

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Dec. 06, 2017 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 150 ~ 1 of 42

“Fight your fears  
and you'll be in  
battle forever.  
Face your fears  
and you'll be free  
forever.”

-Lucas Jonkman



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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**

**Wednesday**

**Math Counts at Roncalli Elementary, 12:30 to 3 p.m.**

**Thursday**

**MS/HS Christmas Concert, 7 p.m.**

## NEW SIGN-ON BONUSES!

★ ★ ★ \$1,500 for CNAs ★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ \$3,000 for LPNs ★ ★ ★

★ ★ ★ \$4,500 for RNs ★ ★ ★

## Alzheimer's Care Unit Director Medication Aid

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



**GROTON**  
CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

**1106 N. 2nd Street, Groton**



All auto owners!  
**Save \$2-\$4 /tank**  
& grow your local economy  
by choosing low carbon  
**Super Premium E30's**  
94 octane, more power,  
same mileage, fewer  
carbon deposits, lower  
maintenance costs,  
slashed benzene & related  
genotoxic, carcinogenic  
tailpipe emissions;  
\*see sdfu.org's E30 tab for  
info, E30 prices\locations.

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

## Fort Sisseton Celebrates a Frontier Christmas

LAKE CITY, S.D. – Get in the holiday spirit at Fort Sisseton Historic State Park's Annual Frontier Christmas on Saturday, Dec. 9. Relive Christmas traditions from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST.

Throughout the day, visitors can listen to local musicians perform holiday music and make traditional Christmas ornaments and crafts at the North Barracks Visitor Center or egg-baked bread at the barracks' kitchen. Visitors can also stop by the mess hall to taste freshly churned butter.

Join the fort's horse drivers for a sleigh or wagon ride through the fort grounds; get an up close look at traditional sleigh bells; see members of the Prairie Fiber Arts Guild demonstrate how wool and other natural fibers are made into clothing; and try your hand at old-fashioned rope turning.

"We really want folks to come out and enjoy an authentic, old-fashioned Christmas celebration," said Christopher Soukup, park manager. "It's a chance for families to try something new this year by revisiting the splendor of Christmas past."

Don't forget to stick around for the tree lighting and caroling ceremony at 4 p.m.

There is no cost to participate, but a park entrance license is required and can be purchased at the park. Concessions will be at the Library Schoolhouse from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, contact Fort Sisseton at 605.448.5474 or email [FortSisseton@state.sd.us](mailto:FortSisseton@state.sd.us).

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**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT  
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**



**Larry Zimmerman  
Secretary**

## **CHRISTMAS PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE**

As the holiday season approaches, let us not forget we have thousands of U.S. service members that are still in harm's way and deployed away from friends and family.

While we often feel we have enough on our hands just taking care of ourselves; reaching out and helping someone else can really change a person's perspective. I encourage all of you to send a card, a handwritten note, or a care package to someone that is deployed. In addition, invite military families to partake in your holiday activities, and ask if you can assist them in preparing for the holidays.

Many military families find themselves having to redefine the word "family" as their loved ones are often stationed far from home. Military children cope with so much: new schools, changing neighborhoods, friends who move, and deployed parents. A holiday full of laughter, shared and newly created memories would be a precious gift.

Charles Dickens said, "I will live in the past, the present, and the future. The spirits of all three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach!"

It doesn't matter if you are reflecting on Christmas past, present, or future; the one commonality is traditions. It's the magic and the love that we'll always remember.

While I wouldn't trade Christmas at home with my family and friends, I will forever fondly recall my Christmas spent overseas. Sharing the holidays with my military family, gorging myself on food, improvised holiday decorations, and unique holiday shenanigans. You learn to make the most of deployments – you remember that you signed the contract to protect those around you and you realize very quickly that it's worth it to have to miss out on some holidays.

Spending the holidays apart is hard, but sharing traditions whenever possible can create special memories for everyone.

We wish you and your family a blessed holiday season and a new year of peace and happiness. As you and your family gather this holiday season, please keep our heroes (past, present, and future) in your hearts. God bless our veterans, their families, and our troops that are currently serving in harm's way.

Larry Zimmerman, Secretary  
South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs

## Thinking About Health

### Medicare and drug coverage: some good news, some bad

By Wendell Potter, Rural Health News Service

One of the benefits of the Affordable Care Act to Medicare beneficiaries has been the gradual closing of a big and costly gap called the “doughnut hole” in the prescription drug (Medicare Part D) program. By the end of 2020—if the ACA is not repealed or altered substantially by Congress—the doughnut hole will be completely closed.

In 2010, people hit the doughnut hole coverage gap when the total amount they and their plan had paid for prescription drugs reached \$2,800 in a coverage year. At that point, people had to pay the full cost of their prescription drugs until they had reached the out-of-pocket spending limit established by the law. In 2010 that limit was \$4,550. After someone paid that much, their plan paid 95 percent of the cost of their drugs for the rest of the year.

The gap has been shrinking a little every year since the ACA (Obamacare) was enacted in 2010. This year, those enrolled in the Part D program personally paid 40 percent of the cost of brand-name drugs in the doughnut hole and 51 percent of the cost of generic drugs. Next year, the percentages will drop to 35 percent and 44 percent, respectively. In 2020 and beyond, Medicare Part D beneficiaries will pay 25 percent for both brand-names and generics.

While that’s good news, the amount of money Part D enrollees have to pay out of their own pockets before their coverage kicks in has been going up every year. In 2010, people with Part D paid 100 percent of their drug costs until they had spent \$310. In 2018, they’ll have to pay until their costs reach \$405.

Despite that, Part D beneficiaries next year will get more coverage after they meet their deductibles and before they reach the doughnut hole: at the point that the individual and his or her plan has spent \$3,750.

Yes, it’s complicated, but that is because of the way the Part D program, which went into effect in 2006, was established. The doughnut hole was ostensibly created to save the government money, but it quickly became the program’s most unpopular feature—along with the often-bewildering choice of plan options.

During the first year of the program, the standard Part D plan paid 75 percent of the prescription drug costs until the beneficiary’s drug costs reached \$2,250. The beneficiary was then on the hook for all their drug costs until they had spent \$5,100 for a total of \$2,850 out of pocket. In 2018, that amount will drop to \$1,250.

The not-so-good news is that because the law that established the Part D program did not set a hard cap on total out-of-pocket spending—and does not allow Medicare to negotiate with drug companies for lower costs—an increasing number of Medicare beneficiaries are now facing higher out-of-pocket costs overall than in years past.

After Part D enrollees get past the doughnut hole, they automatically get what is called “catastrophic coverage.” Their plan will then pay at least 95 percent of the cost of their drugs. But for the growing number of people on high-cost medications, that remaining 5 percent can add up to a substantial sum.

A recent study by the Kaiser Family Foundation found that in 2015, 3.6 million Medicare Part D enrollees incurred that substantial sum. While most of them received low-income subsidies to help cover the costs, 1 million of them did not. Those enrollees spent on average more than \$3,000 out of pocket on their pre-

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scriptions in 2015; one in 10 spent at least \$5,200.

The reason for the spike in out-of-pocket spending: the eye-popping cost of drugs for conditions such as hepatitis C, multiple sclerosis, leukemia and HIV/AIDS.

While those high drug prices have hit beneficiaries the hardest, they have also been very costly to the federal government—meaning, of course, taxpayers. A January report by the U.S. Office of Inspector General found that federal payments for catastrophic coverage exceeded \$33 billion in 2015—more than triple the amount paid in 2010.

The OIG warned that if policymakers did not address high drug prices, the Part D program could be at risk: “The dramatic growth in federal payments for catastrophic coverage and the underlying issue of high drug prices must be analyzed and addressed to secure the future of the Part D program,” the report concluded.

Among the OIG’s solutions: Allow Medicare to negotiate prices for certain drugs. That has been proposed numerous times since the Part D program was created and has had bipartisan support. It has never become law, however, because the pharmaceutical industry, one of the most influential in Washington, has been able to block it.

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Wendell Potter is an author, former corporate executive and founder of Tarbell.org, a new journalism nonprofit.

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## Today in Weather History

December 6, 1969: An unusual period of almost continuous snow began in southern Minnesota and eastern South Dakota on the afternoon of the 5th and continued until late on the 10th. The Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport reported 88  $\frac{2}{3}$  consecutive hours of snowfall, which amounted to 14.2 inches total. The snowfall was 3-9 inches in the western half of Minnesota, with slightly lesser amounts in eastern South Dakota. Two inches snow fell at Summit and Sisseton; 2.5 inches at Watertown and Waubay; 3.0 inches at Clear Lake; 3.1 inches at Aberdeen; and 4.0 inches at Artichoke Lake, Webster, and Milbank.

1886 - A great snowstorm hit the southern Appalachian Mountains. The three day storm produced 25 inches at Rome GA, 33 inches at Asheville NC, and 42 inches in the mountains. Montgomery AL received a record eleven inches of snow. Columbia SC received one to two inches of sleet. (4th-6th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

December 6, 1913: A snowstorm from December 1st through the 6th dumps a record total of 45.7 inches in Denver, Colorado. This storm produced the most snow ever recorded in a single Denver snowstorm.

December 6, 1970: The National Christmas tree in 1970 was a 78 foot spruce from South Dakota. On the way to Washington, the train carrying the tree derailed twice in Nebraska. On the weekend before the lighting event, the tree toppled in gusty winds and required new branches to fill it out.








1987 - Another in a series of storms brought high winds and heavy rain to the northwestern U.S., with heavy snow in some of the higher elevations. In northern California, Crescent City was drenched with 2.58 inches of rain, and winds gusted to 90 mph. Up to fourteen inches of snow blanketed the mountains of northern California, and snow and high winds created blizzard conditions around Lake Tahoe NV. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - The morning low at Bismarck, ND, was eleven degrees warmer than the record low of 25 degrees at Meridian MS, and during the afternoon half a dozen cities in the north central and northwestern U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date, including Alpena MI with a reading of 57 degrees. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Heavy snow blanketed the Central Rocky Mountain Region. Totals in the southern foothills of Colorado ranged up to 17 inches at Rye. Arctic air invaded the north central U.S. Lincoln NE, which reported a record high of 69 degrees the previous afternoon, was 35 degrees colder. International Falls MN was the cold spot in the nation with a morning low of 9 degrees below zero, and temperatures in northern Minnesota hovered near zero through the daylight hours. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday
						
Mostly Cloudy then Partly Sunny and Blustery	Partly Cloudy	Partly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Sunny
High: 20 °F↓	Low: 1 °F	High: 27 °F	Low: 18 °F	High: 32 °F	Low: 17 °F	High: 33 °F

**WINDY TODAY**

**Highs:  
Upper Teens To Low 30s**

**Gusts from 30 to 40mph**

**Slow Warming Trend Through The Weekend**

 National Weather Service  
Aberdeen, SD

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

Graphic Created:  
12/6/2017 4:20 AM

Published on: 12/06/2017 at 4:29AM

Expect windy conditions today as high pressure slowly builds into the region. Light snow this morning will also be gradually forced out of the Dakotas as this high builds in. Temperatures will be quite cold tonight under this high, with readings falling into the single digits, but the good news is we can expect a slow warming trend for the latter half of the work week and through the weekend.



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## Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 22.2

Low Outside Temp: 9.8

High Gust: 20

Precip: 0.00

## Today's Info

Record High: 69° in 1939

Record Low: -30° in 1972

Average High: 28°F

Average Low: 9°F

Average Precip in Dec: 0.11

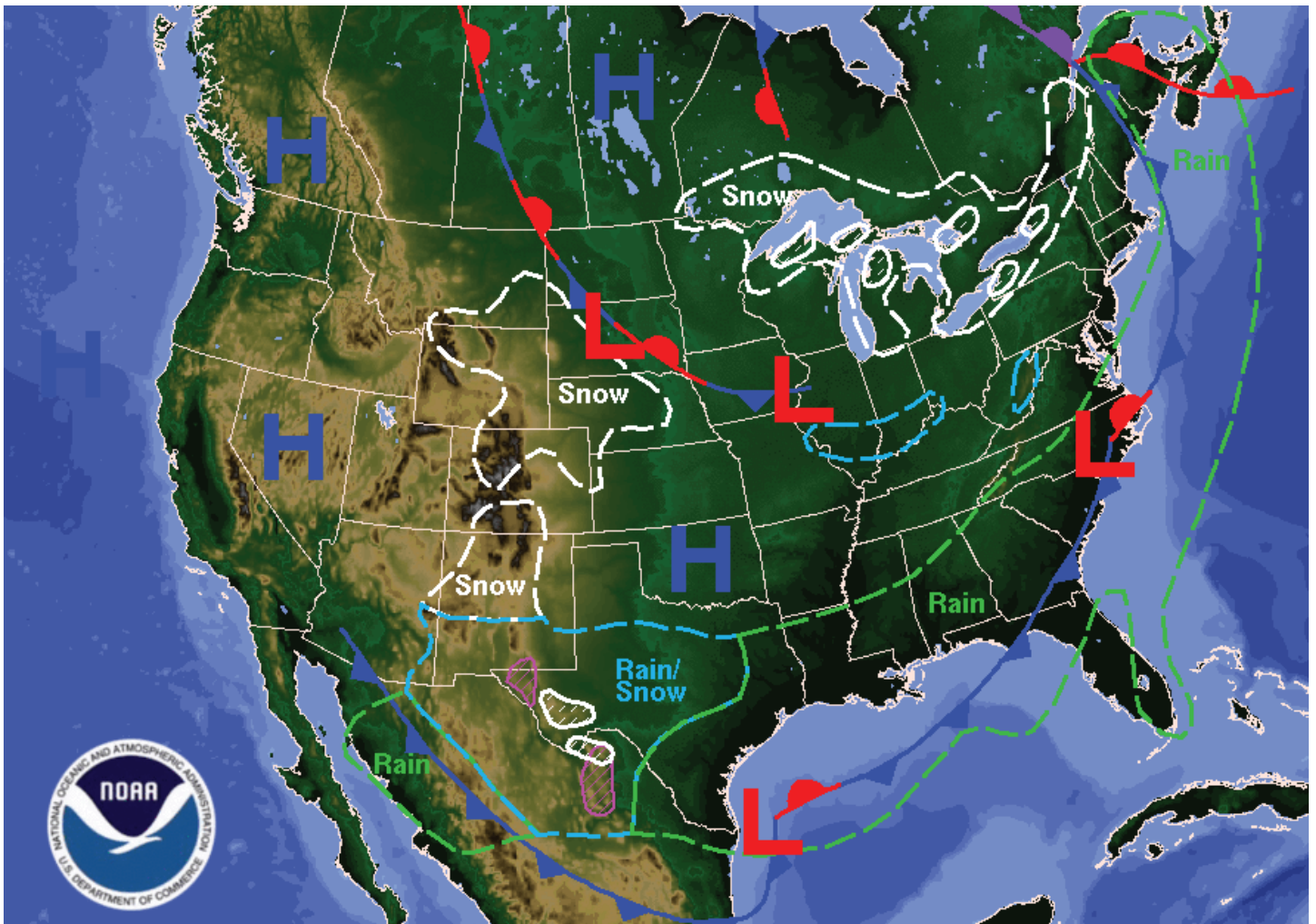
Precip to date in Dec: 0.00

Average Precip to date: 21.31

Precip Year to Date: 13.47

Sunset Tonight: 4:50 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:00 a.m.



