerned by .... (Russia's) lack of transparency when it comes to military exercises," he said.

He mentioned a Russian-Belarus operation in September involving thousands of troops, tanks and aircraft held in Belarus, on NATO's eastern edge. The drills included maneuvers designed to hunt down and destroy armed spies.

Still, Stoltenberg said: "Russia is our neighbor ... we don't want to isolate Russia. We don't want a new Cold War."

He said the 29-member alliance had increased jets patrols in the Black Sea in "response to Russia's aggressive actions in Ukraine."

Later, Stoltenberg said the alliance was beefing up its presence in eastern and southeastern Europe to reassure allies in the face of Russia's actions in Ukraine.

"We are implementing the biggest reinforcement to our collective defense since the end of the Cold War," including four battlegroups in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland, he said.

Separately, Romania is opening a multinational brigade in the southern city of Craiova, which the NATO secretary-general visited later Monday and where he met Romanian Defense Minister Mihai Fifor and Romanian armed forces head Gen. Nicolae Ciuca. Troops from 11 NATO members will help coordinate regional allied training and exercises, known as "Tailored Forward Presence."

Speaking about the alliance's mission in Afghanistan, where it retains more than 13,000 troops, Stoltenberg said "the cost of walking away would be much higher" than the human and financial cost of the mission.

Afghanistan would descend into chaos and become a safe haven for international terrorists should NATO pull out, he said.

NATO says the Taliban have expanded their control of parts of the country after the alliance ended its combat mission in 2014. Some alliance troops have remained to train and advise Afghan forces under the NATO-led Resolute Support mission.

"We have been there for many years, but we have achieved many things ... it is no longer a safe haven for international terrorists," Stoltenberg said. "We are in Afghanistan to protect ourselves."

## Spain on edge before possible Catalan secession declaration

By ARITZ PARRA, Associated Press

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — The focus of the deepening clash between Catalan separatists and Spanish authorities is shifting to the regional parliament for a key session likely to include a historic declaration of independence that Spain has pledged to crush.

Catalan president Carles Puigdemont hasn't revealed the precise message he will deliver Tuesday evening with separatist politicians expecting some sort of declaration based on the results of the disputed Oct. 1 referendum on independence.

At stake is the territorial integrity of Spain, threatened by a growing separatist movement that is sorely testing the strength of its constitution and the skill of its national and regional leaders.

Some expect a strictly symbolic declaration, while others believe a risky full-scale break with Spain will be attempted, even as Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy vows he will use all lawful means to keep Spain intact.

The Spanish leader has said he is willing to use a constitutional clause that allows Madrid to take over direct control of regions if they violate Spain's constitution — a move that could apply in this case because Spain's constitutional court had suspended the referendum.

Its results are therefore considered invalid under Spanish law.

"Spain will not be divided and the national unity will be preserved. We will do everything that legislation allows us to ensure this," Rajoy told German newspaper Die Welt. "We will prevent this independence from taking place."

Puigdemont's embrace of independence may be slowed by the decision of several major banks and businesses to move their headquarters out of Catalonia because they want to remain under the European Union's regulatory umbrella, and also by the bloc's backing of Spain despite a police crackdown on people trying to vote in the referendum.

The Spanish government's staunch opposition, the lukewarm response of the international community to the prospect of a breakaway state in Europe and the concerns of business leaders all suggest an independence move would extract a heavy price from Catalan's separatist leaders.

Still, separatist politicians say there will be a declaration of independence for the northeastern region of 7.5 million people during the Tuesday session, although some ruling coalition lawmakers say the move could be simply "symbolic."

The Oct. 1 referendum vote has been followed by mass protests of Catalans angered by heavy-handed police tactics.

But there also have been well-organized, large-scale rallies in both Catalonia and Madrid by people committed to keeping Spain intact.

