

# Groton Daily Independent

Saturday, Nov. 18, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 132 ~ 1 of 47

“What would life be if we had no courage to attempt anything?”

~ Vincent van Gogh



## Today's Event

State VB in Rapid City  
Debate and Oral Interp at Mitchell

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Dairy Queen Ad
- 2- Groton Care & Rehab Help Wanted Ad
- 2- City Council Agenda
- 3- Sharp Shooting Propels Wolves in Opening Game from Colorado
- 3- Wolves Down Jimmies En Route to Home Opening Victory
- 4- Wolves Notch Season Best Times in Final Home Meet of 2017-18
- 5- Christmas At The Capitol Tree-Lighting Ceremony
- 5- Track and Field Nabs Ten Future Wolves in Early Signing Period
- 6- Thune's Weekly Column
- 7- Three advance to State Oral Interp
- 8- Farmers Union PSA
- 8- Today in Weather History
- 9- Today's Forecast
- 10- Yesterday's Weather
- 10- Today's Weather Info
- 10- National Weather Map
- 11- Daily Devotional
- 12- 2018 Community Events
- 13- News from the Associated Press

			
Oven Fresh Sandwiches	Hot Desserts	Snack Melts	
11 E Hwy 12, Groton ~ 397-8627			
			
			

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

## The cardboard/paper

recycling trailer at the school is **Open**

## NEW SIGN-ON BONUSES!

☆☆☆ **\$1,500 for CNAs** ☆☆☆

☆☆☆ **\$3,000 for LPNs** ☆☆☆

☆☆☆ **\$4,500 for RNs** ☆☆☆

Contact Brynn Pickrel or Nellie Hatfield 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**

111717

### Groton City Council Meeting Agenda

November 20, 2017 – 7:00pm

Groton Community Center

1. Minutes
2. Bills
3. October Finance Report
4. Gravel bids for 2018 to be open December 4, 2017
5. Safe Routes to School Remainder: \$6,512.50
6. Six Month Probation Period End Dec. 5 – Hope
7. Per Karyn Babcock – City Employee Christmas Party
8. Fees & Price List Revision
9. First Reading Ordinance # 715 Utility Amendment
10. Group Health Insurance Coverage for 2018
11. First Reading of Ordinance # 716 Salaries for 2018
12. Executive session - Personnel 1-25-2 (3)

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## Sharp Shooting Propels Wolves in Opening Game from Colorado

Pueblo, Colo. – Despite some early foul trouble, the Northern State University women's basketball team came away with a 16 point victory over the host Colorado State University Pueblo on Friday evening. NSU defeated the ThunderWolves 75-59, improving to 3-1 overall this season.

Northern out-scored Pueblo in three of the four quarters with a game high 26 points in the second. They led 44-28 at the half, shooting 54.5 percent from the floor in the first 20 minutes. The Wolves held their largest lead of 26 points with 4:09 remaining in regulation.

As a team the Wolves tallied 34 points in the paint, 17 points off the bench, 13 points off of eight turnovers, and 11 points off nine offensive boards. They out-shot the ThunderWolves knocking down 27-of-55 from the floor, 7-of-16 from the arc, and 14-of-18 from the charity stripe.

Miranda Ristau led the team with 16 points, shooting a team second best 70.0 percent from field goal range. She added five rebounds, one assist, and a team leading two blocks. Jessi Marti was second on the team with 12 points and four assists. The sophomore shot 50.0 percent from the floor, and added three rebounds for the Wolves.

Jill Conrad and Alexis Tappe rounded out the double figure scorers with 11 and ten points respectively. Conrad shot a team leading 71.4 percent from the floor and notched six rebounds, while Tappe added five rebounds, two assists, and one steal.

Brianna Kusler rounded out the Northern State starters with nine points in the win. She dished out a team leading five assists, and added five rebounds. Brynn Flakus led the team off the bench with seven points and three rebounds in 11 minutes of play.

Anika Fredrick and Gabby Laimer tallied four and three points each, while Haley Froelich and Sara Tvedt notched two and one points apiece. Tvedt matched Conrad with a team leading six rebounds, while adding two assists and one steal.

The Wolves are back in action today from Pueblo in a neutral site contest beginning at 2 p.m. versus the Westminster Griffons.

## Wolves Down Jimmies En Route to Home Opening Victory

Aberdeen, S.D. – The Northern State University men's basketball team opened their 2017-18 home slate with a 67-60 victory over Jamestown. The Wolves improve to 3-1 on the year, with just four non-conference games remaining this season.

It was a battle in the first half, as the two teams entered the locked room tied at 34-all. Northern quickly jumped out to a seven point lead just two and a half minutes in the second and did not look back. The Wolves tallied 33 points in the second half, while holding the Jimmies to 26.

As a team NSU shot 46.9 percent from the floor, 21.4 percent from the arc, and 40.0 percent from the foul line. The recorded a game high 48 points in the paint and 32 points off the bench. Northern added 19 points of 16 turnovers and 14 points off 13 offensive boards. Finally the Wolves out-rebounded the Jimmies 43-30 in the win.

Carter Evans led the team with his first double-double of the season. The senior tallied 21 points and ten rebounds, while shooting 90.0 percent from the floor. Evans added two assists, three blocks, and two steals for the Wolves leading the team off the bench.

Ian Smith led the NSU starters with 13 points, followed by Logan Doyle with ten. Doyle notched a team second best eight rebounds, while Smith tallied a team leading four steals and three assists. Gabe King and Darin Peterka tallied five points each, while DJ Pollard rounded out the starting five with two points of his own. Doyle was second on the team shooting 5-of-7 from the floor, at a 71.4 percent clip.

Justin Decker tallied six points and four rebounds off the bench for the Wolves in just seven minutes of action. He was followed by Andrew Kallman and Cole Dahl with three and two points respectively. Kallman added two assists and two rebounds to the team total, while Bo Fries was second on the team with two steals.

Northern returns to Wachs Arena on Monday evening, for a 7 p.m. match-up with the visiting Yellow Jackets of Black Hills State University.

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## **Wolves Notch Season Best Times in Final Home Meet of 2017-18**

Aberdeen, S.D. – In their final home meet of the 2017-18 season, the Northern State University swim team fell to Augustana 166-96 from the Aberdeen YMCA. The Wolves drop to 2-12 overall and 1-4 in the NSIC following the loss.

The Wolves opened the afternoon as the runner-up in the 400 medley relay. The team of Edda Skoric, Ashley Dunn, Karlie Brown, and Lexie Malimanek finished with a time of 4:13.09.

Kalina Emaus tallied a second place in the 100 yard free, the first individual event of the afternoon, hitting the wall at 11:12.83. The junior went on to win the 200 fly with a time of 2:15.93. She was followed Jordan Metz in third overall in the 1000 free with a time of 11:57.02.

Josie Gillund led the Wolves in the 200 free, finishing second with a time of 2:01.63. Gillund added her second runner-up finish of the evening in the 10 free, hitting the wall at 55.98. Kady Harris added a second place finish in the 100 breast, hitting the wall at 1:10.57. Harris also notched a runner-up finish in the 50 free, with a time of 26.39.

Edda Skoric notched her first win of the night in the 100 back, hitting the wall at 59.80 for nine team points. She was the only swimmer to finish under a minute. The sophomore went on to win the 200 back, with a time of 2:11.57. She defeated the next closest opponent by over three seconds. Malimanek followed in third with a time of 2:22.46. Skoric finished off the meet, taking second in the 500 free with a time of 5:17.32.

Karlie Brown led the team in the 100 fly, coming in second with a time of 1:02.42. She followed that with a fourth place finish in the 400 IM just one race later, hitting the wall at 4:56.34. Camille Kawasaki tallied personal records for the Wolves in the 200 breast and 100 fly. She hit the wall in fourth in the 200 breast with a time of 2:41.57, and notched a time of 1:04.31 in the 100 fly.

The Wolves concluded the meet, finishing second in the 200 free relay with solid splits all around. The team of Harris, Maida Walters, Gentry Musgrove, and Gillund hit the wall at 1:42.82.

The Wolves return to action December 1-3 from the Rochester Invite in Rochester, Minnesota, with prelims and finals each day.

## Christmas At The Capitol Tree-Lighting Ceremony

PIERRE, S.D. – The 2017 Grand Lighting Ceremony for Christmas at the South Dakota Capitol will take place in the rotunda on Tuesday, Nov. 21, at 7 p.m. CST.

The public is invited to join Gov. Dennis Daugaard, First Lady Linda Daugaard and Fort Pierre Mayor Gloria Hanson as they welcome guests and light the Capitol trees.

The Capitol Christmas display includes over 90 trees decorated by volunteers from communities, schools, churches, nonprofit organizations and state government offices. This year's theme for Christmas at the Capitol is "The Colors of Christmas."

The largest tree in the Capitol, a 27.5-foot Colorado Blue Spruce, is being decorated by the Fort Pierre Bicentennial Committee and was donated by Mary and Iver Finnesand of Grenville. After being trimmed, the tree stands at 24.5 feet in the rotunda.

At the ceremony, music will be provided by the Pierre 4, Stanley County Elementary School choirs and Sioux Falls Roosevelt High School.

Immediately after the ceremony, kids of all ages can pose for pictures with Santa Claus in front of the South Dakota Christmas tree. Parents are reminded to bring their cameras. Refreshments, donated by Lynn's Dakotamart in Pierre, will be served on the first floor of the Capitol.

The holiday display will be open to the public from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily from Nov. 22 through Dec. 27.

You can follow the Christmas at the Capitol events on Facebook or visit the website at [christmasatthe-capitol.sd.gov/](http://christmasatthe-capitol.sd.gov/).

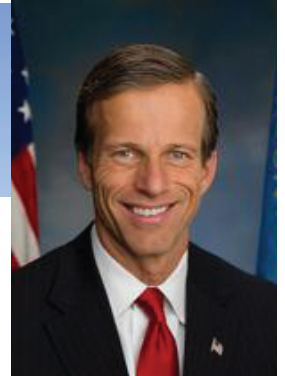
## Track and Field Nabs Ten Future Wolves in Early Signing Period

Aberdeen, S.D. – Northern State University Head Coach Kevin Bjerke announced Friday the signing of ten student-athletes for the 2018-19 season. Tava Berg (Watertown, S.D.), Molly Boyum (Jackson, Minn.), Jennifer Clark (Rochester, Minn.), Dekunseh Doe (Bismarck, N.D.), Rachel Guthmiller (Onida, S.D.), Jackson Harrison (Aberdeen, S.D.), Kealy Hill (Gillette, Wyo.), Ilynn Jaycox (Pipestone, Minn.), Jordyn Sterud (Appleton, Minn.), and Jared Tyrrell (Pender, Neb.) will join the Wolves next fall.

"We pride ourselves in having a well-balanced track and field program and are excited to be bringing in some exceptional talent across many different event areas," explained Bjerke. "These ten young men and women are a great start to another outstanding recruiting class. It is always a pleasure to give local talent an opportunity to shine as a Wolf, and we are especially excited to have two state meet runner-up performers in Jackson and Rachel staying local to compete with the Wolves. They will be joined by some talented support from surrounding states, highlighted by pole vault standout Kealy Hill who was last year's Wyoming 4A State Champion."



**John Thune**  
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



## A Once-in-a-Generation Opportunity

One of the main reasons I wanted to join the Senate Finance Committee was for the opportunity to reform and modernize our wildly outdated tax code. Fortunately, that once-in-a-generation opportunity has finally presented itself, and I'm excited by the momentum in Congress that is getting us closer to delivering a pro-growth tax reform bill to the president that will directly benefit middle-income South Dakota families.

The U.S. tax code is like a time capsule. It's stuck in 1986. More than three decades have passed since Congress has taken a hard look at reforming it. Think about everything that's changed in the last 31 years. The United States has elected five new presidents, of which three served a full eight years. The internet was invented. For me personally, I've watched my daughters grow up, and I now have grandchildren. If that doesn't put this into perspective, I don't know what will.

There are a lot of reasons to support the Senate tax reform plan, but I'm particularly interested in all of the positive things it would do to provide relief for middle-income families. First, it doubles the standard deduction for individual and joint filers, which would reduce the tax burden on families. Since fewer people would need to itemize, it would simplify the code, too. Doubling the standard deduction means the first \$24,000 of a family's income wouldn't be subject to federal income tax. For a family that earns less than \$24,000 per year, they wouldn't pay any federal income taxes at all.

Specifically in South Dakota, the Senate tax reform plan, according to a Tax Foundation analysis of the initial plan, would result in a \$2,528 boost in after-tax income for middle-income families and more than 2,700 new full-time jobs for South Dakota workers.

The Senate tax reform plan doubles the child tax credit to \$2,000 and expands eligibility, which would help folks who are raising a family and trying to make ends meet. The plan also fulfills one of the most fundamental goals we set out to achieve: It lowers federal income tax rates for all levels of income earners in South Dakota, including those in the bottom-to-middle brackets.

The plan would also reform the tax code for U.S. businesses. For too long, we have been losing jobs to overseas competitors, in part because our businesses pay some of the highest taxes in the industrialized world. This plan would make U.S. businesses more competitive, which would create jobs and increase wages for American workers.

Over the last five years, tax reform has really been a bipartisan issue. During Democrat and Republican administrations, and under Democrat and Republican chairmen of the Finance Committee, we've held nearly 70 hearings on tax-related issues. Two years ago, I worked with Sen. Ben Cardin, one of my Democrat colleagues who also serves on the Finance Committee, on a bipartisan proposal to reform the business side of the tax code. This year alone, I've introduced multiple bipartisan tax reform proposals, including one that's cosponsored by the top Democrat on the Finance Committee.

I remain hopeful that bipartisanship will prevail here, too, and that by the end of this process, my colleagues will see the benefits of this plan and realize the real winners of pro-growth tax reform are middle-income American families.



**Tylan Glover and Anne Marie Smith will advance to the state oral interp festival in Duo Interpretation.** (Courtesy Photo)



**Jenifer Fjelstad will advance to the state oral interp festival, competing in Poetry.** (Courtesy Photo)

## Three advance to State Oral Interp

The GHS Oral Interp Team consisting of senior Jenifer Fjelstad; juniors Tylan Glover and Anne Marie Smith; and freshman Desiree Blevins, Alyssa Fordham, Hailey Monson, Samantha Pappas, and Sheyanne Richards competed at the Region Oral Interp Contest at Northern State University in Aberdeen on November 14. Blevins, Fordham, Monson, and Richards competed in Readers Theater. Pappas competed in Serious Interpretation. Glover and Smith competed in Duo Interpretation. Fjelstad competed in Poetry. Fjelstad, Glover, and Smith all advanced to the State Oral Interp Festival that will be held in Aberdeen December 1 and 2.

**In back, left to right, are Samantha Pappas, Sheyanne Richards and Hailey Monson; in front, left to right, are Alyssa Fordham, Anne Marie Smith, Tylan Glover, Jenifer Fjelstad and Desiree Blevins.** (Courtesy photo)



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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](http://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")**

## Today in Weather History

November 18, 1985: Snowfall of 3-8 inches fell over western, central and northern South Dakota, with the most significant amount of 8 inches at Huron in Beadle County and White River in Mellette County. Strong winds exceeding 40 mph over the area produced near-blizzard conditions at times, with considerable blowing and drifting snow. Additional storm total snowfall amounts included; 6.0 inches in Murdo; 5.5 inches at Gettysburg, 5.0 inches near Stephan, in Eureka, and 12SSW of Harrold; and 4.0 inches in McLaughlin.

November 18, 1992: Three to eleven inches of snow fell in the northeast third of South Dakota and into west central Minnesota from the 18th into the 19th. Storm total snowfall amounts included; 11.0 inches in Browns Valley and near Bryant, 9 inches near Sisseton, Summit and Wheaton MN, 8 inches near Victor and Wilmot, 7.9 inches at Artichoke Lake MN, and 7.0 inches in Clear Lake.

1421: The notorious St. Elizabeth's flood occurred during the night of November 18, to November 19 in what is now known as the Netherlands. A strong storm on the North Sea coast caused several dikes to break allowing the lower lands to flood. Some villages around Dordrecht were lost, causing an estimated 6,000 casualties.