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Dec 06, 2017, issued 4:51 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McReynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain

Rain and T'Storms

Rain and Snow

Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)

Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)

Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)

Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



## I NEED YOU RIGHT NOW, GOD!

Someone has called this Psalm an "Arrow Prayer." David was in a life-threatening situation and needed help. There was no time for flowery words or trite phrases. It was now or never: If God did not respond immediately, it would be all over for him. He was frightened!

And because of the urgency of this situation, there are different ways to describe his immediate need: "Hasten, Lord; Please God, come quickly; Please God, rescue me right now; Come quickly, Lord, and help me!"

At the time David offered this prayer there were some who were trying to kill him, humiliate him, put him to shame and rejoice over the problems he was facing. Some of his closest friends threatened to destroy him. He was disappointed. He felt empty and forsaken. Those whom he had trusted betrayed him and those whom he had helped turned against him. This happens to us all.

David felt empty, broken, alone and forgotten by everyone but his Lord. So, he did what he always did: he turned to God during a critical life-crisis and begged for immediate assistance. He knew that God alone could and would help him, save him, sustain him and shield him from harm. We, too, often do the same.

But in the midst of his cry for help, David did as he always did: he praised God. Tucked away in the middle of this "Arrow Prayer" David said, "May those who long for Your saving help always say, 'The Lord is Great.'"

What a wonderful lesson for each of us. When we face moments of distress let us never forget that God will deliver us!

Prayer: Lord, may we always remember to praise You for Your grace and goodness even when our faith is weak. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 70:1 Hasten, O God, to save me; come quickly, Lord, to help me.

## 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

### SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

#### Mega Millions

14-15-37-42-67, Mega Ball: 22, Megaplier: 4

(fourteen, fifteen, thirty-seven, forty-two, sixty-seven; Mega Ball: twenty-two; Megaplier: four)

Estimated jackpot: \$160 million

#### Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$193 million.

### WRESTLING

Wessington Springs/Woonsocket 54, Sunshine Bible Academy 18

Sioux Valley Quadrangular

Marion Freeman 41, Sioux Valley 18

Howard 59, Mount Vernon/Plankinton/Corsica 9

Howard 70, Sioux Valley 3

Mount Vernon/Plankinton/Corsica 56, Marion Freeman 15

Mount Vernon/Plankinton/Corsica 59, Sioux Valley 6

Howard 69, Marion Freeman 12

### No. 6 Wichita State rallies past South Dakota State, 95-85

By DAVE SKRETTA, AP Sports Writer

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Gregg Marshall was willing to divulge some of the halftime adjustments he made that enabled No. 6 Wichita State to rally past pesky South Dakota State on Tuesday night.

He just wasn't going to replicate the R-rated delivery.

The Shockers began switching ball screens that frustrated them the first 20 minutes, and a full-court press got the Jackrabbits out of sorts. And after slowly digging from a 13-point second-half hole, the Shockers escaped with a 95-85 victory over the Summit League favorites.

"The resolve, the toughness of these guys, the refuse-to-lose carried us tonight," Marshall said.

Landry Shamet led the way with 21 points and eight assists. Shaquille Morris had a big second half and finished with 20. Conner Frankamp added 16 points, setting the school record by hitting a 3-pointer in his 30th straight game. And big man Darral Willis Jr. finished with 13 points.

That was enough for the Shockers (7-1) to offset Mike Daum, who hit seven 3-pointers and poured in 31 points for South Dakota State. Daum also had six rebounds in a virtuoso performance.

"With Mike, he scores the ball so well and when he can command so much attention it gives other guys easier plays, easier looks," Jackrabbits coach T.J. Otzelberger said. "When he's playing with that confidence and swagger he had tonight, that makes everyone better."

The game was knotted 27-all midway through the first half when Daum hit one of his four first-half 3-pointers. That began a run over the next 5 minutes that pushed the Jackrabbits' advantage to 39-30 and silenced another crowd packed to the rafters of Koch Arena.

Daum wound up scoring 16 points in the first half, and the Jackrabbits — who were trounced just up the road by No. 2 Kansas a couple of weeks ago — shot 63 percent from the field in the first half.

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"In the first half, we weren't communicating too much like we needed to," Morris said. "As soon as we started communicating, got back and got in a defense stance, we did a better job contesting shots."

Indeed, South Dakota State twice pushed its advantage to 13 points early in the second half before Marshall finally began slapping on a full-court press to change the tempo of the game.

It was a big improvement over their leaky half-court defense.

"It seemed like they were hitting everything. That doesn't happen too much around here," Morris said. "We talked about at halftime that we needed to get back in it, get the crowd riled up to give us the extra boost we needed."

The press cooled South Dakota State offensively, and the Shockers slowly chipped away at their deficit. Frankamp made three free throws, Morris knocked down a 3 and Rashard Kelly threw down a dunk to make it 76-all — the first time it was tied since the 9:09 mark of the first half.

Daum set an illegal screen to earn his fourth foul and a spot on the bench with 5:53 left, and back-to-back-to-back baskets by Morris in the paint made it 89-81 with 2:26 to go.

The Shockers were never threatened again.

"I mean, a win's a win," Shamet said. "It wasn't a perfect game, but getting a win gives us some momentum going into a game against Oklahoma State."

SICK SAMAJAE

Junior college transfer Samajae Haynes-Jones, who scored 31 points in a win over Savannah State, missed the game with an unspecified illness. "Samajae had some stomach issues we're trying to resolve," Marshall said. "I don't know if Samajae thought it was going to be an easy game to sit this one out."

BIG PICTURE

South Dakota State was fifth nationally in made 3-pointers entering the game, but the Shockers evidently forgot that part of the scouting report. They allowed the Jackrabbits to go 14 for 29 from beyond the arc, and that long-range shooting was nearly enough to spring the upset.

Wichita State proved it could beat an NCAA Tournament-caliber opponent on an off night, and that should bode well the rest of the season. The performance also gave Marshall plenty of teaching moments, especially on the defensive end, where lapses throughout the game nearly cost his team.

UP NEXT

South Dakota State plays Concordia of Nebraska on Friday night.

Wichita State visits Oklahoma State on Saturday.

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

## Daugaard offers budget plan again limited by tight revenues

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Gov. Dennis Daugaard outlined state spending priorities Tuesday that are limited for the second year in a row by disappointing South Dakota tax collections, proposing a plan that would fill an immediate shortfall this budget year and leave most state workers without raises over the next.

The \$1.62 billion general fund budget proposal, which the Republican governor outlined in his annual address to the Legislature, includes roughly \$32.4 million in state spending increases for the upcoming 2019 budget year.

"South Dakota is working," Daugaard said. "We're working better than many other states."

The proposal for the upcoming cycle would add more than \$20 million in education spending, nearly all from K-12 enrollment growth, but schools wouldn't see an inflationary funding increase per student under the plan. Most state workers wouldn't see raises under Daugaard's budget outline, for the second straight year, though he did propose nearly \$632,000 to address low pay for some employees.

"It's just the way it is. I mean, if there's not money there, there's not money there," House Majority Leader Lee Qualm said after the speech. "There's some other people that are struggling as well with this whole economy, and so we just need to ride this thing out."

Eric Ollila, executive director of the South Dakota State Employees Organization, panned the proposal, calling the lack of raises and rising health insurance costs an "affront" to hardworking state employees.

Ollila said the group that lobbies for state workers hopes to convince the governor and Legislature that public employees deserve some type of increase in compensation.

"The cover of the budget book should be a state employee making \$25,000 a year holding the entire state on their back," Ollila said. "It's just shrugs. It's just afterthoughts."

The GOP-controlled Legislature will reshape the current budget and approve the next one during the legislative session that begins in January — Daugaard's last as governor. Term limits bar him from running again next year, and he leaves office in 2019.

State collections for the current budget year, which started July 1, are not meeting lawmakers' projections.

Recently released state figures show that revenues for the first four months of the current budget year are roughly \$8.3 million, or 1.5 percent, below expectations due in large part to short sales tax receipts. Officials pin the weakness in sales tax, the state's main revenue source, on low farm income and inflation, e-commerce sales and increased health care costs.

The figures through October show that a tax imposed on construction contractors has brought in less than lawmakers had previously anticipated, while tobacco taxes and an insurance company tax are also among the state receipts down from projections.

The governor's plan projects that revenue for the current budget year will be about \$20.3 million lower than previously anticipated, a nearly 1.3 percent decline. Increased expenses for education and other areas will add more than \$10 million to state costs, serving up a total expected shortfall of nearly \$34 million.

Daugaard would address the shortfall through a near split of reduced spending and cash sources such as budget reserves.

Qualm said officials have been expecting the projected shortfall. He said Daugaard has proposed to address it in a "fiscally responsible" manner.

The governor's plan for next budget year calls for spending nearly \$1.7 billion in federal funds, over \$1.3 billion in other state money and about \$1.6 billion in general funds, totaling almost \$4.7 billion.

Lawmakers also dealt with sluggish state tax collections in the 2017 legislative session. But South Dakota ended the 2017 budget year in June with a surplus built on state spending reductions after Daugaard asked agencies to cut expenditures in the face of weaker-than-anticipated revenues.

House Minority Leader Spencer Hawley, a Democrat, said officials should discuss South Dakota's tax system, how the state raises revenue and what's adequate.

"This is my eighth year of a bad budget," he said.

## Sturgis Motorcycle Museum gearing up for addition

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — The Sturgis Motorcycle Museum is adding more zoom to its room.

The museum is undergoing a renovation at its location in the old Sturgis Post Office. Construction is expected to be completed by 2019.

Executive director Myrick Robbins tells the Black Hills Pioneer the remodel will add 2,000 square feet to the upper level of the museum. Robbins says the museum will include anything that has to do with the annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally, which began in 1938.

The Sturgis Motorcycle Museum & Hall of Fame opened in 2001 in an old church building before moving to its present location in 2002.

Robbins also is spearheading a campaign to build a new museum focusing on those inducted into the museum's hall of fame at a site just off Interstate 90.

## New Standing Rock Tribal Chairman addresses challenges

By JESSICA HOLDMAN, The Bismarck Tribune

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Like many of his predecessors, new Standing Rock Tribal Chairman Mike Faith is aiming to combat the issues of unemployment, housing and drug abuse on the reservation.

While these are long-standing issues for the people of Standing Rock, Faith said he thinks there has been a shift within the communities of people wanting to see a positive change.

"The elders, the grandmas saying enough is enough," Faith said. "And the young people are hearing them and know (drugs) are not welcome."

Like the rest of the state and nation, the people of Standing Rock are battling the crisis of opioid abuse. The tribe, along with a number of other tribes and cities in the state, recently received a grant — Standing Rock's in the amount of \$70,000 — to provide drug treatment and prevention, the Bismarck Tribune reported .

Under his leadership, Faith said he hopes the tribal council will approve working agreements with other governmental agencies to continue to better care.

"Partnership is the only way to solve this," he said.

But he is also calling on the people of Standing Rock to work for this change among themselves. In his first months in office, he has trips planned to each community to ask how the council can help the communities help themselves.

In addition to drug abuse, Faith said he plans to look for employment solutions. He said the tribe has the casino and a number of other business ventures through Standing Rock Industries. Faith said he wants to work toward even more ventures so those tribal members who receive a higher education have somewhere to work within their home communities.

Faith has 19 years of experience as an employee of the tribe, having worked for Standing Rock's Game and Fish Department. He has also served a term as a councilman at large on the tribal council.

Faith said he chose to run for chairman because he feels he's in touch with people and can make a difference.

"My heart is there for people," he said.

Information from: Bismarck Tribune, <http://www.bismarcktribune.com>

## Police: 19 years later, Idaho woman captured in South Dakota

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — A woman police say escaped from a Boise work center 19 years ago has been captured in South Dakota.

The Idaho Department of Correction in a statement Tuesday says Pennington County Sheriff's deputies arrested 57-year-old Rhonda L. Blake in Rapid City on Nov. 27.

Authorities say that Blake on Dec. 24, 1998, walked away from the work center while serving 180 days for violating probation on a drug charge and was living in South Dakota under an assumed name.

Idaho officials say she will be extradited to Idaho after a 2009 DUI arrest in South Dakota is resolved.

Blake on Tuesday was being held in the Pennington County Jail with no bond as a fugitive from another state.

Pennington County officials couldn't confirm if she had an attorney.

## Snowstorm causes dozens of crashes, including 1 fatal

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The first big snowstorm of the season created dangerous travel conditions in the Upper Midwest that caused scores of highway crashes, including one that killed an elderly woman in Minnesota.

