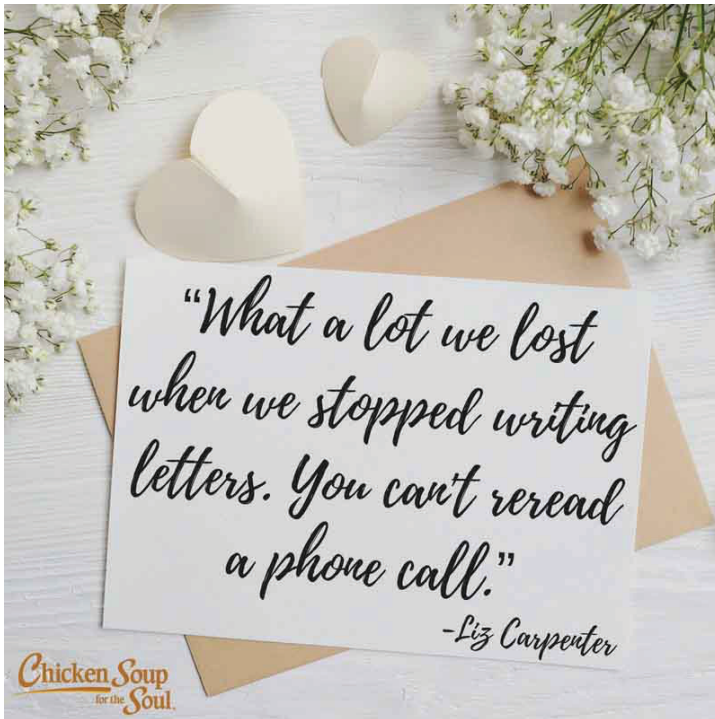


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Open: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

Dakota Brush

Brooms, Brushes, Mops, Can Liners, Paper Products.

Get Ready for Spring With
Wash Brushes & Squeegees

397-9337

104 N. Main, Groton

- 1- Chicken Soup for the Soul
- 1- Dakota Brush Ad
- 1- Recycling Trailer
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- 9- Daily Devotional
- 10- 2018 Groton Community Events
- 11- News from the Associated Press

Friday's Baseball/Softball Schedule

- Legion at Luverne Tournament
- Jr. Legion at Milbank Tournament
- U8 Softball at Webster 5:00
- U10 Softball at Webster 6:00 (2)
- U8 Red at Redfield 6:00 (1)
- U8 Blue at Redfield 7:00 (1)
- T-ball Gold at Andover 6:00
- U10 at Andover 7:00 (1)

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Yesterday, the House voted to pass the 2018 Farm Bill. This is a major step forward as we work to reinforce this critical safety net for producers and bolster food security for our country.

The House-passed Farm Bill would renew much of the 2014 legislation – what many called the most reformative Farm Bill in history. The bill maintains a strong crop insurance program, reinforces commodity program reform, and upholds strong livestock disaster programs.

With critical programs preserved, we also made some tweaks to ensure greater accuracy and accountability.

For instance, during 2014 Farm Bill implementation, the USDA elected to prioritize county yield data from its National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), which has proven unreliable in many cases. Using language I authored, the House-passed Farm Bill directs USDA to prioritize crop insurance data instead, which is a more dependable source.

Additionally, we increase CRP acreage to 29 million acres, a priority for many South Dakota outdoorsmen. At the same time, each state's allotment of CRP acres is based on its historical data, which I previously pressured the USDA to do.

The Farm Bill "protects producers while respecting the taxpayer dollars we all contribute," as Scott VanderWal, President of the South Dakota Farm Bureau, explained.

I'm grateful the Farm Bill ensures the American people continue to have access to the world's safest, most reliable, and most abundant food supply.

Have a great day!

-Kristi

Uncertainty for Summer Climate Outlook

BROOKINGS, S.D. - The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) climate outlook for July through September, released June 21, 2018, shows a lot of uncertainty for the remainder of the growing season, explained Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension State Climatologist.

"According to the NOAA Climate Prediction Center, most of South Dakota is in an area with equal chances of warmer, cooler or near average temperatures for the rest of the summer season," Edwards said. "There is a lot of uncertainty in the longer range forecast this season."

The precipitation outlook for the Northern Plains is equally unclear.

"There has not been much agreement in the computer models that forecasters use for seasonal climate outlooks. Within a single month or a three-month season, there can be small regions of both very wet or very dry conditions that are difficult to forecast," Edwards said.

Edwards explained that in our region, summer is often very challenging for climate outlooks. "This year is no exception. As an example, so far this spring there has been large variability between wet and dry areas in the state," she said.

Emerging drought in the northeast and east central has been relatively local, and has not been widespread. This has been a contrast to excessive wet conditions in the southeast, where flooding is again impacting the area this week.

