

# Groton Daily Independent

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018 ~ Vol. 25 - No. 197 ~ 1 of 45



## Today's Riddle:

What can be seen once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years?

Answer at end of AP News

- 1- Recycling trailers
- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Hanlon Brothers Ad
- 1- Today's Riddle
- 2- Trinity needs a new roof
- 3- GFP Commission Makes Changes to Limited Draw Preference Points
- 3- Bowling Scores
- 4- Bjerke has double-double night with Clark/Willow Lake
- 5- Dr. Holm's Column
- 6- Gun Show Ad
- 6- Farmers Union PSA
- 6- Social Security Column
- 7- Silver Skates Ad
- 8- Today in Weather History
- 9- Today's Forecast
- 10- Yesterday's Weather
- 10- Today's Weather Info
- 10- National Weather Map
- 11- Daily Devotional
- 12- 2018 Community Events
- 13- News from the Associated Press

**Hanlon Brothers**  
**Gravel Hauling**

New & Cleaning of  
Stockdams with our  
60' reach trackhoe

**605/395-6531**

## Today's Events

**Thursday, Jan. 25**

NEC Wrestling at Clark, 4 p.m.

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

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

**Closed**

## Trinity needs a new roof

The Groton Community Historical Society ("GCHS") announces the kick-off of a fund-raising campaign to re-roof the Historic Trinity Church located at 3rd Street and 3rd Avenue near downtown Groton. The capital fund drive seeks to raise \$25,000 as matching funds for a Deadwood Fund grant.

An Episcopal congregation built the church in 1884, but it served several other denominations in its early years until those denominations could build their own houses of worship. It also served as a center for residents of the newly formed town of Groton to come together and gather as a community. In 1975, the Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota deconsecrated the church from the Diocese and deeded it to the Brown County Historical Society ("BCHS"). The BCHS immediately re-roofed the church, and made other improvements including installation of protective plexiglass window coverings and painting and restoration of the chapel itself. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.



By 2012, membership in the BCHS had decreased to the point where the Society could no longer maintain the church, so they offered it to the City of Aberdeen to be moved to Wylie Park. Groton citizens responded by taking a new interest in the church, determined to keep it in its original location. This revival of interest was led by Groton minister Paul Kosel, who held nondenominational services there during the summers of 2013 to 2015. In 2016, the GCHS was formed for the sole purpose of maintaining and preserving the church. GCHS is a Federal non-profit organization, so all donations to the roof fund are fully tax deductible. GCHS Officers are "Topper" Tastad, President; Richard Kolker, Secretary; and Marcy Blackmun, Treasurer. Board Members are Clint Fjelstad and Jay Waage.

A South Dakota Historical Society publication, *Building South Dakota*, notes that in 1890, there were 153 Episcopal churches in South Dakota similar to the Groton Church, all built utilizing designs by a famous New York architect, Richard Upjohn, who provided free plans for small rural churches which could be built by lay carpenters utilizing local materials. The Historical Society publication labeled the Groton church "the sole survivor" of the 153 similar churches scattered throughout South Dakota in 1890. This makes the Groton church truly a unique historical monument and an asset to our community.

Unhappily, the church is in dire need of a new roof. Missing shingles and holes in the roof have allowed water to seep in and deteriorate the underlying roof boards. It is anticipated that a large portion of the roofing boards will have to be removed and replaced before new shingles can be installed. Serious trimming of the huge tree north of the church is also planned. The Society is seeking a grant of \$25,000 for the project, which must be matched by cash or in-kind labor.

The preservation of this unique historical monument is now dependent on all the citizens, churches, organizations and businesses of Groton. Tax-deductible donations can be made to the GCHS by dropping off checks payable to GCHS at S & S Lumber, or by mailing them to GCHS, 210 Third Street, Groton. Questions may be directed to Topper Tastad at (605) 397-7337 or dakotabrush@nvc.net. The Society greatly appreciates any and all donations.

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## Groton Coffee Cup League 1-22-18

Team standings: James Valley 10, Ten Pins 9, Jungle Lanes 7, Kens 6  
High Scores: Vickie Kramp 172, 165; Nancy Radke 157; Gert Erickson 155  
High Series: Vickie Kramp 483, Nancy Radke 433, Gert Erickson 396

## Conde National League

Team Standings: Braves 11, Cubs 9, Pirates 9, Mets 7, Giants 7, Colts 5  
Men's High Scores: John Lowary 209, Ryan Bethke 205, Russ Bethke 186  
Men's High Series: Ryan Bethke 545, Russ Bethke 522, John Lowary 506  
Women's High Scores: Mary Larson 188, 169; Kayla Johnson 180; Alice Severson 166  
Women's High Series: Mary Larson 486, Kayla Johnson 446, Alice Severson 443

## GFP Commission Makes Changes to Limited Draw Preference Points

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) Commission changed the way preference points effect 36 limited draw seasons at their January Commission meeting.

The Commission decided to take the number of times a person is in the draw and cube that number (number of preference points + 1 for the current application). This adjustment is intended to provide those hunters with a higher number of preference points a greater chance of drawing a limited license than currently exists.

"The drawing will, essentially, be run the exact same way as before," said GFP licensing supervisor, Shon Eide. "We will still have the same breakdown of preference point pools for every season, however, now we will cube the number of times the person's name is in the draw before that draw is run."

While this will improve the odds for people with a higher number of preference points drawing a license, it will not guarantee them a license.

"This doesn't change the drawing to a true top down preference point system," Eide said. "A hunter with the most preference points would still not be guaranteed a license before another hunter with less preference points who is in the same draw pool, but their odds of drawing a license would be increased over someone else in the draw pool with fewer preference points."

The cubing of preference points also does not impact the price of preference points or the number of preference points a hunter can acquire in any given year.

The cubed preference point system will first be applied to the 2018 elk and Gavin's Point paddlefish snagging drawings and then used for all limited draw seasons. It will not be used for special buck, Francis Case paddlefish snagging or spring turkey drawings until 2019.

For a more information on preference points, please visit <https://gfp.sd.gov/preference-points/>.

## Bjerke has double-double night with Clark/Willow Lake



**Nicole Marzahn goes up for the shot and was fouled. She made two free throws to make it a 17-9 game with 2:18 left in the first quarter in favor of the Cyclones.**

(Photo by Paul Kosel)

Abbie Bratland had 10 points, Jance Koiden 18, and adding four points each were Callie Fleming, Charity Kebowa, Morgan Bunke and Olivia Sass.

Clark-Willow Lake won the junior varsity game, 39-27.

Scoring for the Tigers were Eliza Wanner with 12, Kenzie McInerney six, Payton Colestock five and Kaycie Hawkins two.

Chayla Vig led the Cyclones with 14 points.

Jessica Bjerke made three of four three-points on her way to 11 points and 10 rebounds as she had a double-double on the night. Clark-Willow Lake came to town Tuesday and posted a 66-53 win over the Groton Area Tigers.

The Cyclones led at the quarterstops at 19-10, 33-19 and 52-35.

Harleigh Stange added 11 points followed by Miranda Hanson and Payton Maine with nine each, Jennie Doeden had eight, Nicole Marzahn had four and Kaycie Hawkins added one point.

Groton Area made 17 percent of its field goals in the first quarter, 13 percent in the second quarter, 40 percent in the third quarter and 29 percent in the fourth quarter. For the game, the Tigers made 10 of 32 field goals for 31 percent, five of 17 three-pointers for 29 percent and 18 of 28 free throws for 64 percent. The Cyclones made 50 percent of its field goals in the first quarter, 31 percent in the second quarter, 54 percent in the third quarter and 36 percent in the fourth quarter. The Cyclones made 21 of 49 total field goals for 43 percent. Groton Area had nine turnovers which turned into 13 points for the Cyclones. Groton made three points from Clark-Willow Lake's turnovers. Groton Area had nine steals with Stange having four, and nine assists with Stange having four.

Taylor Hartley led the Cyclones with 21 points with six three-



**Jennie Doeden passes the ball to Payton Maine.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Harleigh Stange looks for an open teammate.** (Photo by

Paul Kosel)

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**By Richard P. Holm M.D.**

## Friendship

What is a friend? The dictionary defines a friend as a person with whom one has a bond of mutual affection that is exclusive of sexual or family relations. The word comes from the German 'freund', which in turn originates from an Indo-European root meaning 'to love'.

Still, there are many more definitions of friendship. Friends listen, care, support, open-up, and then, when it really counts, are loyal. It is almost like the ethics of medicine: friends try to benefit and not harm their pals, try to do it honestly, and try to respect the other person's freedom to choose.

There are a lot of great quotes about the value of friendship. One message from an unknown author states, "A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words." Charles Caleb Colton said, "True friendship is like sound health; the value of it is seldom known until it be lost." Emily Dickenson professed, "My friends are my estate." And of course, John Lennon sang, "I get by with a little help from my friends."

In this internet-age with such things as Facebook and Twitter, the number of people one has "friended" is apparently a sign of influence and popularity. Isn't it ironic that the technology of the Internet has, instead, isolated some people? Several studies have even indicated the Internet may be a major reason why there has been a decline in the number and quality of friendships nowadays.

Humans are hardwired to have friends. Through the ages, anthropologists tell us a troop of chimpanzees is typically limited to 50 chimps because, with shared grooming as social language, they are limited by time to know a maximum of 50 other chimps. Hunter gatherer human tribes were typically limited to the size of about 150 people because that is the maximum number of people one could get to know when limited by human verbal skills. The challenge of true friendship requires listening, unselfish giving, honesty, and the provision of freedom of choice by both parties.

The health advantages of friendship are enormous. Solid scientific studies find those with strong friendships have better mental and physical health, increased longevity, and a deeper sense of happiness. The opposite is also true: the friendless have an increased risk for heart disease, infections, and cancer. Of course, these illnesses come to people with friends too, but survival is longer and easier for those who are connected. (1)

It is so true that in this tough and tumble world, "we get by with a little help from our friends."

(1) (Yang YC, et al. Social relationships and physiological determinants of longevity across the human life span. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 2016;113:578. Thoitis PA. Mechanisms linking social ties and support to physical and mental health. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*. 2011;52:145. [www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/adult-health/in-depth/friendships/art-20044860](http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/adult-health/in-depth/friendships/art-20044860))

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## Gun Show

**GUN SHOW:** Dakota Territory Gun Collectors Association 16th Annual ABERDEEN Gun Show. New location. Saturday, February 3, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, February 4, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dakota Event Center on LaMont East. Roger Krumm 701-851-0129. (...0203)

## SOCIAL SECURITY COLLABORATES WITH AMERICA SAVES WEEK

By: **Patty Hoffman**

**Social Security Public Affairs Specialist**

A secure retirement is created from a lifetime of planning and saving. Each year, American Savings Education Council and America Saves coordinate America Saves Week. The week is an opportunity for organizations to promote good savings behavior and a chance for individuals to assess their own saving status.

For years, Social Security has collaborated with America Saves Week to promote our shared mission of helping millions of people prepare for their future. This year, the week is celebrated from February 26 through March 3.

Knowing this, it's never too early to start planning for your future. Set a goal, make a plan, and save automatically. Savers with a plan are twice as likely to save successfully. Pledge to save for America Saves Week at [www.americasaves.org](http://www.americasaves.org). Share what you're saving for using the hashtag #ImSavingFor.

Social Security's "People Like Me" website has tailor-made information for preparing for your future. Our richly diverse country is made up of countless backgrounds, ethnicities, and nationalities, yet we all want the same thing — a secure future. You can see many of the diverse people we serve at [www.socialsecurity.gov/people](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/people).

Younger people need to know that the earlier you start saving, the more your money can grow. Our website for young workers at [www.socialsecurity.gov/people/earlycareer](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/people/earlycareer) has resources that can help you secure today and tomorrow.

Patty Hoffman is the Public Affairs Specialist for ND, SD and Western MN. You can write her c/o Social Security Administration, 4207 Boulder Ridge Road, Ste. 100, Bismarck ND 58503 or via email at [patty.hoffman@ssa.gov](mailto:patty.hoffman@ssa.gov).



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\*see [sdfu.org](http://sdfu.org)'s E30 tab for info, E30 prices/locations.

**\*Farmers Union's**

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

*80th Annual  
Carnival of Silver Skates  
Sunday, January 28th—2:00 and  
6:30*

*Recognizing past skaters, showcasing several specialty acts, and a walk down memory lane. Join us for a great show, performed by our local youth, that helps honor those who have helped establish this great community tradition over*

Admission: 13 & older—\$3.00  
6-12—\$2.00

Parking: Provided around the rink and on the ice or cozy up on the bleachers (ice parking begins at 10 am, then again at 4:30 pm)

\*\*Check us out on Facebook at "Silver Skates"

WE HOPE TO  
SEE YOU THERE!



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## Today in Weather History

January 23, 1969: Intermittent freezing rain on the 20th to the 22nd changed to snow on the 22nd which continued through the 24th. Snowfall of 2 to 6 inches fell across Minnesota and far northeast South Dakota. Blizzard conditions developed on the 23rd and 24th with 30 to 45 mph winds and temperatures dropping to below zero by the 24th. Most of the traffic was halted with many roads blocked from snow drifting. Some rural roads had been blocked for 3 to 4 weeks. Stranded motorists were common in the area. Some snowfall amounts included, 2 inches at Wilmot and Victor, 3 inches at Milbank and Artichoke Lake, and 4 inches at Clear Lake.

1556: An earthquake in Shaanxi, China kills an estimated 830,000 people. This estimated 8.0 to 8.3 magnitude earthquake struck in the middle of a densely populated area where many of the homes were a form of an earth shelter dwelling known as a yaodong. Much is known about this disaster as a scholar named Qin Keda survived the earthquake and recorded the details. Click [HERE](#) for more information about Qin Keda from the Science Museum of China.

1812: A second major series of earthquakes was felt as part of the New Madrid Shocks of the winter of 1811-1812. Many observers reported that the January 23 shocks were as strong as the main earthquake on December 16th of the preceding year.

1916: Browning, Montana, saw the temperature plummet 100 degrees in 24 hours on January 23-24, from a relatively mild 44 to a bone-chilling 56 degrees below zero.

1969: An F4 tornado cut a 120-mile long path from Jefferson through Copiah, Simpson, Smith, Scott, and Newton Counties in Mississippi, killing 32 and injuring 241 others. Property damage was estimated at \$2 million. An inbound Delta Airlines aircraft reported a hook echo on its scope with this storm.