1873 - A severe storm raged from Georgia to Nova Scotia causing great losses to fishing fleets along the coast. In Maine, the barometric pressure reached 28.49 inches at Portland. (David Ludlum)








1929: A magnitude 7.2 earthquake off the coast of the Grand Banks, Newfoundland caused a submarine landslide that triggered a tsunami that killed people on the Burin Peninsula of Newfoundland. The undersea landslide damaged several miles of transatlantic telegraph cables, resulting in much of the \$400,000 in damage. South Carolina and Portugal felt this tsunami.


1955 - An early season cold snap finally came to an end. Helena, MT, experienced 138 consecutive hours of subzero temperatures, including a reading of 29 below zero, which surpassed by seven degrees their previous record for the month of November. Missoula MT broke their November record by 12 degrees with a reading of 23 below zero, and Salt Lake City UT smashed their previous November record of zero with a reading of 14 below. Heavy snow in the Great Basin closed Donner Pass CA, and total crop damage from the cold wave amounted to eleven million dollars. (David Ludlum)









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Today	Tonight	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday	Monday Night	Tuesday
						
Mostly Sunny then Sunny and Breezy	Mostly Clear	Sunny	Mostly Clear	Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Sunny
High: 32 °F	Low: 14 °F	High: 47 °F	Low: 23 °F	High: 51 °F	Low: 18 °F	High: 26 °F



## Thankful for dry weather through Thanksgiving?

Today	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thanksgiving
28 to 43°	44 to 55°	48 to 57°	24 to 34°	32 to 47°	41 to 57°
					
<b>Breezy</b>	<b>Warm</b>		<b>Cool</b>		



National Weather Service  
Aberdeen, SD

[www.weather.gov/abr](http://www.weather.gov/abr)

GRAPHIC CREATED:  
11/18/2017 5:02 AM

Published on: 11/18/2017 at 5:07AM

Upcoming holiday travel? Dry weather is expected through Thanksgiving! Cool and dry high pressure will build into the region, with northwest winds becoming breezy this afternoon. The ridge of high pressure will exit across Minnesota on Sunday, with warmer air returning for Sunday and Monday. Look for another brief cool-down Tuesday.

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## Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 45.0

Low Outside Temp: 26.7

High Gust: 30

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

Record High: 71° in 1908

Record Low: -13° in 1896

Average High: 38°F

Average Low: 18°F

Average Precip in Nov: .48

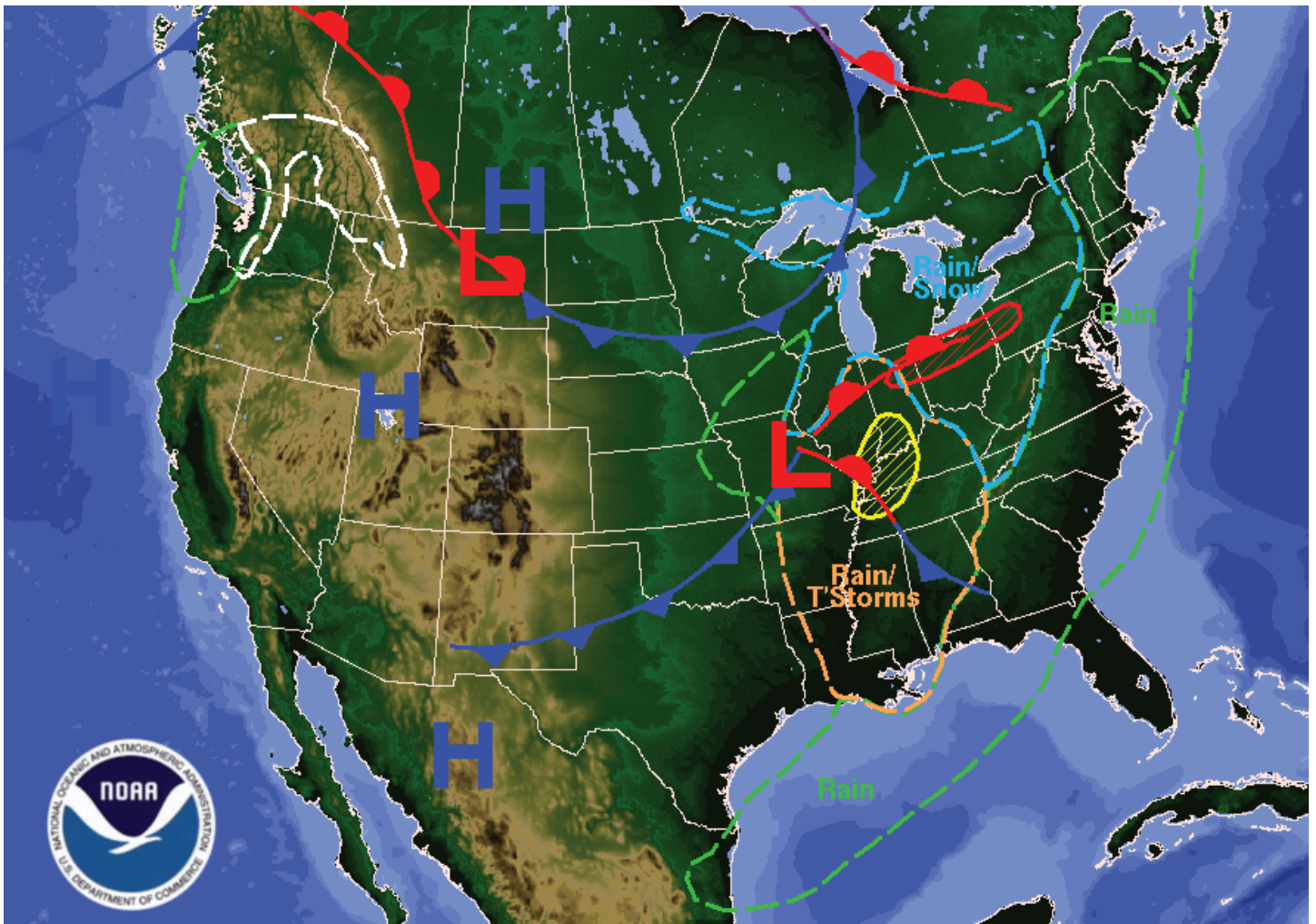
Precip to date in Nov: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 20.95

Precip Year to Date: 13.47

Sunset Tonight: 5:00 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:38 a.m.



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sat, Nov 18, 2017, issued 4:17 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Santorelli 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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## DISCOVERING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

If God is good, why do the godly have grief? If God is fair, why do the faithful fail? If God cares, why does He allow Christians to have cancer? If God is powerful, why are innocent people murdered?

And why are the ungodly prosperous? Why are the ungodly happy? Why are the ungodly recipients of any good thing? After all, they are ungodly!

The writer of Psalm 73 had a problem with bad people living godless lives and receiving earthly rewards. He was a bit angry when he saw their lavish lives. They appeared to have everything their hearts desired, lived lives of ease and were healthy. Their riches multiplied even though they scoffed at God and threatened His children. What's up?

So the writer of the Psalm became vain. He avoided evil and when he sinned he immediately confessed and asked God to forgive him. He read God's Word, engaged in prayer and tried to live a godly life. But all he got from God was trouble: all day, every day! Finally he asked God, "Am I wasting my time? Why should I bother to be godly?"

Fortunately, he went to the right place for an answer. "Finally," he concluded when he went to the sanctuary to worship, "I understood their end!" Wrongs in this life will be corrected in the next! Remember: Dives lived in pleasure and Lazarus in pain. But there came a day when things were reversed: Dives was tormented by flames and Lazarus went to live lavishly in his Father's Home.

The ungodly leave their treasures at death but the godly only begin to enjoy theirs with their Father.

Prayer: Give us a strong faith, Father, to look beyond what is to what will be when we are at last with You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 73:12 This is what the wicked are like—always free of care, they go on amassing wealth.

## 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 Meat- 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



## News from the Associated Press

### Survivor of 2007 abduction recalls incident 10 years later

By CAITLYNN PEETZ, Mitchell Daily Republic

ETHAN, S.D. (AP) — When the pulsing rhythm of red and blue police lights flashed behind the car Angela Mogck was a passenger in 10 years ago, she let out a sigh of relief.

That relief soon gave way to shrieks of terror and a morbid realization that the Ethan teenager's life was about to change forever.

On June 14, 2007, Mogck's stepfather Lyle Doering held Mogck and her siblings hostage inside their grandmother's home in Ethan before kidnapping them and leading police on a lengthy high-speed chase. Doering eventually crashed the vehicle into a tree near Bridgewater, killing himself and Mogck's two younger siblings.

The Daily Republic reports that 10 years later, Mogck's broken bones have mended, but the memories and emotional scarring have yet to fade.

"I still don't understand why everything happened the way it did and I'm here today and they're not," Mogck, 27, said. "I don't think it's right. This isn't how it should be."

The 2007 day began like many others for the siblings. Mogck and 13-year-old Deanna slept late, waking up around 2 p.m. Shortly after waking up, the day took a turn for the worst.

Mogck's 9-year-old brother Trevor told her his father was there, and as Mogck looked out her bedroom window to see for herself, she locked eyes with Doering.

Doering was wanted by the law and Deanna and Trevor were staying with Mogck at their grandparent's home to avoid contact with him.

Little did they know he had been spending his nights on the outskirts of the property, sleeping in abandoned cars and on hay bales, Mogck said.

But he waited nearly two weeks before he made his move, approaching the children when they were alone.

After seeing Doering, Mogck hid Deanna and Trevor in the home, and when Doering entered, asking where his children were, Mogck told him they weren't there.

"His eyes, there was this sinister look to them," Mogck said. "He caught me and he held on and no matter how much I struggled, I couldn't get free."

Doering knew it was a lie and put her in a headlock until she became faint and admitted the children were there.

Doering then began talking calmly to the children, making sure they stayed in the house for more than three hours.

Several times, Doering alluded that he was going to kill himself, Mogck said.

Around 5:45 p.m., Mogck's grandmother, Marlou Mogck, called, saying she would be home in 15 minutes to take the children to bowling league.

Doering ushered the children into a bedroom, and met Marlou as she entered the house.

"We just heard this thud, then it was pure silence for 20 minutes before he came and got us," Mogck said. "When we left the bedroom I was expecting to see blood and this big awful scene, but there was just some scattered papers and stuff."

Mogck later learned Marlou had been tied up, locked in the bathroom so Doering could get the children out of the house and into a car.

Marlou was eventually able to free herself and called 911 to report the abduction.

Meanwhile, the children were on what seemed like "a Sunday family cruise." Doering was driving average speeds, being cautious and was calm, Mogck said.

But then the group passed a sheriff's vehicle.

The sheriff flipped around and Doering began speeding up, reaching speeds of 100 mph, leading police

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on a chase that spanned 30 minutes. Eventually, police put out a spike strip on a road west of Bridgewater, but Doering swerved into the ditch to avoid it.

Throughout the chase, Mogck attempted to fasten Trevor and Deanna's seat belt, but Doering continued to unbuckle Trevor, telling him, "You don't need that, we're just racing," Mogck said.

But she knew it wasn't just a game.

Mogck exchanged "I love you" with Deanna, and the pair took Trevor's hands, who was scared and said he didn't want to die.

Shortly after, Doering told the children "We're going to die today," accelerated again, swerved and struck a tree.

Deanna, Trevor and Doering died on impact, and the vehicle quickly became engulfed in flames.

An officer pulled Mogck from the wreckage and laid her on an embankment where she watched the car burn and the reality that she was the only one to make it out alive set in.

"I didn't need anybody to tell me they were gone — I knew," a tearful Mogck said. "I could see my sister burning and I lost it from there. It's so hard being an older sibling and then realizing I couldn't save them."

Mogck keeps pictures of Deanna and Trevor tucked safely in her wallet, so she can catch a glimpse of them whenever they cross her mind, as they often do.

The events a decade ago shaped much of Mogck's life, from her free spirit rendering her unwilling to stay in one place long, to her desire to pursue a degree in criminal justice, specializing in forensics.

But as she's grown and dealt with her emotions, Mogck said she has grown in ways many of her peers never will.

"Throughout the past 10 years, I've asked myself if I'm any further than I was 10 years ago, and in some aspects I am," Mogck said. "But sometimes I'm still struggling with that feeling of going from a protector of them to feeling lost."

But she wasn't the only one affected by the tragedy.

In the hours after learning that two of the three children had died, Marlou Mogck suffered a heart attack and was airlifted to a Sioux Falls hospital. Almost exactly 10 years later, Marlou had a second heart attack.

Mogck's mother, Lori, had several strokes near the 10-year anniversary of her children's death in June.

And while the physical toll that the events have taken is obvious, Lori said the pair has stuck together and made the best of the situation.

"Our motto is to keep moving forward," Lori said. "Even though we've gone through a lot and have struggled to find the silver lining at times, we just keep moving forward."

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

## Keystone pipeline leak won't affect last regulatory hurdle

By GRANT SCHULTE and JAMES NORD

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Discovery of a 210,000-gallon oil leak from the Keystone pipeline would seem to be poor timing four days before regulators in Nebraska decide whether to allow a major expansion of the system, but officials say state law does not allow pipeline safety to be a factor in their decision.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission was scheduled to rule Monday if a Keystone XL expansion pipeline proposed by TransCanada Corp. can cross the state. The commission's decision is the last major regulatory hurdle for a project that has faced numerous local, state and federal reviews and lawsuits since it was announced in 2008.

Keystone operator TransCanada Corp. shut down the existing pipeline early Thursday morning and workers were testing to determine the cause of the spill on agricultural land in Marshall County, South Dakota, near the North Dakota border, about 250 miles (402 kilometers) west of Minneapolis.

State and company officials said the spill was not a threat to waterways or drinking water, but critics were quick to use the leak as an example of what they see as the risks to the environment.

The Nebraska vote Monday will be on a proposed route for Keystone XL, a massive expansion that also

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would be operated by TransCanada. The new pipeline would carry an estimated 830,000 barrels of oil a day from the oil sands areas of Canada through Montana, South Dakota and Nebraska, where it would connect with the existing Keystone pipeline.

The decision will hinge on testimony and documents generated from public hearings over the summer and from more than 500,000 public comments, Nebraska Public Service Commission spokeswoman Deb Collins said. A state law passed in 2011 prevents the commission from factoring pipeline safety or the possibility of leaks into its decisions.

"The commission's decision ... will be based on the evidence in the record," Collins said.

The Keystone XL proposal has faced intense opposition in Nebraska from a coalition of environmental groups, Native American tribes and some landowners who don't want the pipeline running through their property.

Nebraska lawmakers gave the five-member commission the power to regulate major oil pipelines in 2011 in response to a public outcry over the pipeline and its potential impact on the Sandhills, an ecologically fragile region of grass-covered sand dunes.

But when they passed the law, legislators argued that pipeline safety is a federal responsibility and should not factor in the state decision.

Opponents of Keystone XL are incensed that the leak won't be considered.

"There is a reason TransCanada and the big oil lobby did not want this information on the record," said Jane Kleeb, director of the Bold Alliance, a coalition of groups that have opposed the Keystone XL for nearly a decade.

President Donald Trump issued a federal permit for the expansion project in March even though it had been rejected by the Obama administration.

The existing Keystone pipeline, where the leak was discovered, transports crude from Canada to refineries in Illinois and a major storage hub in Oklahoma, passing through the eastern Dakotas, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri. It can handle nearly 600,000 barrels daily, or about 23 million gallons.

Since 2010, companies have reported 17 spills of oil or petroleum products in the U.S. the same size or larger than the leak announced Thursday, according to U.S. Department of Transportation records.

Officials in South Dakota said they weren't notified about the leak until roughly five hours after TransCanada discovered it. Brian Walsh, an environmental scientist manager at the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources, said officials would likely inquire about the delay but were focusing immediately on the spill.

TransCanada said Friday the leak was controlled and posed no threat to public safety. The company has sent more than 75 workers to the spill site, including environmental, engineering and emergency response specialists.

TransCanada spokesman Matthew John said the company will need to do "extensive testing" along with federal regulators and independent testing facilities before they can pinpoint a cause.

An aerial photo released by TransCanada on Twitter that the company says is of the spill, shows a darkened area on flat agricultural land. There do not appear to be any waterways or towns nearby.

Residents near the site reported a surge of activity as cleanup crews arrived at the scene.

Suzie Easthouse, general manager at the Front Porch in Langford, a city southeast of the spill area, said the restaurant will be catering for TransCanada workers at the site. Easthouse said she's serving Friday supper and a middle-of-the-night shift meal for 80 people, with meals for 100 people on Saturday.