"This kind of variability, within a single state, is challenging to capture in a forecast on a national scale," Edwards said.

The western region of the state has gradually improved out of drought conditions and is now drought-free according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

"Abnormally dry conditions remain, with some lingering concerns in local areas for forage and pasture conditions, but overall there has been sufficient rains to maintain water supplies for livestock and grass production," she explained.

Moisture will be critical, Edwards explained, as we enter corn pollination in eastern South Dakota which begins early July.

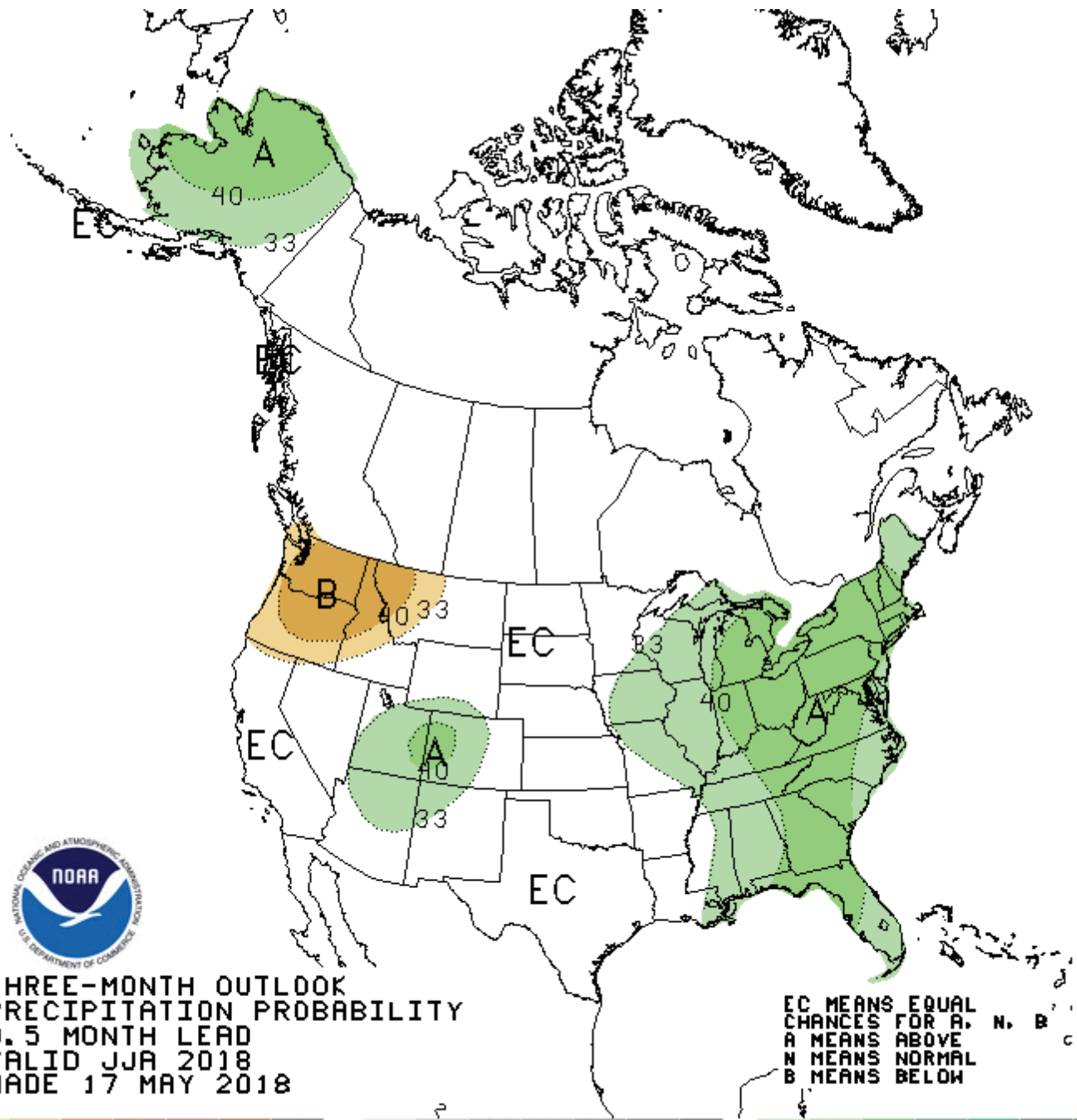
She added that because late June and early July will likely be warmer than average, rainfall will be more important during the next month. "Moisture stress during pollination can have a negative effect on corn yield," she said.

Some soybean areas are dry in the east central and northeastern part of the state.