1935 - Snowstorms hit the northeastern U.S. and the Pacific Northwest producing record 24 hour snowfall totals of 23 inches at Portland ME and 52 inches at Winthrop MA. (David Ludlum)

1956 - Thirty-eight inches of rain deluged the Kilauea Sugar Plantation of Hawaii in 24 hours, including twelve inches in just one hour. (David Ludlum)

1963 - A great arctic outbreak reached the southern U.S. The cold wave broke many records for duration of cold weather along the Gulf Coast. A reading of 15 degrees below zero at Nashville TN was an all-time record low for that location. (David Ludlum)

1982 - Chinook winds plagued the foothills of southeastern Wyoming and northern and central Colorado for the second straight Sunday. The winds gusted to 140 mph at Wondervu CO, located northeast of Denver. Chinook winds a week earlier produced wind gusts to 137 mph. (Storm Data)

1987 - Temperatures in Minnesota plunged far below the zero mark. International Falls MN reported a morning low of 35 degrees below zero, and Warroad MN was the cold spot in the nation with a low of 45 below zero. A storm developing in northeastern Texas produced severe thunderstorms with large hail in Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas. Camden AR reported golf ball size hail. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)








1988 - A blizzard rapidly developed in the north central U.S. In just one hour weather conditions in eastern North Dakota switched from sunny skies, light winds and temperature readings in the 20s, to rapidly falling temperatures and near zero visibility in snow and blowing snow. High winds in Wyoming, gusting to 72 mph at Gillette, produced snow drifts sixteen feet high. Northwestern Iowa experienced its second blizzard in just 24 hours. High winds in Iowa produced wind chill readings as cold as 65 degrees below zero. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)



1989 - Heavy snow blanketed the Rockies and the Northern High Plains Region. Hettinger ND received 12 inches of snow. Wolf Creek Pass CO was blanketed with 16 inches of snow in just 24 hours. Severe cold prevailed across Alaska. Between the 24th and the 29th of January, a total of thirty stations in the state report all-time record low temperatures. (National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)




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Wed Jan 24	Thu Jan 25	Fri Jan 26	Sat Jan 27	Sun Jan 28	Mon Jan 29	Tue Jan 30
						
<b>40° F</b>	<b>47° F</b>	<b>43° F</b>	<b>31° F</b>	<b>22° F</b>	<b>30° F</b>	<b>41° F</b>
<b>19° F</b>	<b>24° F</b>	<b>20° F</b>	<b>7° F</b>	<b>7° F</b>	<b>20° F</b>	<b>32° F</b>
S 10 MPH	SSE 14 MPH	W 14 MPH	WNW 13 MPH	NNE 8 MPH	SSE 8 MPH	SSW 10 MPH



## Morning Fog Mild Today - Friday






**Todays Highs:  
Upper 30s & Low 40s**

**Thursdays Highs:  
40s to Near 50**

**Fridays Highs:  
40s**

National Weather Service – Aberdeen, SD

 [weather.gov/Aberdeen](http://weather.gov/Aberdeen)  National Weather Service Aberdeen  @NWSAberdeen Updated: 1/24/2018 4:10 AM Central

Published on: 01/24/2018 at 5:05AM

Morning fog between the James valley and Coteau will gradually break up and shift northeast thanks to a southwest wind today. This will allow for temperatures to recover, with mild conditions through the end of the work week.

# Groton Daily Independent

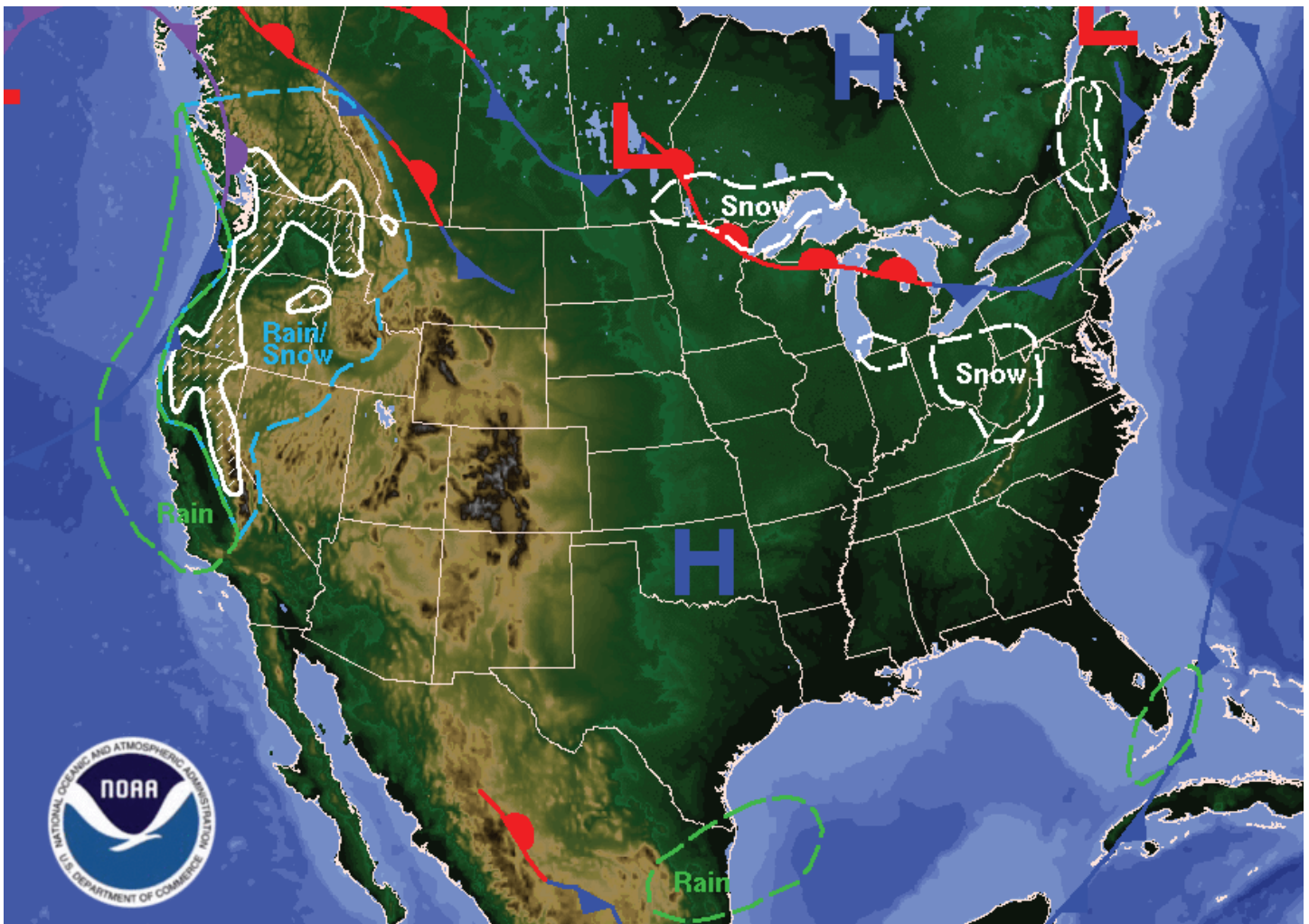
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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 29.0 at 3:53 PM**  
**Low Outside Temp: 18.0 at 8:44 AM**  
**Wind Chill: -**  
**High Gust: 14 at 12:12 AM**  
**Precip: 0.00**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 60° in 1981**  
**Record Low: -35° in 1915**  
**Average High: 23°F**  
**Average Low: 1°F**  
**Average Precip in Jan: 0.38**  
**Precip to date in Jan: 0.00**  
**Average Precip to date: 0.38**  
**Precip Year to Date: 0.00**  
**Sunset Tonight: 5:29 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:02 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Jan 24, 2018, issued 4:16 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)**



## GOD'S PEACE

There is an interesting theme that runs throughout the Bible. It is the if/then theme. If we are obedient to God, then we can be confident of His blessings, favor, gifts and a sense of His presence in our lives. If on the other hand, we are disobedient and willingly disobey His laws and teachings then we will experience guilt and a separation from Him.

Certainly the feelings of separation can be a good thing. It is God within us stirring up the gift He has given us – the gift of the Holy Spirit who is to guide us and guard us. When we become “disconnected” from God, He is there to “alert us” of impending dangers and convict us to return to the path and plan God has designed for us. He is eager to do His work if we are willing to allow Him to do so.

Our Psalmist reminds us that God “speaks peace to His people and to His saints.” His peace is what brings us “wholeness and completeness” and unites us with Him. It dissolves the fear we have of Him and removes the guilt that we carry within us from being disobedient to Him.

So our Psalmist wisely adds, “but let them not return to their folly” – or perhaps a more appropriate translation of the word “folly” is “stupidity.” What might this mean?

Often we become “presumptuous” and assume that we deserve God’s blessings. We take an inventory of our lives and things appear to be “just about as wonderful as wonderful can be.” We have no “fear” of God and take His goodness for granted. “What stupidity!” says the Psalmist. “Be careful of falling into Your past sinful ways.”

Prayer: May we be constantly alert, Lord, to any sin that will separate us from You, Your peace and blessings. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 85:8 I will hear what God the Lord will speak, For He will speak peace To His people and to His saints; But let them not turn back to folly.

## 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

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## News from the Associated Press

### Tuesday's Scores By The Associated Press

#### BOYS BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Central 59, Pierre 40  
Belle Fourche 82, Lead-Deadwood 67  
Beresford 59, Baltic 44  
Canistota 62, Chester 39  
Canton 64, Tri-Valley 45  
Colome 65, Kimball/White Lake 32  
Deuel 45, Elkton-Lake Benton 33  
Ethan 62, Freeman Academy/Marion 47  
Faulkton 52, Northwestern 39  
Flandreau 72, Garretson 32  
Florence/Henry 50, Lake Preston 33  
Herreid/Selby Area 54, Aberdeen Christian 46  
Highmore-Harrold 73, James Valley Christian 58  
Hot Springs 80, Wall 32  
Huron 52, Brookings 48  
Ipswich 66, Edmunds Central 34  
Jones County 71, Lyman 66  
Madison 72, Chamberlain 70, OT  
McCook Central/Montrose 52, Freeman 50  
Menno 54, Gayville-Volin 50  
Mobridge-Pollock 69, McLaughlin 43  
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 65, Wagner 37  
Ortonville, Minn. 76, Milbank Area 62  
Parker 67, Howard 48  
Pine Ridge 81, Little Wound 68  
Platte-Geddes 64, Parkston 59  
Sanborn Central 50, Hanson 34  
Sioux Falls Christian 60, Tea Area 57  
Sioux Falls Washington 62, Brandon Valley 58  
Sioux Valley 61, DeSmet 56  
St. Thomas More 65, Spearfish 40  
Timber Lake 65, Harding County 39  
Tripp-Delmont/Armour 62, Centerville 25  
Vermillion 63, West Central 50  
Viborg-Hurley 72, Alcester-Hudson 32  
Watertown 61, Sioux Falls Lincoln 52  
Waverly-South Shore 51, Webster 48  
Wessington Springs 45, Andes Central/Dakota Christian 63  
Winner 66, Todd County 57  
Wolsey-Wessington 64, Sunshine Bible Academy 34  
Wyndmere-Lidgerwood, N.D. 55, Waubay/Summit 26  
Yankton 50, Harrisburg 48  
POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS

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Elk Point-Jefferson vs. Lawton-Bronson, Iowa, ppd. to Feb 8.  
Spirit Lake, Iowa vs. Dakota Valley, ppd.

## **GIRLS BASKETBALL**

Aberdeen Central 68, Pierre 48  
Andes Central/Dakota Christian 58, Wessington Springs 33  
Avon 53, Burke/South Central 37  
Belle Fourche 53, Lead-Deadwood 14  
Brandon Valley 55, Mitchell 44  
Bridgewater-Emery 68, Freeman Academy/Marion 58  
Brookings 45, Huron 40  
Castlewood 48, Deubrook 31  
Clark/Willow Lake 66, Groton Area 53  
Edgemont 46, Rapid City Christian 35  
Elkton-Lake Benton 71, Deuel 52  
Faulkton 65, Northwestern 52  
Florence/Henry 53, Lake Preston 47  
Hanson 77, Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 41  
Harrisburg 40, Yankton 22  
Hendricks, Minn. 49, Estelline 22  
Langford 49, Great Plains Lutheran 38  
Lower Brule 71, St. Francis Indian 56  
Madison 64, Chamberlain 45  
McCook Central/Montrose 65, Freeman 61  
Menno 54, Gayville-Volin 30  
Milbank 51, Ortonville, Minn. 46  
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 50, Iroquois 26  
Parkston 44, Platte-Geddes 37  
Sioux Falls Lincoln 65, Watertown 57  
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 62, Omaha Bryan, Neb. 23  
Sturgis Brown 57, Hill City 36  
Tri-Valley 62, Canton 39  
Wagner 50, Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 36  
Wakpala 62, Takini 39  
West Central 50, Vermillion 35  
Wilmot 68, Clinton-Graceville-Beardsley, Minn. 53  
Wolsey-Wessington 49, Sunshine Bible Academy 36  
POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS  
Elk Point-Jefferson vs. Lawton-Bronson, Iowa, ppd. to Feb 8.  
Dakota Valley vs. Spirit Lake, Iowa, ppd. to Jan 25.

## **SD Lottery**

**By The Associated Press**

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

Mega Millions

02-06-30-31-55, Mega Ball: 7, Megaplier: 4

(two, six, thirty, thirty-one, fifty-five; Mega Ball: seven; Megaplier: four)

Estimated jackpot: \$63 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$92 million

## State fisheries staff to discuss Lake Oahe at Pierre meeting

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota's Game, Fish and Parks Department says slow walleye population growth remains a problem in lower Lake Oahe.

Senior Fisheries Biologist Mike Smith says the population of prey fish such as rainbow smelt has rebounded to where it was before the 2011 Missouri River flood flushed most smelt downstream.

But Smith tells the Capital Journal there are still issues with young walleye surviving long enough to become part of the catchable population.

Salmon also have struggled since the 2011 flood. There are fewer salmon returning to the spawning station and fewer eggs being collected for the state's fish hatcheries.

The fishery will be discussed Wednesday during a public meeting on lake management in Pierre. The meeting at the Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center begins at 7 p.m.

Information from: Pierre Capital Journal, <http://www.capjournal.com>

## Senator wants to bar people in US illegally from SD colleges

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota state senator this week proposed legislation aiming to ban people who are living in the U.S. illegally from enrolling at any of the state's public higher education institutions.

Republican Sen. Stace Nelson's bill would also declare such people ineligible for resident tuition, scholarships or other financial aid. He said legislators' responsibilities are to South Dakotans.

"My job as a state legislator is to protect our public institutions. South Dakota taxpayers pay their monies for South Dakota students to go to school," Nelson said. "Illegal immigrants are not our responsibility."

The South Dakota Board of Regents oversees the state's six public universities. A spokeswoman said in an email that the board hasn't met to discuss the bill, so it doesn't have a position to share.

But the board said in a July report that the fiscal impact of admitting "undocumented students is negligible." Mike Rush, the board's executive director and CEO, told a legislative panel that month that the board doesn't know how many public university students are living in the U.S. illegally.

For most applicants, a valid South Dakota high school transcript coupled with "self-identification" as a U.S. citizen in the application is used to comply with residency requirements to qualify for resident tuition rates, he said.

The bill would also require the board to develop a method for each school to verify with the federal government an "alien's lawful presence" in the U.S.

The proposal doesn't yet have its first legislative hearing scheduled.

A separate bill also introduced this week would give the Legislature control over tuition increases at public universities. Republican Rep. Lynne DiSanto, the bill's sponsor, said that the Board of Regents, which currently sets tuition and fees, needs more oversight.

## Police say man kidnapped woman, beat her with baseball bat

HURON, S.D. (AP) — Huron police say a 55-year-old man is accused of kidnapping a woman and hitting her several times with a baseball bat while driving around the east side of town.

Police say the victim called police about 10:20 a.m. Tuesday and said she was in a car with a man who was threatening her with the bat. The woman stayed on the line with dispatchers and gave updates on her location.

The woman told authorities that the suspect threw the bat out the window of the vehicle when he spotted police. The bat was recovered by police.

The man is facing charges of aggravated assault and kidnapping.

## **Authorities: Man moved human remains, put head in bucket**

PHOENIX (AP) — Authorities say a homeless man moved the dead body of a man from his remote Arizona desert campsite and put the man's head in a bucket.

A Jan. 17 criminal complaint charges 52-year-old Matthew David Hall with abandonment or concealment of a dead body in his alleged handling of the remains of 72-year-old Daniel Lucas of Baltic, South Dakota.

The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office said in a statement Tuesday that Lucas killed himself last summer inside his vehicle at the site 90 miles (145 kilometers) west of Phoenix.

The office says Hall discovered the remains and moved them outside.

The complaint says Hall later saw the remains with "sustained evidence of animal activity" and acknowledged putting the head in a bucket.

Court records did not list an attorney for Hall.

## **Oregon company fundraises for Sioux Falls Planned Parenthood**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — An Oregon clothing company raised more than \$25,000 for South Dakota's only abortion clinic in a campaign commemorating the 45th anniversary of Roe v. Wade.