"I'm pretty much going to be working a 24-hour shift here now," Easthouse said.

Easthouse said she has mixed emotions about the pipeline, a tug between the business it has brought to the area and her environmental concerns. She thinks the spill will have lasting effects in the area.

"It's almost like everybody's fears have come true with it," Easthouse said. "It's not the notoriety we really want in small town South Dakota."

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This version of the story corrects that there have been 17 leaks the same size or larger than the Keystone

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spill instead of 17 larger than this spill. One of the spills was the same size.

Nord contributed from Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Associated Press reporter Matt Brown in Billings, Montana, also contributed to this story.

Follow Grant Schulte on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/GrantSchulte>

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) \_ These South Dakota lotteries were drawn Friday:

Mega Millions

03-26-55-58-70, Mega Ball: 15, Megaplier: 4

(three, twenty-six, fifty-five, fifty-eight, seventy; Mega Ball: fifteen; Megaplier: four)

Estimated jackpot: \$95 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$119 million

## Friday's Scores

By The Associated Press

Volleyball

State Tournament Class AA

Consolation Semifinal

Aberdeen Central def. Sioux Falls O'Gorman, 25-19, 26-24, 25-15

Huron def. Mitchell, 25-22, 22-25, 25-15, 25-20

Semifinal

Harrisburg def. Watertown, 25-11, 24-26, 25-11, 23-25, 15-12

Rapid City Stevens def. Sioux Falls Washington, 26-24, 22-25, 16-25, 25-19, 16-14

State Tournament Class A

Consolation Semifinal

McCook Central/Montrose def. Miller, 18-25, 25-19, 25-21, 25-17

Sioux Valley def. Parker, 25-22, 20-25, 23-25, 25-15, 15-10

Semifinal

Dakota Valley def. Belle Fourche, 25-15, 25-16, 25-15

Sioux Falls Christian def. Madison, 25-20, 25-16, 25-19

State Tournament Class B

Consolation Semifinal

Burke/South Central def. Deubrook, 25-17, 25-12, 25-19

Hanson def. Faith, 23-25, 25-15, 25-17, 25-18

Semifinal

Northwestern def. Herreid/Selby Area, 25-12, 25-9, 25-16

Warner def. Chester, 21-25, 25-14, 25-13, 25-16



## Mykhailiuk helps No. 4 Kansas rout South Dakota State, 98-64

By DAVE SKRETTA, AP Sports Writer

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) — It was late in the first half Friday night that Kansas began walking the ball up court, the searing temperature inside Allen Fieldhouse and the Jayhawks' shortened bench having left them spent.

The slower pace didn't slow down Svi Mykhailiuk.

The senior sharpshooter poured in a career-high 27 points, Lagerald Vick finished with 22 and the fourth-ranked Jayhawks routed Summit League favorite South Dakota State 98-64 in their first game since topping seventh-ranked Kentucky in the Champions Classic earlier this week.

"We were kind of tired," admitted Mykhailiuk, who even dealt with cramps at one point — a function of the heat and 30 minutes on the court. "We just walked the court whenever we got a rebound."

That shouldn't be a surprise.

The Jayhawks were once again without heralded freshman Billy Preston, who remains sidelined while the school looks into the "financial picture" of his car. That meant a seven-man rotation with walk-on forward Clay Young pressed into service guarding the Jackrabbits' star, Mike Daum.

None of which mattered a whole lot Friday night.

Udoka Azubuike added 17 points and Malik Newman had 13 for the Jayhawks (3-0), who shot 60 percent from the field and didn't commit a turnover until midway through the second half.

By that point, the Jackrabbits (3-1) were staring at a 30-point deficit.

Daum led South Dakota State with 21 points and 11 rebounds, most of that coming with the game out of hand. Tevin King contributed 12 points and David Jenkins Jr. scored 10 off the bench.

"We knew we were coming into hostile territory and we knew we had to be the ones to hit them right away," Daum said, "and we didn't do that."

Young was one of the bright spots in the first half for Kansas, keeping the ball moving on offense and handling the 6-foot-9 Daum inside. The Jackrabbits' leading scorer at more than 21 points per game scored eight on 2-for-8 shooting in the first half, when Young spent a good chunk of time covering him.

"I definitely didn't expect to go in 4 minutes into the first half of an actual game, so that's definitely different," Young said. "It feels good to go out there and play some meaningful minutes."

Nobody could cover Mykhailiuk, though.

The senior from the Ukraine hit his first three shots — the Jayhawks made eight of their first nine — while getting into an easy rhythm. Even on the seemingly rare occasion that his jumper didn't splash the net, it often rattled around the rim and dropped through to a thunderous ovation.

"He's been on an uptick basically ever since I think our first or second exhibition game," Kansas coach Bill Self said. "He played good against Kentucky also. He was aggressive and made some nice plays."

Several of his baskets came on feeds from Devonte Graham, who didn't hit a field goal until deep in the second half. He finished with eight points but also had 11 assists and five boards.

"More than anything, they came out and were the more aggressive team," Jackrabbits coach T.J. Otzelberger said. "They were the more stubborn team. They set the tone early and they put it on us."

### SELF IS SECOND

Self improved to 419-88 at Kansas, breaking a tie with Roy Williams for the second-most wins at the school. Phog Allen has the record with 590 victories. "I knew we had the same number after last game and I swear I hadn't thought about it one time until you just mentioned it," Self said.

### PRESTON SITS

Preston went through early warmups but remained on the bench after an on-campus incident over the weekend raised questions about his vehicle. Self has declined to discuss the situation other than to say "we're definitely going to hold him out until we get to the bottom of this." Self did say he thinks the school's compliance office will resolve the issue soon.

### BIG PICTURE

South Dakota State can recover from its thumping in paradise with a trip to the Cayman Islands Classic

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up next. But their next trip to the Sunflower State figures to be just as tough: They visit No. 6 Wichita State on Dec. 5.

Kansas cruised despite a shortened lineup again, and help is only a month away. Arizona State transfer Sam Cunliffe becomes eligible for a trip to Nebraska on Dec. 16, and there is a chance five-star prospect Silvio De Sousa from Florida's IMG Academy enrolls at the semester break.

UP NEXT

South Dakota State plays Wyoming on Monday in George Town, Cayman Islands.

Kansas continues a four-game home stand against Texas Southern on Tuesday night.

More AP college basketball: <http://collegebasketball.ap.org> and [http://www.twitter.com/AP\\_Top25](http://www.twitter.com/AP_Top25)

## Top 20 onshore US petroleum spills since 2010

By The Associated Press

The spill of an estimated 210,000 gallons of crude oil in South Dakota on Thursday from TransCanada's Keystone Pipeline is one of the 20 largest onshore oil or petroleum product spills since 2010. Here are the top 20 spills during that period as reported to the U.S. Department of Transportation. The list ranks them by size and includes the date, gallons spilled, commodity, company name, city or county and state of spill and estimated costs including property and environmental damages.

— July 29, 2013: 865,200 gallons, crude oil, Tesoro High Plains Pipeline Co., MountRail County, North Dakota, \$17,755,766

— July 25, 2010: 843,444 gallons, crude oil, Enbridge Energy, Marshall, Michigan, \$927,270,213

— December 5, 2016: 529,830 gallons, crude oil, Belle Fourche Pipeline Co., Billings County, North Dakota, \$11,334,049

— June 4, 2011: 513,618 gallons, crude oil, Enterprise Crude Pipeline LLC, Chico, Texas, \$1,472,079

— October 11, 2010: 428,400 gallons, crude oil, Centurion Pipeline LP, Levelland, Texas, \$70,748

— January 19, 2017: 420,378 gallons, crude oil, Tallgrass Pony Express Pipeline, Logan County, Colorado, \$345,554

— April 13, 2011: 378,000 gallons, gasoline, Marathon Pipe Line, Dansville, Michigan, \$38,661,147

— December 8, 2014: 369,600 gallons, gasoline, Plantation Pipe Line Co., Belton, South Carolina, \$3,951,634

— August 29, 2016: 361,200 gallons, crude oil, Sunoco Pipeline LP, Sweetwater, Texas, \$4,017,900

— October 23, 2016: 319,326 gallons, crude oil, Enterprise Crude Pipeline LLC, Cushing, Oklahoma, \$7,818,638

— September 9, 2010: 316,596 gallons, crude oil, Enbridge Energy, Romeoville, Illinois, \$52,284,683

— September 9, 2016: 309,540 gallons, gasoline, Colonial Pipeline Co., Helena, Alabama, \$66,234,072

— January 27, 2011: 290,262 gallons, crude oil, Enterprise Crude Pipeline LLC, Iola, Texas \$4,834,962

— August 31, 2017: 240,072 gallons gasoline, Magellan Terminals Holdings LP, Galena Park, Texas, \$1,340,026

— March 9, 2013: 235,200 gallons, crude oil, Lion Oil Trading and Transportation, Inc., Magnolia, Arkansas, \$3,538,062

— August 31, 2017: 221,424 gallons, gasoline, Magellan Terminals Holding LP, Galena Park, Texas, \$1,292,026

— January 30, 2017: 210,000 gallons, crude oil, Enterprise Crude Pipeline, Anna, Texas, \$2,346,925

— November 16, 2017: 210,000 gallons, crude oil, TransCanada Corp, Marshall County, South Dakota, Cost not yet known

— October 13, 2014: 189,378 gallons, crude oil, Mid-Valley Pipeline Co., Mooringsport, Louisiana, \$12,049,280

— October 31, 2016: 186,669 gallons, gasoline, Colonial Pipeline Co., Helena, Alabama, \$16,844,292

## Jobless rates fell in 12 US states, hit record lows in 3

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Unemployment rates fell to record lows in Alabama, Hawaii and Texas last month, and dropped in nine other U.S. states.

Employers added jobs in nine states in October, and cut them in three, the Labor Department said Friday. Steady hiring has driven down unemployment in most states in the past year. Nationwide, the rate fell to 4.1 percent in October, a 17-year low. That is down from 4.8 percent a year earlier.

The jobless rate dropped to 3.6 percent in Alabama from 3.8 percent in the previous month. Hawaii's rate fell to 2.2 percent from 2.5 percent. And the rate in Texas declined to 3.9 from 4 percent. All three figures are the lowest on records dating back to 1976.

The biggest October gain was in Florida, which added 125,300 jobs as it recovered nearly all the jobs that it had lost in September due to Hurricane Irma. Texas added 71,500, which also reflected a bounce-back from Hurricane Harvey. And California gained 31,700.

The states with the biggest losses were Connecticut, with 6,600; Nebraska, also with 6,600; and South Dakota, with 2,400.

## South Dakota inmate alleges warden withheld hormone therapy

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — An inmate is suing the warden of a South Dakota prison, alleging he withheld hormone therapy treatment as retaliation for a past complaint against a prison employee.

Cody Caskey, 32, filed a lawsuit accusing Mike Durfee State Prison Warden Bob Dooley of denying access to estrogen and testosterone blockers. State Department of Corrections officials declined comment, saying they hadn't seen the lawsuit.

The lawsuit alleges the denial is retaliation for Caskey's previous complaint alleging a prison captain sexually assaulted him in 2013. Caskey was on parole at the time of the encounter and came forward about the incident after the captain resigned the same year. The case was settled out of court in 2016, and prosecutors reviewed the allegations and decided not to file charges.

Caskey is currently serving a sentence for ingesting a controlled substance and has past convictions for identity theft and forgery. Caskey said the lack of hormone treatment has led to suicidal thoughts, the Argus Leader reported.

"I have a well-documented gender dysphoria that has only recently been acknowledged and it has yet to be treated," Caskey wrote. "Hormones make me feel comfortable in my own skin. That's what this lawsuit is about."

Courts across the U.S. have seen recent cases involving transgender inmates requesting hormone therapy or surgery.

In California, Shiloh Quine became the first inmate in the country to successfully sue for gender reassignment surgery in 2015. Quine was transferred to a female facility after the surgery this year. Quine is serving a life sentence for first-degree murder.

Hormone therapy cases like Caskey's have emerged recently in states including Florida, Georgia and Indiana. Policies on hormone therapy coverage vary by state.

In South Dakota, the corrections department's Prison Rape Elimination Act Compliance Standards outline their policy on transgender inmates, though no specific stance on hormone therapy is listed.

Caskey's lawsuit claims that the denial or unreasonable delay of hormone therapy is a result of the lack of a correctional department record of its past use.

## State confirms bovine TB in another South Dakota beef herd

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have confirmed bovine tuberculosis in another South Dakota beef herd. State Veterinarian Dustin Oedekoven (OH'-dih-koh-ven) said Friday that inspectors found an infected cow during routine inspections at a Texas slaughterhouse last month. Records linked that cow to a beef herd in Tripp County of southwestern South Dakota. Tests found additional infected animals in the herd.

The discovery followed the detection of bovine TB in Harding County of northwestern South Dakota in February, the first appearance of the disease in South Dakota in six years.

Oedekoven says bovine TB is not a food safety threat, thanks to milk pasteurization and meat inspection programs. But he says his office is working closely with area herd owners and veterinarians, and with agriculture and wildlife officials, to determine the extent of the disease.

## Experts: Idaho hatchery built to save salmon is killing them

By KEITH RIDLER, Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — A relatively new \$13.5 million hatchery intended to save Snake River sockeye salmon from extinction is instead killing thousands of fish before they ever get to the ocean, and fisheries biologists in Idaho think they know why.

The Department of Fish and Game in information released this week says water chemistry at the Springfield Hatchery in eastern Idaho is so different from that in the central region that the young fish can't adjust when released into the wild.

"It's not a disaster, it's part of what you experience when you open a new hatchery," Paul Kline, Fish and Game's assistant fisheries chief, said in a post on the agency's website.

Idaho Rivers United, an environmental group, blasted the report as more reason for removing four dams on the lower Snake River that impede salmon.

"Until we address main-stem survival we're missing the biggest opportunity for these amazing fish," Kevin Lewis, the group's executive director, said in a statement.

Sockeye salmon are a prized sport fish and the Idaho run is culturally important to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. An estimated 150,000 sockeye returned annually to central Idaho, and Redfish Lake was named for the abundant red-colored salmon that spawned there.

Federal officials say the run began to decline in the early 1900s due to overfishing, irrigation diversions, dams and poisoning, teetering on the brink of extinction in the early 1990s.

The fish have been the focus of an intense recovery program centered at Fish and Game's Eagle Fish Hatchery in southwestern Idaho after being listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act in 1991.

The Springfield hatchery was completed in 2013. Salmon eggs from the Eagle hatchery and the federally operated Burley Creek Hatchery in Washington state are transported to Springfield where they are raised until they are ready for release as young fish, called smolts, into the Salmon River.

The goal has been to release 1 million smolts with the hope that up to 5,000 of them could survive the ocean odyssey to return annually as adults to Redfish Lake. This year, 162 adults returned, none from the Springfield Hatchery.

Fish and Game officials say smolts from the hatchery released in central Idaho are not surviving.

The main theory, officials say, is that water at the Springfield Hatchery has a high amount of dissolved minerals, called hard water, while the water at Redfish Lake and the Salmon River does not, making it soft water.

Young fish headed for the ocean transition from living in fresh water to salt water. Biologists say the additional stress of trying to also adjust from hard water to soft water could be killing the salmon.

Idaho officials say they plan on trying various solutions, including releasing fish directly into Redfish Lake in the fall as pre-smolts, raising more sockeye at the Sawtooth Hatchery in central Idaho, and gradually softening water as fish are transported from the Springfield Hatchery in trucks to central Idaho.

The Bonneville Power Administration paid for the Springfield Hatchery as part of federally required mitigation to replace fish killed by hydroelectric projects that provide power to the region.



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"We are confident that this hatchery is still viable and that our partners will find a solution," said David Wilson, spokesman for the agency.

## **Kyle woman sentenced for murder in 2-year-old boy's death**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Kyle woman has been sentenced to 40 years in federal prison for killing a 2-year-old boy she was raising in 2015.

Forty-four-year-old Lori Wisecarver earlier pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in the death of Jayden Locke. The Rapid City Journal reports she admitted repeatedly abusing the child, largely because of potty-training issues.

U.S District Judge Jeffrey Viken on Friday granted the prosecutor's request for a 40-year sentence.

Wisecarver was a distant relative of the boy. She became his guardian after his biological mother lost custody because of drug addiction.

Wisecarver's husband, Michael Wisecarver, was accused of failing to report the abuse. He pleaded guilty to hiding a felony and was sentenced in June to the 17 months he had already served behind bars.