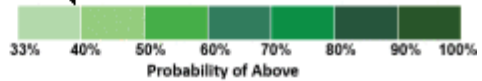
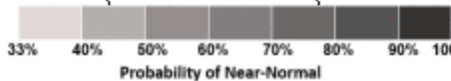
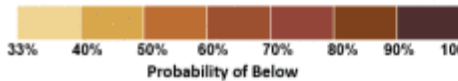
"This crop has been slow to develop," Edwards said. "And, since rainfall is needed to activate many herbicides, weed management has been a challenge. It is hopeful that some recent moisture in the last two weeks will improve growing and post-emerge weed management conditions."

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THREE-MONTH OUTLOOK
PRECIPITATION PROBABILITY
0.5 MONTH LEAD
VALID JJA 2018
MADE 17 MAY 2018



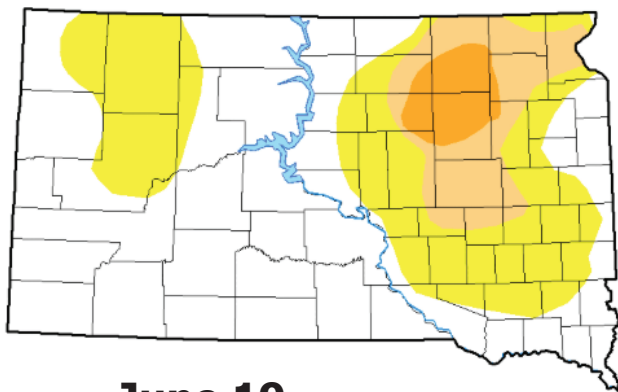
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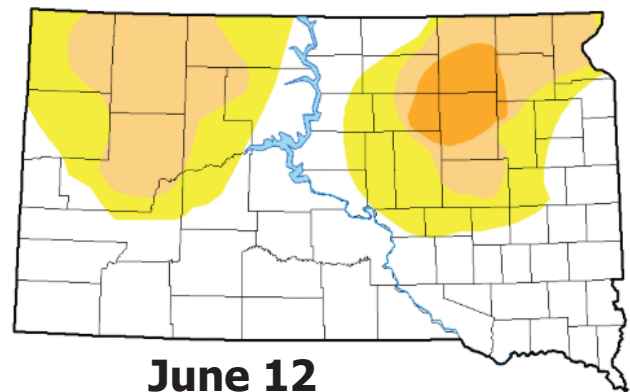
Drought Monitor

Drought Classification

None D0 (Abnormally Dry) D1 (Moderate Drought) D2 (Severe Drought) D3 (Extreme Drought) D4 (Exceptional Drought)



June 19



June 12

The northern portions of the region were cooler than normal with widespread rain over the western Dakotas while most of the rest of the region had temperatures that were 6-9 degrees above normal, and most areas from central and eastern Nebraska into eastern Kansas were drier than normal for the week. Precipitation amounts that were 1-2 inches above normal fell along the Nebraska and South Dakota border and in and around the Omaha metro area in eastern Nebraska. Improvements were made over most of northern and western North Dakota, where moderate and severe drought was improved and the extent of the abnormally dry areas was also reduced. A full category improvement was also made over western South Dakota as the short-term pattern has brought enough precipitation that only lingering long-term issues remain. The impact designation over the western Dakotas was also changed to long-term. In eastern South Dakota, the short-term dryness as well as the heat allowed for the expansion of both moderate drought and abnormally dry conditions to the south. Moderate drought was expanded in southeast Nebraska along the Kansas border.

Moderate drought and abnormally dry conditions were improved in far eastern Nebraska this week as well.

Extreme drought was removed from southwest Kansas as the drought indicators and indices did not support extreme drought with the influx of the most recent rains. Impacts remain, especially in the agricultural sector. In eastern Kansas, abnormally dry and moderate drought conditions were expanded as the region continues to miss out on the rain events and the recent heat has rapidly worsened conditions.

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Today in Weather History

June 22, 1916: An estimated F2 tornado moved northeast from 4 miles east of Willow Lakes to east of Vienna, in Clark County. A farmhouse was picked up and thrown into a granary. A boy was smothered to death by grains as a barn collapsed on him, one mile south of Vienna.

June 22, 1919: The second deadliest tornado in Minnesota's history occurred on this day. 59 people were killed as an estimated F5 tornado ripped through the town of Fergus Falls, Minnesota. 400 buildings were destroyed. A blank check was found over 60 miles away, and lumber was carried 10 miles. Of the 59 victims, 35 were guests of the Grand Hotel.