As temperatures dropped Monday, rain turned to ice and snow and made roadways extremely slippery. The Minnesota Department of Transportation says blowing snow and whiteout conditions made travel

treacherous. The Minnesota State Patrol says it responded to 410 crashes statewide, including one on Highway 12 near Benson that killed an 87-year-old woman and 36 others that resulted in injuries.

In North Dakota, officials advised against traveling in south central and northeastern areas of the state. In South Dakota, the storm dropped about 4 inches of snow in some areas. Transportation officials warned travelers to stay off Interstate 90 from Chamberlain to Sioux Falls.

## South Dakota may raise cost of college dual-credit program

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — High school students' enrollment in dual-credit classes has exceeded expectations in South Dakota, and the cost is adding up for the state's six public universities.

The state Board of Regents will discuss options to raise the cost of the dual-credit program on Wednesday in Sioux Falls, the Argus Leader reported. A report prepared for the meeting said universities lost more than \$700,000 in potential revenue through the program.

The program started in 2014 as a way to offer qualified high school students a head start on college by subsidizing credit costs. It also incentivizes more graduates to stay in South Dakota to complete their college degrees. More than 4,300 students have taken such courses so far.

Regents said they now want to revamp the program in order to bring in more money.

"Hindsight being 20/20, we probably would have set different parameters for the program," said Paul Turman, vice president for academic affairs with the regents.

For high school students, one credit costs about \$48 through the program. Students at state colleges typically pay almost \$300 per credit.

South Dakota has a special agreement with state colleges to kick in another \$98 per credit.

Regents are considering a new option to increase high school students' costs to \$57 per credit. Regents will also discuss whether to charge higher rates up front and offer a stipend for students who enroll full-time at a state university upon graduation.

Alternative plans include limiting the number of credits students can take through the program or altering revenue distribution.

Regents said they also may renegotiate state aid with the governor and Legislature.

The focus is on retaining dual-credit students at state colleges upon graduation, said Turman.

"If we start to see that, the price point becomes irrelevant," he said.

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

## Officers find body believed to be that of missing woman

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A body believed to be that of a missing 24-year-old Lincoln woman and evidence that a crime was involved in her death were found in southeast Nebraska's Clay County, authorities said Tuesday.

FBI Special Agent Randy Thyse said at a Lincoln news conference that investigators strongly believe the female body was that of Sydney Loofe, who was reported missing Nov. 16. Positive identification awaits autopsy results, he said.

Investigators directed officers to where they found the body, Lincoln Police Chief Jeff Bliemeister said.

"We do believe that there is evidence of foul play" involved in the woman's death, Bliemeister said, but he wouldn't provide any specifics.

Investigators are still talking to Aubrey Trail, 51, who, with Bailey Boswell, 23, had reported online that they had contact with Loofe.

Trail and Boswell are considered people of interest in Loofe's disappearance and were arrested on unrelated warrants. Their social media comments led investigators to believe they were the last people with Loofe before she disappeared, Bliemeister said.

Neither has been charged with any crime related to the case, he said.

Trail, who has lived in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, left a South Dakota prison in 2005 after serving time



for theft in Pennington County. Nebraska court records say he's also served time in a Nebraska prison on convictions for forgery and for issuing bad checks. The warrant for his arrest listed the charges as being a habitual criminal and possession of a deadly weapon by a prohibited person — a felon. Court records say he lives in Wilber.

Boswell, who was sought on a failure to appear warrant in a drug case, lives in Trenton, Missouri, the Nebraska records say.

The records don't list the names of attorneys who could be contacted to comment for Boswell or Trail.

Family and friends have said Loofe went on a date Nov. 15 with someone she met online. She was last seen in Wilber, 40 miles (64 kilometers) southwest of Lincoln, police have said.

## **Hundreds gather to honor late Rep. Craig Tieszen at funeral**

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Hundreds of people gathered this week to honor the late Rep. Craig Tieszen at his funeral in Rapid City.

The Rapid City Journal reports that roughly 900 people braved wintry weather Monday to celebrate Tieszen's life as one worth emulating.

The 68-year-old Tieszen and his brother-in-law, 61-year-old Brent Moline, drowned in a kayaking accident last month off an island in the South Pacific.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard described Tieszen, of Rapid City, as a "model legislator." He told attendees that South Dakota is a better place because of Tieszen.

Rapid City police Chief Karl Jegeris says it was a gift for the state to have such a "pure peace-seeker" in the legislative process.

Tieszen spent 32 years in law enforcement before retiring as police chief of Rapid City in 2007.

## **Cass County Sheriff Paul Laney to retire at end of next year**

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Cass County Sheriff Paul Laney says he'll retire from law enforcement rather than seek a fourth term in the position.

Laney sent an email to staff saying that after nearly three decades in law enforcement, he and his family feel it's time to hang up his gun belt.

Laney has one year left on his term and plans to retire at the end of next year. He's been the sheriff of North Dakota's most populous county since 2006.

Laney also has been on the national stage a couple of times, during recent flood battles in the Red River Valley and during protests in southern North Dakota against the Dakota Access oil pipeline.

The National Sheriff's Association named Laney its sheriff of the year in 2012.

## **House fire in Long Lake kills 64-year-old man; cause unknown**

LONG LAKE, S.D. (AP) — Authorities are investigating a house fire in Long Lake that killed a man.

The American News reports that the body of 64-year-old Jimmy Kolb was found in the burned-out home early Thursday, after a passer-by reported the blaze.

McPherson County Coroner David Roggenkamp says the death isn't necessarily suspicious, but an autopsy is being conducted.

State investigators are working to determine the cause of the fire.

## Kremlin to analyze IOC ban before taking any steps

By JAMES ELLINGWORTH, AP Sports Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — The Kremlin needs to analyze the International Olympic Committee's ruling to bar Russia and its sports officials from the upcoming Pyeongchang Games before making any decisions regarding the country's participation, a spokesman for President Vladimir Putin said Wednesday.

Dmitry Peskov said "we need to put emotions aside" and "make a serious analysis" of the ruling before taking any steps. Peskov also said Russia "still needs to answer some questions" from the IOC.

On Tuesday, the IOC said it would invite only "Olympic Athletes from Russia" to compete under a neutral flag as punishment for the country's doping violations when it hosted the 2014 Sochi Games.

Asked if the Russian officials who have been barred from attending the Olympics would be penalized or fired, Peskov insisted that is not a priority and that "protecting the interests of our athletes" is more important.

Putin spoke later in the day, but did not address the Olympic issue.

Earlier, Russian lawmakers blamed local sports officials for not doing enough to stop the IOC ruling. The Olympic body's lead investigator concluded that members of the Russian government concocted a doping scheme at the 2014 Sochi Games.

The most senior official barred is Deputy Prime Minister Vitaly Mutko, who ran the sports ministry during the Sochi Games. Mutko is still the head of the organizing committee for soccer's World Cup, which Russia will host next year.

The Kremlin has vehemently denied running a state-sponsored doping program, and state media on Wednesday dismissed the ban as part of a plot to hurt Russia.

Russian athletes and coaches have expressed indignation at the ruling, but also gratitude they can compete.

Tatyana Tarasova, one of the most successful figure skating coaches in Russia, said on local TV that the IOC ruling was "simply the murder of our national sports," adding "but still want to thank the IOC for letting the athletes in anyway."

Konstantin Kosachev, chairman of the foreign affairs committee at the Russian parliament's upper house, said the ruling is "clearly part of the West's policy to restrain Russia" but insisted that local sports officials are to blame and "ought to bear personal responsibility" for letting it happen.

Vladimir Poletayev, deputy chairman of the committee on procedures at the Federation Council, went even further.

"All our sports officials, including the Russian Olympic Committee, ought to be personally accountable for the ban on Russia and ought to step down," Poletayev said in comments carried by the RIA Novosti news agency.

Also Wednesday, the Court of Arbitration for Sport said it has registered appeals by 22 Russian athletes against their disqualifications from the 2014 Sochi Olympics for doping.

CAS said the athletes have requested verdicts before the Pyeongchang Games open on Feb. 9. The appeals relate to earlier bans against individual athletes, not the ruling on the Russian team.

## Doctors identify brain abnormalities in Cuba attack patients

By JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Doctors treating the U.S. Embassy victims of mysterious, invisible attacks in Cuba have discovered brain abnormalities as they search for clues to explain the hearing, vision, balance and memory damage, The Associated Press has learned.

It's the most specific finding to date about physical damage, showing that whatever it was that harmed the Americans, it led to perceptible changes in their brains. The finding is also one of several factors fueling growing skepticism that some kind of sonic weapon was involved.

Medical testing has revealed the embassy workers developed changes to the white matter tracts that let different parts of the brain communicate, several U.S. officials said, describing a growing consensus

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held by university and government physicians researching the attacks. White matter acts like information highways between brain cells.

Loud, mysterious sounds followed by hearing loss and ear-ringing had led investigators to suspect "sonic attacks." But officials are now carefully avoiding that term. The sounds may have been the byproduct of something else that caused damage, said three U.S. officials briefed on the investigation. They weren't authorized to discuss it publicly and demanded anonymity.

Physicians, FBI investigators and U.S. intelligence agencies have spent months trying to piece together the puzzle in Havana, where the U.S. says 24 U.S. government officials and spouses fell ill starting last year in homes and later in some hotels. The United States refers to "specific attacks" but says it doesn't know who's behind them. A few Canadian Embassy staffers also got sick.

Doctors still don't know how victims ended up with the white matter changes, nor how exactly those changes might relate to their symptoms. U.S. officials wouldn't say whether the changes were found in all 24 patients.

But acoustic waves have never been shown to alter the brain's white matter tracts, said Elisa Konofagou, a biomedical engineering professor at Columbia University who is not involved in the government's investigation.

"I would be very surprised," Konofagou said, adding that ultrasound in the brain is used frequently in modern medicine. "We never see white matter tract problems."

Cuba has adamantly denied involvement, and calls the Trump administration's claims that U.S. workers were attacked "deliberate lies." The new medical details may help the U.S. counter Havana's complaint that Washington hasn't presented any evidence.

The case has plunged the U.S. medical community into uncharted territory. Physicians are treating the symptoms like a new, never-seen-before illness. After extensive testing and trial therapies, they're developing the first protocols to screen cases and identify the best treatments — even as the FBI investigation struggles to identify a culprit, method and motive.

Doctors treating the victims wouldn't speak to the AP, yet their findings are expected to be discussed in an article being submitted to the Journal of the American Medical Association, U.S. officials said. Physicians at the University of Miami and the University of Pennsylvania who have treated the Cuba victims are writing it, with input from the State Department's medical unit and other government doctors.

But the article won't speculate about what technology might have harmed the workers or who would have wanted to target Americans in Cuba. If investigators are any closer to solving those questions, their findings won't be made public.

The AP first reported in August that U.S. workers reported sounds audible in parts of rooms but inaudible just a few feet away — unlike normal sound, which disperses in all directions. Doctors have now come up with a term for such incidents: "directional acoustic phenomena."

Most patients have fully recovered, some after rehabilitation and other treatment, officials said. Many are back at work. About one-quarter had symptoms that persisted for long periods or remain to this day.

Earlier this year, the U.S. said doctors found patients had suffered concussions, known as mild traumatic brain injury, but were uncertain beyond that what had happened in their brains. Concussions are often diagnosed based solely on symptoms.

Studies have found both concussions and white matter damage in Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans who survived explosions yet had no other physical damage. But those injuries were attributed mostly to shock waves from explosions. No Havana patients reported explosions or blows to the head.

Outside medical experts said that when the sample of patients is so small, it's difficult to establish cause and effect.

"The thing you have to wonder anytime you see something on a scan: Is it due to the episode in question, or was it something pre-existing and unrelated to what happened?" said Dr. Gerard Gianoli, an ear and brain specialist in Louisiana.

As Cuba works to limit damage to its reputation and economy, its government has produced TV specials and an online summit about its own investigation. Cuba's experts have concluded that the Americans' al-

legations are scientifically impossible.

The Cubans have urged the U.S. to release information about what it's found. FBI investigators have spent months comparing cases to pinpoint what factors overlap.

U.S. officials told the AP that investigators have now determined:

— The most frequently reported sound patients heard was a high-pitched chirp or grating metal. Fewer recalled a low-pitched noise, like a hum.

— Some were asleep and awakened by the sound, even as others sleeping in the same bed or room heard nothing.

— Vibrations sometimes accompanied the sound. Victims told investigators these felt similar to the rapid flutter of air when windows of a car are partially rolled down.

— Those worst off knew right away something was affecting their bodies. Some developed visual symptoms within 24 hours, including trouble focusing on a computer screen.

The U.S. has not identified any specific precautions it believes can mitigate the risk for diplomats in Havana, three officials said, although an attack hasn't been reported since late August. Since the Americans started falling ill last year, the State Department has adopted a new protocol for workers before they go to Cuba that includes bloodwork and other "baseline" tests. If they later show symptoms, doctors can retest and compare.

Doctors still don't know the long-term medical consequences and expect that epidemiologists, who track disease patterns in populations, will monitor the 24 Americans for life. Consultations with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are underway.

AP Medical Writer Lauran Neergaard contributed to this report.

Reach Josh Lederman on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/joshledermanAP>. Follow the AP's coverage of the Cuba attacks at <http://apnews.com/tag/CubaHealthMystery>

## Warnings intensify as Trump readies Jerusalem declaration

By JOSEF FEDERMAN and MATTHEW LEE, Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — America's friends and foes unleashed fierce criticism on Wednesday ahead of President Donald Trump's announcement recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

While Israel welcomed the news, Palestinian officials declared the Mideast peace process "finished" and Turkey announced it would host a meeting of Islamic nations next week to give Muslim countries' leaders an opportunity to coordinate a response. The Arab League scheduled an emergency meeting on Saturday.

The harsh global reaction cast questions about the feasibility of a brewing U.S. peace plan that is expected to be presented by the White House in the near future.