Portland-based Wildfang has also paid for several billboards that reference the U.S. Supreme Court case that legalized abortion nationwide, the Argus Leader reported.

Wildfang's fundraising is intended to help the Sioux Falls Planned Parenthood pay doctors who travel to the state to perform abortions and to pay for legal battles.

"Our goal is to raise as much money as possible for South Dakota," said Wildfang CEO Emma McIlroy, who noted the 30-day campaign reached half of its original \$50,000 goal on the first day.

South Dakota is among seven states with only one abortion provider. Planned Parenthood has fought the state in federal court over legislative restrictions for years.

Republican Sen. Stacey Nelson introduced a resolution Monday to provide "all pre-born children their God-given right to exist." U.S. Rep. Kristi Noem, a GOP candidate for governor, released a statement on the Supreme Court decision's anniversary Monday that confirmed her commitment to anti-abortion positions.

McIlroy said they chose to fundraise for South Dakota first because of its 72-hour waiting period for an abortion, often requiring women to travel 300 miles.

"It makes it really harrowing for those women, an incredibly difficult experience," McIlroy said.

The company will also raise money for the six other single-provider states: Kentucky, West Virginia, Missouri, Wyoming, North Dakota and Mississippi.

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

## **Lawmaker seeks control over public university tuition hikes**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — The state Legislature would have control over tuition increases at South Dakota's public universities under a bill introduced at the Capitol.

Republican Rep. Lynne DiSanto said Tuesday that the state Board of Regents, which currently sets tuition and fees, needs more oversight.

DiSanto's bill says the board would fix tuition only after the Legislature has approved any rate increases.

She says students are getting "pinched," and officials want to encourage them to stay in South Dakota.

DiSanto says the regents are un-elected officials making a very important decision for students.

The board last year increased tuition and fees at the state's six public universities by an average of 2.9 percent for the 2017-18 school year.

The board didn't immediately comment on the bill. It doesn't yet have a hearing scheduled.



## **Under the influence? SD lawmaker would drug-test colleagues**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota Republican lawmaker wants to require all state legislators to be drug-tested.

Rep. Tim Goodwin's bill would mandate members of the Legislature be tested within two weeks of getting sworn into office and two weeks of legislative session's end.

Goodwin said Tuesday he wants to make sure all lawmakers are "clean."

The move comes after the attorney general proposed legislation to impose harsher penalties for methamphetamine dealing and manufacturing.

Goodwin says if lawmakers are going to send people to prison for a "long period of time, we should all be clean ourself."

The bill says a positive test or a refusal to take one must be reported to the presiding officer of the lawmaker's chamber for discipline.

Senate President Pro Tempore Brock Greenfield is among the co-sponsors.

## **South Dakota Senate panel approves data breach legislation**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A legislative panel has approved a bill that would require companies to inform South Dakota residents whose personal information was taken in a data breach.

The Senate Judiciary Committee voted 7-0 Tuesday to advance Attorney General Marty Jackley's bill.

It would require residents be notified within 60 days of a breach's discovery unless the company and attorney general determine it likely wouldn't harm the affected people.

The plan would also require companies to inform the attorney general if a breach affected over 250 residents.

Companies regulated by federal law that have procedures for a security breach that follow the rules of their primary regulator would be deemed in compliance with the proposed law.

Jackley has said the state needs a fair reporting law that requires consumers to be notified about the loss of their information.

## **Lawmakers propose bill to allow permitless concealed carry**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A group of lawmakers has proposed a bill to allow people who can legally carry a concealed handgun in South Dakota to do so without a permit.

GOP Sen. Lance Russell, the bill's sponsor, said this week that lawmakers need to have the debate again.

Republican Gov. Dennis Daugaard vetoed a similar measure last year, saying that the state's permit process is simple and straightforward.

It's currently a misdemeanor for someone to carry a concealed pistol or to have one concealed in a vehicle without a permit.

Russell says it's likely the bill will be vetoed if it reaches Daugaard, but he says supporters are "going to keep at it until we get it."

## **Aberdeen businessman kept meth in pawn shop; pleads guilty**

ABERDEEN, S.D. (AP) — Sentencing has been scheduled March 7 for an Aberdeen businessman who recently admitted to keeping methamphetamine in the basement of his downtown pawn shop.

The American News reports that 51-year-old Silas Wilson pleaded guilty last week to possessing meth and ingesting the drug.

The charge stems from a police raid of Aberdeen Pawn in which authorities say they found meth worth nearly \$33,000 on the streets.

The business has since changed its name to Aberdeen Retail.

Wilson could face up to 20 years in prison and \$40,000 in fines.

\_\_\_ Information from: Aberdeen American News, <http://www.aberdeennews.com>

## Trial begins in Dell Rapids shooting death

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Prosecutors in Minnehaha County say a Dell Rapids man did not deserve to die just because he threw a few punches at the man accused of shooting him.

Twenty-four-year-old Alex Wittenberg is on trial for murder and manslaughter in the shooting death of 39-year-old Johnathan Puttmann in November 2016 during a fist fight in Dell Rapids.

The Argus Leader reports Wittenberg's attorney says Wittenberg was defending himself because Puttmann wouldn't stop trying to hit him and had threatened him the night before the shooting.

Authorities say Wittenberg and a woman were parked across the street from Puttmann's house to drop off Puttmann's kids when Puttmann pulled up, walked up to the vehicle to let out the kids. Officials say Puttmann and Wittenberg began fighting until Wittenberg pulled a gun from his waistband.

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

## Students ran for their lives as shots erupted in high school

By KRISTIN M. HALL and DYLAN LOVAN, Associated Press

BENTON, Ky. (AP) — They ran silently, too stunned to shout.

Some of the children ran into classrooms to hide from the boy with the gun. Some ran out of the building, into the fields, across the streets, through the doors of nearby businesses.

"No one screamed," said 16-year-old Alexandria Caporali, recounting the moment her high school became the site of the latest American mass shooting. "It was almost completely silent as people just ran."

Bailey Nicole Holt and Preston Ryan Cope, both 15, were killed and another 18 people injured when a classmate opened fire Tuesday morning in the school's busy atrium, a common area in the center of Marshall County High School, where several hallways meet and children gather before classes.

The trauma consumed the rural town of about 4,300 people, where nearly everyone has a connection to the school. Parents left cars on both sides of an adjacent road, desperately trying to find their teenagers; business owners pulled fleeing children to safety; a state trooper rushed to the school, terrified he would find his own daughter among the dead.

Kentucky State Police Commissioner Rick Sanders said authorities would not yet identify the 15-year-old, now in police custody, who he said walked into the school armed with a pistol just before 8 a.m. and immediately started firing.

Caporali was eating breakfast when she heard a shot, turned and saw the teenager with the gun. She knew him as a quiet boy who played music and always seemed happy. After the first shot, he seemed to hesitate.

In the same room, two 16 year olds, Lexie Waymon and Baleigh Culp, had been laughing and talking about makeup and the homecoming basketball game like ordinary teenagers on an ordinary morning. They heard a bang, and imagined something equally ordinary, like a heavy book hitting the floor.

"That's what I expected it to be," Culp said. "Until I saw a body drop on the ground and the bangs continued. There was bullets flying everywhere."

Fear momentarily seized Waymon.

"I couldn't move. I got up and tried to run, but I fell. I heard someone hit the ground. It was so close to me," she said. She froze, she said. She could see only blackness — for a full minute, she guesses. Then she came to and ran.

Waymon did not stop running, even though her chest hurt. One phrase ran on repeat through her mind: "I can't believe this is happening. I cannot believe this is happening." She didn't stop until she made it to a McDonald's, more than a mile (1.6 kilometers) from the school.

Culp was running, too. She ran to the highway, hearing shot after shot behind her. She kept running, unsure what to do, when a man reached out from the door of a business and pulled her to safety inside, where dozens of other students were hiding.

"They was running and crying and screaming," said Mitchell Garland, who owns the cleaning company

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where the girl took refuge. He estimated between 50 and 100 students who ran from the school huddled there, including his own 16-year-old son.

"Everyone is just scared. Just terrified for their kids," Garland said.

Inside the school, the boy kept firing, said Caporali, who ran into a classroom.

"It was one right after another — bang, bang, bang, bang, bang," she said.

He kept shooting until he ran out of ammunition, she said. Then he took off running, trying to get away. He was soon apprehended by police and led away in handcuffs.

But by then, 14 had been shot and five others were injured as they ran from the gunfire. Bailey died at the scene and Preston died after being taken to Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. Five others remained in critical condition late Tuesday.

Benton residents gathered in a church hours after the fatal shooting where they were reminded that God had not forsaken them and told not to think "what did anyone do to deserve this."

The case against the suspect will begin in juvenile court, which is closed to the public and the records sealed under Kentucky law. Prosecutors will request a judge move it to adult court, at which point the details will no longer be secret.

The teen is being held at a regional juvenile jail in Paducah, Kentucky, about a half-hour away, authorities said, and he has been appointed an attorney.

Word of the shooting spread quickly around town, and people rushed toward the school.

Marshall County Attorney Jeff Edwards heard the news from a friend and immediately drove to the building. He and his wife both graduated from the school, as did their children.

He saw children running in every direction and said his heart broke for the ordeal he knows they must endure.

He took office in 1997, the year a student opened fire in a school 30 minutes away in Paducah, Kentucky, killing three and injuring five. It was two years before the fatal attack at Columbine High School in Colorado, before mass school shootings became all too common, and it left scars across the state.

"This is something that they will never forget," he said of children who ran for their lives. "It will be with them forever."

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Associated Press contributors include Adam Beam and Bruce Schreiner in Frankfort, Kentucky; Claire Galofaro and Rebecca Yonker in Louisville, Kentucky; Stephen Lance Dennee in Benton, Kentucky; Jonathan Mattise in Nashville, Tennessee; and Michael Warren and Lisa Marie Pane in Atlanta.

## Federer reaches Australian Open semifinals, will face Chung

By JOHN PYE, AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Roger Federer got cranky at the chair umpire for a technology flaw in his Australian Open quarterfinal match, using the rare emotional outburst as motivation.

It helped. The 36-year-old Federer, now the oldest semifinalist in Melbourne in 41 years, beat long-time rival Tomas Berdych 7-6 (1), 6-3, 6-4 Wednesday and will next face a challenge from the next generation.

That will be against 21-year-old Hyeon Chung, the first South Korean to reach a Grand Slam semifinal and the youngest to reach the last four at a major since 2010.

Federer's victory extended his winning streak to 14 in Australian Open quarterfinals and to nine in a personal rivalry with Berdych that dates back to 2004. The 19-time major champion leads that head-to-head contest 20-6, including all five meetings at Melbourne Park.

Federer had to overcome a shaky start, dropping his opening service game and uncharacteristically questioning chair umpire Fergus Murphy because of a technological fault. With Berdych serving for the first set in the ninth game, Federer had challenged a line call.

After a lengthy delay, Murphy called the control room and confirmed the replay graphic couldn't be displayed on the stadium screen, and also that the original decision stood. When he added that Federer had no challenges remaining for the set, Federer approached the chair and the crowd cheers intensified.

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"Yeah, but you can't steal my challenge," Federer told Murphy. "Do you feel comfortable with this? You're OK with it?"

Seven points later, he eventually broke Berdych to get back on serve, and then won the tiebreaker. The match was as good as over.

"I had to get a bit lucky. A bit angry. A bit frustrated maybe at the umpire," Federer said. "Anyway, glad to get out of that first set. It was key to the match."

Federer later said he just wanted an explanation from the chair, and agreed that blowing off steam helped his cause.

"I was under pressure. It was definitely very close, the turning point," he said. "I played a great breaker. But coming back from 5-2 in the first set, it was clearly big tonight."

Chung beat 97th-ranked Tennys Sandgren 6-4, 7-6 (5), 6-3 in the afternoon match.

He hadn't let up in upset wins over No. 4 Alexander Zverev or six-time Australian Open champion Novak Djokovic, but he let his guard down in the last game against Sandgren and needed six match points to finish it off.

"In last game, I think at 40-love ... if I win one more point, I make history in Korea. I have to think about the ceremony, something," Chung said, explaining how he let his celebrations get slightly ahead of the result. "After deuce, break point. I was like, 'No, nothing to do with ceremony. But just keep playing — keep focused.'"

In an on-court interview, he introduced the audience to his parents and his coach, and took the microphone to speak in Korean to millions of new tennis fans back home.

"I think all the people is watching Australian Open now," he said.

The 58th-ranked Chung is the lowest-ranked man to reach the Australian Open semifinals since Marat Safin in 2004.

With Chung already through, and Kyle Edmund playing No. 6 Marin Cilic in the other half of the draw, it's the first time since 1999 that multiple unseeded players have reached the Australian Open semifinals.

Federer has been keeping an eye on Chung's progress.

"To beat Novak on this court is particularly difficult. ... He's incredibly impressive in his movement, reminds me obviously a lot of Novak," Federer said. "He's clearly got nothing to lose. I will tell myself the same and we'll see what happens."

Chung, who won the inaugural Next Gen ATP Finals title in November, was too consistent for Sandgren, a 26-year-old American who had never won a match at a Grand Slam tournament or beaten a top-10 player until last week.

The women's semifinals were determined earlier Wednesday, when top-ranked Simona Halep recovered from an early break to win nine straight games in a 6-3, 6-2 win over No. 6 Karolina Pliskova, and 2016 Australian Open champion Angelique Kerber routed U.S. Open finalist Madison Keys 6-1, 6-2. In the other semifinal match, No. 2 Caroline Wozniacki will play 22-year-old Elise Mertens.

Halep, a two-time French Open finalist, has had a tough road — having to save match points in a third-round win over Lauren Davis that finished 15-13 in the third — to reach the semifinals at Melbourne Park for the first time.

Kerber, the only major champion still in contention, is riding a 14-match winning streak.

She won the Australian and U.S. Open titles two years ago and reached the No. 1 ranking, but slipped into the 20s last year. She didn't win a title between the 2016 U.S. Open and the Sydney International earlier this month.

"I am just trying to find the feeling back that I had, like 2016," Kerber said, "and just enjoying my time."

## Starbucks gives workers raises, stock grants due to tax law

By JOSEPH PISANI, AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Starbucks is giving its U.S. workers pay raises and stock grants this year, citing recent changes to the tax law.

All employees will soon be able to earn paid sick time off, and the company's parental leave benefits will include all non-birth parents. Starbucks Corp. said Wednesday that the changes affect about 150,000 full-time, part-time, hourly and salaried employees, most of whom work as baristas or shop managers. The new benefits apply to workers at more than 8,200 company-owned stores but not at the 5,700 licensed shops like those found inside supermarkets.

Starbucks is the latest to say it's boosting pay or benefits due to the passage of the Republican tax plan, which slashed the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent. Walmart, for example, raised its starting hourly salary from \$9 to \$11 earlier this month, and also expanded its parental leave benefits.

Beyond changes to the tax law, other factors are affecting retail working conditions. Larger employers are having a hard time attracting and keeping workers because of historically low unemployment rates. Job seekers can be pickier about where they work, and companies are trying to make themselves more attractive. Target had also announced in October that it would raise its starting hourly wage to \$11, and said it would raise wages to \$15 by the end of 2020.

Starbucks said workers will get a pay raise in April, their second increase this year. The company declined to specify how much more workers will be paid or what it pays them now. The job and recruiting site Glassdoor says baristas make about \$9.60 an hour, based on an average of salaries shared by Starbucks employees.

The company will give at least \$500 worth of Starbucks stock in April to employees at stores, support centers or bean roasting plants. Store managers will get \$2,000 in stock grants. Those amounts are on top of what those workers were already going to receive this year, the Seattle-based company said.

All workers will also be able to earn paid sick time off based on the hours they worked starting in July. Previously, only those who worked in states that had sick leave laws were paid for time off due to illness.