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

## **Sioux Falls picks firm to review events center paneling**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls has selected a Chicago company to review the structural soundness of flawed siding on the city's new \$117 million events center.

The Argus Leader reports Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc. was among four firms that submitted proposals to review the panels on the Denny Sanford Premier Center.

The flawed paneling was the subject of a city settlement with five construction companies in 2015. Mayor Mike Huether's administration last month agreed to hire an independent consultant to assess whether the exterior panels are protecting the building's interior.

An earlier forensic report concluded the flawed paneling wasn't worth replacing, but the report was never made public.

City secrecy surrounding the paneling problems have prompted calls from the public, City Council and Chamber of Commerce for more transparency.

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

## **100 full moons: Blazing fireball lights up Arctic sky**

**By JAN M. OLSEN, Associated Press**

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — A blazing fireball lit up the dark skies of Arctic Finland for five seconds, giving off what scientists said was "the glow of 100 full moons" and igniting hurried attempts to find the reported meteorite.

Finnish experts were scrambling to calculate its trajectory and find where it landed, according to Tomas Kohout of the University of Helsinki's physics department, who said Thursday night's fireball "seems to have been one of the brightest ones."

It produced a blast wave that felt like an explosion about 6:40 p.m. and could also be seen in northern Norway and in Russia's Kola peninsula, he told The Associated Press on Saturday.

It might have weighed about 100 kilograms (220 pounds), according to Nikolai Kruglikov of Yekaterinburg's Urals Federal University.

"We believe it didn't disintegrate but reached a remote corner of Finland," Kohout said, adding that any search plans for the meteorite must face the fact that "right now we don't have much daylight" — four hours, to be precise.

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The Norwegian meteorite network said the fireball “had the glow of 100 full moons” and likely was going northeast, perhaps “to the Norwegian peninsula of Varanger,” north of where the borders of Russia, Finland and Norway meet.

Kohout said scientists looked forward to any space debris they can get their hands on.

“We are happy to recover (it) since this is a unique opportunity to get otherwise inaccessible space material,” said Kohout. “This is why it’s worth it to search for them.”

Viktor Troshenkov of the Russian Academy of Sciences told the Tass news agency that the fireball could be part of a prolific meteor shower known as the Leonids, which peaks at this time of year. He said he felt Thursday’s fireball likely wasn’t the sole meteorite but others maybe were not seen due to thick clouds elsewhere.

Troshenkov told Tass that meteor showers can be even stronger. The Leonids reach their maximum once every 33 years — and the last time that happened was in 1998, he said. Amateur astronomers in the Arctic then saw about 1,000 meteors, 40 meteorites and one fireball in just one night.

In 2013, a meteorite streaked across the Russian sky and exploded over the Ural Mountains with the power of an atomic bomb, its sonic blasts shattering countless windows and injuring about 1,100 people. Many were cut by flying glass as they flocked to windows, curious about what had produced such a blinding flash of light.

The 2013 Chelyabinsk meteorite was estimated to be about 10 tons when it entered the Earth’s atmosphere at a hypersonic speed of at least 54,000 kph (33,000 mph). It shattered into pieces about 30-50 kilometers (18-32 miles) above the ground but some meteorite chunks were found in a Russian lake.

A meteoroid is smaller than a kilometer (0.62 mile), and often so small that when it enters the Earth’s atmosphere it vaporizes and never reaches the ground. A meteor is a flash of light caused by a meteoroid that fails to get through the Earth’s atmosphere. If part of it does survive, that’s called a meteorite.

Asteroids are generally larger chunks of rock that come from the asteroid belt located between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter.

## Giddy Zimbabweans gather in capital to march against Mugabe

By **CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA** and **FARAI MUTSAKA**, Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — In a euphoric gathering that just days ago would have drawn a police crackdown, crowds marched through Zimbabwe’s capital on Saturday to demand the departure of President Robert Mugabe, one of Africa’s last remaining liberation leaders, after nearly four decades in power.

Zimbabweans giddy with joy raced through intersections, raising their arms in triumph. Young men shouted, laughed and embraced. Others danced on top of moving buses. One man stripped to his underwear and danced on a car roof.

In the first public outpouring since the military put Mugabe under house arrest earlier in the week, the bulk of Harare’s population of about 1.6 million appeared to be in the streets. The army held back thousands who gathered near the State House, home to official functions, while others headed toward Mugabe’s lavish mansion.

Some marchers had posters with an image of the military commander who swept in to take control, with the slogan: “Go, go, our general!!!” Marchers handed flags to soldiers, who accepted and waved.

“It’s like Christmas,” said one marcher, Fred Mubay, who said Zimbabweans have been suffering for a long time.

Another resident, Trust Chuma, sat quietly on a bench and watched. “This is the biggest day in the history of Zimbabwe,” he said.

The 93-year-old Mugabe, the world’s oldest head of state, is said to be asking for more time amid negotiations with regional leaders that seek his exit with a veneer of dignity.

But he is virtually powerless and deserted by most of his allies, with others arrested, and the ruling party has turned on him, asking for a Central Committee meeting this weekend to recall both him and his wife. Impeachment is also a possibility when Parliament resumes Tuesday.

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The dancing crowds in Harare made it clear the country is impatient to move on without Mugabe, who took power 37 years ago amid an air of optimism but has been accused of squandering the once-prosperous country's potential.

Even as concerns remained about who next would be in charge and what freedoms might be available if the military lingers in power — or if Mugabe's recently fired deputy leads a new government — people reveled in the rare chance to speak out.

Zimbabwean newspaper publisher Trevor Ncube tweeted: "Dear world, we are fully aware of the possible risks and pitfalls beyond this tipping point. ... After 37 years of repression, allow us to soak in this moment. Sincerely, #Zimbabwe."

The demonstrators, in the event approved by the military, hoped the big turnout would speed up the official end of Mugabe's rule, which is widely blamed for the collapse of an economy that was once one of Africa's wealthiest.

Veterans of the long liberation war against white minority rule, once close allies of Mugabe, took part in the demonstration, along with opposition activists who long have faced police crackdowns by the Mugabe government.

Zimbabwe's state-run media showed previously unthinkable images of the celebrations. The Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation called the country "free and liberated" and showed footage of one person carrying a sign saying "The people of Zimbabwe want Mugabe to go."

The state-run Zimbabwe Herald newspaper's report "#Mugabe Must Go!" noted some of Mugabe's achievements but said that "however the revolutionary train derailed somewhere along the way."

Outside the State House, a place few previously dared venture, soldiers posed for pictures as marchers streamed by. Thousands of people later gathered at an intersection nearby, with security forces blocked them from moving further.

The military in a new statement urged the thousands upon thousands of people streaming through the capital to be orderly and "vigilant against agent provocateurs" who might wish to discredit the events.

At an intersection, a vendor held up a newspaper with the headline: "Mugabe cornered." The majority of adult Zimbabweans now survive on informal trade after formal industry collapsed.

Harare's Robert Mugabe Street turned into a carnival. Drivers gunned their engines, blasted their horns and circled in a main intersection, enveloping the crowd in exhaust fumes.

One driver got out of his moving car and danced in front of it for a couple of minutes as the empty vehicle coasted slowly down a street lined with cheering crowds.

Some white Zimbabweans joined the crowd at Harare's Freedom Square, also known as Robert Mugabe Square. Some whites and blacks hugged each other.

In Zimbabwe's second-largest city, Bulawayo, former education minister David Coltart said he spoke at a "massive march" organized by churches to urge President Robert Mugabe to resign. He said thousands of people were there.

"I never thought I would see the day as we marched past central police station without being arrested!" he said. "Amazing scenes."

Thousands gathered for speeches at the Zimbabwe Grounds, chosen for the symbolism. The location is where Zimbabweans gathered to cheer Mugabe's return from exile in 1980 after the liberation war from white minority rule.

Now the crowds urged Mugabe's departure. Speakers included former Vice President Joice Mujuru, sacked in 2014 by Mugabe and accused of plotting to take power.

"This is the new Zimbabwe," one speaker declared.

Another expressed popular anger at first lady Grace Mugabe, whose apparent attempts to succeed her husband were a factor in the military's decision to step in.

"You and your husband should go today and not tomorrow," the speaker said.

The 37-year-old Talent Mudzamiri was born soon after Zimbabwe's independence.

"It's like a relief," he said. "Our voices have not been heard for a long time. The trend in Africa, when

the people speak, they are not heard.”

He acknowledged that Zimbabwe faces challenges in the long term, but said: “The common enemy is Robert Mugabe. That’s for starters.” If Zimbabwe’s next leader is just as troublesome, he said, “we are going to come out again.”

## Lebanon’s PM Hariri says he will be in Beirut within days

By **BASSEM MROUE** and **PHILIPPE SOTTO**, Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Lebanon’s Prime Minister Saad Hariri said Saturday he will return home in the coming days from where he will declare a political stance for the first time since making a strange resignation announcement from Saudi Arabia that unleashed fears of a political crisis in Lebanon.

Hariri and his family met Saturday with French President Emmanuel Macron, who invited the Lebanese leader to Paris to dispel fears that he was being held in Saudi Arabia against his will. Macron is seeking to calm tensions and avert a proxy conflict between Saudi-backed and Iranian-backed camps in Lebanon.

Hariri’s appearance in Paris — looking relaxed and posing with his wife and older son on the steps of the Elysee Palace with the French presidential couple in front of a large crowd of journalists — contrasted with his limited-access, carefully choreographed appearances from Saudi Arabia.

Hariri told Lebanese President Michel Aoun on Saturday that he will take part in Independence Day celebrations in Beirut on Wednesday, according to Macron’s office. A French presidential official said Macron spoke Saturday with Aoun, who thanked France for its efforts to help Lebanon.

After his meeting with Macron, Hariri told reporters: “God willing, I will attend Independence Day in Lebanon and will declare my political stance from Lebanon and after meeting President Michel Aoun.”

“As you know I have resigned and we will talk about this matter in Lebanon,” Hariri said after thanking Macron, who he added “expressed pure friendship toward me that I will never forget.”

The independence day ceremony is usually headed by the president, prime minister and parliament speaker, and Hariri’s presence could help calm uncertainties that have escalated since his strange and surprising resignation announcement on Nov. 4 from Saudi Arabia.

However, Hariri’s political status is murky. Lebanon’s president refused to accept Hariri’s resignation, accusing the Saudis of holding him against his will.

Before leaving Riyadh, Hariri dismissed as “rumors” reports about his alleged detention in the kingdom. In a tweet, he insisted his stay in Saudi Arabia was to consult with officials there on the future of Lebanon and its relations with its Arab neighbors.

In his televised resignation announcement, Hariri had cited Iran and Hezbollah for meddling in Arab countries, particularly Saudi Arabia. He also said he was afraid for his life.

Saudi Arabia on Saturday asked its citizens for the second time in less than two weeks to leave Lebanon “as soon as possible” given the “circumstances” there. That raised fears of more punitive actions to come.

The Arab League is due to hold a meeting on Sunday in Cairo at Saudi Arabia’s urging where the Lebanon crisis and Iran’s role in the region are expected to be discussed.

Just before leaving Saudi Arabia, Hariri met with the Saudi Crown Prince and other senior officials, according to a member of Hariri’s political party and two Lebanese television stations.

Hariri landed before dawn Saturday at an airport used for private jets in Le Bourget north of Paris, and came in a convoy to his Paris residence in a high-end neighborhood, where police stood guard. Hariri frequently stays in France thanks to decades-old family ties here.

Hariri held private talks with Macron and then they were joined by Hariri’s wife Lara al-Azm and elder son Hussam and Macron’s wife Brigitte for lunch.

Hariri’s two younger son and daughter, Abdul-Aziz and Loulwa, remained in Saudi Arabia because they have school on Sunday, said Okab Saqr, a member of Hariri’s parliamentary bloc.

Hariri’s exact next steps after his planned visit to Lebanon are unclear. A French official said Saturday that France is offering Hariri the necessary support during this time of political turmoil in his country. The official was not authorized to be publicly named.



Macron said he received Hariri "with the honors due a prime minister," even though he has announced his resignation, since Lebanon hasn't yet recognized it.

While Macron insists that he's not offering "exile," Hariri's return could be complicated by Lebanon's internal tensions.

It's part of a broader Macron strategy to reassert French influence in the region, while the United States under President Donald Trump is increasingly seen as unpredictable or disengaged. Macron's office says France's strategy is to talk to all powers in the region and not to appear as choosing a camp.

Another issue might emerge with Hariri's arrival to France: Dozens of French employees are suing in French courts his Saudi Oger construction firm, which has failed to pay them for months.

The company owes them 14 million euros (\$16.5 million) — an amount Hariri committed to pay after several meetings with French diplomats, but never did, according to the French daily Liberation.

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Mroue reported from Beirut. Associated Press writers Angela Charlton and Patrick Hermansen in Paris and Sarah El Deeb in Beirut contributed to this report.

## Trump delays new policy on importing elephant parts

By DONNA CASSATA, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Friday he's delaying a new policy allowing the body parts of African elephants shot for sport to be imported until he can review "all conservation facts."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said Thursday it would allow such importation, arguing that encouraging wealthy big-game hunters to kill the threatened species would help raise money for conservation programs.

Animal rights advocates and environmental groups criticized the decision. California Rep. Ed Royce, the Republican chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, urged the administration to reverse the policy, calling it the "wrong move at the wrong time."

Trump tweeted Friday that the policy had been "under study for years." He said he would put the decision "on hold" and review it with Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke.

Zinke issued a statement later Friday saying: "President Trump and I have talked and both believe that conservation and healthy herds are critical. As a result, in a manner compliant with all applicable laws, rules and regulations, the issuing of permits is being put on hold as the decision is being reviewed."

Royce questioned the action because of concerns not only about African wildlife but U.S. national security, citing the political upheaval in Zimbabwe, where the longtime president was placed under house arrest this week by the military.

"The administration should withdraw this decision until Zimbabwe stabilizes," the committee chairman said in a statement. "Elephants and other big game in Africa are blood currency for terrorist organizations, and they are being killed at an alarming rate. Stopping poaching isn't just about saving the world's most majestic animals for the future — it's about our national security."

The Fish and Wildlife Service said in a written notice issued Thursday that permitting elephants from Zimbabwe and Zambia to be brought back as trophies will raise money for conservation programs. The change marks a shift in efforts to stop the importation of elephant tusks and hides, overriding a 2014 ban imposed by the Obama administration. The new policy applies to the remains of African elephants killed between January 2016 and December 2018.

"Legal, well-regulated sport hunting as part of a sound management program can benefit certain species by providing incentives to local communities to conserve those species and by putting much-needed revenue back into conservation," the agency said in a statement.

Royce said that when carefully regulated, conservation hunts could help the wildlife population, but "that said, this is the wrong move at the wrong time."

He described the perilous situation in Zimbabwe, where the U.S. Embassy has advised Americans to limit their travel outdoors.

"In this moment of turmoil, I have zero confidence that the regime — which for years has promoted

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corruption at the highest levels — is properly managing and regulating conservation programs,” Royce said. “Furthermore, I am not convinced that elephant populations in the area warrant overconcentration measures.”

The world’s largest land mammal, the African elephant has been classified as threatened under the U.S. Endangered Species Act since 1979.

Illicit demand for elephant ivory has led to devastating losses from illegal poaching as the natural habitat available for the animals to roam has also dwindled by more than half. As a result, the number of African elephants has shrunk from about 5 million a century ago to about 400,000 remaining. And that number continues to decline each year.

Two other lawmakers, Reps. Vern Buchanan, R-Fla., and Earl Blumenauer, D-Ore., co-chairs of the Congressional Animal Protection Caucus, assailed the administration’s decision.

“We should not encourage the hunting and slaughter of these magnificent creatures,” Buchanan said. “We don’t get a second chance once a species becomes extinct.”

One group that advocates for endangered species called for more action after Trump’s Friday night tweet. “It’s great that public outrage has forced Trump to reconsider this despicable decision, but it takes more than a tweet to stop trophy hunters from slaughtering elephants and lions,” said Tanya Sanerib, senior attorney with the Center for Biological Diversity. “We need immediate federal action to reverse these policies and protect these amazing animals.”

Associated Press writer Darlene Superville contributed to this report.