The Palestinians seek east Jerusalem as the capital of a future independent state and fear that Trump's declaration essentially imposes on them a disastrous solution for one of the core issues in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"There is no way that there can be talks with the Americans. The peace process is finished. They have already pre-empted the outcome," said Palestinian official Hanan Ashrawi. "They cannot take us for granted."

The U.S. decision "destroys the peace process," added Palestinian Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah. Top Palestinian officials were meeting Wednesday to plot their course forward.

U.S. officials said late Tuesday that Trump will recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, despite intense Arab, Muslim and European opposition to a move that would upend decades of U.S. policy and risk potentially violent protests. Trump was expected to unveil his plan in a speech later Wednesday.

Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, said on Facebook that "Our historical national identity is receiving important expressions everyday." He said he would comment further later in the day.

Other members of his Cabinet were more forthcoming. Education Minister Naftali Bennett, head of the

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nationalist Jewish Home party, praised what he called Trump's "bold and yet natural" move.

"The sooner the Arab world recognizes Jerusalem as our capital, the sooner we will reach real peace. Real peace that is not predicated on an illusion that we are going to carve up Jerusalem and carve up Israel," Bennett told The Associated Press on the sidelines of the Jerusalem Post Diplomatic Conference.

International leaders, however, swiftly criticized Trump's plan.

Pope Francis said he was "profoundly concerned" and appealed that "everyone respects the status quo of the city." China, which has good ties with Israel and the Palestinians, expressed concerns over "possible aggravation of regional tensions." Russia, a key Mideast player, expressed its concern about a "possible deterioration." Two leading Lebanese newspapers published front-page rebukes of Trump.

Britain's Foreign Minister, Boris Johnson, who had already expressed concern about the U.S. decision, on Wednesday said it was now time for the Americans to present their peace plan for the region.

Trump's Mideast team, led by his adviser and son-in-law, Jared Kushner, have spent months meeting with Israeli, Palestinian and Arab leaders. Details of their long awaited plan remain a mystery.

"Clearly this is a decision that makes it more important than ever that the long-awaited American proposals on the Middle East peace process are now brought forward," Johnson told reporters in Brussels.

In his speech, Trump was expected to instruct the State Department to begin the multi-year process of moving the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to the holy city. It remained unclear, however, when he might take that physical step, which is required by U.S. law but has been waived on national security grounds for more than two decades.

The officials said numerous logistical and security details, as well as site determination and construction, could take three or four years to sort out.

To that end, the officials said Trump would delay the embassy move by signing a waiver, which is required by U.S. law every six months. He will continue to sign the waiver until preparations for the embassy move are complete.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity pending Trump's announcement, said the decision was merely an acknowledgment of "historical and current reality" rather than a political statement and said the city's physical and political borders will not be compromised.

They noted that almost all of Israel's government agencies and parliament are in Jerusalem, rather than Tel Aviv, where the U.S. and other countries maintain embassies.

Still, the declaration of Jerusalem as Israel's capital carries deep symbolic significance and could have dangerous consequences. The competing claims to east Jerusalem, the section of the city captured by Israel in 1967, have frequently boiled over into deadly violence over the years.

East Jerusalem is home to the city's most sensitive Jewish, Muslim and Christian holy sites, as well as its 330,000 Palestinian residents.

The United States has never endorsed the Jewish state's claim of sovereignty over any part of Jerusalem and has insisted its status be resolved through Israeli-Palestinian negotiation.

The mere consideration of Trump changing the status quo sparked a renewed U.S. security warning on Tuesday. America's consulate in Jerusalem ordered U.S. personnel and their families to avoid visiting Jerusalem's Old City or the West Bank, and urged American citizens in general to avoid places with increased police or military presence.

Trump, as a presidential candidate, repeatedly promised to move the U.S. Embassy. However, U.S. leaders have routinely and unceremoniously delayed such a move since President Bill Clinton signed a law in 1995 stipulating that the United States must relocate its diplomatic presence to Jerusalem unless the commander in chief issues a waiver on national security grounds.

Key national security advisers — including Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and Defense Secretary Jim Mattis — have urged caution, according to the officials, who said Trump has been receptive to some of their concerns.

Trump has spoken of his desire to broker a "deal of the century" that would end Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

U.S. officials, along with an outside adviser to the administration, said the president's speech was not aimed at resolving the conflict over Jerusalem.

He isn't planning to use the phrase "undivided capital," according to the officials. Such terminology is favored by Israeli officials and would imply Israel's sovereignty over east Jerusalem.

One official also said Trump would insist that issues of sovereignty and borders must be negotiated by Israel and the Palestinians. The official said Trump would call for Jordan to maintain its role as the legal guardian of Jerusalem's Muslim holy places, and reflect Israel and Palestinian wishes for a two-state peace solution.

Elsewhere, however, reactions were skeptical, especially across the Muslim world. Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said the "whole world is against" Trump's move, and the supreme leader of Iran, Israel's staunchest enemy, condemned Trump.

The state TV's website quoted Ayatollah Ali Khamenei as saying that "the victory will ultimately be for the Islamic nation and Palestine."

Iran does not recognize Israel, and supports anti-Israeli militant groups like Lebanese Hezbollah and Palestinian Hamas.

Lee reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Aron Heller in Jerusalem, Karin Laub in Amman, Jordan; Josh Lederman in Brussels; Zeina Karem in Beirut; Nicole Winfield in Rome and Gillian Wong in Beijing contributed to this report.

## Rock icon Johnny Hallyday, known as French Elvis, dies at 74

By **ELAINE GANLEY and ANGELA CHARLTON, Associated Press**

PARIS (AP) — Johnny Hallyday, France's biggest rock star for more than half a century and an icon who packed sports stadiums and all but lit up the Eiffel Tower with his high-energy concerts at the foot of the Paris landmark, has died. He was 74.

President Emmanuel Macron, who knew the star off-stage, announced his death in a statement early Wednesday, saying "he brought a part of America into our national pantheon." Macron's office said the president spoke with Hallyday's family, but didn't provide details about where the rocker died.

The French media reported widely that he died at his home west of Paris, which was quickly surrounded by mourning fans and police providing security.

Hallyday had had lung cancer and repeated health scares in recent years that dominated national news, and recently returned from a hospital stay — yet he continued performing as recently as this summer.

Celine Dion was among stars sharing condolences for a rocker with a famously gravelly voice who sold more than 100 million records, filled concert halls and split his time between Los Angeles and Paris. Brigitte Bardot tweeted: "Johnny is a monument. It is France!"

Some of France's leading political figures on the left and right joined Macron in mourning the loss of "Johnny," as he was known. Former President Francois Hollande, the Socialist leader replaced by Macron, said Hallyday "is part of our national patrimony."

Hallyday fashioned his glitzy stage aura from Elvis Presley, drew musical inspiration from Chuck Berry and Buddy Holly, performed with Jimi Hendrix, and made an album in country music's capital, Nashville, Tennessee.

His stardom largely ended at the French-speaking world, yet in France itself, he was an institution, with a postage stamp in his honor. He was the country's top rock 'n' roll star through more than five decades and eight presidents, and it was no exaggeration when Macron wrote "the whole country is in mourning."

"We all have something of Johnny Hallyday in us," Macron said, praising "a sincerity and authenticity that kept alive the flame that he ignited in the public's heart."

The antithesis of a French hero right down to his Elvis-style glitter and un-French name, Hallyday was among the most familiar faces and voices in France, which knew him simply as Johnny, pronounced with a slight French accent and beloved across generations.

He released his last album "Rester Vivant" — or "Staying Alive" — last year, and performed this summer as part of the "Old Crooks" tour with long-time friends and veteran French musicians Eddy Mitchell and

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Jacques Dutronc.

Former President Nicolas Sarkozy, as mayor of the rich enclave of Neuilly-sur-Seine on the western edge of Paris, presided in 1996 over the entertainer's marriage to his fourth wife, Laeticia.

"For each of us, he means something personal. Memories, happy moments, songs and music," Sarkozy said in 2009, days after Hallyday, then 66, was hospitalized in Los Angeles. Sarkozy called the Hallyday family during an EU summit and gave updates on the singer's condition during news conferences.

The star all but lit up the Eiffel Tower during several free concerts, one on Bastille Day in 2009, attended by more than 500,000 people.

Hallyday sang some songs in English, including "Hot Legs" and "House of the Rising Sun," — the melody of which was also used for one of his most famous songs, the 1964 "Le Penitencier."

And there was a real American connection: American singer Lee Ketchman gave him his first electric guitar. Hallyday's stardom, however, was not inevitable.

He was born in Paris on June 15, 1943, of a Belgian father and French mother during the dark days of World War II with a less glamorous name, Jean-Philippe Smet. His parents had separated by the end of the year. The young Smet followed his father's sisters to London, where he met Ketchman.

Hallyday gave his first professional concert in 1960, under the name Johnny, and put out his first album a year later. By 1962, he had met the woman who would be his wife for years, and remained his friend to the end, singing star Sylvie Vartan. That year, he also made an album in Nashville, Tennessee, and rubbed shoulders with American singing greats.

He quickly became a favorite of young people during the "Ye-ye" period, the golden years of French pop music. A respected musician, Hallyday played with Jimmy Hendrix during the 1960s and once recorded a song with Led Zeppelin founder Jimmy Page.

With his square-jawed good looks and piercing blue eyes, Hallyday was often sought-out for the cinema, playing in French director Jean-Luc Godard's "Detective" (1984) and with other illustrious directors including Costa-Gavras.

Hallyday appeared in Johnnie To's "Vengeance" (2009) and had talked about giving film a bigger role in his life.

However, it was the rocker's personal life, and his marriage to Laeticia, that gave him a mellow edge. He spoke lovingly of daughters Jade and Joy, who were adopted from Vietnam.

"I'm not a star. I'm just a simple man," he said in a 2006 interview on France 3.

Hallyday is also survived by two other children, Dave, a singer fathered with Vartan, and Laura Smet, whom he had with noted French actress Nathalie Baye.

Memorial plans weren't immediately announced.

## 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

### 1. WHAT US MOVE COULD SPARK UNREST ACROSS MIDDLE EAST

Trump will recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, a move that could trigger violence in the region, derail a developing U.S. Mideast peace plan and infuriate key allies in the Arab world and the West.

### 2. WINDS CHURN CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES, KEEP AIRCRAFT FROM HELPING

Destructive blazes are tearing through Southern California communities, leaving hundreds of homes feared lost and uprooting tens of thousands of people.

### 3. DOCTORS IDENTIFY ABNORMALITIES IN CUBA ATTACK PATIENTS

U.S. Embassy workers developed changes to the part of the brain where it communicates, which may explain the hearing, vision, balance and memory damage they've experienced, AP learns.

### 4. HOW KREMLIN IS REACTING TO IOC BAN

A spokesman for Putin says Moscow needs to analyze the Olympic body's ruling to bar Russia and its sports officials from the upcoming Pyeongchang Games before making any decisions.

## 5. SOME GOP LAWMAKERS BLUNT ABOUT TAX OVERHAUL PLAN

A number of Republicans are sounding a note of discord, casting the legislation as a boost to big corporations and the wealthy instead of the middle class.

## 6. HOMELESS REPORT A MIXED BAG

The nation's homeless population increased this year for the first time since 2010, the government says, but in most places outside the West Coast, a decline continues.

## 7. STATE LAWMAKERS BLUR LINE BETWEEN PUBLIC, PERSONAL INTERESTS

The vast majority of state legislators across the U.S. have employment or income sources outside their legislative duties, raising the potential for conflicts of interest when they vote on policies.

## 8. RACE FOR ATLANTA MAYOR TOO CLOSE TO CALL

Despite leading by a margin of less than 1 percent, Keisha Lance Bottoms declared herself the city's new leader, but Mary Norwood is vowing to request a recount.

## 9. NETWORK NEWS ACCUSERS FORM VICTIM SUPPORT GROUP

Women who say they were sexually harassed or mistreated by powerful men in TV news band together to form a support network aimed at changing newsroom culture, AP learns.

## 10. FRANCE'S BIGGEST ROCK STAR DIES

Johnny Hallyday, who fashioned his glitzy stage aura from Elvis Presley and drew musical inspiration from Chuck Berry and Buddy Holly, is dead at 74.

## Temporary OK for travel ban puts focus on Wednesday hearing

By GENE JOHNSON, Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court's decision allowing President Donald Trump's third travel ban to take effect — at least for now — has intensified the attention on a legal showdown Wednesday afternoon before three judges in Seattle who have previously been cool to the administration's efforts.

Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judges Ronald Gould, Richard Paez and Michael Hawkins are scheduled to hear arguments in Hawaii's challenge to the ban, which restricts travel to the United States by residents of six mostly Muslim countries and has been reviled by critics as discriminatory.

The same panel unanimously ruled against Trump's second travel ban, saying the president had not made a showing that allowing travelers from the listed nations would harm American interests.

While courts in Hawaii and Maryland had partially blocked the third ban, the Supreme Court on Monday stepped in and lifted those orders pending the outcome of legal challenges in the 9th as well as the Richmond, Virginia-based 4th Circuit, which is scheduled to hear arguments Friday. The justices urged those courts to rule swiftly, but offered no rationale for letting the full ban take effect in the meantime.

Many legal experts saw it as sign of the high court's thinking, one that's likely to color the arguments this week.

"We agree a speedy resolution is needed for the sake of our universities, our businesses and most of all, for people marginalized by this unlawful order," Hawaii Attorney General Douglas Chin said afterward. "We look forward to the arguments this Wednesday on the merits before the Ninth Circuit."

Citing national security concerns, President Donald Trump announced his initial travel ban on citizens of certain Muslim-majority nations in late January, bringing havoc and protests to airports around the country. A federal judge in Seattle soon blocked it, and since then, courts have wrestled with the restrictions anew as the administration has rewritten them.