Starbucks said the changes will cost the company more than \$250 million.

## 'Enjoy hell:' Doctor's sentence next for assaulting gymnasts

By ED WHITE and MIKE HOUSEHOLDER, Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — After listening to the riveting pleas of more than 150 victims, a judge is set to sentence a Michigan doctor who parlayed his reputation and personal charm into years of sexual abuse by molesting Olympic gymnasts and other young female athletes instead of solving their sports injuries.

Judge Rosemarie Aquilina will hear from a few more victims and then send Larry Nassar to prison Wednesday, the seventh day of a remarkable hearing that has given the girls, young women and their parents a chance to confront him in court. He faces a minimum prison term of 25 to 40 years but it could go higher.

Among those expected to speak on the last day: Rachael Denhollander, a Kentucky woman who contacted Michigan State University police in 2016 after reading reports about how USA Gymnastics, which trains Olympians, mishandled complaints of sexual misconduct. Nassar worked at Michigan State and also was the national gymnastics squad's doctor.

Nassar, 54, eventually pleaded guilty to assaulting seven people in the Lansing area, including Denhollander, but the sentencing hearing has been open to anyone who said they were a victim. His accusers said he would use his ungloved hands to penetrate them, often without explanation, while they were on a table seeking help for various injuries.

The accusers, many of whom were children, said they trusted Nassar to care for them properly, were in denial about what was happening or were afraid to speak up. He sometimes used a sheet or his body to block the view of any parent in the room.

"I'd been told during my entire gymnastics career to not question authority," a former elite gymnast,

Isabell Hutchins, said Tuesday.

The judge is likely to be unsparing in her treatment of Nassar. Aquilina has praised the victims who have appeared in her court since Jan. 16, calling them "sister survivors," while also assuring them that their perpetrator will pay. The women have included Olympians Aly Raisman, Jordyn Wieber and McKayla Maroney.

"Your words are vital. They are as strong as your martial arts," Aquilina told Christina Barba, who has known Nassar for decades and practices karate. "They will take him down quicker and cleaner than any kick you've got."

Hutchins and Mattie Larson, a former national gymnast, talked about how Nassar won their allegiance with candy, Olympic trinkets and encouraging words while they were under constant scrutiny from their demanding coaches.

Brooke Hylek, a gymnast who plans to compete in college, heaped scorn on Nassar.

"I cannot believe I ever trusted you and I will never forgive you," she said Tuesday. "I'm happy you will be spending the rest of your life in prison. Enjoy hell by the way."

Emily Morales had a softer message.

"I want you to apologize to me right here," the 18-year-old told Nassar. "I want to forgive you, but I also want to hear you tell me that you regret all the hurting you caused."

He did. She replied with, "Thank you."

Nassar has already been sentenced to 60 years in federal prison for child pornography crimes. He is scheduled to be sentenced next week on more assault convictions in Eaton County, Michigan.

<sup>White</sup> reported from Detroit.

## US officials defend trade moves as Davos braces for Trump

By JAMEY KEATEN and PAN PYLAS, Associated Press

DAVOS, Switzerland (AP) — The United States is committed to free and fair trade while bracing itself for possible retaliation from China over new tariffs, top U.S. Cabinet members said Wednesday, ahead of a much-ballyhooed visit by President Donald Trump to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

Days after Trump backed new tariffs on imported solar-energy components and large washing machines, his combative commerce secretary, Wilbur Ross, conceded that China could respond by imposing its own tariffs on U.S. products.

"In terms of any trade action you take, there's always potential for retribution or retaliation and that's up to the Chinese to decide," Ross told journalists Wednesday as part of the largest-ever U.S. delegation to the annual Davos gathering of business and political leaders.

Ross insisted that the U.S. government is not protectionist and that the tariffs are meant to deal with what he termed "inappropriate behavior" by other countries.

Many in the Trump administration think that much of the global trading system is rigged against the U.S. and that many countries have not been playing fair, using unfair methods to gain a competitive advantage.

"Trade wars are fought every single day," Ross added. "Unfortunately, every single day there are various parties trying to violate the rules, and trying to take unfair advantage of things ... the difference is that U.S. troops are now coming to the rampart."

Ross said it wasn't for him to set Chinese policy about whether to retaliate or not but he warned that if Beijing were to do so, there would be a question as to what the U.S. in turn would do.

The "America First" strategy that helped Trump win the presidency is partly a reflection of dealing with that apparent rigged system. It's already seen the U.S. withdraw from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, a trade deal with 11 countries, and seek a renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico.

On Tuesday, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi forcefully came out in favor of free trade, and the former used his address to delegates to announce that Canada and the 10 remaining members of the Trans-Pacific Partnership had revised their trade deal in the wake of

the U.S. withdrawal. French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel are also expected to lay out similar visions in favor of free trade and international cooperation when they deliver their addresses later Thursday.

Trump is due to address delegates on Friday and there's been concern among some business and government leaders about what his economic and trade policies could do to the global economy — whether they will bring an end to decades of increasing trade and globalization. Trump's visit has sparked scattered, small protests in Switzerland and some participants among the 3,000 on hand say he's not welcome because of his controversial tweets, "America First" tack, and trade policies.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin brushed off concerns about a possibly tough reception in Davos, saying: "We don't have to worry about this crowd ... Our objective is to be here to interact with important counterparts."

Mnuchin took a softer line than Ross, insisting that the Trump administration believes in "free and fair trade" and just making sure that "U.S. opportunities are equal to other people's opportunities in the U.S."

Mnuchin said Trump's over-riding priority is to boost U.S. growth, and that's something everyone should welcome.

"Economic growth in the U.S. is obviously good for the rest of the world," he said. "We are open for business."

Trump is due to hold meetings with political leaders, including British Prime Minister Theresa May and President Paul Kagame of Rwanda, as well as with business leaders, notably from some big European corporations. He is expected to trumpet his recent tax reform package, which saw corporate tax rates slashed in the U.S., to attract business into the U.S.

Those tax reforms, Mnuchin said, have already reaped big dividends, with many U.S. businesses, including Apple, saying they will repatriate money back into the U.S., pay more taxes and hand out bonuses to staff.

"The response from U.S. business has been even better than we expected," he said. "We couldn't be happier."

Mnuchin also sought to downplay concerns that China was preparing to ease up on its purchases of U.S. Treasuries, an idea that recently surfaced and caused jitters in financial markets, including a fall in the dollar.

He said the U.S. Treasury market is "one of the largest and most liquid in the world" and that the reports about China were "not accurate" and "not something we are particularly concerned about."

Though insisting that matters relating to the short-term value of the dollar were not something he would comment on, Mnuchin said the recent weakness in the dollar is good, as it can help U.S. exporters, for example. Longer-term, he said the strength of the dollar is "a reflection of the strength of the U.S. economy."

On Wednesday, the dollar was down again, hitting three-year lows against the euro, while the pound rose further against the U.S. currency to its highest since before Britain's June 2016 vote to leave the European Union.

## Refugees more than once, Rohingya fear return to Myanmar

By RISHABH R. JAIN, Associated Press

KUTUPALONG REFUGEE CAMP, Bangladesh (AP) — Mohammad Yunus is a refugee for the second time. The 30-year-old Rohingya Muslim, who has been slowly rebuilding a shadow of a normal life in a sprawling and squalid refugee camp in Bangladesh, is no mood to return home to Myanmar.

After Myanmar expressed readiness to start receiving an estimated 680,000 Rohingya Muslims who fled incredible violence over the last five months, Yunus said he would rather die in the camp than go back again to the land of his birth.

"They have been killing Muslims for a long time now," he said. "We run and come to Bangladesh. Then we go back. We come back to Bangladesh, and go back again. They continue the killings."

Yunus first fled with his family in 1991 as a 4-year-old, when his parents joined a wave of 250,000 Rohingya escaping forced labor, religious persecution and attacks from Buddhist mobs in Myanmar's northern Rakhine state, where most Rohingya live. Three years later, the family returned home, fooled, he says, by

the promises made by the U.N. refugee agency and Myanmar's government.

Sixteen years later, Younus found himself again fleeing for his life as Myanmar soldiers and Buddhist mobs unleashed a brutal retaliation after a Rohingya insurgent group attacked dozens of police posts on Aug. 25.

Under heavy international criticism of what U.N. and U.S. officials labeled "ethnic cleansing," Myanmar signed a repatriation deal with Bangladesh to start sending the refugees back this Tuesday.

According to the deal, those who return will first live in transit camps before eventually going back to their villages. But the plan has been delayed after a last-minute announcement by Bangladesh officials, who said they still have to draw up lists of refugees and complete the process of verification. They have not said how long the delay will last. They also reiterated that all returns would be voluntary.

On Tuesday, Myanmar again promised it was ready to begin accepting the Rohingya. But the refugees say they have been on this road before.

"I kept going back because I still have love for my country in my heart," said Abdul Gaffar, a 50-year-old who fled spasms of violence in Myanmar in 1978, 1991, and last year.

"They take us back saying they will give us everything, but don't give us anything," he said. "They say they will meet our demands, but they don't. The government cheats us after taking us back."

The Rohingya trace their history before modern borders were drawn, and have long lived and traded on both sides of what is now the Myanmar-Bangladesh frontier. They have also long been a persecuted minority in Myanmar.

While the recent exodus of Rohingya has spawned one of the largest refugee crises in the world, smaller groups of Rohingya have been fleeing earlier waves of violence since the late 1970s. They are widely derided in Myanmar as "Bengalis," illegal migrants from Bangladesh, and have long been treated as outsiders by the Buddhist majority. In 1982, nearly all Rohingya were stripped of their citizenship rights.

Even if some Rohingya are able to return home, many probably won't recognize what they left behind. Rights groups have described how hundreds of villages across Rakhine state were set on fire after troops and mobs descended to chase out the residents. Homes and crops in the fields were reduced to ashes.

"They gave us back our land but didn't rebuild our home. This is how we have been living," said Younus, recalling when he and his family returned to Myanmar in the mid-1990s. The extended family lived in a small hut that they pooled resources to build, he said, only to abandon it when the attacks started last year.

"When the massacre began this time, when they started shooting and killing everyone, they were chasing after me as well," he said. "But somehow I managed to escape and come here. So I have experienced this ordeal twice. I have been in grief all my life."

## Car bombs kill at least 27 in east Libya city of Benghazi

By RAMI MUSA, Associated Press

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP) — Twin car bombs exploded as people left a mosque in a residential area of the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi, killing 27 and wounding over 30 in an attack timed to cause mass casualties among first responders, officials said.

Capt. Tarek Alkharraz, spokesman for military and police forces in Benghazi, said the first explosion went off in the Salmani neighborhood around 8:20 p.m. Tuesday and the second bomb went off a half hour later as residents and medics gathered to evacuate the wounded.

Local health official Hani Belras Ali said at least 27 people were killed and 32 were wounded.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the bombings.

The United Nations condemned the attack on social media, saying that direct or indiscriminate attacks on civilians are prohibited under international humanitarian law and constitute war crimes.

Libya fell into chaos following the ouster and killing of longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi in 2011, and since 2014 it has been split between rival governments and parliaments based in the western and eastern regions, each backed by different militias and tribes.

Islamic State fighters had established footholds amid the disorder but have been mostly driven out of



the main cities.

Benghazi remains a trouble spot, where bombings and attacks still occur. The city has seen fighting between forces loyal to local strongman Khalifa Hifter, a former U.S.-based Libyan opposition member who leads remnants of Libya's National Army in the east, and Islamist militia opponents.

## Top Democrat rescinds offer of \$25 billion for Trump's wall

By **ANDREW TAYLOR** and **JILL COLVIN**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer has pulled back an offer of \$25 billion for President Donald Trump's long-promised southern border wall, as lawmakers scrambled to figure out how to push a deal to protect 700,000 or more so-called Dreamer immigrants from deportation.

Schumer had made the offer last Friday in a last-ditch effort to head off a government shutdown, then came scalding criticism from his party's liberal activist base that Democrats had given up too easily in reopening the government without more concrete promises on immigration.

"We're going to have to start on a new basis, and the wall offer's off the table," Schumer, D-N.Y., told reporters Tuesday.

The shutdown battle — settled mostly on Trump's terms — complicated the already difficult search for an immigration pact: GOP hard-liners appeared emboldened, while Democrats absorbed withering criticism from progressives. Neither development seemed likely to push the combatants toward the compromises needed to produce a bill that can pass both the tea party-driven House and the more pragmatic Senate.

Still, there were fresh signs of a willingness to keep hunting for a solution, with a flurry of meetings on Capitol Hill and an assessment from White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders that "I don't think they're that far apart."

Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, said he'd been to three meetings Tuesday about immigration. "I know there's a lot of skepticism around here and not much trust," he said, "but I do believe that there is a bona fide bipartisan concern about getting this done."

Even if the Senate can come up with the votes to pass a plan, Democrats fear there is little chance such a bill would gain the support of House Republicans.

"There were no commitments made in the House" as legislators worked to end the government shutdown, House GOP Whip Steve Scalise of Louisiana said Monday, warning against any "amnesty" measure.

Trump weighed in Tuesday via Twitter: "Nobody knows for sure that the Republicans & Democrats will be able to reach a deal on DACA by February 8, but everyone will be trying....with a big additional focus put on Military Strength and Border Security. The Dems have just learned that a Shutdown is not the answer!"

Cornyn, the No. 2 Senate Republican, said Schumer had promised \$25 billion for the wall and other border security measures, though not all of that would have been immediate funding. He called Schumer's withdrawal of the offer "a step backward."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has committed to trying to reach a deal on immigration and key budget issues by Feb. 8, though Cornyn said Monday that "strikes me as highly difficult."

Instead, the Senate appeared more likely to start a freewheeling debate next month.

"Whoever gets 60 votes wins," said McConnell.

And it remained unclear precisely who was taking the lead in the negotiating.

"If you had a tattoo for every group that's forming, you'd have an arm full of them," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., who was working to bring together a new bipartisan group of senators to reach an agreement.

The retreat by Democrats brought an end to the three-day government shutdown, but roiled immigration activists who blasted Democrats for caving to Republicans with nothing gained by the promise of a Senate vote.

"Once again, Dreamers are left behind," said Rep. Adriano Espaillat, D-N.Y.

Trump last year announced that he was ending the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, but gave Congress until March 5 to come up with a legislative fix. With the clock ticking,

Trump appeared to agree to a pair of deals with Democrats, then backed out and demanded more money for a border wall. He also sought an overhaul of the legal immigration system to prevent immigrants from sponsoring their family members and an end to a visa lottery aimed at expanding diversity.

On the House side, the Republican Study Committee, a group of more than 150 lawmakers, announced its support for a bill written by Reps. Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., Raúl Labrador, R-Idaho, and Michael McCaul, R-Texas. Their plan would offer DACA recipients a three-year renewal of legal status, allowing them to continue to live and work in the country with no special path to citizenship. It also contains a host of stringent features that are anathema to Democrats, including reducing legal immigration by 25 percent, adding border patrol agents and denying certain funding to cities that refuse to cooperate with federal immigration authorities.

The White House endorsed that bill, and it appeared to be gaining traction among conservatives. NumbersUSA, a group that advocates for reduced immigration, announcing its support Tuesday.

Associated Press writer Luis Alonso Lugo contributed to this report. Follow Taylor and Colvin on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/APAndrewTaylor> and <https://twitter.com/colvinj>

## Sessions questioned in Russia probe, Trump may be up soon

By ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Jeff Sessions was questioned for hours in the special counsel's Russia investigation, the Justice Department said, as prosecutors moved closer to a possible interview with President Donald Trump about whether he took steps to obstruct an FBI probe into contacts between Russia and his 2016 campaign.

The interview with Sessions last week makes him the highest-ranking Trump administration official, and first Cabinet member, known to have submitted to questioning. It came as special counsel Robert Mueller investigates whether Trump's actions in office, including the firing of FBI Director James Comey, constitute improper efforts to stymie the FBI investigation.