## Sexual misconduct claims roil Alabama campaign, divide women

By KIM CHANDLER, Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Standing on the white marble steps of Alabama’s Capitol, Kayla Moore surrounded herself with two dozen other women to defend husband Roy Moore against accusations of sexual misconduct that are dividing Republicans, and women in particular.

“He will not step down. He will not stop fighting for the people of Alabama,” Kayla Moore said Friday at a “Women for Moore” rally. Acting as her husband’s lead defender, she lashed out at the news media and thanked people who were sticking behind her husband. “To the people of Alabama, thank you for being smarter than they think you are,” Moore said.

Not everyone is sticking with Roy Moore, however, and certainly not all women.

“I was going to vote for him. I was going to be one of his voters. I just don’t know that I can vote for him anymore,” said Laura Payne, a Trump delegate to the 2016 Republican National Convention.

Since last week, Moore has been engulfed by accusations of sexual misconduct toward women in their teens when he was a deputy district attorney in his 30s. Several of his accusers have allowed their identities to be made public.

One said Moore molested her when she was 14. Another said Moore assaulted her when she was a 16-year-old waitress after he offered to drive her home. Five others said Moore pursued romantic relationships with them when they were between the ages of 16 and 18.

“I have not found any reason not to believe them .... They risked a whole lot to come forward,” Payne said of the accusers.

Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey said she also has no reason to disbelieve the women and is bothered by their allegations. But Ivey said she will vote for Moore anyway for the sake of GOP power in Congress.

“We need to have a Republican in the United States Senate to vote on things like Supreme Court justices, other appointments that the Senate has to confirm and make major decisions,” Ivey said.

Moore has ignored mounting calls from Washington Republicans concerned that if he stays in the race against Democrat Doug Jones he may not only lose a seat they were sure to win but also may do significant damage to the party’s brand among women nationwide as they prepare for a difficult midterm election season.

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The Alabama GOP, meanwhile, reaffirmed its support for Moore on Thursday.

The accusations sent a shockwave through the Senate race in Alabama, where Republicans typically have a lock on statewide election. Democrats already hoped to stand a chance against the polarizing jurist who was twice removed from chief justice duties because of defying court orders regarding the Ten Commandments and gay marriage.

A Fox News poll released Thursday, a week after the first accusations, showed Jones leading Moore by eight points. Support from women was helping to give Jones the edge with 68 percent for Jones compared to 32 percent for Moore.

One of them is longtime Republican Tracy James, who worked for former senator and current U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Her cousin was a Republican governor. She won't vote for Moore, a decision she made before the election.

"My hope is that the Moore debacle will not only be a wake-up call for evangelicals, but also for Republicans, who should stand back and say, 'Wow, look at the kind of person we almost elected to our ranks,'" James said.

But Kayla Moore says her husband is exactly the kind of person who needs to be in the Senate.

Decades ago, then known by her maiden name, Kayla Kisor, she was performing in a hometown dance recital when she first caught Roy Moore's eye. As he wrote in his 2009 autobiography: Seeing her was something he never forgot.

"Years later," Moore wrote, when she was 23 — she's 14 years his junior— he finally met her. They wed in 1985.

Now, Kayla Moore is doing more than standing by her husband — she's his most aggressive defender against allegations threatening his Republican bid for U.S. Senate.

When Moore makes a public appearance, Kayla Moore is there. When something pops up on social media that could help his cause, she shares it on Facebook. And she was the star at the Statehouse rally in Montgomery.

Speakers there said the allegations against Moore were out of character for the man they have known for years.

"I do not recognize the man these ladies are describing," Ann Eubank, a fixture in Alabama Republican politics, said of the accusers.

Across the street from the rally, Rose Falvey, 25, who runs an LGBT community center, said she was angered by the stories about Moore since he had fought to block gay marriage in the state.

"I think it's really hypocritical and an embarrassment for the state of Alabama, and he's dragging us backwards," Falvey said.

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Associated Press writers Steve Peoples and Jay Reeves in Birmingham, Alabama, and Zeke Miller and Catherine Lucey in Washington contributed to this report.

## AP sources: Trump Tower meeting in 2016 draws more scrutiny

By **DESMOND BUTLER, MARY CLARE JALONICK and ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Earlier this year, a Russian-American lobbyist and another businessman discussed over coffee in Moscow an extraordinary meeting they had attended 12 months earlier: a gathering at Trump Tower with President Donald Trump's son, his son-in-law and his then-campaign chairman.

The Moscow meeting in June, which has not been previously disclosed, is now under scrutiny by investigators who want to know why the two men met in the first place and whether there was some effort to get their stories straight about the Trump Tower meeting just weeks before it would become public, The Associated Press has learned.

Congressional investigators have questioned both men — lobbyist Rinat Akhmetshin and Ike Kaveladze, a business associate of a Moscow-based developer and former Trump business partner — and obtained their text message communications, people familiar with the investigation told the AP.

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Special counsel Robert Mueller's team also has been investigating the 2016 Trump Tower meeting, which occurred weeks after Trump had clinched the Republican presidential nomination and which his son attended with the expectation of receiving damaging information about Democrat Hillary Clinton. A grand jury has already heard testimony about the meeting, which in addition to Donald Trump Jr., also included Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law, and his then-campaign chairman Paul Manafort.

The focus of the congressional investigators was confirmed by three people familiar with their probe, including two who demanded anonymity to discuss the sensitive inquiry.

One of those people said Akhmetshin told congressional investigators that he asked for the Moscow meeting with Kaveladze to argue that they should go public with the details of the Trump Tower meeting before they were caught up in a media maelstrom. Akhmetshin also told the investigators that Kaveladze said people in Trump's orbit were asking about Akhmetshin's background, the person said.

Akhmetshin's lawyer, Michael Tremonte, declined to comment.

Scott Balber, a lawyer for Kaveladze, confirmed that his client and Akhmetshin met over coffee and that the Trump Tower meeting a year earlier was "obviously discussed." But Balber denied his client had been contacted by associates of Trump before he took the meeting with Akhmetshin, or had been aware of plans to disclose the Trump Tower gathering to the U.S. government.

Balber said the men did not discuss strategy or how to line up their stories, and did not meet in anticipation of the Trump Tower meeting becoming public and attracting a barrage of news media attention.

He said Akhmetshin did convey during coffee the possibility that his name could come out in connection with the Trump Tower meeting and cause additional, unwanted scrutiny given that he had been linked in earlier news reports to Russian military intelligence, coverage that Akhmetshin considered unfair. Akhmetshin has denied ongoing ties with Russian intelligence, but acknowledged that he served in the Soviet military in the late 1980s as part of a counterintelligence unit.

"That was the impetus," Balber said of the men's get-together. "It had absolutely nothing to do with anticipation of the meeting coming out in the press."

The meeting in Moscow occurred during a tumultuous time for the administration. Mueller had been appointed as special counsel weeks earlier following the firing in May of FBI Director James Comey, and associates of Trump were under pressure to disclose any contacts they had with Russians during the campaign.

The June 2016 meeting at Trump Tower first became public on July 8 in a report in The New York Times.

The White House initially said the meeting, which also involved a Russian lawyer who for years has advocated against U.S. sanctions of Russia, was primarily about an adoption program, but days after the story was published, Trump Jr. released emails showing he took the meeting after being told he would receive damaging information on Clinton as part of a Russian government effort to aide his father's candidacy.

Mueller's investigation has included scrutiny of the White House's drafting of the initial incomplete statement.

As part of their inquiry, congressional investigators are reviewing copies of the text messages between the two men that were turned over, Balber said. He declined to say what the text messages showed. One person familiar with the messages said they reflect the logistics of the meeting during a trip by Akhmetshin to Moscow.

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Associated Press writer Chad Day contributed to this report.

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## Amid national focus on harassment, Trump moves unscathed

By NANCY BENAC and CALVIN WOODWARD, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — “You can do anything,” Donald Trump once boasted, speaking of groping and kissing unsuspecting women.

Maybe he could, but not everyone can.

The candidate who openly bragged about grabbing women’s private parts — but denied he really did so — was elected president months before the cascading sexual harassment allegations that have been toppling the careers of powerful men in Hollywood, business, the media and politics. He won even though more than a dozen women accused him of sexual misconduct, and roughly half of all voters said they were bothered by his treatment of women, according to exit polls.

Now, as one prominent figure after another takes a dive, the question remains: Why not Trump?

“A lot of people who voted for him recognized that he was what he was, but wanted a change and so they were willing to go along,” theorizes Jessica Leeds, one of the first women to step forward and accuse Trump of groping her, decades ago on an airplane.

The charges leveled against him emerged in the supercharged thick of the 2016 campaign, when there was so much noise and chaos that they were just another episode for gobsmacked voters to try to absorb — or tune out. “When you have a Mount Everest of allegations, any particular allegation is very hard to get traction on,” says political psychologist Stanley Renshon.

And Trump’s unconventional candidacy created an entirely different set of rules.

“Trump is immune to the laws of political physics because it’s not his job to be a politician, it’s his job to burn down the system,” says Eric Dezenhall, a crisis management expert in Washington.

Now Alabama Senate candidate Roy Moore, accused of assaulting teenage girls when he was in his 30s, is waving that same alternative rulebook.

Long a bane to establishment Republicans, Moore is thumbing his nose at calls by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and other GOP members of Congress to drop out of the campaign, and accusing them of trying to “steal” the race from his loyal insurgents.

As for Trump, the president who rarely sits out a feeding frenzy is selectively aiming his Twitter guns at those under scrutiny.

He quickly unloaded on Democrat Al Franken after the Minnesota senator was accused Thursday of forcibly kissing and groping a Fox TV sports correspondent, now a Los Angeles radio anchor, during a 2006 USO tour.

Yet Trump has been largely mum as Washington Republicans try to figure out what to do about Moore. McConnell and company have zero interest in welcoming an accused child molester to their ranks nor in seeing their slim 52-48 Senate majority grow even thinner should Moore lose to Democrat Doug Jones in a special election Dec. 12.

Trump did support moves by the national Republican Party to cut off money for Moore. But he hasn’t said whether he still backs Moore’s candidacy.

Spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders, pressed repeatedly on the matter this week, would say only that Trump “thinks that the people of Alabama should make the decision on who their next senator should be.”

As for the allegations against Moore, Sanders said Trump finds them “very troubling.”

As for Franken, presidential adviser Kellyanne Conway told Fox News that Trump had merely “weighed in as he does on the news of the day” when jabbing at the senator.

But Trump’s broadsides at Franken served as an open invitation for critics to revisit his own history of alleged sexual misconduct.

Leeds, for her part, called the president “the walking definition of hypocrisy.”

Look no further than the bipartisan howl that greeted Ivanka Trump’s statement this week about Moore for a demonstration of the perilous crosscurrents around Trump on the issue.

“There’s a special place in hell for people who prey on children,” Trump’s daughter told the AP, adding that she had “no reason to doubt the victims’ accounts.” She did not call for Moore to leave the race.

Liberals and conservatives both pounced. Those on the left noted she had waited a week to chime in

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and had never given similar credence to the claims of her father's accusers. Some on the right faulted her for buying into unproven accusations.

Liberal movie director Rob Reiner tweeted: "Ivanka believes Roy Moore's accusers. But the more than 12 women who accuse her father of sexual abuse are all liars. The difference is? ..."

The sexual assault drama is playing out as a painful sequel for Leeds and other women who came forward during the 2016 presidential campaign to accuse Trump of harassment and more — only to see him elected president anyway.

"My pain is everyday," Jill Harth, a former business associate who claimed Trump put his hands under her dress during a business dinner in 1992, tweeted in October. "No one gets it unless it happens to them. NO one!"

It's the same for those who accused former President Bill Clinton of sexual misconduct, their charges once written off as "bimbo eruptions."

"I am now 73....it never goes away," nurse Juanita Broaddrick, who accused Clinton of raping her in 1978, tweeted Friday.

Allegations of womanizing, extramarital affairs and abuse dogged Clinton over the course of his political life, culminating in his 1998 impeachment — and acquittal — over his affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky. He also agreed to an \$850,000 settlement with Arkansas state worker Paula Jones, who had accused him of exposing himself and making indecent propositions when he was governor. The settlement included no apology or admission of guilt.

Leading feminists and Democratic-leaning groups stayed loyal to him throughout — though some are rethinking that stance now.

Even in the current charged environment, when every new allegation can produce screaming headlines, Trump may well be able to go his own way — and take a hands-off approach to Moore.

"Trump's base likes him when he's gratuitously ornery: Insulting war heroes, Gold Star families and the disabled have all been good for him, so what does he gain by strongly opining on Moore?" asks Dezenhall. "Nothing that I can see, so as a guideline, he doesn't need to do all that much."

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Follow Nancy Benac on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/nbenac>

## Senior Chinese envoy in North Korea amid chill in ties

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — The highest-level Chinese envoy to North Korea in two years held meetings in the country's capital to try to improve relations that have soured over Beijing's tightening of sanctions and expressions of support for President Donald Trump's calls for more pressure on the North to abandon its nuclear weapons program.

Song Tao's official mission starting Friday is to brief North Korean officials on the outcome of China's ruling Communist Party congress held last month. He is visiting as President Xi Jinping's special envoy, according to Chinese and North Korean state media, but no other details about his itinerary or whether he will meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un have been announced.

After arriving, Song met with Choe Ryong Hae, a vice chairman of the ruling party and one of the most senior leaders after Kim.

During their meeting on Friday, Song briefed Choe on the developments from the Communist Party congress and also gave him an unspecified gift for Kim, Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency said Saturday. The agency said Song also stressed the Communist Party's stance to further build on the "traditional friendly relationship" between the countries and their ruling parties.

The visit is seen as an effort by Xi to explore a new approach in relations and likely also reflects Xi's desire to head off further pressure from Washington.

China's relations with North Korea have deteriorated under Kim, who has ignored Beijing's calls to end the North's nuclear weapons and ballistic missile tests and return to disarmament talks.

North Korea staged its sixth nuclear test on Sept. 3, detonating what it said was a hydrogen bomb, and

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most recently launched a ballistic missile on Sept. 15, firing it over the Japanese island of Hokkaido into the Pacific Ocean.

China, North Korea's largest trading partner, says its influence with Kim's government is often exaggerated by the U.S. and others. Beijing is opposed to measures that could bring down Kim's regime and lead to a refugee crisis along its border, and while enforcing harsh new U.N. sanctions targeting North Korea's sources of foreign currency it has called for steps to renew dialogue.

The visit comes as Joseph Yun, the U.S. envoy for North Korea, met Friday with his South Korean counterpart, Lee Do-hoon, on the resort island of Jeju in South Korea.

"China, of course, has a big role to play on Northeast Asia security issues," Yun was quoted by South Korea's Yonhap news agency as saying, adding that he hopes China "regards the denuclearization as a critical goal. We do hope that special envoy will forward that goal."

Song's visit to North Korea also comes as China and South Korea are repairing their relations that soured over Seoul's deployment of a U.S. anti-missile system.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in is to visit China next month for talks with Xi.

Song is the first ministerial-level Chinese official to visit North Korea since October 2015, when Politburo Standing Committee member Liu Yunshan delivered a letter to Kim from Xi expressing hopes for a strong relationship, although the respite in frosty ties proved short-lived. Vice Foreign Minister Liu Zhenmin visited Pyongyang, North Korea's capital, in October last year.

Song heads the Communist Party's International Department.

## US puts Palestinians on notice: DC office may be shuttered

By JOSH LEDERMAN and MATTHEW LEE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration put the Palestinians on notice Friday that it will shutter their office in Washington unless they've entered serious peace talks with Israel, U.S. officials said, potentially giving President Donald Trump more leverage as he seeks an elusive Mideast peace deal.

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson has determined that the Palestinians ran afoul of an obscure provision in a U.S. law that says the Palestine Liberation Organization's mission must close if the Palestinians try to get the International Criminal Court to prosecute Israelis for crimes against Palestinians. A State Department official said that in September, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas crossed that line by calling on the ICC to investigate and prosecute Israelis.

But the law leaves the president a way out, so Tillerson's declaration doesn't necessarily mean the office will close.

Trump now has 90 days to consider whether the Palestinians are in "direct and meaningful negotiations with Israel." If Trump determines they are, the Palestinians can keep the office. The official said it was unclear whether the U.S. might close the office before the 90-day period expires, but said the mission remains open at least for now.