Police say roughly 350,000 took part in the anti-independence protests Sunday in Barcelona. The demonstrators chanted "Don't be fooled, Catalonia is Spain" and called for Puigdemont to go to prison for holding the banned referendum. Some held up signs thanking Spain's National Police and Guardia Civil for their support.

Despite the opposition, some politicians and activists say they won't accept anything less than a full declaration of independence at Tuesday's session.

"Credibility and dignity suggest making the declaration of independence tomorrow (Tuesday)," Jordi Sanchez, the head of the civil group National Catalonia Assembly, said Monday.

A lawmaker with the Catalan CUP party told The Associated Press that the far-left separatists won't accept compromise on the issue.

"It's very clear to me that those who I represent won't accept any other scenario," Benet Salellas said during an interview at the regional parliament.

With so much uncertainty in the air, Catalonia's top judicial official ordered additional Spanish police protection for the headquarters of the regional judiciary.

The High Judiciary in Catalonia says its president, Jesus Barrientos, has asked the chief of the National

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Police force in the region to join in the protection of the building. The statement says the move is aimed at stopping any attempt to suspend the judiciary and ouster of its president in the event of secession, even if the declaration would be illegal under Spanish laws.

Catalan authorities say the "Yes" side won the referendum with 90 percent of the vote, although only 43 percent of the region's 5.3 million eligible voters turned out in polling that was disrupted by police raids of polling stations.

They say this validates their independence bid.

Rajoy has said the central government could take direct control of Catalonia, which now enjoys a measure of autonomy.

"The ideal situation would be that I don't have to find drastic solutions," Rajoy said this weekend.

Rajoy's government had repeatedly refused to grant Catalonia permission to hold a referendum on grounds that it is unconstitutional, since it would only poll a portion of Spain's 46 million residents.

Catalonia's separatist camp has grown in recent years, strengthened by Spain's recent economic crisis and by Madrid's rejection of attempts to increase self-rule in the region.

## White House to order health care alternatives

By **KEN THOMAS** and **RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House is finalizing an executive order that would expand health plans offered by associations to allow individuals to pool together and buy insurance outside their states, a unilateral move that follows failed efforts by Congress to overhaul the health care system.

President Donald Trump has long asserted that selling insurance across state lines would trigger competition that brings down premiums for people buying their own policies. Experts say that's not guaranteed, partly because health insurance reflects local medical costs, which vary widely around the country.

Moreover, White House actions may come too late to have much impact on premiums for 2018.

Trump was expected to sign the executive order this week, likely on Thursday, a senior administration official said Sunday.

Under the president's executive action, membership groups could sponsor insurance plans that cost less because — for example — they wouldn't have to offer the full menu of benefits required under the Affordable Care Act, also called "Obamacare." It's unclear how the White House plans to overcome opposition from state insurance regulators, who see that as an end-run to avoid standards.

"There are likely to be legal challenges that could slow this effort down," said Larry Levitt of the non-partisan Kaiser Family Foundation.

Similar alternatives have been promoted by Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul, a Republican holdout during the health care debate. Senate leaders didn't bring the latest GOP health care bill to a vote because they lacked the votes to pass it.

Association plans "kind of went away with the ACA, and now the idea seems to be to re-create them," said Jeff Smedsrud, a health insurance marketing entrepreneur. "It's not clear what they would really look like."

Smedsrud said a different option also under consideration by the White House, to loosen restrictions on "short term" insurance plans, could be a safety valve for some consumers.

Those plans generally have limited benefits and remain in force for less than a year. During the Obama administration, the availability of short-term coverage was restricted. One of Smedsrud's companies sells short-term plans.

Others warned that over time the White House order could undermine state insurance markets created under Obama's law, by siphoning off healthy people to plans with lower premiums and skinnier benefits.

The order was being drafted as Trump expressed his willingness to work with Democrats on health care after Republicans were unable to approve legislation that would have repealed and replaced "Obamacare."