The latest version, announced in September, targets about 150 million potential travelers from Chad, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Syria and Yemen, though it allows for some admissions on a case-by-case basis. It also blocks travel by North Koreans along with some Venezuelan government officials and their families, although those parts of the restrictions are not at issue.

The administration said the latest ban is based on assessments of each country's security situation and their willingness to share information about travelers. But judges in Hawaii and Maryland blocked it to varying degrees just before it was due to take effect in October. The judges found that the ban appears



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impermissibly discriminatory, has no legitimate national security purpose and violates U.S. immigration law.

The lower court rulings "threaten the ability of this and future Presidents to address national-security threats and advance foreign policy interests," the Justice Department wrote in its 9th Circuit appeal. Further, the government says, courts don't have the authority to review the president's decision to exclude foreigners abroad unless Congress authorizes them to, and Congress has provided no such authorization.

Critics of Trump's travel restrictions insist that they make up the Muslim ban he promised during his campaign, and judges have seized on the president's public statements on Twitter and elsewhere in finding them unconstitutionally discriminatory.

This week's arguments arrive as Trump continues to stoke those anti-Islam sentiments: Just last week, he drew a sharp condemnation from British Prime Minister Theresa May's office when he retweeted a string of inflammatory videos from a fringe British political group purporting to show violence being committed by Muslims.

Despite the Supreme Court's action Monday, Matt Adams, the legal director of the Northwest Immigrant Rights project, which has also fought Trump's travel restrictions in court, said he's hopeful it will be struck down.

"I'm still optimistic the courts are going to say yes, this is version 3.0, and they might have painted it a little fancier, but it's still the Muslim ban," Adams said.

## Recount looms in too-close-to-call Atlanta mayor's race

By JEFF MARTIN, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — The race for mayor in Atlanta early Wednesday was too close to call, with one candidate declaring herself the city's new leader and the other vowing to request a recount.

The margin was razor-thin, with several hundred votes separating Keisha Lance Bottoms and Mary Norwood.

Bottoms spoke early Wednesday at an Atlanta hotel, saying near the end of her speech that "I am just in awe of what God is able to do."

"I'm so honored to be your 60th mayor," she told her cheering supporters.

But Norwood took the podium at her own rally and said that absentee ballots from military members were yet to figure in the totals, and she believes some ballots have yet to be tabulated.

"We will be asking for a recount," Norwood said.

Just 759 votes separated the candidates early Wednesday morning, Norwood told supporters.

Bottoms led Norwood by a margin of less than 1 percent, which is the threshold where the second-place finisher can request a recount under state law.

The contest between Bottoms, who is black, and Norwood, who is white, was seen as a test of the staying power of a long-dominant black political machine amid profound demographic and economic changes.

Both women are Atlanta city council members. Norwood calls herself an independent and Bottoms is the chosen successor of outgoing Mayor Kasim Reed.

A victory for Bottoms, 47, would continue a run of African-American mayors that began with Maynard Jackson in the mid-1970s.

A win for Norwood, 65, would give Atlanta its first-ever white female mayor, and end the Democratic Party's hold on an office it has held without interruption since 1879.

A half-century after white flight led to sprawl that fueled legendary traffic jams, Atlanta is booming economically and growing at a breakneck pace, with townhouses and apartments going up in vacant lots all over town. Parts of the city are more diverse, younger and wealthier than they have been in years.

Political analysts have said African-American voters will ultimately determine the outcome, but many of the city's most formidable challenges transcend race. Everyone seems to care about transportation, public safety and affordable housing. As rents and home prices soar, some longtime residents struggle to stay in their neighborhoods, and face no easy commutes if they move out.

"We're behind the times in terms of having a modern transportation system compared to what you see

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in New York or Washington," said Kendra A. King Momon, professor of politics at Oglethorpe University in Atlanta.

"It impacts quality of life because most of us don't know what we're going to run into when we head into the city," she said of Atlanta's notorious traffic jams. "That's a huge issue that we have to address."

A big question is whether an ongoing federal probe of corruption in city contracting under Reed's watch will encourage voters to take a fresh look at Norwood, despite fears that as an independent who lives in the upscale Buckhead area of the city, she'll turn out to be a stealth Republican who will serve up City Hall to Georgia's deep-red political apparatus.

As voters went to the polls Tuesday, none spoke openly of race.

"Just listening to Keisha and comparing what she said to the words of Ms. Norwood, I felt like she shared my values more," said Barbara McFarlin, a 50-year-old black woman who lives in the southwest Atlanta district Bottoms has represented on the city council.

James Parson, a 49-year-old black man who also lives in Bottoms' district, said he's been friends with Norwood for three decades and appreciates how she's made herself available to constituents all over the city as an at-large council member.

"I love that Mary is connected to most of the communities in Atlanta, if not all of them," he said. "She's approachable. She has been here. She's no Johnny-come-lately."

Atlanta's last white mayor, Sam Massell, left office in 1974 and was succeeded by five African-American mayors in the next four decades: Jackson, Andrew Young, Bill Campbell, Shirley Franklin and Reed. Regardless of who wins, Atlanta will have its second female mayor, following Franklin who left office in 2010.

Jeffrey Brower, 45, a white man who lives in the East Atlanta neighborhood, said he voted for Norwood, but that his vote was more a vote against Bottoms and Reed. Bottoms is too close to Reed and would be like an extension of the current administration, he said.

"Kasim seemed to be more about what's best for Kasim than what's best for the city," Brower said.

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Associated Press writers Kate Brumback and Errin Haines Whack contributed to this report.

## Under Olympic flag, Russia can win medals

By JAMES ELLINGWORTH, AP Sports Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — The International Olympic Committee has barred the Russian team from competing in Pyeongchang in February over widespread doping at the last edition of the Winter Games in 2014.

However, they will be allowed to compete as "Olympic Athletes from Russia" under the Olympic flag. Gold medalists won't hear the Russian anthem played on the podium.

The IOC says the OAR team will be invitation-only, picked by a panel of anti-doping and medical officials from various organizations.

To be invited, Russian athletes must meet the usual Olympic qualifying standards but also "be considered clean to the satisfaction of the panel," meaning they can't have been previously banned for doping and must face extensive pre-Games drug testing.

It's not yet clear if Russian athletes plan to challenge these requirements in court. An IOC attempt to bar Russians with previous doping bans from last year's Summer Olympics was overturned at the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Under the current IOC rules, here's a look at how "Olympic Athletes from Russia" might fare in Pyeongchang:

### HOCKEY

Russians have won men's hockey gold under the Olympic flag before.

Back in 1992, shortly after the collapse of the Soviet Union, players from ex-Soviet countries teamed up, including future Stanley Cup winners Alexei Kovalev and Sergei Zubov. It wasn't a punishment but political expediency in a chaotic political situation.

This time around, Russia's neutrals would have a good shot at gold, in the absence of NHL players.

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Former NHL star Ilya Kovalchuk, now playing in Russia's Kontinental Hockey League, is keen to play. "We definitely have to go," he told Russian media after the IOC decision.

One obstacle could be KHL leadership, which previously threatened it might pull its players if Russia was punished over doping.

Russia's women's hockey team might be a contender for bronze but struggles to compete against the top two squads, the U.S. and Canada. Some women's players have also been accused of doping offenses related to tampering with their 2014 Olympic samples, so eligibility is an issue.

## FIGURE SKATING

Russia sent just one athlete to appeal to the IOC board on Tuesday, 18-year-old skating prodigy Evgenia Medvedeva.

It's easy to see why. Unbeaten in two years, Medvedeva is the clear favorite for women's skating gold and in a sport where careers are short, "I don't know if I'll have another Games in my life after Pyeongchang," she told the board.

She's also not connected to any doping offenses from 2014, when she was just 14.

If Medvedeva goes to February's Olympics, she'd be joined by potential Russian medalists like pairs skaters Evgenia Tarasova and Vladimir Morozov.

## ALPINE SKIING

Russia has never been an Alpine skiing power, but might have an outside shot at a medal under the Olympic flag.

Slalom specialist Alexander Khoroshilov in 2015 became the only Russian skier to win a World Cup event since 1981, when Russians still competed as part of the Soviet Union.

Three podiums last season show he could threaten the top three in Pyeongchang under the right conditions. Khoroshilov is based in Switzerland.

## CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Key Russian skiers from the 2014 Olympics have already been banned by the IOC for doping, with four of Russia's five medals stripped.

Of the three Russian skiers who swept the podium in the 50-kilometer race on the final day in Sochi, the only one left is bronze medalist Ilya Chernousov, who now faces a possible upgrade to gold subject to IOC confirmation.

Still, a new generation of athletes could challenge for gold in Pyeongchang, led by Sergei Ustyugov, who won five medals at this year's world championships. IOC bans on skiers from Sochi will weaken Russia's strength in depth for relay events, which make up one-third of the program.

## BIATHLON

Under the IOC criteria, Russia should be able to field nearly a full team in biathlon, the country's most-watched winter sport.

Russia has been stripped of two medals from the Sochi Olympics, with three of the women's relay team banned, but the athletes concerned had already retired.

Seven-time world championship medalist Anton Shipulin could be the key medal contender for Russia, though he's started the new season slowly.

IOC rules could block Alexander Loginov, who returned from a two-year doping ban last season to win a world championship relay bronze.

## BOBSLEIGH

Individual doping bans from the IOC have already devastated Russian medal hopes in the bobsleigh and stripped the country of two gold medals won in Sochi.

Russia's sleds were already depleted by retirements since Sochi, even before the top Russian pilot in the two-man and four-man events, Alexander Kasyanov, was handed an IOC lifetime Olympic ban earlier this month.

In a detail unlikely to impress the IOC, a former athlete banned in the Sochi doping investigation, Alexander Zubkov, is now in charge of the Russian Bobsled Federation and will oversee athletes' preparation.

## SKELETON

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Russia had been counting on Sochi gold medalist Alexander Tretyakov and bronze medalist Elena Nikitina to repeat their success in Pyeongchang, but both were banned by the IOC earlier this month.

The top Russian with hopes of competing as a neutral is Nikita Tregubov, who won a silver medal in a World Cup race Nov. 25 and dedicated it to his banned teammates.

On the women's side, medal hopes appear remote.

## SPEEDSKATING

The IOC's rules on previous doping bans could rule out Russian skating star Denis Yuskov for a sanction he received after testing positive for marijuana in 2008, even though it's not a performance-enhancing substance.

Tuesday's ruling opens the way for six-time Olympic short-track champion Viktor Ahn to return to South Korea and contend for more medals.

Previously known as Ahn Hyun-soo, he switched allegiance to Russia after failing to make the South Korean team for the 2010 Winter Olympics, and his return in Pyeongchang will be hotly anticipated, regardless of which flag he competes under.

Women's skater Olga Fatkulina is ruled out after the IOC stripped her of her silver medal in the 500 meters from the Sochi Olympics earlier this month and banned her for life from the Games.

## SNOWBOARD

Two of Russia's gold medalists from the Sochi Olympics, the slalom snowboarders and married couple Vic Wild and Alyona Zavarzina, could make a return as neutrals, though they've yet to comment on the IOC decision.

Medals are potentially possible in other disciplines such as big air or snowboard cross.

## OTHER SPORTS

There could be outside medal chances for "Olympic Athletes from Russia" in freestyle skiing, luge and women's curling.

Whether or not they compete under their own flag, ski jumping and Nordic combined seem unlikely to result in any medals for Russians.

## Winds churn California wildfires, keep aircraft from helping

By AMANDA LEE MYERS and ANDREW DALTON, Associated Press

VENTURA, Calif. (AP) — The same vicious winds that turned three Southern California wildfires into destructive dynamos were also making the firefight more difficult.

The water-dropping planes and helicopters essential to taming and containing wildfires have been mostly grounded because it's too dangerous to fly them in the strong wind. Tuesday saw gusts of over 50 mph (80 kph).

Commanders hoped to have them back in the air on Wednesday morning, but all indications were that the winds will be whipping then too, fanning the flames that spurred evacuation orders for nearly 200,000 people, destroyed nearly 200 homes and remained mostly out control.

"The prospects for containment are not good," Ventura County Fire Chief Mark Lorenzen said at a news conference Tuesday. "Really, Mother Nature's going to decide when we have the ability to put it out."

Southern California's so-called Santa Ana winds have long contributed to some of the region's most disastrous wildfires. They blow from the inland toward the Pacific Ocean, speeding up as they squeeze through mountain passes and canyons.

The largest and most destructive of the fires, an 85-square-mile (220-sq. kilometer) wildfire in Ventura County northwest of Los Angeles, had nearly reached the Pacific on Tuesday night after starting 30 miles (48 kilometers) inland a day earlier.

The wildfire jumped the major artery U.S. Highway 101 to a rocky beach northwest of Ventura, bringing new evacuations, though officials said the sparse population and lack of vegetation in the area meant it was not overly dangerous, and the highway was not closed.

The fire had destroyed at least 150 structures, but incident commander Todd Derum said he suspects hundreds more homes have already been lost, though firefighters have been unable to assess them.

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Lisa Kermode and her children returned to their home Tuesday after evacuating Monday to find their home and world in ashes, including a Christmas tree and the presents they had just bought.

"We got knots in our stomach coming back up here," Kermode said. "We lost everything, everything, all our clothes, anything that was important to us. All our family heirlooms — it's not sort of gone, it's completely gone."

Mansions and modest homes alike were in flames in the city. Dozens of houses in one neighborhood burned to the ground.

John Keasler, 65, and his wife Linda raced out of their apartment building as the flames approached, then stood and watched the fire burn it to the ground.

"It is sad," Keasler said. "We loved this place. We lost everything."

Linda Keasler said they were just glad to be alive despite losing so much.

"Those things we can always get back," she said. "The truth is it is just things and thank god no one died."

Some 12,000 structures were under threat.

A spokesman for the American Red Cross says they expect a shelter in Ventura County to be at capacity Tuesday night.

Fred Mariscal says Red Cross officials expect about 400 people at the shelter Tuesday night.