With many of Trump's closest aides having now been questioned, the president and his lawyers are preparing for the prospect of an interview that would likely focus on some of the same obstruction questions. Expected topics for any sit-down with Mueller, who has expressed interest in speaking with Trump, would include not only Comey's firing but also interactions the fired FBI director has said unnerved him, including a request from the president that he end an investigation into a top White House official.

In the Oval Office on Tuesday, Trump said he was "not at all concerned" about what Sessions may have told the Mueller team.

The recent questioning of the country's chief law enforcement officer shows the investigators' determined interest in the obstruction question that has been at the heart of the investigation for months through interviews of many current and former White House officials.

Sessions himself is a potentially important witness given his role as a key Trump surrogate on the campaign trail and his direct involvement in the May 9 firing of Comey, which he advocated. The White House initially said the termination was done on the recommendation of the Justice Department and cited as justification a memo from Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein that faulted Comey for his handling of the Hillary Clinton email server investigation.

But Trump said later that he was thinking of "this Russia thing" when he fired Comey, and he had decided to make the move even before the Justice Department's recommendations.

Sessions was one of Trump's earliest and most loyal allies, the first senator to endorse him during the presidential campaign and then a key national security adviser. He was present for an April 2016 Trump foreign policy speech at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, where he spoke with the Russian ambassador to the United States. He also attended a meeting a month earlier with campaign aides including George Papadopoulos, a foreign policy adviser who pleaded guilty last year to lying to the FBI.

Sessions may well have been asked during his Mueller interview about any interactions he had with

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Papadopoulos, as well as about his own encounters during the campaign with the Russian ambassador. He might also be able to supply information about White House efforts to discourage him from recusing himself from the Russia investigation, which he did last March after acknowledging two previously undisclosed encounters with the ambassador. And he may also have been asked about an episode from last February in which Comey says Trump cleared the room of Sessions and other officials before encouraging him to end an investigation into fired national security adviser Michael Flynn.

Mueller has been investigating the events leading up to Flynn's dismissal from the White House in February. Comey says he documented that conversation in a memo, one of a series of contemporaneous notes he kept of conversations with the president that troubled him. The New York Times, which first reported the interview with Sessions, said that investigators spoke to Comey last year about his memos.

Over the past several months, Mueller's investigators have spoken with other people close to the president, including White House counsel Don McGahn, former chief of staff Reince Priebus and Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, in the probe of campaign contacts with Russia and possible obstruction.

Mueller has conveyed interest in speaking with the president, and White House attorney Ty Cobb has said that is "under active discussion" with Trump's individual lawyers. He said last week on a CBS News' political podcast, "The Takeout," that he expected the investigation to be wrapped up within weeks.

"There's no reason for it not to conclude soon," Cobb said. "Soon to me would be in the next four to six weeks."

Though Trump and Sessions during the campaign shared an ambitious law-and-order agenda, and even though the attorney general has continued to push the president's priorities, his recusal decision has strained their bond. Since then, Trump has lashed out repeatedly on Twitter at Sessions and the Justice Department, and the two men now rarely speak directly. Trump saw the recusal as weak and disloyal, believing his attorney general should be doing more to protect him.

People familiar with the matter have told The Associated Press that McGahn had contacted Sessions to urge him to retain control of the investigation. McGahn was acting at the behest of the president, according to one of those people, who spoke only on condition of anonymity to discuss the investigation.

Rosenstein appointed Mueller to take over the Russia investigation a week after Comey was fired. He oversees the work of Mueller's investigators, but he told the AP in an interview last June that he, too, would recuse himself if his actions ever became relevant to the probe. He was questioned by Mueller's team months ago, according to people familiar with the matter.

Sessions' attorney, Chuck Cooper, declined to comment.

Four people have so far been charged in the Mueller investigation, including Flynn and former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort. Flynn and Papadopoulos have pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI.

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Follow Eric Tucker on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/etuckerAP>

Associated Press writers Sadie Gurman and Catherine Lucey contributed to this report.

## **Ursula K. Le Guin, best-selling science fiction author, dies**

**By GILLIAN FLACCUS and HILLEL ITALIE, Associated Press**

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Ursula K. Le Guin, the award-winning science fiction and fantasy writer who explored feminist themes and was best known for her Earthsea books, has died at 88.

Le Guin died suddenly and peacefully Monday at her home in Portland, Oregon, after several weeks of health concerns, her son, Theo Downes-Le Guin said Tuesday.

"She left an extraordinary legacy as an artist and as an advocate of peace and critical thinking and fairness, and she was a great mother and wife as well," he said.

"Godspeed into the galaxy," Stephen King tweeted, saying Le Guin was a literary icon, not just a science fiction writer.

Le Guin won an honorary National Book Award in 2014 and warned in her acceptance speech against letting profit define what is considered good literature.

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Despite being a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 1997 — a rare achievement for a science fiction-fantasy writer — she often criticized the “commercial machinery of bestsellerdom and prizedom.”

“I really don’t want to watch American literature get sold down the river,” Le Guin said in the speech. “We who live by writing and publishing want — and should demand — our fair share of the proceeds. But the name of our beautiful reward is not profit. Its name is freedom.”

Le Guin’s first novel was “Rocannon’s World” in 1966 but she gained fame three years later with “The Left Hand of Darkness,” which won the Hugo and Nebula awards — top science fiction prizes — and conjures a radical change in gender roles well before the rise of the transgender community.

The book imagines a future society in which people are equally male and female and also dramatizes the perils of tyranny, violence and conformity.

Her best-known works, the Earthsea books, have sold in the millions worldwide and have been translated into 16 languages. She also produced volumes of short stories, poetry, essays and literature for young adults.

Le Guin’s work also won the Newbery Medal, the top honor for American children’s literature. Last year, she was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

“I know that I am always called ‘the sci-fi writer.’ Everybody wants to stick me into that one box, while I really live in several boxes,” she told reviewer Mark Wilson of Scifi.com.

Neil Gaiman, a fellow Newbery, Hugo and Nebula recipient, mourned her death on Twitter and called Le Guin “the deepest and smartest of the writers.”

“Her words are always with us. Some of them are written on my soul,” he wrote.

A longtime feminist, Le Guin earned degrees from Radcliffe and Columbia. Her 1983 “Left-Handed Commencement Address” at Mills College was ranked one of the top 100 speeches of the 20th century in a 1999 survey by researchers at the University of Wisconsin and Texas A&M University.

“Why should a free woman with a college education either fight Machoman or serve him?” she told the graduates. “Why should she live her life on his terms? ... I hope you live without the need to dominate, and without the need to be dominated.”

Born in Berkeley, California, on Oct. 21, 1929, Le Guin described a well-off childhood even during the Depression, with summers in the countryside. Her success followed an early setback: At age 11, she had her first offering rejected by *Amazing Stories*, the pioneering science fiction magazine.

“During the Second World War, my brothers all went into service and the summers in the Valley became lonely ones, just me and my parents in the old house,” she told sfsite.com, another science fiction website.

“There was no TV then; we turned on the radio once a day to get the war news. Those summers of solitude and silence, a teenager wandering the hills on my own, no company, ‘nothing to do,’ were very important to me. I think I started making my soul then,” she said.

She married Charles Le Guin in Paris in 1953. They moved to Portland and had three children.

Her themes ranged from children’s literature to explorations of Taoism, feminism, anarchy, psychology and sociology to tales of a society where reading and writing are punishable by death and of a scientist who battles aliens to save the world.

Critic Harold Bloom placed her in the pantheon of fantasy writers along with JRR Tolkien.

“Sometimes I think I am just trying to superstitiously avert evil by talking about it,” she told sfsite.com. “Throughout my whole adult life, I have watched us blighting our world irrevocably ... ignoring every warning and neglecting every benevolent alternative in pursuit of ‘growth.’”

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Italie reported from New York.

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Follow Gillian Flaccus on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/gflaccus>

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This story has been corrected to reflect the correct title for “Rocannon’s World.”

## Big quake and tsunami fears rattle temblor-prone Alaskans

By RACHEL D'ORO and BECKY BOHRER, Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — When it comes to earthquakes, Alaskans are major pros. But even they get rattled by the strong ones, as Tuesday's early morning shaker proved.

In the popular cruise-ship town of Seward, about 110 miles (177 kilometers) south of Anchorage, Fire Chief Eddie Athey said the quake lasted for up to 90 seconds.

"It went on long enough that you start thinking to yourself, 'Boy, I hope this stops soon because it's just getting worse,'" Athey said.

The magnitude 7.9 quake in the Gulf of Alaska triggered the jarring alert that roused people shortly after midnight Tuesday. Even for Alaskans accustomed to tsunami threats and tsunami drills, the phone message was alarming. It read: "Emergency Alert. Tsunami danger on the coast. Go to high ground or move inland. Listen to local news."

After the alert, people grabbed blankets and suitcases and hustled to evacuation centers or schools in the middle of the night.

The monster waves never materialized, but people who fled endured hours of tense waiting before they were cleared to return home.

Tina Anderson, clerk of the Aleutians East Borough, was awakened by the quake at her home in Sand Point, an island fishing community about 570 miles (917 kilometers) southwest of Anchorage. Anderson, who lives on high ground, called friends in vulnerable areas to make sure they moved to an evacuation center at the school or to friends with homes on higher ground.

A short while later, a police officer drove through the lower-lying parts of the community with his siren blaring and a loudspeaker telling people to evacuate.

People monitored the event by social media.

"Everyone was on Facebook, seeing what was going on," Anderson said. "I was monitoring, actually, the Kodiak Police Department Facebook page. They were posting things regularly. I knew we were after them if something were to hit."

When Sand Point Police Chief Hal Henning learned the projected tsunami landfall was 2 a.m., he jumped into his patrol car to start alerting residents to move to high ground, starting with people sleeping on boats in the harbor or at the seafood processing plant.

Winds gusting to 60 mph (97 kph) made it hard to hear community warning sirens. The patrol car siren and loudspeaker siren were easier to hear, he said. Some people walked to the emergency center at the school. Others drove, offering pedestrians rides in the back of pickups and flatbed trucks, Henning said. Eventually hundreds of people crowded into the school gymnasium.

"I would say it was a huge success," Henning said of the evacuation.

There were no reports of damage, not even on Kodiak Island, the closest land to the epicenter. Tuesday's quake was recorded at 12:32 a.m. in the Pacific Ocean about 170 miles (274 kilometers) southeast of Kodiak, home to one of the nation's largest Coast Guard bases.

It prompted the warning across thousands of miles of Alaska's southern coast, from Attu in the Aleutian Islands to Canada's border with Washington state. Kodiak is about 200 miles (321 kilometers) south of Anchorage, the state's largest city, which was not under a tsunami threat. Elsewhere in the United States, Washington state, Oregon, California and Hawaii were under tsunami watches, which eventually were lifted. Officials in Japan say there was no tsunami threat there.

In Alaska, people reported on social media that the quake was felt hundreds of miles away in Anchorage. Reports varied about how long the quake's shaking lasted, depending on location.

The quake was a type that usually produces less vertical motion, which means less chance for waves to build for a tsunami, said Paul Earle, a seismologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. That was somewhat unusual, because quakes in the area usually are a type that cause more vertical motion and increase the chance for a tsunami, he said.

The quake was the planet's strongest since an 8.2 magnitude in Mexico in September.

Kodiak resident Ted Panamarioff survived Alaska's 1964 earthquake, which was magnitude 9.2 and gen-

erated tsunamis that killed 129 people and wreaked widespread devastation — events that remain vivid in the memories of many Alaskans. Panamarioff's father died in the ensuing tsunami, he said.

To Panamarioff, Tuesday's quake felt far milder, although it did wake him up.

He was never worried about killer waves. His home, he said, is too far inland.

"If anything happened, if there was a tsunami, it'd have to be one hell of a big tsunami to get me where I'm at," he said. "And then there wouldn't be a city left."

Bohrer reported from Juneau, Alaska. Contributing to this report were Associated Press writers Mark Thiessen and Dan Joling in Anchorage, Rob Gillies in Toronto, Ken Moritsugu in Tokyo and Seth Borenstein in Washington, D.C.

## DA seeks to bar parents from contacting 13 kids kept captive

By MICHAEL BALSAMO and EMILY SCHMALL, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The parents accused of torturing 12 of their children and keeping them chained to beds for months and so malnourished their growth was stunted will appear in court Wednesday as prosecutors ask a judge to bar them from contacting their kids.

The court proceeding is the latest step as authorities seek to sever ties between David and Louise Turpin and their 13 children — between 2 and 29 years old — who were rescued from their home in Perris, California, on Jan. 14. They have pleaded not guilty to torture, abuse and other charges.

Riverside County prosecutors are seeking a protective order that would prohibit the Turpins from having any contact with their children, district attorney's office spokesman John Hall said.

The case has attention from around the world and about 20 people from across the U.S., including nurses and psychologists, have offered to take the seven adult children and six minors and keep them together. The Riverside University Health System Foundation, which is collecting money for the siblings, so far has received 1,500 donations totaling \$120,000, spokeswoman Kim Trone said.

Sheriff's deputies arrested the husband and wife after their 17-year-old daughter climbed out a window and called 911. Authorities found the siblings in the family's filthy California home, three of whom were shackled to beds. Neighbors and relatives said they were unaware of the children's treatment until authorities arrested the parents and revealed what they found inside.

In a heart-wrenching Facebook post, a former classmate of the oldest Turpin sibling recalled that she was picked on as a grade school student in Texas.

Taha Muntajibuddin, who attended kindergarten through third grade with her in Fort Worth, Texas, described her as "a frail girl, had pin-straight hair with bangs, and often wore the same purple outfit." After learning of the case, he shared on Facebook his "overwhelming sense of guilt and shame" over how she was treated.

He wrote that it was jarring to learn that the girl, who was teased in school for being smelly, "quite literally had to sit in her own waste because she was chained to her bed."

Muntajibuddin said he is hopeful his former classmate can recover and lived an enriched life.

He said despite being bullied by her peers, she "was still one of the most pleasant people I have had the opportunity to meet. She had this whimsical optimism to her that couldn't be dampened, couldn't be doused no matter what anybody threw at her."

The AP is not naming the siblings because of the severity of abuse allegations, which are still under investigation. The AP also has not been able to talk to the children, including the 29-year-old, or anyone who can speak on their behalf.

Another classmate, Stephanie Hernandez, told the AP in a Facebook message that the girl was quiet and always wore dirt-stained jeans that were too small. Hernandez said she often was bullied.

"I remember someone kind of slung her around like a rag doll," said Hernandez, a registered nurse in Mansfield, Texas.

Schmall reported from Fort Worth, Texas. Associated Press writer Amy Taxin contributed from Santa Ana.

## **Oprah visits Alabama grave of woman honored in Globes speech**

ABBEVILLE, Ala. (AP) — Oprah Winfrey has visited the grave of a black Alabama woman whose rape by six white men in 1944 drew national attention and whose story was highlighted in Winfrey's recent Golden Globes speech.

Winfrey said in an Instagram post that on assignment for "60 Minutes," she ended up in the town of Abbeville where Recy Taylor suffered injustice, endured and recently died.

Taylor was 24 when she was abducted and raped as she walked home from church in Abbeville. The NAACP assigned Rosa Parks to investigate the case, and she rallied support for justice for Taylor.

Two all-white, all-male grand juries decline to indict the men who admitted they assaulted her.

Taylor died in December, just before her 98th birthday.

## **Powell taking over as Fed chairman at time of economic calm**

**By MARTIN CRUTSINGER, AP Economics Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) — It would seem like a pretty good time to take over as chairman of the Federal Reserve.

Jerome Powell has won Senate confirmation to head the U.S. central bank, inheriting an economy on a roll, a booming stock market and unemployment at a 17-year low.