The president said Saturday that he had spoken to Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York to see if Democrats would want to collaborate with him on improving health care. He told reporters before departing for a North Carolina fundraiser that he was willing to consider a "temporary deal" and

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referred to a popular Republican proposal that would have the federal government turn over money for health care directly to states in the form of block grants.

Schumer said through a spokesman Saturday that Trump "wanted to make another run at 'repeal and replace' and I told the president that's off the table." Schumer said if Trump "wants to work together to improve the existing health care system, we Democrats are open to his suggestions."

It was unclear if the expected White House order could lead to changes sweeping enough and quick enough to help several million consumers exposed to higher premiums next year for their individual health insurance plans.

It typically takes government agencies several months to carry out presidential directives, since they generally must follow a notice-and-comment process. Sign-up season for individual health insurance starts Nov. 1 and ends Dec. 15.

"Whether this executive order could impact the 2018 market is yet to be seen, since the health plans have created and priced their 2018 products already, and open enrollment begins in just three weeks," said health industry consultant Robert Laszewski.

While nearly 9 million consumers who receive tax credits under the Obama-era law are protected from higher premiums, about 6.7 million other customers with individual coverage get no subsidies and will bear the full brunt of cost increases that reach well into the double digits in many states.

Many in this group are solid middle-class, including self-employed business people and early retirees. Cutting premiums for them has been a longstanding Republican political promise.

"If the question is, is the president interested in working with Democrats to repeal and replace — that would be our language — the answer is yes," White House budget director Mick Mulvaney said during an interview with NBC's "Meet the Press." "The Democrats would use a different word for that, but the president wants to get something done."

## Shark-suit wearer runs afoul of Austria's "burqa ban" law

VIENNA (AP) — An Austrian law that forbids any kind of full-face covering including Islamic veils has claimed an unusual victim — a man wearing a shark suit.

Police say they issued a citation Monday after the man — part of a street advertising campaign for the McShark computer chain stores — refused several requests to take off his shark head.

In effect this month, most full face coverings are prohibited in public in Austria, including off-slope ski masks, surgical masks outside hospitals and party masks on the street. Popularly known as the "burqa ban," the law is mostly seen as directed at the clothing worn by some ultra-conservative Muslim women.

Violations carry a possible fine of 150 euros (nearly \$180). Only a handful of citations have been issued.

## In the rough: Losses mount at Trump's Scottish resorts

By BERNARD CONDON and PAUL KELBIE, Associated Press

BALMEDIE, Scotland (AP) — David Milne loves the view of the North Sea from his home high above the roiling surf, but he finds his eye often falling onto the golf course next door and, when it does, on the tiny figures below.

He counts the people coming off the buses in the parking lot and the people swinging at the 1st tee and the 10th tee and he counts the people walking the fairways and after all this counting he's convinced of something that must be satisfying given his tussles with the owner, Donald Trump.

There aren't enough people.

"The carpark is rarely even half full," said Milne, 53, looking out again on Friday under clear blue skies. "For what was supposedly the best golf course in the world, I don't really think this is a resounding success."

A few hours after Milne spoke, he got some confirmation. A financial report that Trump's company filed with the British government shows he has lost millions of dollars at the resort, called the Trump International Golf Links, as well as at a second one on the other side of Scotland overlooking the Irish Sea.

The report from Britain's Companies House released late Friday showed losses last year more than doubled



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to 17.6 million pounds (\$23 million). It was the third year in a row of losses. Revenue also fell sharply.

Trump's company has faced several setbacks since it ventured into Scotland a dozen years ago.

The company has angered Milne and other neighbors for what they say are its bullying tactics to get them to sell land. A local fisherman became a national hero of sorts when he, like Milne, refused to sell to Trump, despite a \$690,000 offer.

Then the company got some unwelcome publicity. Two documentaries about the fights with residents were shot, "Tripping Up Trump" and "You've Been Trumped," the latter shown on the BBC despite threats from one of Trump's lawyers to sue the broadcaster.