He says the shelter is serving meals, providing a mobile shower truck and has doctors and nurses on hand to provide medication for residents who were displaced by the wildfire.

While the blazes brought echoes of the firestorm in Northern California that killed 44 people two months ago, no deaths and only a handful of injuries had been reported.

In the foothills of northern Los Angeles, 30 structures burned. Mayor Eric Garcetti said the gusty winds expected to last most of the week had created a dangerous situation and he urged 150,000 people under mandatory evacuation orders to leave their homes before it's too late.

"We have lost structures, we have not lost lives," he said. "Do not wait. Leave your homes."

Fires are not typical in Southern California this time of year but can break out when dry vegetation and too little rain combine with the Santa Ana winds. Hardly any measurable rain has fallen in the region over the past six months.

Fires in suburban settings like these are likely to become more frequent as climate change makes fire season a year-round threat and will put greater pressure on local budgets, said Char Miller, a professor of environmental analysis at Pomona College who has written extensively about wildfires.

"There are going to be far greater numbers that are going to be evacuated, as we're seeing now," Miller said. "These fires are not just fast and furious, but they're really expensive to fight."

In LA County, television shows with large outdoor sets including HBO's "Westworld" and CBS's "S.W.A.T." halted production of because of worries about the safety of cast and crew.

And the Los Angeles Rams of the NFL, which hold workouts near the Ventura County fire, canceled practice Wednesday.

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Dalton reported from Los Angeles. Krysta Fauria in Santa Paula and Brian Melley, Robert Jablon, John Antczak, Chris Carlson and Michael Balsamo in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

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For complete coverage of the California wildfires, click here: <https://apnews.com/tag/Wildfires>

## Report: West Coast homeless crisis pushes US count higher

By CHRISTOPHER WEBER and GEOFF MULVIHILL, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The nation's homeless population increased this year for the first time since 2010, driven by a surge in the number of people living on the streets in Los Angeles and other West Coast cities.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development released its annual Point in Time count Wednesday, a report that showed nearly 554,000 homeless people across the country during local tallies conducted in January. That figure is up nearly 1 percent from 2016.

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Of that total, 193,000 people had no access to nightly shelter and instead were staying in vehicles, tents, the streets and other places considered uninhabitable. The unsheltered figure is up by more than 9 percent compared to two years ago.

Increases are higher in several West Coast cities, where the explosion in homelessness has prompted at least 10 city and county governments to declare states of emergency since 2015.

City officials, homeless advocates and those living on the streets point to a main culprit: the region's booming economy .

Rents have soared beyond affordability for many lower-wage workers who until just a just few years ago could typically find a place to stay. Now, even a temporary setback can be enough to leave them out on the streets.

"A lot of people in America don't realize they might be two checks, three checks, four checks away from being homeless," said Thomas Butler Jr., who stays in a carefully organized tent near a freeway ramp in downtown Los Angeles.

Butler said he was in transitional housing — a type of program that prepares people for permanent homes — for a while but mostly has lived on the streets for the past couple of years.

The numbers in the report back up what many people in California, Oregon and Washington have been experiencing in their communities: encampments sprouting along freeways and rivers; local governments struggling to come up with money for long-term solutions; conflicts over whether to crack down on street camping and even feeding the homeless.

The most alarming consequence of the West Coast homeless explosion is a deadly hepatitis A outbreak that has affected Los Angeles, Santa Cruz and San Diego, the popular tourist destination in a county where more than 5,600 people now live on the streets or in their cars. The disease is spread through a liver-damaging virus that lives in feces.

The outbreak prompted California officials to declare a state of emergency in October.

The HUD report underscores the severity of the problem along the West Coast.

While the overall homeless population in California, Oregon and Washington grew by 14 percent over the past two years, the part of that population considered unsheltered climbed 23 percent to 108,000. That is in part due a shortage of affordable housing.

In booming Seattle, for example, the HUD report shows the unsheltered population grew by 44 percent over two years to nearly 5,500.

The homeless service area that includes most of Los Angeles County, the epicenter of the crisis, saw its total homeless count top 55,000 people, up by more than 13,000 from 2016. Four out of every five homeless individuals there are considered unsheltered, leaving tens of thousands of people with no place to sleep other than the streets or parks.

By comparison, while New York City's homeless population grew to more than 76,000, only about 5 percent are considered unsheltered thanks to a system that can get people a cot under a roof immediately.

In the West Coast states, the surge in homelessness has become part of the fabric of daily life.

The Monty, a bar in the Westlake neighborhood near downtown Los Angeles, usually doesn't open until 8 p.m. Partner and general manager Corey Allen said that's because a nearby shelter requires people staying there to be in the building by 7. Waiting until after that to open means the streets outside are calmer.

Allen said the homeless have come into his bar to bathe in the restroom wash basins, and employees have developed a strategy for stopping people from coming in to panhandle among customers.

Seventy-eight-year-old Theodore Neubauer sees the other side of it. Neubauer says he served in Vietnam but now lives in a tent in downtown Los Angeles. He is surrounded by thriving business and entertainment districts, and new apartments that are attracting scores of young people to the heart of the nation's second most populous city.

"Well, there's a million-dollar view," he said.

Helping those like Neubauer is a top policy priority and political issue in Los Angeles.

Since last year, voters in the city and Los Angeles County have passed a pair of tax-boosting ballot initiatives to raise an expected \$4.7 billion over the next decade for affordable housing and services for the

homeless. HUD Secretary Ben Carson praised the region for dealing with the issue and not relying solely on the federal government.

"We need to move a little bit away from the concept that only the government can solve the problem," he said.

But Mayor Eric Garcetti said that insufficient federal funding for affordable housing and anti-homelessness programs are part of the reason for the city's current crisis.

"Los Angeles' homelessness crisis was not created in a vacuum, and it cannot be solved by L.A. alone," Garcetti said in a statement.

Excluding the Los Angeles region, total homelessness nationwide would have been down by about 1.5 percent compared with 2016.

The California counties of Sacramento, which includes the state capital, and Alameda, which is home to Oakland, also had one-year increases of more than 1,000 homeless people.

In contrast, the HUD report showed a long-running decline in homelessness continuing in most other regions. Nationally, the overall homeless number was down by 13 percent since 2010 and the unsheltered number has dropped by 17 percent over that seven-year span, although some changes in methodology and definitions over the years can affect comparisons.

Places where the numbers went down included Atlanta, Philadelphia, Miami, the Denver area and Hawaii, which declared a statewide homelessness emergency in 2015.

The homeless point-in-time survey is based on counts at shelters and on the streets. While imperfect, it attempts to represent how many people are homeless at a given time. Those who work regularly with the homeless say it is certainly an undercount, although many advocates and officials believe it correctly identifies trend lines.

The report is submitted to Congress and used by government agencies as a factor in distributing money for programs designed to help the homeless.

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Mulvihill reported from Cherry Hill, New Jersey. AP videographer Krysta Fauria and photographer Jae Hong in Los Angeles contributed to this article.

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## State lawmakers blur line between public, personal interests

By **LIZ ESSLEY WHYTE** and **RYAN J. FOLEY**,  
Center for Public Integrity and Associated Press

A recent change in Iowa's tax code spared Mark Chelgren's machine shop, welding company and wheelchair-parts plant from paying sales tax when buying certain supplies such as saws and cutting fluid.

The change passed by the state Legislature last year wasn't just good for Chelgren's businesses. It was brought about in part by Chelgren himself. The Iowa state senator championed the tax break for manufacturing purchases as part of his work at the statehouse in Des Moines.

Chelgren isn't the only state lawmaker doing his outside interests a favor. A North Dakota legislator was instrumental in approving millions of dollars for colleges that also are customers of his insurance business. A Nevada senator cast multiple votes that benefited clients of the lobbying firm where he works. Two Hawaii lawmakers involved with the condominium industry sponsored and voted for legislation smoothing the legal speed bumps their companies navigate. And the list goes on.

State lawmakers around the country have introduced and supported policies that directly and indirectly help their own businesses, their employers and sometimes their personal finances, according to an analysis of disclosure forms and legislative votes by the Center for Public Integrity and The Associated Press.

The news organizations found numerous examples in which lawmakers' votes had the effect of promoting their private interests. Even then, the votes did not necessarily represent a conflict of interest as

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defined by the state.

That's because legislatures set their own rules for when lawmakers should recuse themselves. In some states, lawmakers are required to vote despite any ethical dilemmas.

Many lawmakers defend votes that benefit their businesses or industries, saying they bring important expertise to the debate.

Chelgren said the Iowa tax changes were good policy and that his background running a manufacturing business was a valuable perspective in the statehouse.

"We have way too many people who have been in government their whole lives and don't know how to make sure that a payroll is met," the Republican said.

He said the tax change had only a negligible effect on his business, saving it a few hundred dollars a year.

Iowa Senate rules say lawmakers should consider stepping aside when they have conflicts if their participation would erode public confidence in the Legislature. That's a step one local official said Chelgren should have taken, especially since the tax change costs the state tens of millions a year in revenue.

"We have to keep the public's trust," said Jerry Parker, the Democratic chairman of the Wapello County Board of Supervisors in Chelgren's district. "If they see us benefiting financially from votes that we make, the perception is bad for all elected officials."

## CITIZEN LEGISLATURES

There's no shortage of support for the "citizen legislature" concept that operates in most statehouses — that lawmakers should not be professional politicians, but instead ordinary citizens with day jobs. The idea is that those lawmakers can better relate to the concerns of their constituents and bring real-world experience to making policy.

Forty states have governing bodies that the National Conference of State Legislatures considers less than full-time. Those lawmakers convene for only part of the year and rely on other work to make a living.

To assess lawmakers' outside employment, the Center for Public Integrity analyzed disclosure reports from 6,933 lawmakers holding office in 2015 from the 47 states that required them. Most legislators reported outside work except in California and New York, where the office is considered full-time and pays relatively high salaries — \$104,118 and \$79,500 per year, respectively.

The Center found that at least 76 percent of state lawmakers nationwide reported outside income or employment. Many of those sources are directly affected by the actions of the legislatures. By comparison, members of Congress have faced sharp restrictions on moonlighting since 1978.

The financial information lawmakers disclose about outside work varies widely from state to state. In Illinois, the disclosure forms are derisively labeled "none sheets" for the answer that invariably follows most questions about economic interests and potential conflicts. Idaho, Michigan and Vermont do not require lawmakers to disclose their financial interests. Vermont passed a law this year to do so starting in 2018.

Ethics rules often allow members to participate in debates and even vote when they have a potential conflict. Recusal is frequently up to the lawmaker.

Pennsylvania lawmakers who believe they may have a conflict of interest are required to ask their chamber's presiding officer whether they should vote. In 30 instances in the Senate over a recent three-year period, every inquiry received the green light. One senator was approved to vote for his own mother's nomination to a public board.

Two states, Utah and Oregon, require lawmakers to vote even if they have a conflict. California lawmakers can vote on legislation even after declaring a conflict of interest if they believe their votes are "fair and objective." Many legislators say frequent abstentions would keep their chambers from working properly.

"We all bring to the table what we know, what our jobs are," said Nevada Sen. Tick Segerblom, a Democrat. "When you have a citizen legislature, there's nobody you can find, just pull someone off a street, who at the end of the day wouldn't have some type of conflict."

## MUDDIED MOTIVATIONS

Another Nevada lawmaker, Republican Sen. Ben Kieckhefer, voted at least six times this year to advance



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measures benefiting clients of the law firm where he works as director of client relations. In one case, he voted for a bill in committee that would have sped up a sales tax break for medical equipment, a measure backed by a client of his firm. At a hearing, he even asked questions of the lobbyist, a partner at his firm, with no mention of their association. The bill did not pass the full Legislature.

And last year, while his firm, McDonald Carano, was lobbying on behalf of the Oakland Raiders, Kieckhefer voted to approve \$750 million in taxes to help build a stadium that would serve as the team's new home in Las Vegas.

Kieckhefer, a former Associated Press reporter, said a firewall divides his firm's lobbying from its legal work, the division where he works. He defended Nevada's citizen legislature, which meets every other year and pays lawmakers \$288.29 for every day of the session.

"I'm not reliant on support from lobbyists or special interests to keep the job I have to support my family," he said.

Nevada law says that if legislators feel they have conflicts of interest, they must disclose them before voting. But for the Raiders stadium decision, Kieckhefer had no need to speak up: The Senate, in a historically unprecedented move, waived the normal conflict-of-interest provisions for the vote, a priority for Republican Gov. Brian Sandoval and wealthy casino magnate and political donor Sheldon Adelson, who later pulled out of financing part of the deal. The bill passed.

Ethics rules are some of many government policies that state legislatures get to write for themselves. Many, for instance, exempt their members from open records and meetings laws that apply to other agencies.

Some states are working to strengthen measures that would prevent conflicts of interest. Ballot initiatives for 2018 are underway in Alaska and South Dakota.

Maryland passed ethics reforms this year after the House of Delegates unanimously reprimanded Democratic Del. Dan Morhaim for acting "contrary to the principles" of Maryland's ethical standards by not disclosing his work as a paid consultant for a marijuana company while he was working on marijuana policy.

"I have been clear from the beginning of this episode that I have done nothing wrong," Morhaim said in an email. "The reprimand issued was for not following the 'intent' of the rules, a wholly new and undefined standard."

## DOUBLE DUTY

In Hawaii, where condo owners say they feel outgunned at the statehouse, Rep. Linda Ichiyama and Sen. Michelle Kidani, both Democrats, sponsored and voted for bills this year that their employers in condominium management had championed. Ichiyama is an attorney for a law firm that represents condo associations while Kidani works for a company that manages condominiums. The bills included a provision that critics say makes it easier for condo board members to re-elect themselves.

Then-House Speaker Joe Souki ruled Ichiyama had no conflicts and could vote, and Senate President Ron Kouchi said he did not remember ruling on any conflicts related to Kidani this session. Ichiyama did not return repeated phone calls or emails seeking comment.