June 22, 1996: From the morning through the late afternoon hours, several supercell thunderstorms moved southeast along a strong warm front from eastern Corson County to southwest Deuel County. These storms produced several tornados, large hail, very heavy rains, and damaging winds. Hail up to the size of baseballs and winds gusting to 70 mph damaged and destroyed thousands of acres of crops, broke windows in homes, buildings, and vehicles. Many roofs were damaged, and trees were downed from near Mobridge to Redfield to Toronto. The most extensive crop, building, and tree damage occurred around the areas of Redfield, Vienna, Naples, Hazel, Bryant, Henry, Lake Norden, Castlewood, Estelline, and Toronto all south of Highway 212. The hail swaths of destruction were as much as 10 miles wide in places. Some farmers said you could not tell what was planted because the crops were destroyed. Hail piles of one to two feet were reported in some areas. Also, most of the area from Redfield to Toronto received one to three inches of rain which caused some flooding problems.








1928: A farmer near Greensburg, KS looked up into the heart of a tornado. He described its walls as "rotating clouds lit with constant flashes of lightning and a strong gassy odor with a screaming, hissing sound."

2003: A hailstone measuring 7.0 inches in diameter with a circumference of 18.75 inches and weighing 1.33 pounds falls in Aurora, Nebraska. The National Weather Service reports this is the second largest hailstone ever documented in the U.S. by weight, and the largest by size at that time. The world's largest hailstone NOW was produced from storms in South Dakota; 8" in diameter and 1.9375 lbs. on July 23, 2010.

2007: The first officially documented F5 tornado in Canada struck the town of Elie, Manitoba population 500 people. Video of the storm showed a heavy van being whirled through the air. The storm also tossed an almost entire house several hundred yards through the air before it disintegrated. The tornado traveled across the landscape for about 35 minutes covering 3.4 miles and leaving a damage path 984 feet wide. Wind speeds in the tornado were later estimated at 260-316 mph. Fortunately, no fatalities or serious injuries were reported.

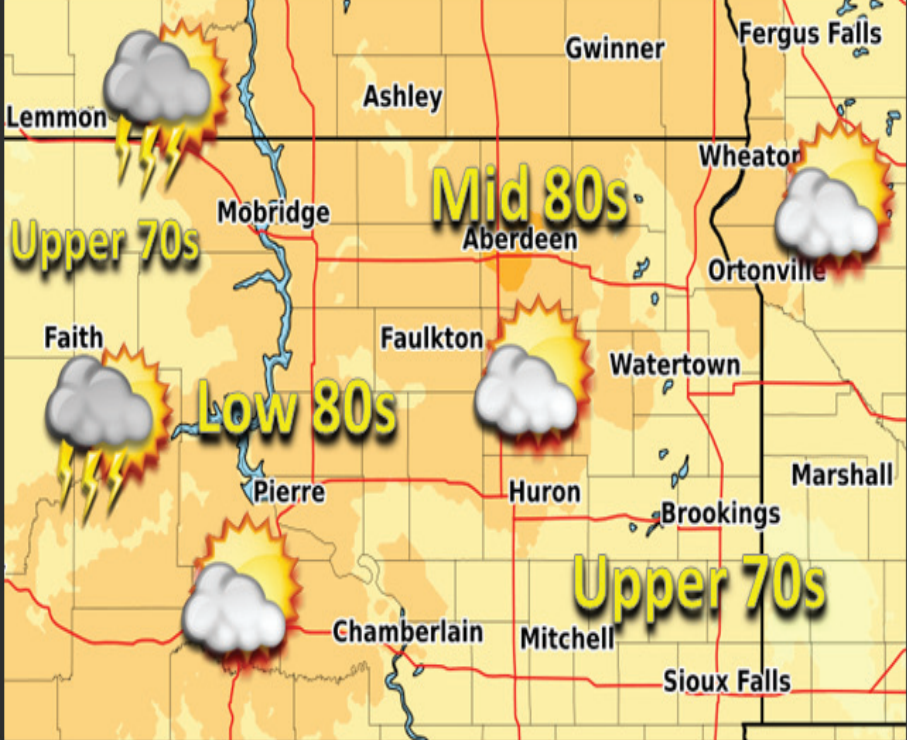
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Today	Tonight	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
						
Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms	Chance T-storms
High: 87 °F	Low: 59 °F	High: 79 °F	Low: 61 °F	High: 80 °F	Low: 63 °F	High: 79 °F

TODAY

Mostly Sunny – Thunderstorms Late West/Central



TONIGHT

Thunderstorms
West/Central
Partly Cloudy East
Lows: Around 60F




WEEKEND

JUNE 23-24

Active

30-50% Chance Storms Both Days

Highs: Around 80F

 weather.gov/Aberdeen
 National Weather Service Aberdeen
 @NWSAberdeen
Updated: 6/22/2018 4:32 AM Central

Published on: 06/22/2018 at 4:38AM

Dry conditions for most of the area today, but we will see an increase in thunderstorm activity west river late in the day. That activity will spread slowly east overnight with more coverage for Saturday and Sunday.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 85.1 F at 3:36 PM

Low Outside Temp: 63.5 F at 4:51 AM

Wind Chill:

High Gust: 12.0 Mph at 9:49 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 102° in 1922

Record Low: 39° in 1905

Average High: 80°F

Average Low: 56°F

Average Precip in June: 2.71

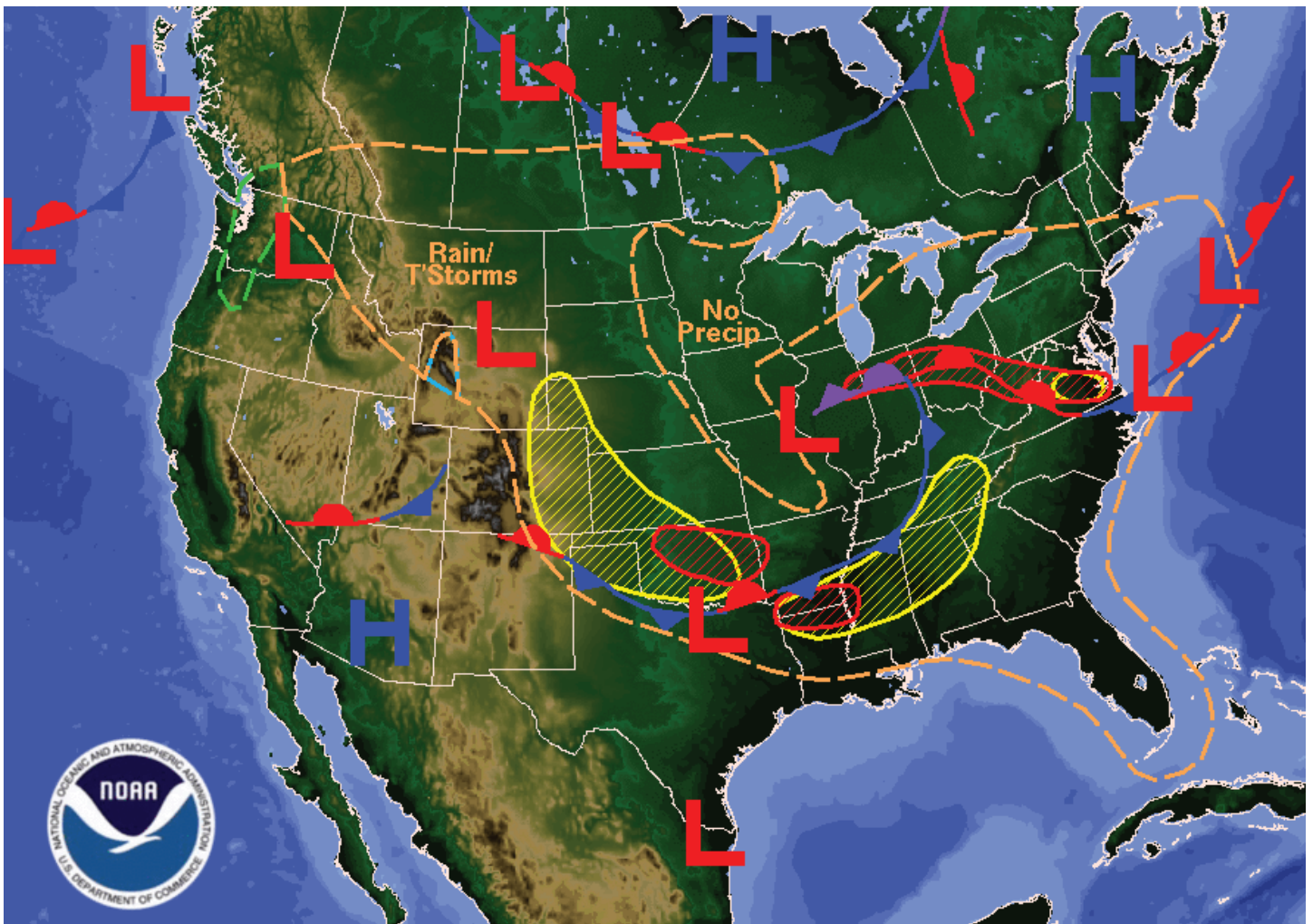
Precip to date in June: 1.42

Average Precip to date: 9.85

Precip Year to Date: 5.72

Sunset Tonight: 9:26 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 5:45 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Fri, Jun 22, 2018, issued 4:33 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain

Rain and T'Storms

Rain and Snow

Snow

Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)

Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)

Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)

Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

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MAKING HIS MESSAGE KNOWN

God chose many ways to make Himself known. We hear Him speaking through His prophet and writing His standards in stone. There was a bush that burst into flames and birds that brought food to starving people. There were clouds that led people in the day and pillars of fire that led them at night. Angels were sent to speak on His behalf and announce the birth of His Son. A sea was once parted and His "chosen" walked through it to safety. In many ways and on many different occasions He did what He had to do to get the attention of people to hear or see His message of love, salvation and hope.