Troubles have only mounted since then.

A few months before Trump clinched the Republican nomination last year, he lost a court fight to stop an offshore windmill farm near the North Sea resort. He has been repeatedly stymied in his plans to build a luxury hotel there and a second course because of, among other things, strong objections from environmental regulators that his plans will threaten the sand dunes for which the area is famous. And there also are signs that he is at risk of losing a bid to host the coveted Scottish Open.

Just how much these setbacks have hurt Trump's business is unclear, however. Other factors appear to have played a big role in the latest financial results.

In Friday's report, Trump's company noted it had to shut down its Turnberry resort on the Irish Sea for half the year while building a new course there and fixing up an old one. It also blamed losses on a hit from fluctuations in the value of the British pound.

The report and Milne's math aside, some residents think Trump's resorts are attracting plenty of golfers and doing just fine. In fact, whatever troubles Trump has encountered appear to only have helped business in the North Sea area.

He has only 16 rooms for overnight guests at his resort there, leaving other hotels to pick up the slack.

"I've gone from doing an average of 400 room nights for golfers per year to 1,400 room nights in six months," said Stewart Spence, 70, owner of the Marcliffe Hotel and Spa in nearby Aberdeen. "There can hardly be a golfer in the world who doesn't know about this area because of what Trump has done."?

Rival courses have seen a bump in business, too.

"We've gone from about 4,000 golfers per annum to almost 5,500 a year," said Les Durno, 54, general manager at the Cruden Bay Golf Club about 20 miles from Trump's course.

Then there is the sheer spectacle itself, a chance to gawk at a U.S. president's property and maybe spend 19.95 pounds (\$26.07) for a cap embroidered with Trump's family crest.

"When we drive past Trump International, I often get people, Americans mostly, asking to stop so they can go into the golf shop and buy something," said a bus driver waiting in the parking lot Friday who didn't want to give his name. "They don't play golf but they want a Trump Scotland souvenir."

Or as Hector Emslie, 58, the golf project manager for the local tourism organization, VisitAberdeenshire, put it: it's like having the "Disney World for golfers" on our doorstep.

Others are less enthusiastic, including the leader of the Scottish government, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.

Shortly before Trump visited his North Sea resort in June last year, and Milne ran a Mexican flag up a pole in protest against his immigration policies, Sturgeon stripped Trump of his title as business ambassador for Scotland. She cited his comments about Muslims during the campaign.

Aberdeen's Robert Gordon University also revoked Trump of his honorary degree for the same reason.

Trump's incendiary comments while president have only added to his woes.

A corporate watchdog group started an online petition to stop Trump's development plan at his resort. The group, SumOfUs, seized on Trump's reaction to the violence in Charlottesville, Virginia, arguing that his rhetoric has "bolstered white supremacists" across the globe.

"Now we have a chance to reject Trump's hatred," it said in its online appeal, "and protect our environment in one fell swoop."

As of Sunday, the group had collected 94,888 signatures.

In July, the CEO of a major sponsor of the Scottish Open was quoted in a local newspaper casting doubt

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on Trump's chances of hosting the event.

"There's no decision made but, look, there are clear issues," Aberdeen Asset Management CEO Martin Gilbert was quoted saying. He added, "Politics aside, Trump would be an ideal venue — but you can't put politics aside."

Whether any of this will hurt profits at Trump's Scottish business in the long run is another matter.

In Friday's report, Eric Trump, the president's son and a director of the British subsidiary that owns the two resorts, included a letter expressing confidence that the resorts will attract plenty of golfers.

Amanda Miller, a spokeswoman for the Trump Organization, declined to comment. She also said that Eric Trump was not available to talk.

Trump handed over management of his company to Eric and his other adult son, Donald Jr., before becoming president, but he still retains a financial interest in it.

For his part, Milne is convinced the course will continue to suffer. He thinks Trump's election as president has hurt the business.