"I follow the rules of the Senate, including voting on bills that may relate to my non-legislative employment," Kidani said in an email. "Proposed bills are carefully read in order to determine whether there may be any conflict of interests raised."

Other lawmakers have used public office to polish their day-job credentials. Rhode Island Sen. Stephen Archambault, a Democrat, has advertised his legislative work as a reason to hire him as a defense attorney in drunken driving cases: "Archambault literally wrote this law, and knows exactly what to do to succeed for you," his law office website read until contacted by a reporter this fall. He did not return requests for comment.

In North Dakota, state Rep. Jim Kasper sponsored bills over the past decade that have provided millions in extra funding to the state's five tribal colleges, whose operations are usually funded by the federal government.

Kasper, a Republican who owns a company that coordinates insurance benefits, has counted two of the colleges among the hundreds of clients he has had over the years. One has been his customer for nearly

three decades.

He said he sponsored the bills because he cares about addressing unemployment near Native American reservations.

"Nothing was hidden," he said. "I wouldn't have done it if I didn't feel it was the right thing to do."

Lawmakers don't always choose to cast votes that benefit their private interests. West Virginia Senate President Mitch Carmichael, a Republican, voted for a bill this year to expand broadband internet competition that his company, Frontier Communications, lobbied against.

Within days, Frontier fired him, though it denies it was because of his vote. Spokesman Andy Malinoski said in an email that "market and economic conditions" led the company to eliminate several positions, including Carmichael's.

Carmichael said citizen legislators frequently feel pressure from outside income sources but usually do the right thing.

"We often feel the influences of employment," he said. "In my case, the net result is that I lost my job."

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Contributors include David Jordan and Joe Yerardi of the Center for Public Integrity; and Associated Press reporters James MacPherson in Bismarck, North Dakota, Audrey McAvooy in Honolulu, John O'Connor in Springfield, Illinois, Mark Scolforo in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Scott Sonner in Reno, Nevada, and Brian Witte in Annapolis, Maryland.

## Amid positive talk, some in GOP offer blunt take on taxes

By STEPHEN OHLEMACHER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sounding a discordant note among the positive talk on the tax bill, a number of Republicans are delivering a blunt assessment, casting the bill as a boost to big corporations and the wealthy instead of the middle class.

"Fundamentally if you look at the bulk of the bill, two-thirds of it, it's tied on the business side," Rep. Mark Sanford, R-S.C., said Tuesday as leaders in the House and Senate hailed their respective measures as an advantage for working Americans.

Asked why GOP leaders label it a middle-class tax cut, Sanford said, "There is certainly a chicken in every pot, in essence. But, again, look at where the big money is. The big money is on the corporate side."

Both the House and Senate have passed massive tax bills that would provide steep tax cuts for businesses and more modest tax breaks for families and individuals. The tax cuts in both bills add up to about \$1.5 trillion over the next decade.

Congressional estimates show that taxpayers in every income group would initially see tax cuts, with the biggest cuts going to the wealthiest Americans. However, after several years, many low- and middle-income families would see tax increases, according to the analyses by the Joint Committee on Taxation, the official scorekeeper for Congress.

"We think that all Americans should be given lower taxes, and so there's still work to be done on tax reform," said Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., chairman of the conservative Freedom Caucus.

The two chambers must reconcile their respective bills, and GOP leaders are intent on delivering a final package to President Donald Trump by Christmas.

"I call it the mixer," Trump said Tuesday. "It's a conference where everyone gets together and they pick all the good things and get rid of the things they don't like."

But days and nights of tough negotiations await the House and Senate.

Even Republicans who have defended the legislation have sometimes tripped over themselves.

A top Republican senator gained attention when he defended GOP efforts to scale back the federal estate tax because it helps those who invest rather than people who spend their money on "booze or women or movies."

"I think not having the estate tax recognizes the people that are investing as opposed to those that are just spending every darn penny they have, whether it's on booze or women or movies," Sen. Chuck

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Grassley, R-Iowa, told The Des Moines Register late last week.

Later, Grassley issued a statement saying his comments had been taken out of context.

"The question is one of basic fairness, and working to create a tax code that doesn't penalize frugality, saving and investment," Grassley said.

Some provisions appear ripe for change.

Republicans on both sides of the Capitol have slammed a Senate provision that would retain the alternative minimum tax for corporations, which is designed to make sure that corporations pay at least some tax. The House bill eliminates the tax.

House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., said keeping the corporate AMT would kill incentives for businesses to invest in research and development.

Sen. John Kennedy, R-La., said his top priority in the tax bill is to change the Senate version. Sen. David Perdue, R-Ga., said simply: "I would like it to be repealed."

Rep. Kevin Brady, R-Texas, the House's top tax-writer, said the corporate AMT and potential problems with it are high on the list of priorities.

"The House members ... feel strongly that the House position should be to repeal permanently both the individual and the corporate AMT," said Brady, who heads the Ways and Means Committee. He said the complexity of the corporate levy "actually undermines some of the pro-growth provisions that we kept in the tax code, such as the research and development credit."

Brady also said the conference panel will look closely at the differing House and Senate tax treatments for "pass-through" businesses, the millions of firms large and small whose profits are reported on the owners' individual income-tax returns. "The Senate structure has some strengths to it. So does the House," he said. "Right now we're looking at how we can improve on both structures."

Brady isn't ruling any elements in or out of the final tax package, which will be shaped in the conference.

Despite complaints from some members, GOP leaders see no deal-breakers to reconciling the House and Senate bills and passing a unified package before Christmas.

Sanford said Republicans need a big legislative victory after failing to repeal and replace Barack Obama's health law.

"The (Republican) base was particularly frustrated when health care didn't move, and so this is seen as a, quote, win," Sanford said. "If you talk to folks back home, the Republican base, they'll say, 'Well, you need to get that done.' If you ask them what's in it, they don't have a clue."

He added, "Be careful what you ask for."

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Associated Press writers Marcy Gordon, Alan Fram and Ken Thomas contributed to this report.

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Follow Stephen Ohlemacher on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/stephenatap>

## US flies B-1B over South in show of force against N. Korea

By KIM TONG-HYUNG, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — The United States flew a B-1B supersonic bomber over South Korea on Wednesday as part of a massive combined aerial exercise involving hundreds of warplanes, a clear warning after North Korea last week tested its biggest and most powerful missile yet.

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said the Guam-based bomber simulated land strikes at a military field near South Korea's eastern coast during a drill with U.S. and South Korean fighter jets.

"Through the drill, the South Korean and U.S. air forces displayed the allies' strong intent and ability to punish North Korea when threatened by nuclear weapons and missiles," the military said in a statement.

B-1Bs flyovers have become an increasingly familiar show of force to North Korea, which after three intercontinental ballistic missile tests has clearly moved closer toward building a nuclear arsenal that could viably target the U.S. mainland.

The five-day drills that began Monday involve more than 200 aircraft, including six U.S. F-22 and 18 F-35

stealth fighters.

North Korea hates such displays of American military might at close range and claimed through its state media on Tuesday that the "U.S. imperialist war mongers' extremely reckless war hysteria" has put the region at risk of a nuclear war. The North continued to describe the B-1B a "nuclear strategic bomber" although the plane was switched to conventional weaponry in the mid-1990s.

North Korea typically uses strong language when commenting on U.S.-South Korean war games, which it claims are invasion rehearsals. Still, perennially bad tensions are at a particularly dangerous point with North Korea rapidly advancing its nuclear weapons program.

South Korea's military says the Hwasong-15 the North tested last week has the potential to strike targets as far away as 13,000 kilometers (8,100 miles), which would put Washington within reach. The test flight used an arched trajectory and the missile flew 950 kilometers (600 miles) before splashing down near Japan.

The North also tested a different intercontinental ballistic missile twice in July and conducted its most powerful nuclear test in September which it described as a detonation of a thermonuclear weapon designed for ICBMs.

## **GOP leaders now backing Moore, despite allegations**

**By JILL COLVIN and STEVE PEOPLES, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republican leaders in Washington are coming to grips with the possibility — perhaps even probability — that Alabama's Roy Moore will win his special election next Tuesday and join them in the capital.

Looking past allegations of sexual misconduct with Alabama teenagers, President Donald Trump formally endorsed Moore, and the Republican National Committee quickly followed suit, transferring \$170,000 to the Alabama Republican Party to bolster Moore's candidacy.

"I think he's going to do very well. We don't want to have a liberal Democrat in Alabama, believe me," Trump said Tuesday during a lunch with Republican senators. "We want strong borders, we want stopping crime, we want to have the things that we represent and we certainly don't want to have a liberal Democrat that's controlled by Nancy Pelosi and controlled by Chuck Schumer, we don't want to have that for Alabama."

Senate GOP leader Mitch McConnell, who once called on Moore to get out of the race, changed his rhetoric over the weekend to say that it was Alabama voters who should decide.

The changed tone — and Trump's decision to do away with any facade of distancing himself from the race — make it clear they are increasingly confident in Moore's chances of victory despite the continued unease of some other Republicans.

The special election is next Tuesday for the seat once held by Jeff Sessions, now the U.S. attorney general. Although the polls have showed a narrowing contest with Democrat Doug Jones, Alabama is a strongly Republican state and Democrats generally have little chance there.

A Moore victory would set up a potential clash with fellow Republicans in Congress, some of whom have resoundingly called on him to quit the race. While some have softened their rhetoric recently, others have said they still will try to expel him if he is elected.

An RNC official confirmed late Monday that the committee would once again be supporting Moore after severing its fundraising ties to his campaign last month. On Tuesday, the official said the RNC had made two transfers to the state party: one for \$50,000 and another for \$120,000.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to discuss the transfers by name.

Trump's former chief strategist Steve Bannon, Breitbart's executive chairman, attended a rally with Moore Tuesday evening.

Buoyed by the taste of his own success in Congress as the Republican tax bill inches closer to passage, Trump telephoned Moore on Monday to offer encouragement as well as support and also argued in a pair of tweets that Moore's vote was badly needed to push the president's policies forward.

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Weeks ago, when accusations of sexual misconduct with teenagers first surfaced, Trump's spokesman had said the president believed Moore would "do the right thing and step aside" if the allegations were true.

Top Republicans had vowed to expel him from the Senate if he wins. Publicly and privately, GOP leaders described the allegations against Moore as credible and insisted there were no circumstances under which he should serve in the Senate.

Moore's campaign was wounded by accusations this fall of sexual misconduct, decades ago, made by women who were then teenagers. One of the women alleges he initiated sexual contact when she was 14.

Moore has denied the allegations, saying "I do not know any of these women. I did not date any of these women I did not engage in any sexual misconduct with anyone."

Trump, who has repeatedly noted Moore's denials, took a more political stance on Monday.

"Democrats refusal to give even one vote for massive Tax Cuts is why we need Republican Roy Moore to win in Alabama," Trump tweeted. "We need his vote on stopping crime, illegal immigration, Border Wall, Military, Pro Life, V.A., Judges 2nd Amendment and more."

In that same vein, longtime Alabama Sen. Richard Shelby said Trump's endorsement didn't surprise him. He said of the president, "I think he's interested, a lot of us are, in the numbers, being a Republican."

And Sen. Orrin Hatch, who traveled with Trump on Monday to Hatch's home state of Utah, said he realistically didn't have any choice. Hatch said of Moore, "That's the only Republican you can possibly get down there at this time."

Trump first appeared to back Moore after his first choice, Sen. Luther Strange, lost the GOP primary for the seat once held by Attorney General Jeff Sessions. But the president went silent after The Washington Post reported on the allegations of sexual misconduct with two teens, ages 14 and 16, and efforts to date several others while Moore was a local prosecutor in his 30s.

By late last month, however, with pressure mounting from Bannon and other corners of his base, Trump was making clear that he preferred Moore, raising doubts about the candidate's accusers and criticizing Democrat Jones as the "liberal puppet" of Democratic leaders Chuck Schumer and Nancy Pelosi.

Jones sidestepped questions about Trump's endorsement while suggesting the support of national Republicans like McConnell could do more harm than good in Alabama.

"Our campaign is going straight to the people of the Alabama because that's who my voters are. It's not the president, it's not Mitch McConnell," Jones told reporters outside a steel mill in suburban Birmingham. "Obviously Mitch McConnell has very little credibility in this state anyway, so I'm not worried about him at all."

Expelling a senator is no easy task. The Senate Ethics Committee would have to investigate, and a recommendation of expulsion could take years.

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Peoples reported from Birmingham, Alabama. Associated Press writers Alan Fram and Nancy Benac contributed to this report.

## 'MeToo' movement named Time magazine's Person of the Year

NEW YORK (AP) — The anti-harassment #MeToo movement has been named Time magazine's Person of the Year.

In the wake of sexual misconduct revelations about Harvey Weinstein, Kevin Spacey and dozens of other men, millions worldwide have shared their stories about being sexually harassed and assaulted. The movement began spontaneously in October after actress-activist Alyssa Milano followed on a suggestion from a friend of a friend on Facebook and tweeted: "If you've been sexually harassed or assaulted write 'me too' as a reply to this tweet." The hashtag was tweeted nearly a million times in 48 hours. The #MeToo movement was founded by activist Tarana Burke on Twitter a decade ago to raise awareness about sexual violence.

Time's announcement was made Wednesday on NBC's "Today" show, where longtime host Matt Lauer was fired last week amid harassment allegations. "Today" host Savannah Guthrie acknowledged Wednes-

day that this year's winner hits "close to home" and mentioned Lauer by name.

The two runners-up were Chinese President Xi Jinping and President Donald Trump, himself accused of sexual misconduct by numerous women. He has denied any wrongdoing.

## Pointing a finger at fellow economists for backlash to trade

By PAUL WISEMAN, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Many mainstream economists say they're appalled by President Donald Trump's threats to trash trade agreements and tax imports in a blunt-force drive to shrink America's bulging trade deficits.

Yet economists themselves bear some blame for the backlash against free trade and globalization that helped propel Trump to the White House and Britain to abandon the European Union.