But one method that no Christian can ignore is contained in the final words of Jesus: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel." If we remove the letter "p" we have the word "reach." Then, if we remove the letter "r" we have the word "each." So, Jesus is commanding us to "preach" His message that we may "reach" "each" person He brings into our lives.

The Psalmist took this responsibility seriously. So seriously, in fact, that he started at the "top" of the ladder: "I will speak of Your statutes before kings and will not be put to shame!" Imagine him standing before a king and saying, "Excuse me, Sir, but I need to begin our conversation with a message from the Lord. It is rather brief and will only take a few minutes."

The limitless love of God is not limited by ones title or address. It reaches to kings and servants, family members and friends. Wherever we are, we are to preach.

Prayer: Lord, it is difficult to share Your Word. But if we take our responsibility seriously we have no choice. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 119:46 I will speak of your statutes before kings and will not be put to shame,

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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)
- 1/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 4/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 5/4/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/27/2019 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)
- 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party

- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events

News from the Associated Press

Trapped campers, swimming bears in Montana as floods hit US

By **AMY BETH HANSON, Associated Press**

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — Helicopters rescued people stranded by flooding in Texas and Montana, including 140 children and counselors stuck in a mountain bible camp for two days, as severe storms swept the Rockies and the Midwest.

Campers attending the Montana Wilderness School of the Bible near the small town of Augusta were lifted out Thursday after a washed-out road cut off the only exit. Montana was just drying out from spring flooding caused by near-record snowfall over the winter when a storm unleashed rain over the past three days.

Texas also saw deluges all week. The soaking in both states comes in stark contrast to the tinder-dry conditions of the American Southwest, which is experiencing drought and an early wildfire season.

Floodwaters running through two cabins and staff housing woke up the Montana campers Tuesday, counselor Dustin Steele said.

"The dryers were going constantly trying to keep the sleeping bags and clothes dry," he said Thursday from the airport in Great Falls, shortly after campers were dropped off to meet their families. "It was hectic, but it was good."

They had enough food and supplies to stay until Friday but the decision was made to get them out. The Montana Army National Guard flew in two Chinook helicopters and made two trips each with about 30 campers and their luggage, Steele said.

The 25-minute flight "was actually pretty loud," said Steele, 19. "You could hardly hear the person next to you."

Officials in far South Texas also used helicopters Thursday to rescue residents from flooded areas.

Texas Department of Public Safety Lt. Johnny Hernandez said residents were being rescued by land and air in the Mission area, along the border with Mexico. First lady Melania Trump arrived in nearby McAllen as she made an unannounced visit to a facility housing migrant children.

Thunderstorms that have moved across Texas this week also have brought heavy rains to areas that less than a year ago were hit by flooding from Hurricane Harvey, including the Corpus Christi area and the Beaumont-Port Arthur area, east of Houston.

Forecasters say the rain was expected to move out of far South Texas by Friday but much of the central and southeast U.S. will be at risk of severe storms as the weekend approaches.

Meanwhile, great swaths of Arizona, Utah, New Mexico and Colorado were experiencing extreme or exceptional drought, forcing recent closures of national forests and other public lands because of fire danger.

In Montana, the remnants of Hurricane Bud met up with moisture from the Pacific Ocean to create a storm that hung over the western half of the state for the last three days, said National Weather Service meteorologist Megan Syner in Great Falls.

"I can't point to any single thing that would make us an anomaly in the western half of the U.S.," Syner said. "We had a record winter season, and we had a storm track that just continued to bring weather systems over Montana."

That led to 9 inches (23 centimeters) of rain falling on the Rocky Mountain Front, causing waterways to overflow and wash out roads, bridges and even sweeping away wildlife.

The mother of one of the campers, Teresa Lane, had an adventure of her own when she and her 9-year-old daughter spotted a grizzly bear that had been swept away by a fast-running creek on her ranch near Augusta.

"I thought it was a dead cow originally — it was something big and black and floating," Lane said. "Then it flipped around, and it looked at me, and I said, 'Tiffany, it's a bear!'"

She and her daughter followed the bear for about a quarter-mile as it tried to get out. When it finally

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did, it limped and appeared agitated before running away.

"It was not a happy camper," she said.

In western Pennsylvania, residents and business owners were cleaning up after a storm dumped nearly 4 inches (10 centimeters) of rain, killing at least one person and prompting scores of evacuations as powerful floodwaters carried off cars and damaged buildings.

Flooding in Minnesota and South Dakota caused some road closures. The Argus Leader newspaper in South Dakota reported that a woman was rescued when her pickup became stranded in floodwaters east of Sioux Falls.

In northwest Iowa, several roads were inundated and basements swamped by heavy rain.