"It has hindered the success of the club," said Milne as his Mexican flag flapped in the wind. "Some people come because it is the president's golf club, but others avoid it for the same reason."

Condon reported from New York.

## Asia shares mixed as Wall Street rally takes breather

By ELAINE KURTENBACH, AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Share prices were mixed in early trading Tuesday in Asia, after the rally on Wall Street took a breather overnight. Investors are awaiting trade data from China this week and keeping an eye on geopolitical risks centered on North Korea.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 index gained 0.4 percent to 20,769.77 and Australia's S&P ASX 200 edged 0.1 percent higher to 5,744.20. South Korea's Kospi jumped 1.9 percent to 2,439.14 after a weeklong holiday. But Hong Kong's Hang Seng index fell 0.1 percent to 28,311.83 while the Shanghai Composite index lost 0.4 percent to 3,362.31. Shares in Southeast Asia were mixed.

WALL STREET: Losses for health care companies and banks left U.S. stocks lower Monday and industrial conglomerate General Electric skidded after announcing more changes in its leadership. Stocks have rallied recently on hopes that tax cuts proposed by the Trump administration and congressional Republicans will boost corporate profits. But President Donald Trump sparred over the weekend with Senator Bob Corker, a retiring Republican who has a reputation as a budget hawk. Republicans have a narrow majority and losing just a few votes could derail a bill. The Standard & Poor's 500 index dipped 0.2 percent to 2,544.73. The Dow Jones industrial average shed less than 0.1 percent to 22,761.07 and the Nasdaq composite fell 0.2 percent to 6,579.73, which ended a nine-day winning streak.

THE QUOTE: "The low volume and moderate movements in U.S. markets certainly provided little inspiration for markets in the region as Asian bourses largely shrugged off the soft U.S. performance," Jingyi Pan of IG said in a commentary. "With a light data day expected ahead, Asian markets may find moderate movements with eyes ahead to releases in the U.S. and China's loans and trade updates."

NORTH KOREA: Concerns that North Korea might choose the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Kim Jong Il's acceptance of the title of general secretary of the ruling Worker's Party of Korea for another missile test abated somewhat. Thousands of people, mostly students, packed Kim Il Sung Square in Pyongyang to dance and watch fireworks to mark the anniversary on Sunday night. North Korean state media announced that current leader Kim Jong Un had repeated the country's defiance of the U.S. and reiterated his determination to push ahead with its nuclear program in a meeting with other top leaders on Saturday.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude added 7 cents to \$49.65 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It rose 29 cents to \$49.58 a barrel on Monday as Tropical Storm Nate moved away from the Gulf Coast, where much of U.S. crude is drilled and processed. Brent crude, used to price international oils, gained 5 cents to \$55.84 per barrel. It added 17 cents to \$55.79 a barrel in London.

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CURRENCIES: The dollar was steady at 112.68 yen. The euro rose to \$1.1773 from \$1.1741.

AP Markets Writer Marley Jay contributed to this report. He can be reached at <http://twitter.com/MarleyJayAP>

His work can be found at <https://apnews.com/search/marley%20jay>

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 10, the 283rd day of 2017. There are 82 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 10, 1967, the Outer Space Treaty, prohibiting the placing of weapons of mass destruction on the moon or elsewhere in space, entered into force.

On this date:

In A.D. 19, Roman general Germanicus Julius Caesar, 33, died in Antioch under mysterious circumstances, possibly from poisoning.

In 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy was established in Annapolis, Maryland.

In 1913, the Panama Canal was effectively completed as President Woodrow Wilson sent a signal from the White House by telegraph, setting off explosives that destroyed a section of the Gamboa dike.

In 1917, legendary jazz composer and pianist Thelonious Monk was born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina.

In 1935, the George Gershwin opera "Porgy and Bess," featuring an all-black cast, opened on Broadway, beginning a run of 124 performances.