So says Dani Rodrik, a Harvard economist, in a provocative new book. In "Straight Talk on Trade: Ideas for a Sane World Economy," Rodrik argues that most economists long ignored what their own scholarship had made clear: That global free trade, for all its benefits, inevitably ends up depressing some industries and communities.

Economists kept quiet about this, Rodrik argues, because they feared that any criticism of free trade would empower "protectionist" critics who oppose open trade in nearly all forms.

But according to Rodrik, it all backfired: By dodging an honest debate on the pros and cons of open trade, he says, economists perversely "empowered the barbarians" and made it easier for "extremists and demagogues" to win public support.

"Economic theory teaches us that globalization and openness to trade cause a lot of redistribution of income," Rodrik says. "The flip-side of gains from trade is that some people, some communities, some parts of the country end up becoming worse off. That wasn't a mystery. That's what economists were teaching all along."

Rodrik, a 60-year-old Turkish-born professor of international economy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, has cast a critical eye on globalization for years. The Associated Press spoke with him recently about his latest book, Trump and his policies and how economists are responding to discontent with globalization and its consequences.

Rodrik wants to be clear: He supports free trade. But he is critical of what he calls "hyperglobalization" — something he says involves wresting control of commerce from individual governments and handing it to global institutions to spur ever-freer-flowing trade and investment. When many European countries abandoned their own currencies and adopted the euro, for example, they effectively turned their economic policy over to the European Central Bank.

Countries should form their own policies, Rodrik says, guided by the likely impact on workers and communities. If European nations fear the consequences of genetically modified foods for people, for instance, they should be free to ban them — even knowing the trade-off will likely be fewer food choices and higher prices.

Some of his peers take issue with Rodrik's argument. One of them, C. Fred Bergsten, director emeritus of the Peterson Institute for International Economics, has sparred for years with Rodrik over the consequences of globalization. Bergsten argues that while some economists downplayed the costs of free trade, others, including at Peterson, backed programs to help workers who lose out to foreign competition and train them for new careers.

More at fault, Bergsten says, are business leaders and free-trade advocates in Congress who pushed trade deals but refused to pay for the safety-net programs that would support displaced workers. Advocates of free trade "are often the very same people who are most resistant to even modest programs" of assistance to those hurt by trade, Bergsten contends.

Yet in Rodrik's view, recent free-trade deals have evolved from simple efforts to pry open closed markets into complex deals that reward powerful corporations but often cause workers to lose jobs to cheaper labor in countries with lax workplace and environmental safeguards.

Rodrik, points, for example, to the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a deal with 11 Pacific Rim countries that Trump nixed in January. The deal would have served pharmaceutical companies by strengthening patent protections on their drugs, thereby delaying poorer countries' access to cheaper generics.

Trade deals contain "thousands and thousands of pages of detailed rules," Rodrik says. "Do we protect labor and affected communities, or do we protect pharmaceutical companies or large multinationals or financial establishments?"

Rodrik says he empathizes with the grievances that led to Trump's election. He agrees with the president, for example, that the North American Free Trade Agreement with Mexico and Canada cost America jobs by opening the U.S. market to cheap Mexican imports and by encouraging U.S. manufacturers to move jobs to capitalize on lower-wage labor. Still, he rejects Trump's idea that his administration could bring back those jobs by renegotiating or withdrawing from NAFTA.

"Just undoing that agreement is going to create new dislocations elsewhere," he says, "like in all the auto supply chains" that now cross NAFTA borders.

Rodrik says he thinks the economics profession is learning from its mistakes, including its pre-Great Recession celebration of a free flow of capital around the world. As finicky investors move in and out of markets, sometimes overwhelming and destabilizing economies, it's clear, he says, that "financial globalization is no bowl of cherries."

"Things change when the evidence comes in," Rodrik says. "Economics is a discipline that's quite capable of changing track. It just doesn't happen very quickly."

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## **Q&A: State lawmaker disclosures point to potential conflicts**

**By DAVID JORDAN, Center for Public Integrity**

The Center for Public Integrity and The Associated Press analyzed financial disclosure reports from 6,933 state legislators around the country and found that three out of four lawmakers had income from other employment.

While outside jobs give lawmakers expertise in certain policy areas, it also provides an opening for potential conflicts of interest. Lawmakers' businesses and the industries they work in can be directly affected by the actions of the legislatures. The reporting unearthed numerous examples of state lawmakers who have introduced and supported legislation that directly or indirectly helps their own businesses, their employers or their personal finances.

Even then, their actions do not necessarily represent a conflict of interest as defined by state legislatures. Legislatures set their own rules about what constitutes a conflict and at what point lawmakers should recuse themselves from a vote.

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### **WHAT ARE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS AND WHY DO THEY MATTER?**

Personal financial disclosure reports are intended to help the public understand where and how government officials get their income, and whether any of those ties present conflicts of interest with their political work.

These disclosures are especially important for state lawmakers. Unlike many other elected officials, legislators across the country often hold other jobs and run businesses when legislatures are not in session. The AP and Center for Public Integrity review found that at least 76 percent of state lawmakers holding office in 2015 had outside jobs.

That's different than in Congress, where moonlighting by members has been sharply restricted since 1978. Only three states — Michigan, Idaho and Vermont — have not required such reports. In June, though, Vermont announced that it will begin requiring them in 2018.

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## WHAT KINDS OF JOBS DO LEGISLATORS HOLD OUTSIDE OF THEIR POLITICAL OFFICE?

State lawmakers work all kinds of jobs and sometimes more than one. Lawyers and those with ties to real estate tend to dominate, but some legislators also drive taxis, wait tables, own cemeteries, judge boxing matches, play guitar in rock bands or deal in rare coins.

Such outside employment gives lawmakers expertise in certain policy areas, but many of those jobs are directly affected by the actions of the legislatures. That can create conflicts of interest.

## HOW CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT MY LEGISLATOR'S FINANCIAL TIES?

Out of the 47 states that require personal financial disclosures, the completed forms are available online in 31 states. In the remaining 16 states, those who want to view the reports might need to email a clerk or take more complicated steps such as showing their photo IDs or requesting the documents in person.

The Center for Public Integrity has made it easier by putting disclosures from a total of 6,933 lawmakers in 47 states who held office in 2015 into a searchable digital library.

## HOW OFTEN DO LEGISLATORS UPDATE THEIR REPORTS?

In most states, the reports are filed annually. But in North Dakota, disclosures are required only in election years.

North Carolina and Colorado require lawmakers to file initial reports that detail their employment and investments. Each subsequent year, though, they can file a form stating only that nothing has changed since the prior report. In these two states, you might have to collect multiple years' reports if you want to get a complete view of your lawmaker's disclosure. We have gathered those older files in our disclosure library.

## WHAT DO THE DISCLOSURES CONTAIN?

Some states ask lawmakers to detail the jobs of their spouses or children, their businesses, investments, real estate holdings or even ties to lobbyists. Others ask for little beyond the legislators' sources of income.

New Hampshire's form contains only two sections: a checklist to declare if lawmakers believe they have a conflict in certain areas; and a space to declare sources of income over \$10,000.

On the Wyoming form, in addition to questions about income sources, two checkboxes ask whether the filer has any real estate or security holdings. But the lawmaker does not have to provide additional details on which stocks or where the real estate is located.

## CAN LEGISLATORS VOTE ON A BILL WHEN THEY HAVE TIES TO IT?

It depends on the state. In every state except Oregon and Utah, legislators can abstain or ask to be recused from voting on legislation. Most states specify that they should do so if the legislation presents a conflict of interest.

But many lawmakers are still allowed to debate, and sometimes even vote, on legislation and amendments that might benefit them or their companies. Louisiana allows lawmakers to debate bills that benefit a personal or financial interest even after they have recused themselves. California lawmakers can vote on legislation even after declaring conflicts of interest if their votes are "fair and objective."

In the Idaho Senate and the Kansas House, legislators need two-thirds of the chamber's permission to abstain.

Oregon and Utah require lawmakers to vote if they are present, regardless of any potential conflicts of interest. Many legislators say frequent abstentions would keep their chambers from working properly.

## Asian markets extend losses after dismal session on Wall St

By **ELAINE KURTENBACH, AP Business Writer**

TOKYO (AP) — Shares in Asia fell Wednesday after another afternoon fizzle for stocks that left the Standard & Poor's 500 index with its third straight loss.

KEEPING SCORE: Tokyo's Nikkei 225 index lost 0.9 percent to 22,419.88 and the Hang Seng in Hong



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Kong slumped 1.6 percent to 28,389.35. The Shanghai Composite index skidded 0.7 percent to 3,279.59 while South Korea's Kospi dropped 0.6 percent to 2,494.68. The S&P ASX 200 in Australia fell 0.4 percent to 5,951.10. Shares were mostly lower in Southeast Asia.

WALL STREET: Technology stocks recovered but then lost momentum on Tuesday, as losses for telecom stocks and utilities helped cement the S&P 500's longest losing streak in nearly four months. The S&P 500 fell 0.4 percent to 2,629.57. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 0.5 percent to 24,180.64, and the Nasdaq composite declined 0.2 percent to 6,762.21. Losers outnumbered winners on the New York Stock Exchange by nearly two to one.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "The sell-off into Tuesday's U.S. session provides weak leads for Asian markets mid-week and futures have certainly pointed us in the direction of further pressure for the region," Jingyi Pan of IG said in a commentary.

CURRENCIES: The dollar slipped to 112.23 Japanese yen from 112.60 yen late Tuesday. The euro rose to \$1.1831 from \$1.1825, and the British pound fell to \$1.3442 from \$1.3444.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude gave up 24 cents to \$57.38 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It rose 15 cents to settle at \$57.62 per barrel on Tuesday. Brent crude, the international standard, shed 24 cents to \$62.62 a barrel in London.

AP Business Writer Stan Choe in New York contributed.

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 6, the 340th day of 2017. There are 25 days left in the year.

Today's Highlights in History:

On Dec. 6, 1917, some 2,000 people were killed when an explosives-laden French cargo ship, the *Mont Blanc*, collided with the Norwegian vessel *Imo* at the harbor in Halifax, Nova Scotia, setting off a blast that devastated the Canadian city. Finland declared its independence from Russia.

On this date:

In 1790, Congress moved to Philadelphia from New York.

In 1865, the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, abolishing slavery, was ratified as Georgia became the 27th state to endorse it.

In 1889, Jefferson Davis, the first and only president of the Confederate States of America, died in New Orleans.

In 1907, the worst mining disaster in U.S. history occurred as 362 men and boys died in a coal mine explosion in Monongah, West Virginia.

In 1922, the Anglo-Irish Treaty, which established the Irish Free State, came into force one year to the day after it was signed in London.

In 1942, comedian Fred Allen premiered "Allen's Alley," a recurring sketch on his CBS radio show spoofing small-town America.

In 1947, Everglades National Park in Florida was dedicated by President Harry S. Truman.

In 1957, America's first attempt at putting a satellite into orbit failed as Vanguard TV3 rose about four feet off a Cape Canaveral launch pad before crashing down and exploding.

In 1967, three days after the first human heart transplant took place in South Africa, a surgical team at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York, led by Dr. Adrian Kantrowitz transplanted the heart of a brain-dead two-day-old baby boy into an 19-day-old infant who died six hours later.

In 1973, House minority leader Gerald R. Ford was sworn in as vice president, succeeding Spiro T. Agnew.

In 1982, 11 soldiers and six civilians were killed when an Irish National Liberation Army bomb exploded at a pub in Ballykelly, Northern Ireland.

In 1989, 14 women were shot to death at the University of Montreal's school of engineering by a man

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who then took his own life.

Ten years ago: CIA Director Michael Hayden revealed the agency had videotaped its interrogations of two terror suspects in 2002 and destroyed the tapes three years later out of fear they would leak to the public and compromise the identities of U.S. questioners; the disclosure brought immediate condemnation from Capitol Hill. Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney, speaking at the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum in Texas, said his Mormon faith should neither help nor hinder his quest for the White House as he vowed to serve the interests of the nation, not the church, if elected president.

Five years ago: Shocking some of his closest Republican colleagues, Sen. Jim DeMint of South Carolina announced he would resign his seat to head Washington's conservative Heritage Foundation think tank. Marijuana possession became legal in Washington state, the day a measure approved by voters to regulate marijuana like alcohol took effect.

One year ago: President-elect Donald Trump officially announced he would nominate retired Marine Gen. James Mattis to be his defense secretary, bringing his pick onstage at a rally in Fayetteville, North Carolina; Mattis briefly addressed the crowd as he thanked Trump for choosing him.

Today's Birthdays: Comedy performer David Ossman is 81. Actor Patrick Bauchau is 79. Country singer Helen Cornelius is 76. Actor James Naughton is 72. Former Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood is 72. Rhythm-and-blues singer Frankie Beverly (Maze) is 71. Former Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., is 69. Actress JoBeth Williams is 69. Actor Tom Hulce is 64. Actor Wil Shriner is 64. Actor Kin Shriner is 64. Actor Miles Chapin is 63. Rock musician Rick Buckler (The Jam) is 62. Comedian Steven Wright is 62. Country singer Bill Lloyd is 62. Singer Tish Hinojosa is 62. Rock musician Peter Buck (R.E.M.) is 61. Rock musician David Lovering (Pixies) is 56. Actress Janine Turner is 55. Rock musician Ben Watt (Everything But The Girl) is 55. Writer-director Judd Apatow is 50. Rock musician Ulf "Buddha" Ekberg (Ace of Base) is 47. Writer-director Craig Brewer is 46. Actress Colleen Haskell is 41. Actress Lindsay Price is 41. Actress Ashley Madekwe is 36. Actress Nora Kirkpatrick is 33. Christian rock musician Jacob Chesnut (Rush of Fools) is 28. Tennis player CoCo Vandeweghe is 26. NFL quarterback Johnny Manziel is 25.

Thought for Today: "When you have exhausted all possibilities, remember this — you haven't." — Thomas Edison, American inventor (1847-1931).