Even if the office closes, the U.S. said it wasn't cutting off relations with the Palestinians and was still focused on "a comprehensive peace agreement between the Israelis and the Palestinians." The State Department official said in an email that "this measure should in no way be seen as a signal that the U.S. is backing off those efforts." The official wasn't authorized to be identified by name and requested anonymity.

The PLO office and the Israeli Embassy in Washington did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Although the Israelis and Palestinians are not engaged in active, direct negotiations, Trump's administration has been working all year to broker a peace deal that would end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Led by Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law and a senior aide, White House officials have been preparing a peace proposal they intend to put forward at an unspecified time.

The Palestinians, though publicly supportive of the U.S. effort, have been skeptical because Trump's close ties to Israel suggest whatever deal he proposes might be unfavorable to them. The threat of losing their office in the U.S. capital could become another pressure point as the Trump administration seeks to

persuade the Palestinians to come to the table.

The Palestine Liberation Organization is the group that formally represents all Palestinians. Although the U.S. does not recognize Palestinian statehood, the PLO maintains a "general delegation" office in Washington that facilitates Palestinian officials' interactions with the U.S. government.

The United States allowed the PLO to open a mission in Washington in 1994, a move that required then-President Bill Clinton to waive a law that said the Palestinians couldn't have an office. In 2011, under the Obama administration, the United States started letting the Palestinians fly their flag over the office, an upgrade to the status of their mission that the Palestinians hailed as historic.

Israel opposes any Palestinian membership in United Nations-related organizations until a peace deal has been reached.

The Trump administration has not revealed any details about its effort to bring about a peace deal that would ostensibly grant the Palestinians an independent state in exchange for an end to its conflict with the Israelis. But Kushner and other top Trump aides have been shuttling to the region to meet with Palestinians, Israelis and officials from neighboring Arab nations as it prepares to put forward a peace plan.

The requirement that the PLO office be closed if the Palestinians back an International Criminal Court move came in a little-noticed provision in U.S. law that says the United States can't allow the Palestinians to have a Washington office if they try to "influence a determination by the ICC to initiate a judicially authorized investigation, or to actively support such an investigation, that subjects Israeli nationals to an investigation for alleged crimes against Palestinians."

Abbas, the Palestinian leader, said in his speech at the U.N. General Assembly in September that the Palestinians had "called on the International Criminal Court to open an investigation and to prosecute Israeli officials for their involvement in settlement activities and aggressions against our people."

The U.S. law says that if the government determines the Palestinians have breached that requirement, it triggers a 90-day review period in which the president must decide whether to let the office stay open anyway. The president is allowed to waive the requirement only if he certifies to Congress "that the Palestinians have entered into direct and meaningful negotiations with Israel."

The provision doesn't explicitly define what would constitute direct or meaningful negotiations.

Reach Josh Lederman on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/joshledermanAP> and Matthew Lee at <http://twitter.com/APDiploWriter>

## Rev Jesse Jackson discloses Parkinson's disease diagnosis

By SOPHIA TAREEN, Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — The Rev. Jesse Jackson disclosed publicly Friday that he has been seeking outpatient care for two years for Parkinson's disease and plans to "dedicate" himself to physical therapy to slow the progress of the disease.

In a letter to supporters, the 76-year-old civil rights icon said family and friends noticed a change in him about three years ago, and he could no longer ignore symptoms of the chronic neurological disorder that causes movement difficulties.

"Recognition of the effects of this disease on me has been painful, and I have been slow to grasp the gravity of it," he wrote. "For me, a Parkinson's diagnosis is not a stop sign but rather a signal that I must make lifestyle changes and dedicate myself to physical therapy."

Jackson, who declined to be interviewed, also released a letter from Northwestern Medicine confirming his diagnosis and care.

He vowed to use his voice to help find a cure for the disease.

About 60,000 people in the U.S. are diagnosed with Parkinson's annually, according to the Parkinson's Foundation.

It can start with tremors, and symptoms generally worsen over time. The exact cause is unknown.



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Treatments include medications, surgery and physical therapy.

The disease itself is not fatal but people can die from complications. Jackson said Parkinson's "bested" his father. Noah Lewis Robinson Sr. died in 1997 at age 88 after suffering a heart attack.

It was unclear how his treatment would affect his leadership of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, the Chicago-based civil rights group he founded more than two decades ago. Jackson has remained active in his advocacy and travels, including traveling to Puerto Rico last month for a hurricane-relief mission and hosting a symposium in Washington, D.C., earlier this week.

A protégé of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jackson was instrumental in guiding the modern civil rights movement on a wide variety of issues, including voting rights and education.

Twice a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination in the 1980s, he has remained a strong voice in numerous anti-discrimination efforts, including advocating for affordable housing. He's often seen at protests nationwide and has continued regular forums at Rainbow/PUSH's headquarters.

He said Friday in the letter that he is also working on a memoir.

"I will continue to try to instill hope in the hopeless, expand our democracy to the disenfranchised and free innocent prisoners around the world," he wrote. "I steadfastly affirm that I would rather wear out than rust out."

The Rev. Al Sharpton said he spent the last few days with Jackson in New York City.

Jackson "has changed the nation and served in ways in which he never got credit," Sharpton said in a statement. "We pray for him, just as he fought for us."

Follow Sophia Tareen on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/sophiatareen> .

## Lebanon's PM Hariri leaves Saudi Arabia for France

By SARAH EL DEEB, Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri left Saudi Arabia for France early Saturday, two weeks after declaring his resignation from the kingdom and sparking speculation that he was forced to do so.

The surprise resignation announcement by Hariri on Nov. 4 plunged his country into turmoil and stunned the Lebanese, many of whom saw it as a sign the Sunni kingdom — the prime minister's chief ally — had decided to drag tiny Lebanon into its feud with the region's other powerhouse, the predominantly Shiite Iran. Lebanon still hasn't recognized his resignation.

In his televised announcement, Hariri cited Iran and Hezbollah for meddling in Arab countries, particularly Saudi Arabia. He also said he was afraid for his life.

Shortly before he left Riyadh, Saudi Arabia asked its citizens for the second time in less than two weeks to leave Lebanon "as soon as possible" given the "circumstances" there. Less than a week after Hariri resigned, Riyadh ordered its nationals to leave immediately, raising fears of more punitive actions to come amid sharp criticism from Saudi officials of Hezbollah, Iran's ally in Lebanon.

The announcement early Saturday was posted on the Saudi embassy Twitter account. It came shortly after the embassy reported that it is closely following reports of an attack on two Saudi nationals in a Beirut neighborhood. There was no immediate security report of the incident. Hariri tweeted before he left Saudi Arabia that any attack on a Saudi is an attack on him personally.

Hariri, a dual Lebanese-Saudi national, stunned Lebanon and the region when he declared his resignation from Saudi Arabia, sparking speculations he was held against his will and forced to resign.

In a series of tweets before leaving, Hariri dismissed as "rumors" and a "lie" reports that he was detained or prevented from leaving the kingdom. In a rare English tweet, Hariri named German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel when announcing that he was heading to the airport in Saudi Arabia. He apparently singled out the top German diplomat because he had criticized meddling in Lebanon's affairs.

"To say that I am held up in Saudi Arabia and not allowed to leave the country is a lie," Hariri said. "I am on the way to the airport Mr. Sigmar Gabriel."

Before heading to the airport, Hariri met with the Saudi Crown Prince and other senior officials, accord-

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ing to a member of Hariri's political party and two Lebanese television stations.

He is expected to arrive in Paris Saturday morning. Local Lebanese TV said he left Riyadh with his wife. His family had lived in Riyadh for years.

French President Emmanuel Macron said Hariri will be received "with the honors due a prime minister" even though he has announced his resignation.

Lebanese President Michel Aoun accused Saudi Arabia of detaining him.

Saudi officials denied the reports, adding that Hariri was an ally. But they railed against Iran-backed Hezbollah, accusing the two of meddling in the region's affairs and backing anti-Saudi rebels in Yemen.

The resignation by Saudi-aligned Hariri raised concerns in a region already beset by conflict. Many feared Lebanon's delicate sectarian-based political system could be easily upended if the country is dragged into a battle for regional supremacy between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

On Friday, Saudi Arabia's foreign minister said there will be no stability in Lebanon unless the militant group Hezbollah disarms. "This is what we hope," Adel al-Jubeir said at a press conference in Madrid with his Spanish counterpart.

It was the second day in a row that the Saudi minister railed against Hezbollah. On Thursday, he called the group a "first-class terrorist organization" that should lay down its arms and respect Lebanon's sovereignty. Saudi Arabia has already asked its nationals to leave Lebanon.

The Arab League is due to hold a meeting on Sunday in Cairo at Saudi Arabia's urging where the Lebanon crisis and Iran's role in the region are expected to be discussed. Many fear more Saudi punitive actions against Lebanon may be planned.

"My stay in the kingdom is to consult about the future of Lebanon and its relation with its Arab environs," he tweeted earlier. "All stories spreading about my sojourn and departure or that deal with the circumstances of my family are merely rumors."

Macron, speaking at an EU summit in Goteborg, Sweden, said Hariri could stay in Paris for weeks should he choose.

Macron said that Hariri "has the intention, I believe, of going to his country in the days or weeks ahead," the first time a possible timeframe has been evoked.

It was not clear what the intention of the French invitation was. Hariri also has homes in France. Some viewed the French invite as an attempt to dispel reports Hariri was detained.

France, Lebanon's former colonial ruler, has been trying to mediate the crisis and Macron invited Hariri and his family to the country after his foreign minister met with Saudi King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman about the crisis.

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Associated Press writers Zeina Karam in Beirut and Jeff Schaeffer and Elaine Ganley in Paris contributed to this report.

## **Moscow meeting in June 2017 under scrutiny in Trump probe**

**By DESMOND BUTLER, MARY CLARE JALONICK and ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Earlier this year, a Russian-American lobbyist and another businessman discussed over coffee in Moscow an extraordinary meeting they had attended 12 months earlier: a gathering at Trump Tower with President Donald Trump's son, his son-in-law and his then-campaign chairman.

The Moscow meeting in June, which has not been previously disclosed, is now under scrutiny by investigators who want to know why the two men met in the first place and whether there was some effort to get their stories straight about the Trump Tower meeting just weeks before it would become public, The Associated Press has learned.

Congressional investigators have questioned both men — lobbyist Rinat Akhmetshin and Ike Kaveladze, a business associate of a Moscow-based developer and former Trump business partner — and obtained their text message communications, people familiar with the investigation told the AP.

Special counsel Robert Mueller's team also has been investigating the 2016 Trump Tower meeting, which

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occurred weeks after Trump had clinched the Republican presidential nomination and which his son attended with the expectation of receiving damaging information about Democrat Hillary Clinton. A grand jury has already heard testimony about the meeting, which in addition to Donald Trump Jr., also included Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law, and his then-campaign chairman Paul Manafort.

The focus of the congressional investigators was confirmed by three people familiar with their probe, including two who demanded anonymity to discuss the sensitive inquiry.

One of those people said Akhmetshin told congressional investigators that he asked for the Moscow meeting with Kaveladze to argue that they should go public with the details of the Trump Tower meeting before they were caught up in a media maelstrom. Akhmetshin also told the investigators that Kaveladze said people in Trump's orbit were asking about Akhmetshin's background, the person said.

Akhmetshin's lawyer, Michael Tremonte, declined to comment.

Scott Balber, a lawyer for Kaveladze, confirmed that his client and Akhmetshin met over coffee and that the Trump Tower meeting a year earlier was "obviously discussed." But Balber denied his client had been contacted by associates of Trump before he took the meeting with Akhmetshin, or had been aware of plans to disclose the Trump Tower gathering to the U.S. government.

Balber said the men did not discuss strategy or how to line up their stories, and did not meet in anticipation of the Trump Tower meeting becoming public and attracting a barrage of news media attention.

He said Akhmetshin did convey during coffee the possibility that his name could come out in connection with the Trump Tower meeting and cause additional, unwanted scrutiny given that he had been linked in earlier news reports to Russian military intelligence, coverage that Akhmetshin considered unfair. Akhmetshin has denied ongoing ties with Russian intelligence, but acknowledged that he served in the Soviet military in the late 1980s as part of a counterintelligence unit.

"That was the impetus," Balber said of the men's get-together. "It had absolutely nothing to do with anticipation of the meeting coming out in the press."

The meeting in Moscow occurred during a tumultuous time for the administration. Mueller had been appointed as special counsel weeks earlier following the firing in May of FBI Director James Comey, and associates of Trump were under pressure to disclose any contacts they had with Russians during the campaign.

The June 2016 meeting at Trump Tower first became public on July 8 in a report in The New York Times.

The White House initially said the meeting, which also involved a Russian lawyer who for years has advocated against U.S. sanctions of Russia, was primarily about an adoption program, but days after the story was published, Trump Jr. released emails showing he took the meeting after being told he would receive damaging information on Clinton as part of a Russian government effort to aide his father's candidacy.

Mueller's investigation has included scrutiny of the White House's drafting of the initial incomplete statement.

As part of their inquiry, congressional investigators are reviewing copies of the text messages between the two men that were turned over, Balber said. He declined to say what the text messages showed. One person familiar with the messages said they reflect the logistics of the meeting during a trip by Akhmetshin to Moscow.

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Associated Press writer Chad Day contributed to this report.

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## As sex scandals topple the powerful: Why not Trump?

By NANCY BENAC and CALVIN WOODWARD, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — “You can do anything,” Donald Trump once boasted, speaking of groping and kissing unsuspecting women.

Maybe he could, but not everyone can.

The candidate who openly bragged about grabbing women’s private parts — but denied he really did so — was elected president months before the cascading sexual harassment allegations that have been toppling the careers of powerful men in Hollywood, business, the media and politics. He won even though more than a dozen women accused him of sexual misconduct, and roughly half of all voters said they were bothered by his treatment of women, according to exit polls.

Now, as one prominent figure after another takes a dive, the question remains: Why not Trump?

“A lot of people who voted for him recognized that he was what he was, but wanted a change and so they were willing to go along,” theorizes Jessica Leeds, one of the first women to step forward and accuse Trump of groping her, decades ago on an airplane.

The charges leveled against him emerged in the supercharged thick of the 2016 campaign, when there was so much noise and chaos that they were just another episode for gobsmacked voters to try to absorb — or tune out. “When you have a Mount Everest of allegations, any particular allegation is very hard to get traction on,” says political psychologist Stanley Renshon.

And Trump’s unconventional candidacy created an entirely different set of rules.

“Trump is immune to the laws of political physics because it’s not his job to be a politician, it’s his job to burn down the system,” says Eric Dezenhall, a crisis management expert in Washington.

Now Alabama Senate candidate Roy Moore, accused of assaulting teenage girls when he was in his 30s, is waving that same alternative rulebook.

Long a bane to establishment Republicans, Moore is thumbing his nose at calls by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and other GOP members of Congress to drop out of the campaign, and accusing them of trying to “steal” the race from his loyal insurgents.

As for Trump, the president who rarely sits out a feeding frenzy is selectively aiming his Twitter guns at those under scrutiny.

He quickly unloaded on Democrat Al Franken after the Minnesota senator was accused Thursday of forcibly kissing and groping a Fox TV sports correspondent, now a Los Angeles radio anchor, during a 2006 USO tour.

Yet Trump has been largely mum as Washington Republicans try to figure out what to do about Moore. McConnell and company have zero interest in welcoming an accused child molester to their ranks nor in seeing their slim 52-48 Senate majority grow even thinner should Moore lose to Democrat Doug Jones in a special election Dec. 12.

Trump did support moves by the national Republican Party to cut off money for Moore. But he hasn’t said whether he still backs Moore’s candidacy.

Spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders, pressed repeatedly on the matter this week, would say only that Trump “thinks that the people of Alabama should make the decision on who their next senator should be.”

As for the allegations against Moore, Sanders said Trump finds them “very troubling.”

As for Franken, presidential adviser Kellyanne Conway told Fox News that Trump had merely “weighed in as he does on the news of the day” when jabbing at the senator.

But Trump’s broadsides at Franken served as an open invitation for critics to revisit his own history of alleged sexual misconduct.

Leeds, for her part, called the president “the walking definition of hypocrisy.”

Look no further than the bipartisan howl that greeted Ivanka Trump’s statement this week about Moore for a demonstration of the perilous crosscurrents around Trump on the issue.

“There’s a special place in hell for people who prey on children,” Trump’s daughter told the AP, adding that she had “no reason to doubt the victims’ accounts.” She did not call for Moore to leave the race.