Associated Press journalists Jamie Stengle in Dallas and Juan A. Lozano of Houston contributed to this report.

South Dakotans may see lower rate after sales tax ruling

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota residents may see lower sales tax rates because of a provision in state law passed years ahead of a U.S. Supreme Court decision allowing states to make online shoppers pay it.

It was a South Dakota case that led to Thursday's high court decision, which opens the door for consumers to see sales tax on more online purchases and eventual reductions in the state sales tax rate that were built into a 2016 tax hike to raise teacher pay. The ruling overturned two decades-old Supreme Court decisions that have made it tougher for states to collect sales taxes for certain purchases online, a situation they said costs them revenues each year.

The cases the court overturned said that if a business was shipping a customer's purchase to a state where the business didn't have a physical presence such as a warehouse or office, the business didn't have to collect sales tax for the state.

In South Dakota, lawmakers in 2016 boosted the state's sales tax rate from 4 percent to 4.5 percent, but required the increase to be scaled back if the state could ever collect from out-of-state online retailers.

Two years later, that's on the horizon. Republican state lawmaker Jeff Partridge, who sponsored the provision in the teacher pay measure, said he's looking forward to the "prospect of a tax cut for the citizens of South Dakota."

The law calls for a one-tenth percent rate cut per \$20 million in new state revenue from purchases through online retailers. South Dakota has estimated it loses about \$50 million annually to e-commerce.

The Supreme Court ruled Thursday in South Dakota's favor after the state sued several online retailers in 2016 based on a separate law seeking to get them to collect the tax. It sent the law back to South Dakota's highest court to be revisited.

State officials praised the decision. Attorney General Marty Jackley said it was a win for South Dakota and for "Main Street businesses across America that will now have a level playing field and tax fairness."

Hundreds rescued from floodwaters in South Texas

By JAMIE STENGLE and JUAN A. LOZANO, Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — Hundreds of people had to be rescued Thursday from floodwaters in South Texas, where rainfall has inundated communities all week.

In the border city of Mission, Mayor Armando O'Caña said about 200 water rescues had been performed, while Texas Department of Public Safety Lt. Johnny Hernandez said authorities were sometimes using helicopters to get to people. O'Caña said people had been rescued from homes, cars, an adult day care center and local motels.

"We're still conducting life-saving rescues as we speak," O'Caña said Thursday afternoon.

He noted his community had been spared from rain that hit the area a day earlier.

The National Weather Service said some areas in far South Texas got more than 15 inches (38 centime-

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ters) of rain over the last four days. Meteorologist Tim Speece says that throughout the week "different areas received the heavy rainfall." Speece added that the rain was expected to move out of far South Texas on Friday.

Thunderstorms that have moved across Texas this week have also brought heavy rains to areas that less than a year ago were hit by flooding from Hurricane Harvey, including the Corpus Christi area and the Beaumont-Port Arthur area, east of Houston.

Gov. Greg Abbott on Thursday issued a disaster declaration for six counties hit by flooding: Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy counties in far South Texas and Aransas, Nueces and San Patricio counties in the Corpus Christi area.

Shelters in far South Texas include three set up by the American Red Cross, which housed more than 200 people on Wednesday night, a Red Cross spokeswoman said.

McAllen — where first lady Melania Trump made an unannounced visit to a facility housing migrant children — likely got inundated with 7 to 10 inches (18 to 25 centimeters) in some areas on Thursday, emergency management coordinator Kevin Pagan said.

"Streets were flooded pretty much all over town," he said.

Authorities conducted several dozen water rescues in McAllen of people afraid they wouldn't be able to leave their flooded subdivisions and others trapped in their vehicles.

Some other parts of the U.S. were also experiencing heavy rains and flooding, and forecasters say much of the central and southeast U.S. are at risk of severe storms as the weekend approaches.

In Montana, creeks and rivers were funneling water from rains last weekend along the Rocky Mountain Front downstream toward the Missouri River. Water was above flood stage and still rising Thursday morning where the Smith River runs into the Missouri River about 10 miles (16 kilometers) southwest of Great Falls.

Flooding in Minnesota and South Dakota caused some road closures, including the brief shutdown of Interstate 90 in Minnesota. The Argus Leader in South Dakota reported that a woman was rescued when her pickup became stranded in floodwaters east of Sioux Falls.

In northwest Iowa, several roads were inundated and basements swamped by heavy rain and Iowa Highway 60 flooded over in the Ashton area, forcing traffic to detour.

In western Pennsylvania, residents and business owners were cleaning up after a storm dumped nearly 4 inches (10 centimeters) of rain, killing at least one person and prompting scores of evacuations as powerful floodwaters carried off cars and damaged buildings.