He will succeed Janet Yellen, the first woman to serve as Fed chairman, when her term ends on Feb. 3. The position is considered the government's most powerful economic job.

But while the immediate horizon appears clear, Powell faces the risk that today's sturdy economy, low inflation and rising stock market could reverse course in the coming months or years, forcing him to come up with the right remedies.

One of the biggest threats could come from inflation, which over the past six years has been extremely low. Some forecasters, however, worry that the days of benign inflation readings could be coming to an end, especially if tight labor markets lead to accelerating wage gains.

There is also the concern that the stock market, which has been soaring to record highs, could get thrown into reverse if investors begin to worry about rising interest rates.

Yellen and other Fed officials have emphasized that they hope to remain on a course of gradual rate hikes but they have warned that if inflation does start to accelerate, they may be forced to apply the brakes more forcefully by raising interest rates more quickly.

That is the type of scenario that in the past has brought an end to economic recoveries. And this expansion is already the third longest in U.S. history. But for the moment, those threats remain just that — threats. In fact, some Fed officials are not convinced that inflation is on the verge of picking up steam and in fact, they have argued that the central bank may need to slow down rather than accelerate its rate hikes.

That is the economic landscape that Powell inherits following his confirmation for the chairman's job by a Senate vote of 84-13 on Tuesday.

President Donald Trump tapped Powell for the job after deciding against offering Yellen a second four-year term as chair despite widespread praise for her performance since succeeding Ben Bernanke.

Powell, 64, has served for 5½ years on the Fed's board. A lawyer and investment manager by training, he will be the first Fed leader in 40 years without an advanced degree in economics. Many expect him to follow Yellen's cautious approach to interest rates.

Powell, viewed as a centrist, enjoyed support from Republicans and Democrats.

The 13 senators who voted against Powell's nomination included four Republicans, eight Democrats and Sen. Bernie Sanders, an independent who votes with the Democrats.

One of the dissenters, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., said she was concerned that Powell "will roll back critical rules that help guard against another financial crisis."

During the presidential race, Trump was critical of the role the Fed played in implementing the Dodd-Frank Act, the 2010 law that tightened banking regulations after the 2008 financial crisis. Trump and many Republicans in Congress contended that the stricter regulations were too burdensome for financial

institutions and were a key reason why economic growth since the Great Recession ended in 2009 had been lackluster.

Powell has signaled that he favors ways to make bank regulations less onerous, especially for smaller community banks.

Trump will be able to essentially remake the Fed's board during his first two years in office. He has already filled the key post of vice chairman for regulation with Randal Quarles. The president has also nominated Marvin Goodfriend, a conservative economist, for another vacancy on the board.

In addition, he can fill three more vacancies on the seven-member board, including the key spot of Fed vice chairman, which has been vacant since Stanley Fischer left in October.

All told, the vacancies will have given Trump the ability to fill six of the seven board positions with his own choices. Lael Brainard will remain the lone board member not to have been chosen by Trump.

Powell, known as a collegial consensus-builder, could help serve as a steadying force for the U.S. economy as well as a unifying figure among the central bank's policymakers. As a Fed governor, Powell has never dissented from a central bank decision.

Educated at Princeton University with a law degree from Georgetown, Powell, known as Jay, spent many years in investment management — at Dillon Read and then at the Carlyle Group. His work there made him one of the wealthiest figures to serve on the Fed board: His most recent financial disclosure form places his wealth at between \$19.7 million and \$55 million. And based on how government disclosures are drafted, his wealth may actually be closer to \$100 million.

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Associated Press Business Writer Marcy Gordon contributed to this report.

## **Ex-gymnast tells disgraced doctor: 'You only hurt me'**

**By ED WHITE and MIKE HOUSEHOLDER, Associated Press**

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — A former elite gymnast said Tuesday that a sports doctor who treated Olympic athletes overlooked what turned out to be a broken leg while he molested her in the basement of his home, one of the latest victims to testify at a Michigan sentencing hearing for Larry Nassar.

Isabell Hutchins practiced for weeks at a Lansing-area gymnastics club and even competed at national events despite acute leg pain as a teen in 2011. She said Nassar did nothing to encourage her to get help and instead molested her during late-night appointments at his home.

"You were never a real doctor. You did not heal me. You only hurt me," Hutchins told Nassar, who was seated a few feet away in the Ingham County courtroom as the sentencing phase reached a sixth day.

Nassar has admitted sexually assaulting athletes when he was employed by Michigan State University and USA Gymnastics, which is the sport's national governing organization and trains Olympians. His accusers said he would use his ungloved hands to penetrate them, often without explanation, while they were on a table seeking treatment for a variety of injuries.

The accusers, many of whom were children, said they trusted Nassar to treat them properly, were in denial about what was happening or were afraid to speak up. He sometimes used a sheet or his body to block the view of any parent in the room.

"I'd been told during my entire gymnastics career to not question authority," Hutchins said.

Nassar, 54, pleaded guilty to assaulting seven people in the Lansing area, but the sentencing hearing has been open to anyone who said they were a victim. More than 150 women and girls have confronted him in court or had a statement read on their behalf since Jan. 16.

Judge Rosemarie Aquilina will sentence Nassar on Wednesday after hearing from a few more accusers. Under a plea deal, he faces a minimum of 25 to 40 years behind bars, although the actual punishment could be much higher. He already has been sentenced to 60 years in federal prison for child pornography crimes.

The mother of a victim, Anne Swinehart, beseeched those following the case to "quit shaming and



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blaming the parents.”

“Trust me,” she said, “you would not have known, and you would not have done anything differently. So stop.”

Aquilina, who has made it a practice to praise each speaker, tried to ease Swinehart’s feelings about letting her daughter down.

“The red flags may have been there, but they were designed to be hidden. Leave the blame here with him,” the judge said of Nassar.

She subsequently heard from Mattie Larson, a former member of the national gymnastics team, who said Nassar’s fingers “always seemed to find a way” to her genitals, even when he was supposed to be treating her for ankle and foot injuries.

Some of the accusers have criticized Michigan State, USA Gymnastics and the U.S. Olympic Committee for not doing enough to stop Nassar, and Larson also gave an unflattering portrayal of the Karolyi ranch outside Huntsville, Texas, where the national team trained. She said it was very remote, the “perfect environment” for Nassar and abusive coaches “to thrive.”

USA Gymnastics last week said the ranch would no longer serve as the national training center, and the NCAA confirmed late Tuesday that it had sent a letter of inquiry to Michigan State regarding potential rules violations related to Nassar’s assaults. Among his victims were former Michigan State student-athletes.

The opening of the NCAA investigation was initially reported by The New York Times.

Meanwhile, a senior member of Michigan State’s governing board said President Lou Anna Simon will not be forced out over the Nassar scandal — “period.” Joel Ferguson said she’s been the best leader in his 30 years as a trustee.

“There’s so many more things going on at the university than just this Nassar thing,” Ferguson told radio station WVFN.

He suggested victims who are suing Michigan State will be compensated for the acts of a “pervert.” A former federal prosecutor hired by the school has said there is no evidence that campus officials knew what Nassar was doing, although some victims said they complained years ago.

Later Tuesday, The Detroit Free Press reported that Ferguson apologized for his comments through a spokeswoman, who said he “deeply regrets the inadvertent comment” that “trivialized the experience of the victims of Larry Nassar.”

White reported from Detroit. Associated Press writer David Eggert in Lansing contributed to this report.

## US pulled multiple ways in Syria as Islamic State recedes

By **MATTHEW LEE and JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — For the last few years, the United States could neatly sum its objective in Syria in a single, uncontroversial bullet point: fighting the Islamic State group. Now that the extremists have been squeezed from all but the last bits of their former territory, the Trump administration is struggling to define the boundaries of its mission, and how and when America’s lengthy engagement will end.

A crisis between the U.S. and Turkey, triggered by the latter’s new military offensive in Syria, has laid bare how a dizzying array of alliances in Syria is growing even more convoluted in the absence of IS as a major force. Either the Americans must abandon the Kurds who fought alongside them in Syria, or a profound rift with a NATO ally appears all but inevitable.

Although Turkey has long been incensed by U.S. military support for Syrian Kurdish fighters, calling them terrorists, the U.S. could make a compelling case while the Kurds spearheaded the anti-IS fight. As IS recedes as an immediate threat, the legs of that argument are falling away, fueling growing Turkish outrage that even the Trump administration acknowledges has some merit.

“This is a tough circle to square. It’s the ultimate in heavy diplomatic lifting,” said Frederic Hof, who oversaw Syria policy in the Obama administration’s first term and is now at the Atlantic Council.

The Islamic State’s retreat also has forced the U.S. to stretch thinner its legal rationale for operating in

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Syria. Doing so has raised delicate questions about whether Congress and the American people have truly signed off on a mandate for Syria that goes far beyond killing terrorists.

Senior Trump administration officials said they need no additional authorization to be in Syria because IS remains a serious and persistent threat, requiring a continued U.S. presence to ensure it doesn't regroup and again imperil Syria's future. To keep IS on its heels, America's military, diplomats and aid workers will work to stabilize the country and restore basic services in areas freed from IS control, while trying anew to engineer a political solution to the intractable civil war whose chaos IS so effectively exploited.

Such arguments create another problem, especially for a president often eager to claim successes: Trump cannot declare victory of any sort against IS in Syria without empowering those who argue IS' defeat means the U.S. has no business staying in Syria.

Small pockets of IS fighters still active in eastern Syria back up the U.S. justification — for now. On Tuesday, American airstrikes killed up to 150 IS fighters at a command center in the area known as the Middle Euphrates River Valley, the U.S.-led coalition said. The U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces — comprised largely of Kurdish fighters — helped.

The U.S. sees another threat in al-Qaida's potential resurgence. It also wants to stem Iran's growing influence in Syria and Russia's support for Syrian President Bashar Assad. With Moscow's help, Assad's forces have moved into territory once held by Washington-backed rebels.

The Trump administration's messaging Tuesday highlighted Syria's combustible mix of conundrums for the United States.

In Asia, Defense Secretary James Mattis chastised Turkey for its offensive against the Kurds. And Secretary of State Rex Tillerson in Paris and U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley at the United Nations renewed accusations of Russian complicity in chemical weapons use, following claims of a new attack this week outside Damascus.

"Whoever conducted the attacks, Russia ultimately bears responsibility for the victims," Tillerson said at a meeting designed to ensure accountability for chemical weapons strikes. He noted Russia has twice vetoed U.N. Security Council resolutions to allow inspection teams to prolong and expand probes of alleged chemical attacks.

Trying to explain America's Syria policy last week, Tillerson said the U.S. would retain a military presence there for the foreseeable future to prevent IS or al-Qaida from regaining territory. He cited another objective, too: assisting with reconstruction projects to encourage Syrians to reject Assad.

Turkey's angst about growing Kurdish strength near its border boiled over in recent days with the Turks launching a military operation against Afrin, a Kurdish-held enclave in northern Syria.

Turkey considers Syrian Kurdish forces to be intrinsically linked to the PKK, an insurgency the Turks have battled for decades. The U.S. concurs that PKK fighters are terrorists, but insists that its Kurdish partners in Syria are unconnected to that group.

Turkey and the Kurds, who led the offensive to retake the former IS capital of Raqqa, feel entitled to U.S. support. So the Trump administration has tried to split the difference, acknowledging Turkey's security concerns while urging "restraint." That balance hasn't quelled the situation.

"The violence in Afrin disrupts what was a relatively stable area of Syria," Mattis lamented in Indonesia. "It distracts from the international efforts to ensure the defeat of ISIS."

For the Kurds, an ethnic minority in multiple countries of the region who've been abandoned by more powerful allies before, the result could be worse than distraction. The U.N. says an estimated 5,000 people have been displaced by fighting in northern Syria, and it's unclear what the U.S. is willing to do to calm the situation.

Asked if Washington had a moral obligation to the Kurds, senior U.S. officials who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity said Trump's "America first" doctrine dictated that the U.S. always prioritize its own interests.

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Lee reported from Paris. AP National Security Writer Robert Burns in Jakarta, Indonesia, contributed to this report.

## Skepticism, worry amid preparation for Rohingya repatriation

By FOSTER KLUG, Associated Press

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — Myanmar says it's ready for a gradual repatriation of Muslim Rohingya refugees chased out by the Buddhist-majority country's military. Bangladesh says it's preparing for the transfer, but it might need more time.

And the refugees themselves?

In interviews in recent weeks with dozens of the nearly 700,000 Rohingya who've poured into Bangladesh since August in what's become the world's worst refugee crisis, The Associated Press has found deep skepticism, if not outright terror, about returning to a place where they say their homes were burned, their wives, sisters and mothers raped, and their friends and neighbors slaughtered.

The two nations' border seemed calm Tuesday, despite some sense, in Myanmar, at least, that the proposed transfer of refugees might still go forward.

"No matter what, from our side, Myanmar is ready to start the process, but Bangladesh may have difficulties, causing a delay in sending refugees back," said Win Myat Aye, Myanmar's social welfare minister.

If the desires of the refugees themselves are considered, it won't happen any time soon. In the sprawling camps that cover the hills south of Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, along the border with Myanmar, the Rohingya say they want to return to their burned villages, but only with strong outside monitoring of their safety and living conditions.

"How can we go back to Myanmar without anyone guaranteeing our security," said Alam, a Rohingya in the Bulakhali refugee camp in Bangladesh, who, like many Rohingya, goes only by one name. "If we would be given homes in our villages that were burned, then we will go back."

More than 680,000 Rohingya have fled to Bangladesh to escape a crackdown by Myanmar's military that began following attacks by a Rohingya militant group on Aug. 25. The United Nations and the United States have described the crackdown as "ethnic cleansing." The U.N. human rights chief has also suggested that it may be genocide.

The two countries have agreed to a two-year repatriation process set to begin Tuesday. But officials in Bangladesh on Monday said a number of issues remained unresolved, in particular worries that refugees were being forced to return.

Abul Kalam, a Bangladesh relief official, said by phone from Cox's Bazar that officials are preparing lists of potential returnees.

"We are doing our work. This is a human process, and it needs the preparing of lists, proper verification, coordination with Myanmar and other departments and agencies here," he said. "Both sides have agreed to execute it and the process has started. I don't see any problem in implementing the deal."

There's little sign of that, however, at the border.

A local government official, Khaleda Begum, called the border calm. She told the AP that she saw two men and one woman with their belongings enter Bangladesh in the morning from Myanmar.

"I asked them who they are," she said. "They told me they were coming from Myanmar to get to Kutupalong (refugee) camp."

Win Myat Aye said Myanmar has provided Bangladesh with a list of 700 Rohingya and 400 Hindu refugees who have been verified as eligible for repatriation. Only refugees with identity documents — which most Rohingya lack — will be allowed back into Myanmar.

Many in Myanmar see Rohingya as illegal migrants from Bangladesh, although many families have lived in Myanmar for generations. They have been denied citizenship, freedom of movement and other basic rights.

Though a total of more than 1 million Rohingya Muslims are living in refugee camps in Bangladesh, international aid workers, local officials and the refugees themselves say preparations for repatriation are far from complete.

Myanmar Union Minister Thaung Tun told reporters Tuesday that his country is "ready to receive those who will be coming across the border."

Thaung Tun said Myanmar is currently prepared to receive 300 returnees a day and "the number could

increase based on the progress of the first batch that will be coming across."

The two countries have signed an agreement to begin sending people home in "safety, security and dignity," but rights groups have expressed worry about Rohingya returning to villages they left only months ago in terror. According to the U.N. refugee agency and other rights groups, Rohingya are still fleeing across the border into Bangladesh, although the numbers are smaller than in previous months.

"As of today, the necessary safeguards for potential returnees are absent, and there are continued restrictions on access for aid agencies, the media and other independent observers," UNHCR spokesman Adrian Edwards said in Geneva on Tuesday.