Liberals and conservatives both pounced. Those on the left noted she had waited a week to chime in and had never given similar credence to the claims of her father's accusers. Some on the right faulted her for buying into unproven accusations.

Liberal movie director Rob Reiner tweeted: "Ivanka believes Roy Moore's accusers. But the more than 12 women who accuse her father of sexual abuse are all liars. The difference is? ..."

The sexual assault drama is playing out as a painful sequel for Leeds and other women who came forward during the 2016 presidential campaign to accuse Trump of harassment and more — only to see him elected president anyway.

"My pain is everyday," Jill Harth, a former business associate who claimed Trump put his hands under her dress during a business dinner in 1992, tweeted in October. "No one gets it unless it happens to them. NO one!"

It's the same for those who accused former President Bill Clinton of sexual misconduct, their charges once written off as "bimbo eruptions."

"I am now 73....it never goes away," nurse Juanita Broaddrick, who accused Clinton of raping her in 1978, tweeted Friday.

Allegations of womanizing, extramarital affairs and abuse dogged Clinton over the course of his political life, culminating in his 1998 impeachment — and acquittal — over his affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky. He also agreed to an \$850,000 settlement with Arkansas state worker Paula Jones, who had accused him of exposing himself and making indecent propositions when he was governor. The settlement included no apology or admission of guilt.

Leading feminists and Democratic-leaning groups stayed loyal to him throughout — though some are rethinking that stance now.

Even in the current charged environment, when every new allegation can produce screaming headlines, Trump may well be able to go his own way — and take a hands-off approach to Moore.

"Trump's base likes him when he's gratuitously ornery: Insulting war heroes, Gold Star families and the disabled have all been good for him, so what does he gain by strongly opining on Moore?" asks Dezenhall. "Nothing that I can see, so as a guideline, he doesn't need to do all that much."

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Follow Nancy Benac on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/nbenac>

## Allegations against Alabama's Roy Moore dividing GOP women

By KIM CHANDLER, Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Standing on the white marble steps of Alabama's Capitol, Kayla Moore surrounded herself with two dozen other women Friday to defend husband Roy Moore against accusations of sexual misconduct that are dividing Republicans, and women in particular.

"He will not step down. He will not stop fighting for the people of Alabama," Kayla Moore said at a "Women for Moore" rally. Acting as her husband's lead defender, she lashed out at the news media and thanked people who were sticking behind her husband. "To the people of Alabama, thank you for being smarter than they think you are," Moore said.

Not everyone is sticking with Roy Moore, however, and certainly not all women.

"I was going to vote for him. I was going to be one of his voters. I just don't know that I can vote for him anymore," said Laura Payne, a Trump delegate to the 2016 Republican National Convention.

Since last week, Moore has been engulfed by accusations of sexual misconduct toward women in their teens when he was a deputy district attorney in his 30s. Several of his accusers have allowed their identities to be made public.

One said Moore molested her when she was 14. Another said Moore assaulted her when she was a 16-year-old waitress after he offered to drive her home. Five others said Moore pursued romantic relationships with them when they were between the ages of 16 and 18.

"I have not found any reason not to believe them .... They risked a whole lot to come forward," Payne

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said of the accusers.

Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey said she also has no reason to disbelieve the women and is bothered by their allegations. But Ivey said she will vote for Moore anyway for the sake of GOP power in Congress.

"We need to have a Republican in the United States Senate to vote on things like Supreme Court justices, other appointments that the Senate has to confirm and make major decisions," Ivey said.

Moore has ignored mounting calls from Washington Republicans concerned that if he stays in the race against Democrat Doug Jones he may not only lose a seat they were sure to win but also may do significant damage to the party's brand among women nationwide as they prepare for a difficult midterm election season.

The Alabama GOP, meanwhile, reaffirmed its support for Moore on Thursday.

The accusations sent a shockwave through the Senate race in Alabama, where Republicans typically have a lock on statewide election. Democrats already hoped to stand a chance against the polarizing jurist who was twice removed from chief justice duties because of defying court orders regarding the Ten Commandments and gay marriage.

A Fox News poll released Thursday, a week after the first accusations, showed Jones leading Moore by eight points. Support from women was helping to give Jones the edge with 68 percent for Jones compared to 32 percent for Moore.

One of them is longtime Republican Tracy James, who worked for former senator and current U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Her cousin was a Republican governor. She won't vote for Moore, a decision she made before the election.

"My hope is that the Moore debacle will not only be a wake-up call for evangelicals, but also for Republicans, who should stand back and say, 'Wow, look at the kind of person we almost elected to our ranks,'" James said.

But Kayla Moore says her husband is exactly the kind of person who needs to be in the Senate.

Decades ago, then known by her maiden name, Kayla Kisor, she was performing in a hometown dance recital when she first caught Roy Moore's eye. As he wrote in his 2009 autobiography, seeing her was something he never forgot.

"Years later," Moore wrote, when she was 23 — she's 14 years his junior— he finally met her. They wed in 1985.

Now, Kayla Moore is doing more than standing by her husband — she's his most aggressive defender against allegations threatening his Republican bid for U.S. Senate.

When Moore makes a public appearance, Kayla Moore is there. When something pops up on social media that could help his cause, she shares it on Facebook. And she was the star at the Statehouse rally in Montgomery.

Speakers there said the allegations against Moore were out of character for the man they have known for years.

"I do not recognize the man these ladies are describing," Ann Eubank, a fixture in Alabama Republican politics, said of the accusers.

Across the street from the rally, Rose Falvey, 25, held a "Moore is a pedophile" sign, a reference to the 14-year-old accuser.

Falvey, who runs an LGBT community center, said she was angered by the stories about Moore since he had fought to block gay marriage in the state.

"I think it's really hypocritical and an embarrassment for the state of Alabama, and he's dragging us backwards," Falvey said.

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Associated Press writers Steve Peoples and Jay Reeves in Birmingham, Alabama, and Zeke Miller and Catherine Lucey in Washington contributed to this report.

## Some residents unaccounted for after huge senior center fire

By ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE, Associated Press

Authorities struggled on Friday to account for the whereabouts of all the residents of a Pennsylvania senior living community after a massive blaze tore through their complex during the middle of the night, injuring nearly 30 and leading to a chaotic evacuation.

West Chester Mayor Jordan Norley said Friday afternoon that a few of the more than 130 residents of the Barclay Friends Senior Living Community, located west of Philadelphia, were unaccounted for following the huge fire.

"We're hoping for the best obviously here," said Norley, who put the number taken to area hospitals at 29.

Officials said fewer than 20 remained hospitalized and all were in good condition.

County emergency officials said there was the possibility someone could have died in the fire, which erupted late Thursday night. But a spokeswoman for the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which was on the scene, told an afternoon news conference that no relatives had reported any family members missing.

Dozens of neighbors rushed to help with the rescue, wrapping the elderly in blankets and carrying some of them to ambulances in makeshift gurneys. Some of the residents were taken to a shelter set up at a nearby college.

Emergency management officials said much of the burned-out complex was too unstable for investigators to enter and check to make sure everyone got out.

Barclay Friends offers various levels of care including memory care, skilled nursing and post-acute rehab. The cause of the fire there was under investigation.

Larry Kingsland said he and scores of neighbors ferried elderly residents to medics as firefighters rescued them from the inferno.

"Everyone saw how devastating the fire was, and we all had the same reaction: that people needed help," he said. "The whole neighborhood was helping."

The fire spread to multiple buildings, engulfing sections within minutes as more than 400 emergency personnel responded. The heat was so intense that one firefighter battling the blaze discovered his helmet was melting, said county emergency services director Robert Kagel.

A spokeswoman for the senior center said about 132 residents were present when the blaze broke out. Emergency officials put the number of staff at about 20; they were all accounted for.

Patients at Paoli Hospital were admitted with issues related to smoke inhalation. A county official said some of the hospitalized residents complained of chest pains.

Many of the residents were pushed in wheelchairs or rolled on beds to safety, said Dina Ciccarone, another neighbor who helped move people away from the fire and to safety. In some cases, she said, people used blankets as makeshift gurneys to assist in the rescue effort.

"Most of them could not walk," Ciccarone said. "Some were lying on the ground. We were just bundling them up."

As the complex went up in flames, news helicopter coverage showed dozens of residents on the lawn or along the street, wrapped in blankets as overnight temperatures dipped into the low 40s. Some of the residents were taken from the scene by school bus.

Mike Lentz, an accountant who lives across the street from the facility, said neighbors helped to comfort seniors as they were led away from the flames.

"I would try to wrap them in a blanket and kept telling them, 'You're safe now,'" he said. "Some were crying. Some were disoriented and crying."

This story has been corrected to show a county official, not the mayor, said some of the hospitalized residents complained about chest pains.

## Notorious Mafia 'boss of bosses' Toto Riina dead at 87

By **FRANCES D'EMILIO** and **COLLEEN BARRY**, Associated Press

ROME (AP) — Cosa Nostra's "boss of bosses," who was serving 26 life sentences as the convicted mastermind of dozens of murders of rivals for power on his Sicilian turf as well as prominent anti-Mafia heroes, died Friday in an Italian hospital prison ward.

Salvatore "Toto" Riina's passing, a day after his 87th birthday, is likely to trigger a scramble for power among Mafia clans in Palermo, the traditional hub of the crime syndicate's leadership.

Nicknamed "the beast" for his ferocity, Riina leaves behind a significantly weakened Cosa Nostra after his ferocious killing campaign eventually backfired, triggering a fierce government crackdown aided by a small army of turncoats who broke with the centuries-old Mafia "honor" code and started collaborating with authorities.

Still, experts described the Sicilian Mafia as very much a vital criminal force, now focused on growing revenues gained through extortion and other traditional lucrative rackets.

A farmer's son from Corleone, a medieval Sicilian hill town that was home to the murderous Corleonesi crime clan, Riina orchestrated a bloody strategy of eliminating Palermo-area rivals to climb to the top of the syndicate's leadership as "capo di capi" — boss of bosses.

Even after his capture in 1993, a year after twin bombings snuffed out the lives of Italy's two leading anti-Mafia prosecutors, Riina continued to hold the scepter of power despite imprisonment under a special regime of isolation reserved for Mafiosi that allows little contact with relatives and other links to the outside world.

"He was still considered the 'boss of bosses,' even in prison," top anti-Mafia prosecutor Franco Roberti told The Associated Press.

Former Palermo anti-Mafia magistrate Alfonso Sabella agreed. "Up to 3:37 a.m." — the time of Riina's death — "he was still the 'capo' of Cosa Nostra," he told Sky TG24 TV.

Helping Riina keep the respect of his henchmen was his steadfast refusal to repent or in any way cooperate with law enforcement, authorities said.

"His death will lead to a power struggle at the top of the Cosa Nostra," Roberti said, even though the severe restrictions on outside contacts during his decades in a Milan prison cell ensured he no longer had any day-to-day operational influence.

Much attention is focused on Italy's No. 1 longtime fugitive boss, Matteo Messina Denaro, as a possible successor, whose power base is the Trapani area of western Sicily. But a report by Italy's special multi-force anti-Mafia investigative agency DIA noted that the various Sicilian Mafia crime families would likely oppose having someone not from the Palermo hub command their clans.

Agreeing with that assessment was Riina's former driver and bodyguard, Gaspare Mutolo, who became one of Italy's most prominent "pentiti," or turncoats in 1991, offering to give his intelligence to top anti-Mafia magistrate Giovanni Falcone, who along with fellow prosecutor Paolo Borsellino was killed in the 1992 bombings masterminded by Riina.

"Usually, the Mafia chieftains are almost always in Palermo," Mutolo, who was freed several years ago after serving a lengthy prison term, told a gathering of the foreign press corps in Rome.

Asked what qualities kept Riina at the helm of the Cosa Nostra for so many decades, Mutolo replied: "Riina didn't seem so intelligent but he was evil inside."

Arriving in a ski mask that showed only his eyes and lips to disguise his identity, Mutolo noted that Riina was the first to break with the Mafia's code of conduct barring the killing of women or children.

It was during Riina's reign, that, in a failed bid to stem the steady growth of turncoat ranks, the 15-year-old son of one of those collaborators was murdered, his body found dissolved in acid in 1996, two years after the boy was kidnapped.

Convicted of killings that began in the 1950s, Riina carved out a particularly ruthless reputation in a crime syndicate notorious for its ruthlessness. Rival bosses were mowed down in the 1970s and early 1980s at



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a rate of practically one a day in the Sicilian capital as Riina orchestrated his rise to power.

Captured in 1993 in Palermo, where he had been holed up in an apartment hideout, Riina was convicted in 1996 of conspiring in the murder of Borsellino and five bodyguards, followed a year later by his conviction in the deaths of Falcone, Falcone's wife and three bodyguards in a bomb blast along a highway near Palermo's airport.

Born in the central Sicilian town made famous by novelist Mario Puzo, who borrowed the town's name, Corleone, for the main character in his 1969 novel "The Godfather," Riina went into hiding that same year after being ordered by the state to leave Sicily after he had finished serving a five-year prison sentence for Mafia association.

He married a local woman 14 years his junior, Antonina Bagarella, who was trained as a schoolteacher and was the sister of two alleged Cosa Nostra bosses. Riina was handed his first life sentence in 1987 after being tried in absentia on murder and drug trafficking charges.

In the years since Riina's capture, Cosa Nostra has witnessed a degree of marginalization when compared to the Calabrian-based 'ndrangheta organized crime syndicate that, awash in cocaine trafficking revenue, has spread northward through Italy and across much of Europe.

"But as always happens, these periods alternate and there are changes. We are now seeing an increase in activities on a financial level by Cosa Nostra subjects," Roberti added. "We are monitoring this."

The DIA intelligence offered a similar assessment.

"Cosa Nostra is shaping up as a still very viable organization, with a pragmatic approach to business, aimed at profitable investments of dirty money, the creation of laundering enterprises to guarantee solid footing even to their own heirs and to filling coffers that were significantly impoverished by the blows inflicted by the state" through confiscation of ill-gained property and other wealth, it said.

Although noting "growing signs of impatience with the Corleonesi leadership," the agency said the death last year of another top Corleone-native boss, Bernardo Provenzano, failed to trigger any rustlings of rebellion among Mafia dons.

Riina, who died hours after the Justice Ministry had agreed to allow family members at his bedside, had been in a medically induced coma following two surgeries in recent weeks in the prison wing of a hospital in Parma in northern Italy.

Monreale Archbishop Michele Pennisi, whose diocese includes Corleone, where Riina's wife still lives, told the AP that he didn't know if the family intended to transfer Riina's body to Corleone. But he said that a public funeral would not be allowed since Riina was a "public sinner."

"If the family members ask, a private prayer in the cemetery will be considered," he added.

Barry reported from Milan.

## Franken apologizes to woman who says he kissed, groped her

By MATTHEW DALY and JULIET LINDERMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Minnesota Sen. Al Franken personally apologized to the woman who has accused him of forcibly kissing her and groping her during a 2006 USO tour, saying he remembers their encounter differently but is "ashamed that my actions ruined that experience for you."

In a guest appearance Friday on ABC's "The View," Leeann Tweeden read a letter she received from the Democratic lawmaker in which he also discussed a photo showing him posing in a joking manner, smiling at the camera with his hands above her chest as she naps wearing a flak vest aboard a military plane.

Franken missed votes in the Senate Thursday afternoon and has not made any public appearances since the allegations came out.

Both had been performing for military personnel in Afghanistan two years before the one-time "Saturday Night Live" comedian was elected to the Senate. Tweeden, a former Fox TV sports correspondent who now is a Los Angeles radio anchor, has said Franken had persisted in rehearsing a kiss and "aggressively stuck his tongue in my mouth."

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Franken told Tweeden in the letter he wanted to "apologize to you personally," adding: "I don't know what was in my head when I took that picture. But that doesn't matter. There's no excuse. I understand why you can feel violated by that photo. ... I have tremendous respect for your work for the USO. And I am ashamed that my actions ruined that experience for you. I am so sorry."

Franken, 66, was the latest public figure to be caught in the deluge of revelations of sexual harassment and misconduct that have crushed careers, ruined reputations and prompted criminal investigations in Hollywood, business and beyond.

While Franken has repeatedly apologized, there were no signs the issue would go away any time soon. Fellow Democrats swiftly condemned his actions, mindful of the current climate as well as the prospect of political blowback in next year's elections.