In 1938, Nazi Germany completed its annexation of Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland (soo-DAYT'-uhn-land).

In 1943, Chiang Kai-shek took the oath of office as president of China.

In 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower apologized to the finance minister of Ghana, Komla Agbeli Gbedemah, after the official was refused seating in a Howard Johnson's restaurant near Dover, Delaware. The Milwaukee Braves won the World Series, defeating the New York Yankees in Game 7, 5-0. The TV series "Zorro," starring Guy Williams as the masked hero, debuted on ABC.

In 1966, the Beach Boys' single "Good Vibrations" by Brian Wilson and Mike Love was released by Capitol Records.

In 1973, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, accused of accepting bribes, pleaded no contest to one count of federal income tax evasion, and resigned his office.

In 1985, U.S. fighter jets forced an Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro (ah-KEE'-leh LOW'-roh) to land in Italy, where the gunmen were taken into custody. Actor-director Orson Welles died in Los Angeles at age 70; actor Yul Brynner died in New York at age 65.

In 1997, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and its coordinator, Jody Williams, were named winners of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Ten years ago: A 14-year-old suspended student opened fire in a Cleveland high school, wounding two teachers and two classmates before killing himself. The United Auto Workers tentatively agreed on a contract with Chrysler. (UAW members ratified the accord, but with significant dissent.) A Russian spacecraft blasted off for the international space station, carrying Malaysia's first astronaut (Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor) and Peggy Whitson, an American who became the first woman to command the orbital outpost. German Gerhard Ertl won the 2007 Nobel Prize in chemistry on his 71st birthday.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama conceded he did poorly the previous week in his first debate with Republican rival Mitt Romney, telling ABC he'd "had a bad night"; Romney, meanwhile, barnstormed battleground state Ohio and released a new commercial pledging not to raise taxes. Football star-turned-actor Alex Karras died in Los Angeles at age 77.

One year ago: Amid controversy over Donald Trump's past sexual comments about women, House Speaker Paul Ryan effectively abandoned his party's nominee, telling anxious fellow lawmakers he would

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not campaign for or defend Trump in the election's closing weeks; pro-Trump members rebelled in anger, accusing Ryan of conceding the election to Hillary Clinton. British-born Oliver Hart and Bengt Holmstrom of Finland won the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences.

Today's Birthdays: Former Illinois Sen. Adlai Stevenson III is 87. Actor Peter Coyote is 76. Entertainer Ben Vereen is 71. Singer John Prine is 71. Actor Charles Dance is 71. Rock singer-musician Cyril Neville (The Neville Brothers) is 69. Actress Jessica Harper is 68. Author Nora Roberts (aka "J.D. Robb") is 67. Singer-musician Midge Ure is 64. Rock singer David Lee Roth is 63. Actor J. Eddie Peck is 59. Country singer Tanya Tucker is 59. Actress Julia Sweeney is 58. Actor Bradley Whitford is 58. Musician Martin Kemp is 56. Actress Jodi Benson is 56. Rock musician Jim Glennie (James) is 54. Actress Rebecca Pidgeon is 52. Rock musician Mike Malinin (mah-LIHN'-ihn) (Goo Goo Dolls) is 50. Pro Football Hall of Famer Brett Favre is 48. Actor Manu Bennett is 48. Actress Joelle Carter is 48. Actress Wendi McLendon-Covey is 48. Actor/TV host Mario Lopez is 44. Race driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. is 43. Actress Jodi Lyn O'Keefe is 39. Singer Mya is 38. Actor Dan Stevens is 35. Singer Cherie is 33. Actress Rose McIver is 29. Actress Aimee Teegarden is 28.

Thought for Today: "The imperceptible process of age has a point which, once passed, cannot be retraced. I knew I had passed that point and was getting old the day I noticed that all the cops looked so young." — Harry Lewis Golden, American author, editor and publisher (1903-1981).