Associated Press writer Julhas Alam in Dhaka, Bangladesh, and Esther Htusan contributed to this story.

## Schumer takes back wall offer in new immigration push

By **ANDREW TAYLOR** and **JILL COLVIN**, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Top Senate Democrat Chuck Schumer on Tuesday pulled back an offer of \$25 billion for President Donald Trump's long-promised southern border wall, as lawmakers scrambled to figure out how to push a deal to protect 700,000 or more so-called Dreamer immigrants from deportation.

Schumer had made the offer last Friday in a last-ditch effort to head off a government shutdown, then came scalding criticism from his party's liberal activist base that Democrats had given up too easily in reopening the government without more concrete promises on immigration.

"We're going to have to start on a new basis, and the wall offer's off the table," Schumer, D-N.Y., told reporters Tuesday.

The shutdown battle — settled mostly on Trump's terms — complicated the already difficult search for an immigration pact: GOP hard-liners appeared emboldened, while Democrats absorbed withering criticism from progressives. Neither development seemed likely to push the combatants toward the compromises needed to produce a bill that can pass both the tea party-driven House and the more pragmatic Senate.

Still, there were fresh signs of a willingness to keep hunting for a solution, with a flurry of meetings on Capitol Hill and an assessment from White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders that "I don't think they're that far apart."

Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, said he'd been to three meetings Tuesday about immigration. "I know there's a lot of skepticism around here and not much trust," he said, "but I do believe that there is a bona fide bipartisan concern about getting this done."

Even if the Senate can come up with the votes to pass a plan, Democrats fear there is little chance such a bill would gain the support of House Republicans.

"There were no commitments made in the House" as legislators worked to end the government shutdown, House GOP Whip Steve Scalise of Louisiana said Monday, warning against any "amnesty" measure.

Trump weighed in Tuesday via Twitter: "Nobody knows for sure that the Republicans & Democrats will be able to reach a deal on DACA by February 8, but everyone will be trying....with a big additional focus put on Military Strength and Border Security. The Dems have just learned that a Shutdown is not the answer!"

Cornyn, the No. 2 Senate Republican, said Schumer had promised a \$25 billion figure for the wall and other border security measures, though not all of that would have been immediate funding. He called Schumer's withdrawal of the offer "a step backward."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., has committed to trying to reach a deal on immigration and key budget issues by Feb. 8, though Cornyn said Monday that "strikes me as highly difficult."

Instead, the Senate appeared more likely to start a freewheeling debate next month.

"Whoever gets 60 votes wins," said McConnell.

And it remained unclear precisely who was taking the lead in the negotiating.

"If you had a tattoo for every group that's forming, you'd have an arm full of them," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., who was working to bring together a new bipartisan group of senators to reach an agreement.

The retreat by Democrats brought an end to the three-day government shutdown, but roiled immigration activists who blasted Democrats for caving to Republicans with nothing gained by the promise of a Senate vote.

"Once again, Dreamers are left behind," said Rep. Adriano Espaillat, D-N.Y.

Trump last year announced that he was ending the Obama-era Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, but gave Congress until March 5 to come up with a legislative fix. With the clock ticking, Trump appeared to agree to a pair of deals with Democrats, then backed out and demanded more money for a border wall. He also sought an overhaul of the legal immigration system to prevent immigrants from sponsoring their family members and an end to a visa lottery aimed at expanding diversity.

On the House side, the Republican Study Committee, a group of more than 150 lawmakers, announced its support for a bill written by Reps. Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., Raúl Labrador, R-Idaho, and Michael McCaul, R-Texas. Their plan would offer DACA recipients a three-year renewal of legal status, allowing them to continue to live and work in the country with no special path to citizenship. It also contains a host of stringent features that are anathema to Democrats, including reducing legal immigration by 25 percent, adding border patrol agents and denying certain funding to cities that refuse to cooperate with federal immigration authorities.

The White House endorsed that bill, and it appeared to be gaining traction among conservatives. NumbersUSA, a group that advocates for reduced immigration, announcing its support Tuesday.

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Associated Press writer Luis Alonso Lugo contributed to this report. Follow Taylor and Colvin on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/APAndrewTaylor> and <https://twitter.com/colvinj>

## Bill Cosby is hitting the town; legal experts see a strategy

By MICHAEL SISAk, Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Bill Cosby is suddenly out and about in his hometown of Philadelphia in what legal experts say appears to be an effort by the comedian to rebuild his good-guy image ahead of his retrial on sexual assault charges in the spring.

In the past two weeks, the 80-year-old Cosby emerged from a long period of near-seclusion to have dinner with friends at a restaurant and gave his first comedy performance in more than two years. Cosby's publicists turned both nights into media spectacles, letting reporters tag along as he enjoyed penne and sausage earlier this month and inviting cameras in as he told jokes Monday at a jazz club.

Legal experts say Cosby's team appears to be orchestrating the public outings and media coverage to influence potential jurors at his April 2 retrial on charges of molesting a Temple University employee at his suburban Philadelphia home in 2004. The former TV star's first trial ended in a hung jury last June.

"It's the 'Bill Cosby is not a bad guy' defense," said Loyola Law School professor Laurie Levenson.

By playing up Cosby's comedic past and Philadelphia roots, Levenson said, his team is attempting to recast his image from that of a predator accused of drugging and molesting about 60 women over five decades.

Prosecutors have asked a judge to let 19 of those women testify at Cosby's retrial, which is likely to unfold in a far more hostile climate than his first trial. In recent months, the #MeToo torrent of sexual misconduct allegations has brought down numerous powerful men, including Harvey Weinstein, Kevin Spacey, Matt Lauer and Michigan Rep. John Conyers.

"The defense is saying, 'If they're going to try to make this about his reputation, we better start building back up his reputation,'" Levenson said.

Cosby's spokesman, Andrew Wyatt, denied the comedian's recent public appearances are aimed at influencing a potential jury. He said that the entertainer gets "hundreds of requests per day" and that he accepted the jazz club invitation because he wanted to honor Philadelphia musician Tony Williams.

"Living life is not a strategy," Wyatt said "Mr. Cosby is a human being. When did being a human being become a strategy? He has to live life to the fullest."

Cosby's accusers see his re-emergence as a slap in the face.

"While he's laughing, they're crying," said Gloria Allred, the lawyer for about 30 Cosby accusers. "Perhaps this is some sort of charm offensive, but I think there are many, many people who believe the accusers, and they are not charmed by what appears to be an act," she added. "It feels manipulative of public opinion."

Earlier Monday, Cosby spoke at a star-studded memorial service in New York for choreographer George Faison's longtime partner. Over the weekend, Cosby's social media accounts featured photos of him visiting a Philadelphia barber and a cafe and expressing support for the Super Bowl-bound Eagles.

During his hour-long jazz club performance, Cosby appeared at ease as he reminisced about his childhood and pounded the drums. He didn't touch on his criminal case and wouldn't answer reporters' questions about it afterward, saying: "I came here tonight to enjoy being with my friends and the musicians and the people who came."

Outside the restaurant where he ate dinner with friends Jan. 10, Cosby shook a reporter's hand and told her: "Please don't put me on MeToo."

Wyatt argued Cosby's life shouldn't stop just because he is facing charges.

"When you have to go to traffic court, do you stop going to work?" he said. When reminded that the charges against Cosby are more serious and could put him in prison for the rest of his life, the spokesman replied: "People have to go to court every day. They still go out and enjoy life."

Wyatt said Cosby has been out in public frequently near his primary home in Massachusetts. The difference now: He is inviting the media. Wyatt issued a press release about Cosby's comedy performance about two hours before he was to take the stage.

"By inviting you guys along, it's pretty clear what the motivation is there. I doubt it's because you needed to see another comedy act," Levenson said. "In other words, were you being used and manipulated? I think so."

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## In Oscar nominations, fresh voices lead the way

By JAKE COYLE, AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Academy Awards showered outsiders, on screen and off, with milestone-setting nominations that celebrated Guillermo del Toro's full-hearted ode to outcasts "The Shape of Water," embraced first-time filmmakers like Greta Gerwig and Jordan Peele, and made "Mudbound" director of photography Rachel Morrison the first woman ever nominated for best cinematography.

In nominations that spanned young and old, studio blockbusters and passion-fueled indies, the 90th annual Academy Awards on Tuesday gave many who have long been shunned by the movie business — women directors, transgender filmmakers, minority actors, even Netflix — something to cheer about.

Leading all nominees with 13 nods, including best picture, was "The Shape of Water," by veteran Mexican filmmaker del Toro, whose Cold War-era fantasy is about a mute office cleaner (Sally Hawkins) who falls in love with an amphibious creature. But the nominations also carried forward some of the ongoing reckoning of the Me Too movement that has been felt especially acutely in Hollywood, where male filmmakers outnumber women by a ratio of approximately 12-to-1.

Gerwig, the writer-director of the nuanced coming-of-age tale "Lady Bird," became just the fifth woman nominated for best director, following Lina Wertmuller, Jane Campion, Sofia Coppola and Kathryn Bigelow, the sole woman to win, for "The Hurt Locker." Speaking by phone Tuesday from Los Angeles, Gerwig said the distinction was extremely meaningful.

"When I think about Kathryn Bigelow winning and me sitting there watching it and feeling suddenly like, 'It's possible,'" said Gerwig. "To be nominated as the fifth woman, I hope that what it does is that women of all ages look at it and they also find the spark within themselves that says: 'Now I have to go make my movie.' That's what I want. And I want it selfishly because I want to see their stories."

Morrison posted Twitter of her nomination: "I hope it tells all the dreamers out there (especially the young girls with cameras in their hands) that ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE."

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In what's been a wide-open awards season, Oscar voters chose nine best-picture nominees, including four with female protagonists: "The Shape of Water," "Lady Bird," Martin McDonagh's rage-fueled comic drama "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri," Jordan Peele's horror sensation "Get Out," Joe Wright's Winston Churchill drama "Darkest Hour," Steven Spielberg's timely newspaper drama "The Post," Christopher Nolan's World War II epic "Dunkirk," Luca Guadagnino's tender love story "Call Me By Your Name" and Paul Thomas Anderson's twisted romance "Phantom Thread."

One of Gerwig's first calls of congratulations was to another first-time filmmaker, Peele. The two have been brought together by Hollywood's months-long Oscar campaigning and their mutual rookie status. (Gerwig previously co-directed a small feature.)

Peele becomes the fifth black filmmaker nominated for best director, and the third to helm a best-picture nominee, following Barry Jenkins last year for "Moonlight." He's also the third person to receive best picture, director and writing nods for his first feature film after Warren Beatty ("Heaven Can Wait") and James L. Brooks ("Terms of Endearment").

"I'm going to write. I'm now going to get hard at work on the next one," Peele said by phone. "One of the greatest things that I get from this whole process is this faith in my voice. It's like jet fuel. It makes me want to make as many movies that I can in my life.

"The Shape of Water" landed just shy of tying the record of 14 nominations, scoring a wide array for nominations for its cast (Sally Hawkins, Richard Jenkins, Octavia Spencer), del Toro's directing, its sumptuous score (by Alexandre Desplat) and its technical craft. Del Toro said in an interview Tuesday that he would celebrate with an extra chicken sausage for breakfast: "That will be my indulgence for the day."

"You realize that we are all, in some way or another, a bit of an outsider in different ways," said del Toro of his film's resonance. "Not fearing the other but embracing the other is the only way to go as a race. The urgency of that message of hope and emotion is what sustained the faith for roughly half a decade that the movie needed to be made."

All of the acting front-runners — Frances McDormand ("Three Billboards"), Gary Oldman ("Darkest Hour"), Allison Janney ("I, Tonya"), Sam Rockwell ("Three Billboards") — landed their expected nominations. But there were plenty of surprises and more than a few landmarks in the nominations announced from Los Angeles ahead of the March 4 ceremony, to be hosted by Jimmy Kimmel.

Meryl Streep scored her 21st nomination, for "The Post," and John Williams ("Star Wars: The Last Jedi") his 51st. Two 89-year-old legends became the oldest nominees: Agnes Varda ("Faces Places," best documentary) and James Ivory ("Call Me By Your Name," for adapted screenplay). There were eight first-time acting nominees, including 22-year-old "Call Me By Your Name" breakthrough Timothee Chalamet and Daniel Kaluuya, 28, of "Get Out." Saoirse Ronan, that grizzled 23-year-old, landed her third Oscar nom, for "Lady Bird."

Denzel Washington ("Roman J. Israel, Esq.") was nominated for best actor, likely eclipsing James Franco ("Disaster Artist"). Franco was accused of sexual misconduct, which he denied, just days before Oscar voting closed.

Christopher Plummer, who replaced Kevin Spacey in Ridley Scott's "All the Money in the World," also sneaked into the best supporting actor category. Added to the film in reshoots little more than a month before the film's release, 88-year-old Plummer is the oldest acting nominee ever. "Everything has happened so quickly of late that I am still a trifle stunned but excited by it all," said Plummer.

Perhaps most unexpected was the broad success of Paul Thomas Anderson's "Phantom Thread," which scored not only nods for Daniel Day-Lewis for best actor and Lesley Manville, for best supporting actress, but also nominations for best picture, Anderson's direction, costume design and Johnny Greenwood's score.

Anderson likely displaced Steven Spielberg ("The Post") and Martin McDonagh, the director of the film many have tapped to win best picture, "Three Billboards." His absence is a major knock for a film that has endured the harshest backlash of the contenders, with many claiming it's out of touch in matters of race.

Still, "Three Billboards" scored seven nominations Tuesday, behind only "The Shape of Water" and Christopher Nolan's "Dunkirk." The World War II epic, thus far little-honored in Hollywood's awards sea-

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son, emerged especially strong with Oscar voters, taking eight nominations, many of them in technical categories. It's Nolan's first nomination for best director.

Though the favorites are largely independent films, a number of blockbusters fared well, including five nods for "Blade Runner 2049," four for "Star Wars: The Last Jedi," three for "Baby Driver," two for "Beauty and the Beast" and two for Pixar's "Coco," which is up for best animated feature. The Wolverine film "Logan" even notched a screenplay nod, a first for a superhero movie.

Yet Patty Jenkins' "Wonder Woman," which became the highest grossing movie ever directed by a woman, failed to receive any Oscar nods despite an awards campaign. Sean Baker's far lower budgeted "The Florida Project" also managed only a supporting actor nomination for Willem Dafoe despite hopes for more.

Though some minorities were still absent from the acting categories, the film academy, which has worked to diversify its membership in recent years, voted for a field of nominees almost as diverse as last year when "Moonlight," "Fences" and "Hidden Figures" powered a rebuttal to the "Oscars So White" backlash of the two years prior. Four black actors — Washington, Daniel Kaluuya, Spencer and Mary J. Blige ("Mudbound") — were among the 20 acting nominees.

The documentary category — also including "Abacus: Small Enough to Jail," "Last Men in Aleppo" and two Netflix entries: "Icarus" and "Strong Island" — likewise contained history. Yance Ford, the director of "Strong Island," about Ford's investigation into his brother's 1992 murder, became the first transgender filmmaker nominated for an Oscar.

Some had lobbied for "A Fantastic Woman" star Daniela Vega to become the first transgender actor nominated. While Vega didn't garner a nomination, her film, from Chile, landed in the best foreign language category. The other nominees are: "The Insult," from Lebanon; "Loveless," from Russia; "On Body and Soul," from Hungary; and the Palme d'Or winner "The Square," from Sweden.

Last year's Oscars broadcast drew 32.9 million viewers for ABC, a four percent drop from the prior year. More worrisome, however, was a steeper slide in the key demographic of adults aged 18-49, whose viewership was down 14 percent from 2016.

Though the show ran especially long, at three hours and 49 minutes, it finished with a bang: the infamous envelope mix-up that led to "La La Land" being incorrectly announced as the best picture before "Moonlight" was crowned.