Republicans, still forced to answer for the multiple allegations facing Alabama Senate candidate Roy Moore, joined in pressing for an investigation. Franken said he would welcome it.

Franken abruptly canceled a sold-out book festival appearance scheduled for Monday in Atlanta, festival organizers said. He had been scheduled to speak and promote his book, "Al Franken, Giant of the Senate."

Tweeden posted her allegations, including a photo of Franken and her, Thursday on the website of KABC, where she works as a news anchor for a morning radio show.

On Friday, Tweeden said she didn't come forward with the hope that Franken would step down. "That's not my call," she told ABC's "Good Morning America." "I think that's for the people of Minnesota to decide."

Franken faces re-election in 2020.

Meanwhile, a Minnesota woman and rape survivor who worked with Franken to craft legislation for fellow survivors said Friday the senator should take his name off the bill. Abby Honold, 22, who was raped by a fellow University of Minnesota student in 2014, called Franken's conduct disappointing and said someone else should champion the bill.

Eight women who worked for Franken in the Senate vouched for him, saying in a joint statement Friday that he treated them "with the utmost respect."

In a statement Thursday, Franken apologized to Tweeden and his constituents while maintaining that he remembered the rehearsal differently. Tweeden said she accepted his apology.

"I respect women. I don't respect men who don't," Franken said. "And the fact that my own actions have given people a good reason to doubt that makes me feel ashamed."

President Donald Trump, who has faced his own allegations of sexual misconduct, ridiculed Franken in tweets Thursday night: "The Al Frankenstien picture is really bad, speaks a thousand words. Where do his hands go in pictures 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 while she sleeps? .... And to think that just last week he was lecturing anyone who would listen about sexual harassment and respect for women."

Trump has been publicly silent about the allegations against Moore, the Republican nominee in Alabama's special Senate election. Through a spokeswoman, he called the allegations of sexual misconduct against the former judge "very troubling" but stopped short of calling on Moore to drop out.

Trump once boasted that as a celebrity "you can do anything," speaking of groping and kissing unsuspecting women. More than a dozen women have accused Trump of sexual misconduct, claims Trump denies.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Friday: "Senator Franken has admitted wrongdoing, and the president hasn't. I think that's a very clear distinction."

The accusations against Franken come just days after the Senate unanimously adopted mandatory sexual harassment training for members and staffs amid a flood of stories about harassment, sexual misconduct and gender hostility from staffers, aides and even female elected officials.

Franken's fellow Minnesota Democrat, Amy Klobuchar, condemned Franken's behavior. Sen. Claire McCaskill of Missouri, facing a tough re-election next year, said, "Comedy is no excuse for inappropriate conduct, and I believe there should be an ethics investigation."

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Associated Press writers Kyle Potter and Amy Forliti in Minneapolis contributed to this report.

## Mugabe emerges from house arrest amid pressure to exit

By FARAI MUTSAKA and CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA, Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe emerged for the first time Friday from military-imposed house arrest, presiding at a university graduation ceremony in a fragile show of normalcy even as former loyalists across the country demanded that he resign after nearly four decades in power.

In an extraordinary evening newscast, state broadcaster ZBC — for decades, a mouthpiece for the Mugabe government — reported on the surging campaign for his ouster and showed video of ruling party members saying he should resign.

Clad in a blue academic gown, the 93-year-old leader earlier joined academics on a red carpet and sat in a high-backed chair in front of several thousand students and guests, a routine he has conducted for many years as the official chancellor of Zimbabwe's universities.

This time, however, the spectacle was jarring because the authority of the world's oldest head of state, once seen as impregnable, is evaporating daily.

That Mugabe was permitted to go to the Zimbabwe Open University event possibly reflected a degree of respect by the military for the president, a former rebel leader who took power after independence from white minority rule in 1980. The armed forces are in a delicate position, sending tanks and troops into Harare's streets this week to effectively end the Mugabe era, while refraining from more heavy-handed measures that would heighten accusations that they staged a coup and violated the constitution.

Meanwhile, the ruling ZANU-PF party signaled impatience with Mugabe amid negotiations on his exit. Party branches passed no-confidence votes in all 10 Zimbabwean provinces, and the state-run Zimbabwe Herald newspaper said all called for the resignation of Mugabe and his wife. They seek a special meeting within two days of the party's Central Committee.

Demonstrations were called for Saturday in Harare to support the military's move against Mugabe, who drew applause from the graduating students on the outskirts of the capital only when he made brief, perfunctory remarks, usually to bestow degrees on delighted graduates. The military said it supports plans for a march, as long as the demonstration is orderly and peaceful.

"It was a long struggle," graduate Arthur Chipra said of the years of effort that went into his master's degree in conflict resolution. He declined to say anything when asked what he thought about Mugabe's presence at the ceremony, highlighting the lingering caution of many in a country where people have been prosecuted for criticizing the president.

Discontent with Mugabe has been growing because of the dire state of the economy, concerns about corruption and mismanagement, a sense that he is no longer physically capable of leading the country due to advanced age and the ambitions of his wife, Grace Mugabe, to succeed him.

The military stepped into the factional battles of the ruling party on Wednesday after the firing of Vice President Emmerson Mnangagwa, who is close to the armed forces and was heavily criticized by both Mugabes.

Mnangagwa, who fled Zimbabwe after his dismissal, will return only after the process to remove Mugabe is complete, high-level supporters told The Associated Press. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters about the matter.

In Washington, U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson called for a return to civilian rule in Zimbabwe, urged any new leader to respect democracy and human rights, and said the country has a chance to put itself on a "new path."

China said it hopes Zimbabwe's political situation can be resolved "under the legal framework" and that stability can be restored.

Questions have been raised about China's possible role in Zimbabwe's affairs because Zimbabwe's army commander was in Beijing last week. China said the visit by Gen. Constantino Chiwenga was a "normal military exchange."

As Mugabe tries to hang on in negotiations over his departure from office, he has asked for "a few more days, a few more months," the chairman of the influential war veterans' association in Zimbabwe

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told reporters.

Chris Mutsvangwa, a Mnangagwa ally, said there is little tolerance for Mugabe to extend his presidency.

Several ruling party figures linked to Grace Mugabe — Jonathan Moyo, the higher education minister; Saviour Kasukuwere, the local government minister; and Ignatious Chombo, the finance minister — were detained during military operations, according to Mutsvangwa. Moyo was not at the graduation ceremony, even though he had been scheduled to attend.

The military said “significant progress has been made in their operation to weed out criminals around President Mugabe,” saying they had committed “crimes that were causing social and economic suffering in Zimbabwe.”

Photographs of talks at Mugabe’s official residence show the president, Defense Minister Sydney Sekeramayi, Intelligence Minister Kembo Mohadi, South African Cabinet ministers who are acting as mediators and a local Catholic priest, the Rev. Fidelis Mukonori, whom Mugabe has used as a mediator before. Grace Mugabe was not pictured. Negotiations on Mugabe’s exit come ahead of a key ruling party congress next month, and elections next year.

There was no obvious military presence at the university graduation that Mugabe attended. His security was handled by presidential guards. Burly men in suits surrounded him as he walked slowly out of the graduation tent after declaring — to applause — an end to the ceremony.

Follow Christopher Torchia on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/torchiachris](http://www.twitter.com/torchiachris)

## Green Day releases greatest hits album spanning 30 years

By MARK KENNEDY, AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Green Day released a massive greatest hits album on Friday, but the trio isn’t saying “Good Riddance” anytime soon.

The Grammy Award-winning band and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductees released “Greatest Hits: God’s Favorite Band,” an album that spans about 30 years.

Lead singer Billie Joe Armstrong said he thinks it’s the perfect soundtrack for our “age of outrage,” and rather than a farewell album, is “sort of like a book of short stories.”

“I don’t think there’s really any sadness,” Armstrong said by phone from Bogota, Colombia. “I think it’s more a little bit of nostalgia and reflecting on what we’ve done in the past and delivering to our fans.”

Armstrong and the band, which also includes drummer Tre Cool and bassist Mike Dirnt, said the timing just felt right this year for the compilation.

“The great thing is we’re young enough that we have another lifetime in front of us. That’s the part that I’m excited about,” said Armstrong, who was 16 when the band was started in 1986.

The new 22-track collection includes such hits as “When I Come Around,” “Good Riddance (Time of Your Life),” “American Idiot,” “21 Guns,” “Boulevard of Broken Dreams,” “She” and “Wake Me Up When September Ends.”

It also includes a new song called “Back in the USA,” which has the lyric “I woke up to a bitter storm.” Armstrong said it was written after Green Day returned to the U.S. from a European tour following Donald Trump’s presidential election.

“I felt we’d come back to a different America that I was trying to recognize,” he said.

The group also added a reworked version of “Ordinary World,” which includes a duet with country singer Miranda Lambert. It was recorded in about an hour in a small studio in Denver when both Green Day and Lambert’s tours ended up in the same city, said Armstrong.

Armstrong and Lambert had already performed at the Grammys and he said, “She just nailed it.”

Green Day previously put out a greatest hits album in 2001, but that was before the trio’s groundbreaking album, “American Idiot,” was released.

The group is known for its raw, pop-punk approach, and is finding a new audience in 2017 through such protest songs as “American Idiot,” which was written about former Republican President George W. Bush,



"We always live in chaos and once you think you start to have it figured out, it changes immediately," he said. "That's just the way our culture is. Right now, we're in the age of outrage and revenge."

Online: <http://www.greenday.com>

Mark Kennedy is at <http://twitter.com/KennedyTwits>

## Climate talks wrap up with progress on Paris rulebook

By FRANK JORDANS, Associated Press

BONN, Germany (AP) — Global talks on curbing climate change wrapped up Friday, with delegates and observers claiming progress on several key details of the 2015 Paris accord.

The two-week negotiations focused on a range of issues including transparency, financial assistance for poor nations and how to keep raising countries' targets for cutting carbon emissions.

"We are making good progress on the Paris agreement work program, and we are on track to complete that work by the deadline," Fijian Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama told diplomats hours before the meeting in Bonn, Germany, was due to conclude.

Bainimarama, who presided over the talks, faced the challenging task of reconciling the often conflicting positions of rich and poor countries, especially when it comes to what each side needs to do to curb climate change.

By late Friday, two main issues remained unresolved: the question of how far in advance rich countries need to commit billions in funding to help developing nations, and a dispute over whether Turkey should have access to financial aid meant for poor countries.

Signatories of the Paris agreement want to keep global warming significantly below 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit) by the end of the century. That goal won't be achieved unless countries make further efforts to sharply reduce carbon emissions caused mainly by the burning of fossil fuels.

Observers say the U.S. delegation played a largely constructive role during the talks, despite the Trump administration's threat to pull out of the Paris accord.

While one group of American officials led by White House adviser George David Banks raised eyebrows by hosting a pro-coal event during the talks, a second group consisting of seasoned U.S. negotiators quietly got on with the painstaking job of refining the international climate rulebook, said Elliot Diringer, a veteran of such U.N. meetings.

"It's a smaller team but a strong team," said Diringer, who is the executive vice president of the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions, a Washington think tank. "From all accounts they have been playing a constructive role in the room advancing largely the same positions as before."

Ottmar Edenhofer, chief economist at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, cautioned that while the Bonn talks might be considered a diplomatic success, little concrete progress has been made on tackling what he called the "coal trap."

"We are being pressured by the mass of available coal: it's very cheap on the market but it's very expensive for society because of air pollution and climate change," he said, noting that Japan, Turkey, Egypt and Indonesia plan to keep investing in coal-fired power plants — a major source of carbon emissions.

Environmental groups voiced disappointment at German Chancellor Angela Merkel's failure to announce a deadline for her country to stop using coal, even as other nations such as Canada, Britain and France committed to a phase-out during the talks.

Leadership hopes are now being pinned on President Emmanuel Macron of France, who is hosting a climate summit in Paris next month to mark the second anniversary of the landmark accord.

Further low-level talks will take place over the next year in order to present leaders with final drafts for approval at the next climate meeting in Katowice, Poland, in December 2018.

Follow Frank Jordans on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/wirereporter>

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## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Saturday, Nov. 18, the 322nd day of 2017. There are 43 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 18, 1942, "The Skin of Our Teeth," Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning allegory about the history of humankind, opened on Broadway.

On this date:

In 1883, the United States and Canada adopted a system of Standard Time zones.

In 1886, the 21st president of the United States, Chester A. Arthur, died in New York.

In 1916, the World War I Battle of the Somme pitting British and French forces against German troops ended inconclusively after 4 1/2 months of bloodshed.

In 1928, Walt Disney's first sound-synchronized animated cartoon, "Steamboat Willie" starring Mickey Mouse, premiered in New York.

In 1936, Germany and Italy recognized the Spanish government of Francisco Franco.

In 1959, "Ben-Hur," the Biblical-era spectacle starring Charlton Heston, had its world premiere in New York.

In 1966, U.S. Roman Catholic bishops issued a Pastoral Statement on Penance and Abstinence, which did away with the rule against eating meat on Fridays outside of Lent.

In 1976, Spain's parliament approved a bill to establish a democracy after 37 years of dictatorship.

In 1978, U.S. Rep. Leo J. Ryan, D-Calif., and four others were killed in Jonestown, Guyana, by members of the Peoples Temple; the killings were followed by a night of mass murder and suicide by more than 900 cult members.

In 1987, the congressional Iran-Contra committees issued their final report, saying President Ronald Reagan bore "ultimate responsibility" for wrongdoing by his aides. A fire at London King's Cross railway station claimed 31 lives.

In 1991, Shiite (SHEE'-eyet) Muslim kidnappers in Lebanon freed Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite and Thomas Sutherland, the American dean of agriculture at the American University of Beirut.

In 2000, actors Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta-Jones were married in an extravagant wedding at The Plaza hotel in New York City.

Ten years ago: Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf's (pur-VEHZ' moo-SHAH'-ruhvs) government dismissed a last-ditch U.S. call to end emergency rule, a day after a visit by Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte (neh-groh-PAHN'-tee). A methane blast ripped through a coal mine in eastern Ukraine, killing 101 miners. Chris Daughtry's band won favorite pop-rock album for "Daughtry," as well as breakthrough artist and adult contemporary artist at the American Music Awards. MTV Arabia, an Arab version of the pop-culture channel, began broadcasting.

Five years ago: In the deadliest single attack in Israel's offensive against Islamic militants, 12 people were killed when an Israeli missile ripped through a two-story home in a residential area of Gaza City. Justin Bieber dominated the American Music Awards in Los Angeles, winning three trophies, including artist of the year.

One year ago: President-elect Donald Trump signaled a sharp policy shift to the right by picking Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions as attorney general, Kansas Rep. Mike Pompeo to head the CIA and Michael Flynn as his national security adviser.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Brenda Vaccaro is 78. Author-poet Margaret Atwood is 78. Actress Linda Evans is 75. Actress Susan Sullivan is 75. Country singer Jacky Ward is 71. Actor Jameson Parker is 70. Actress-singer Andrea Marcovicci is 69. Rock musician Herman Rarebell is 68. Singer Graham Parker is 67. Actor Delroy Lindo is 65. Comedian Kevin Nealon is 64. Pro Football Hall of Fame quarterback Warren Moon is 61. Actor Oscar Nunez is 59. Actress Elizabeth Perkins is 57. Singer Kim Wilde is 57. Rock musician Kirk Hammett (Metallica) is 55. Rock singer Tim DeLaughter (dee-LAW'-ter) is 52. Actor Romany Malco is 49. Actor Owen Wilson is 49. Actor Dan Bakkedahl is 49. Singer Duncan Sheik is 48. Actor Mike Epps is

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47. Actress Peta Wilson is 47. Actress Chloe Sevigny (SEH'-ven-ee) is 43. Country singer Jessi Alexander is 41. Actor Steven Pasquale is 41. Rock musician Alberto Bof (Lukas Nelson & Promise of the Real) is 40. Rapper Fabolous is 40. Actor-director Nate Parker is 38. Rapper Mike Jones is 37. Actress Mekia Cox is 36. Actress-comedian Nasim Pedrad is 36. Actress Allison Tolman is 36. Actor Damon Wayans Jr. is 35. Country singer TJ Osborne (Brothers Osborne) is 33. Actor Nathan Kress is 25.

Thought for Today: "If an historian were to relate truthfully all the crimes, weaknesses and disorders of mankind, his readers would take his work for satire rather than for history." — Pierre Bayle (bayl), French philosopher and critic (born this date in 1647, died 1706).