This year, the academy has prohibited the PwC accountants who handle the envelopes from using cell-phones or social media during the show. The accounting firm on Monday also unveiled several reforms including the addition of a third balloting partner in the show's control room. But the movie business has larger accounting problems. Attendance hit a 24-year low in 2017.

It was a dominant if bittersweet day for 20th Century Fox. Its specialty label, Fox Searchlight, is behind both "Three Billboards" and "The Shape of Water," and Fox released "The Post." Yet Fox's leading 27 nominations may soon count for the Walt Disney Co., which last month reached a deal to purchase Fox for \$52.4 billion.

Both Amazon and Netflix failed to crack the best picture category but earned nominations elsewhere. Netflix's "Mudbound" scored four nods and Amazon's "The Big Sick" grabbed a nomination for Kumail Nanjiani and Emily V. Gordon's original screenplay about their real-life romance.

"At times we worried it would be insurmountable, or would rip us apart, or even worse — that no one would like it," Nanjiani and Gordon said in a joint statement. "The fact that it connected with audiences is exhilarating, and this nomination proves that our love is real. We have decided to stay married."

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Associated Press writer Sandy Cohen contributed to this report from Los Angeles.

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For full coverage of awards season, visit: <https://apnews.com/tag/AwardsSeason>



## Davos diplomacy scene not exactly a natural fit for Trump

By CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — One question looms as President Donald Trump packs his bags for Switzerland: How will the Diet Coke-loving nationalist fit in with the Champagne-sipping globalists he'll encounter at the World Economic Forum in Davos?

American presidents tend to shun the Davos diplomacy scene, a glitzy annual gathering at a Swiss Alpine resort that for nearly 50 years has drawn politicians, CEOs and celebrities to ponder public policy and global cooperation.

Sitting presidents typically pass on the event, as known for its flashy parties and celebrity sightings as its policy powwows and international deal-making.

Instead, Trump will be the star attraction at this year's high-minded, invitation-only summit. A real estate executive turned reality TV star who has embraced nationalism and railed against international trade practices, Trump doesn't seem like a natural fit. But with a government shutdown averted, Trump is packing up much of his Cabinet and his "America First" message and heading overseas.

"We'll be talking about investing in the United States again," Trump said Tuesday, as he signed new tariffs that could draw criticism from the Davos crowd.

The last sitting U.S. president to attend the summit was Bill Clinton in 2000. Barack Obama, George W. Bush and George H.W. Bush all opted out. Ronald Reagan appeared via video link.

Just how Trump approaches the gathering is the subject of feverish speculation as attendees try to game out what Trump will say in his remarks and whom he may meet with on the sidelines. Longtime attendees stressed that he might not find the warmest response among those who favor global trade and have been rattled by his rise to power.

"It's a bit of a puzzle," said Nariman Behraves, chief economist of IHS Markit. "First of all, he's going into a situation where the audience will not be that friendly."

Trump leaves Washington Wednesday and will be in Switzerland Thursday and Friday. He plans to meet with British Prime Minister Theresa May, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Rwandan President Paul Kagame and Swiss President Alain Berset. He will also attend a reception in his honor, host a dinner for European executives and deliver a keynote address.

Top economic adviser Gary Cohn says Trump will tell the crowd that "America is open for business," highlighting the booming economy while stressing the need for "fair and reciprocal" trade practices.

Trump decided to make the move after some encouragement from Vice President Mike Pence and French President Emmanuel Macron, said a White House official, who wasn't authorized to publicly discuss internal deliberations and spoke on condition of anonymity.

He's likely to get a different response than Clinton did 18 years ago.

A champion of global trade, Clinton urged world leaders to consider workers and poorer nations in his 2000 address, saying, "Don't leave the little guys out." He has frequented the meeting ever since, receiving a warm reception. His former vice president, Al Gore, an environmental activist, is scheduled to attend this year.

Top aides have typically attended even when the president did not. Vice President Joe Biden appeared on behalf of the Obama administration last year, and Vice President Dick Cheney attended for George W. Bush.

Politicians aren't the only draw at Davos. In recent years, celebrity attendees have become part of the tableau, with Leonardo DiCaprio, Matt Damon, Goldie Hawn and Bono among the superstar visitors. In 2006, Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt attended panel discussions trailed by packs of photographers.

This year, Elton John and Cate Blanchett already have grabbed Davos headlines.

Trump has not attended before. Said Bremmer, "This is not Trump's crowd."

Even though Trump hasn't been there, his political rise — driven by nationalist rhetoric — has dominated the conversation in recent years.

"I remember two years ago, every meeting at Davos, whatever it was about, would end with the theme

that Trump could never be elected president," said Harvard University economist Kenneth Rogoff. "For him, I suspect this is a victory lap."

Last year, Biden appeared at Davos in the final days of the Obama administration and used his remarks to issue a veiled criticism of Trump, calling on Europe and the United States to defend the "liberal" world order, decrying a growing impulse in the West toward isolation and building walls.

Also sending a message to Trump last year was Chinese President Xi Jinping, who cast his country as a champion of free trade and stability, saying, "Whether you like it or not, the global economy is the big ocean that you cannot escape from."

Trump may be looking to push back on those messages this year.

Last time, the crowd heard from Trump ally Anthony Scaramucci, the financier who briefly served as Trump's communications director over the summer. Scaramucci — known at Davos for throwing wine-tasting parties — sought to explain Trump's governing plans to an anxious audience.

He insisted the administration "did not want to have a trade war," predicted that Trump's inaugural address would be "very Reaganesque," and said, "Directionally, this is a super compassionate man."

But he also acknowledged the concerns about the incoming president.

Scaramucci joked, "This is my 10th year here, but it is my first year here with a food taster."

## **Powell taking over as Fed chairman at time of economic calm**

**By MARTIN CRUTSINGER, AP Economics Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) — It would seem like a pretty good time to take over as chairman of the Federal Reserve.

Jerome Powell has won Senate confirmation to head the U.S. central bank, inheriting an economy on a roll, a booming stock market and unemployment at a 17-year low.

He will succeed Janet Yellen, the first woman to serve as Fed chairman, when her term ends on Feb. 3. The position is considered the government's most powerful economic job.

But while the immediate horizon appears clear, Powell faces the risk that today's sturdy economy, low inflation and rising stock market could reverse course in the coming months or years, forcing him to come up with the right remedies.

One of the biggest threats could come from inflation, which over the past six years has been extremely low. Some forecasters, however, worry that the days of benign inflation readings could be coming to an end, especially if tight labor markets lead to accelerating wage gains.

There is also the concern that the stock market, which has been soaring to record highs, could get thrown into reverse if investors begin to worry about rising interest rates.

Yellen and other Fed officials have emphasized that they hope to remain on a course of gradual rate hikes but they have warned that if inflation does start to accelerate, they may be forced to apply the brakes more forcefully by raising interest rates more quickly.

That is the type of scenario that in the past has brought an end to economic recoveries. And this expansion is already the third longest in U.S. history. But for the moment, those threats remain just that — threats. In fact, some Fed officials are not convinced that inflation is on the verge of picking up steam and in fact, they have argued that the central bank may need to slow down rather than accelerate its rate hikes.

That is the economic landscape that Powell inherits following his confirmation for the chairman's job by a Senate vote of 84-13 on Tuesday.

President Donald Trump tapped Powell for the job after deciding against offering Yellen a second four-year term as chair despite widespread praise for her performance since succeeding Ben Bernanke.

Powell, 64, has served for 5½ years on the Fed's board. A lawyer and investment manager by training, he will be the first Fed leader in 40 years without an advanced degree in economics. Many expect him to follow Yellen's cautious approach to interest rates.

Powell, viewed as a centrist, enjoyed support from Republicans and Democrats.

The 13 senators who voted against Powell's nomination included four Republicans, eight Democrats and

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Sen. Bernie Sanders, an independent who votes with the Democrats.

One of the dissenters, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., said she was concerned that Powell "will roll back critical rules that help guard against another financial crisis."

During the presidential race, Trump was critical of the role the Fed played in implementing the Dodd-Frank Act, the 2010 law that tightened banking regulations after the 2008 financial crisis. Trump and many Republicans in Congress contended that the stricter regulations were too burdensome for financial institutions and were a key reason why economic growth since the Great Recession ended in 2009 had been lackluster.

Powell has signaled that he favors ways to make bank regulations less onerous, especially for smaller community banks.

Trump will be able to essentially remake the Fed's board during his first two years in office. He has already filled the key post of vice chairman for regulation with Randal Quarles. The president has also nominated Marvin Goodfriend, a conservative economist, for another vacancy on the board.

In addition, he can fill three more vacancies on the seven-member board, including the key spot of Fed vice chairman, which has been vacant since Stanley Fischer left in October.

All told, the vacancies will have given Trump the ability to fill six of the seven board positions with his own choices. Lael Brainard will remain the lone board member not to have been chosen by Trump.

Powell, known as a collegial consensus-builder, could help serve as a steadying force for the U.S. economy as well as a unifying figure among the central bank's policymakers. As a Fed governor, Powell has never dissented from a central bank decision.

Educated at Princeton University with a law degree from Georgetown, Powell, known as Jay, spent many years in investment management — at Dillon Read and then at the Carlyle Group. His work there made him one of the wealthiest figures to serve on the Fed board: His most recent financial disclosure form places his wealth at between \$19.7 million and \$55 million. And based on how government disclosures are drafted, his wealth may actually be closer to \$100 million.

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Associated Press Business Writer Marcy Gordon contributed to this report.

## Asian shares mixed on renewed jitters over trade friction

By YURI KAGEYAMA, AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares were mixed on Wednesday, as Japan's benchmark took a rest from a spate of recent jumps. Worries over a resurgence of trade tensions overshadowed regional markets.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 slipped 0.6 percent to 23,988.21, while Hong Kong's Hang Seng index lost 0.3 percent to 32,837.80. The Shanghai Composite index edged 0.1 percent higher to 3,531.75 and South Korea's Kospi clawed back early losses to add 0.1 percent at 2,539.41. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 rose 0.3 percent to 6,057.10. Shares fell in Taiwan and were mixed in Southeast Asia.

WALL STREET: The Standard & Poor's 500 index added 0.2 percent to 2,839.13 while the Dow Jones industrial average was flat at 26,210.81. The tech-heavy Nasdaq composite jumped 0.7 percent to 7,460.29. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks rose 0.3 percent, to 1,610.71.

TECHNOLOGY RALLY: On Wall Street, Netflix, which said it picked up 8.3 million subscribers in the fourth quarter, soared \$22.71, or 10 percent, to \$250.29. Facebook rose \$3.98, or 2.1 percent, to \$189.35 and Google's parent company Alphabet gained \$12.01, or 1 percent, to \$1,176.17. Online retailer Amazon climbed \$35.23, or 2.7 percent, to \$1,362.54.

THE QUOTE: "The leads for Asia markets remain positive, though after the record run seen on Tuesday, one would not be surprised with some profit-taking in play," says Jingyi Pan, market strategist at IG in Singapore.

TRADE TROUBLES: President Donald Trump's move Tuesday to tax imported solar cells and washing machines was denounced by China, Germany and Mexico and is likely to heighten tensions between the United States and its trade partners. Touchier trade cases lie ahead, involving China's overproduction of

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steel and aluminum and its theft of trade secrets.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude was flat at \$64.47 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It rose 90 cents, or 1.4 percent, on Tuesday. Brent crude, used to price international oils, fell 15 cents to \$69.81.

CURRENCIES: The dollar slid to 109.93 yen from 110.32 yen late Tuesday in Asia. The euro edged up to \$1.2316 from \$1.2299.

AP Markets Writer Marley Jay, who contributed to this report, can be reached at <http://twitter.com/MarleyJayAP>

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## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 24, the 24th day of 2018. There are 341 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 24, 1848, James W. Marshall discovered a gold nugget at Sutter's Mill in northern California, a discovery that led to the gold rush of '49.

On this date:

In A.D. 41, Roman Emperor Caligula, 28, was assassinated by members of the Praetorian Guard after a reign of nearly four years; he was succeeded by his uncle Claudius.

In 1742, Charles VII was elected Holy Roman Emperor during the War of the Austrian Succession.

In 1908, the Boy Scouts movement began in England under the aegis of Robert Baden-Powell.

In 1939, at least 28,000 people were killed by an earthquake that devastated the city of Chillan in Chile.

In 1942, the Roberts Commission placed much of the blame for America's lack of preparedness for Imperial Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor on Rear Adm. Husband E. Kimmel and Lt. Gen. Walter C. Short, the Navy and Army commanders.

In 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill concluded a wartime conference in Casablanca, Morocco.

In 1965, British statesman Winston Churchill died in London at age 90.

In 1975, the extremist group FALN bombed Fraunces Tavern in New York City, killing four people.

In 1978, a nuclear-powered Soviet satellite, Cosmos 954, plunged through Earth's atmosphere and disintegrated, scattering radioactive debris over parts of northern Canada.

In 1989, confessed serial killer Theodore Bundy was executed in Florida's electric chair.

In 1993, retired Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall died in Bethesda, Maryland, at age 84.

In 2003, former Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge was sworn as the first secretary of the new Department of Homeland Security.

Ten years ago: Congressional leaders announced a deal with the White House on an economic stimulus package that would give most tax filers refunds of \$600 to \$1,200. French bank Societe Generale announced it had uncovered a 4.9 billion euro (\$7.14 billion) fraud by a single futures trader. Italian Premier Romano Prodi resigned after his center-left coalition lost a Senate confidence vote.

Five years ago: Defense Secretary Leon Panetta announced the lifting of a ban on women serving in combat. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee opened a hearing into President Barack Obama's nomination of Sen. John Kerry to be secretary of state. President Obama appointed Mary Jo White, a former prosecutor, to head the Securities and Exchange Commission. New Orleans Hornets owner Tom Benson announced he was changing his team's nickname to the Pelicans for the start of next season.

One year ago: President Donald Trump moved swiftly to advance the controversial Keystone XL and

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Dakota Access oil pipelines, signing executive actions to aggressively overhaul America's energy policy and deal a sharp blow to Barack Obama's legacy on climate change. The 89th annual Academy Awards nominations were announced; the retro musical "La La Land" received a record-tying 14 nods; eight went to eventual best picture winner "Moonlight."

Today's Birthdays: Actor Jerry Maren (Film: "The Wizard of Oz") is 99. Cajun musician Doug Kershaw is 82. Singer-songwriter Ray Stevens is 79. Singer-songwriter Neil Diamond is 77. Singer Aaron Neville is 77. Actor Michael Ontkean is 72. Actor Daniel Auteuil is 68. Country singer-songwriter Becky Hobbs is 68. Comedian Yakov Smirnoff is 67. South Korean President Moon Jae-in is 65. Actor William Allen Young is 64. Bandleader-musician Jools Holland is 60. Actress Nastassja Kinski is 57. Rhythm-and-blues singer Theo Peoples is 57. Country musician Keech Rainwater (Lonestar) is 55. Obama White House budget director Shaun Donovan is 52. Comedian Phil LaMarr is 51. Olympic gold medal gymnast Mary Lou Retton is 50. Rhythm-and-blues singer Sleepy Brown (Society of Soul) is 48. Actor Matthew Lillard is 48. Actress Merrilee McCommas is 47. Blues/rock singer Beth Hart is 46. Actor Ed Helms is 44. Actor Mark Hildreth is 40. Actress Tatyana Ali is 39. Rock musician Mitchell Marlow (Filter) is 39. Actress Carrie Coon is 37. Actor Daveed Diggs is 36. Actor Justin Baldoni is 34. Actress Mischa Barton is 32.

Thought for Today: "God gives us relatives; thank God, we can choose our friends." — Addison Mizner, American architect (1872-1933).

## Riddle Answer: The letter 'M'