The national Storm Prediction Center said the central and southeast U.S. will be at most risk of strong to severe thunderstorms Friday. They include an area that encompasses parts of western Oklahoma, western Kansas and eastern Colorado. Also Friday, storms could be severe in the Deep South.

Lozano contributed to this report from Houston.

For the latest information on flooding in Texas and elsewhere in the U.S.: <https://bit.ly/2thr96T>

High Court: Online shoppers can be forced to pay sales tax

By JESSICA GRESKO, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — States will be able to force more people to pay sales tax when they make online purchases under a Supreme Court decision Thursday that will leave shoppers with lighter wallets but is a big financial win for states.

Consumers can expect to see sales tax charged on more online purchases — likely over the next year and potentially before the Christmas shopping season — as states and retailers react to the court's decision, said one attorney involved in the case.

The Supreme Court's 5-4 opinion Thursday overruled a pair of decades-old decisions that states said cost them billions of dollars in lost revenue annually. The decisions made it more difficult for states to collect sales tax on certain online purchases, and more than 40 states had asked the high court for action. Five

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states don't charge sales tax.

The cases the court overturned said that if a business was shipping a customer's purchase to a state where the business didn't have a physical presence such as a warehouse or office, the business didn't have to collect sales tax for the state. Customers were generally responsible for paying the sales tax to the state themselves if they weren't charged it, but most didn't realize they owed it and few paid.

Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote that the previous decisions were flawed.

"Each year the physical presence rule becomes further removed from economic reality and results in significant revenue losses to the States," he wrote in an opinion joined by Justices Clarence Thomas, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Samuel Alito and Neil Gorsuch. Kennedy wrote that the rule "limited States' ability to seek long-term prosperity and has prevented market participants from competing on an even playing field."

The ruling is a victory for big chains with a presence in many states, since they usually collect sales tax on online purchases already. Now, rivals will be charging sales tax where they hadn't before.

Big chains have been collecting sales tax nationwide because they typically have physical stores in whatever state a purchase is being shipped to. Amazon.com, with its network of warehouses, also collects sales tax in every state that charges it, though third-party sellers who use the site don't have to.

Until now, many sellers that have a physical presence in only a single state or a few states have been able to avoid charging sales taxes when they ship to addresses outside those states. Online sellers that haven't been charging sales tax on goods shipped to every state range from jewelry website Blue Nile to pet products site Chewy.com to clothing retailer L.L. Bean.

Sellers that use eBay and Etsy, which provide platforms for smaller sellers, also haven't been collecting sales tax nationwide.

Under the ruling Thursday, states can pass laws requiring out-of-state sellers to collect the state's sales tax from customers and send it to the state. More than a dozen states have already adopted laws like that ahead of the court's decision, according to state tax policy expert Joseph Crosby.

Retail trade groups praised the ruling, saying it levels the playing field for local and online businesses. The losers, said retail analyst Neil Saunders, are online-only retailers, especially smaller ones. Those retailers may face headaches complying with various state sales tax laws, though there are software options to help. That software, too, can be an added cost. The Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council advocacy group said in a statement, "Small businesses and internet entrepreneurs are not well served at all by this decision."

Chief Justice John Roberts and three of his colleagues would have kept the court's previous decisions in place.

"E-commerce has grown into a significant and vibrant part of our national economy against the backdrop of established rules, including the physical-presence rule. Any alteration to those rules with the potential to disrupt the development of such a critical segment of the economy should be undertaken by Congress," Roberts wrote in a dissent joined by Justices Stephen Breyer, Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor. The lineup of justices on each side of the case was unusual, with Roberts joining three more liberal justices and Ginsburg joining her more conservative colleagues.

The case the court ruled on involved a 2016 law passed by South Dakota, which said it was losing out on an estimated \$50 million a year in sales tax not collected by out-of-state sellers. Lawmakers in the state, which has no income tax, passed a law designed to directly challenge the physical presence rule. The law requires out-of-state sellers who do more than \$100,000 of business in the state or more than 200 transactions annually with state residents to collect sales tax and send it to the state.

South Dakota wanted out-of-state retailers to begin collecting the tax and sued several of them: Overstock.com, electronics retailer Newegg and home goods company Wayfair. After the Supreme Court's decision was announced, shares in Wayfair and Overstock both fell. Shares in large chains with more stores traded higher.

South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard called Thursday's decision a "Great Day for South Dakota," though the high court stopped short of greenlighting the state's law. While the Supreme Court spoke approvingly of the law, it sent it back to South Dakota's highest court to be revisited in light of the court's decision.

The Trump administration had urged the justices to side with South Dakota. On Twitter, President Donald Trump called the decision a "Big victory for fairness and for our country." He also called it a "Great victory for consumers and retailers," though consumers will ultimately be paying more and businesses weren't uniformly cheering the decision.

The case is South Dakota v. Wayfair, 17-494.

Associated Press reporter Zeke Miller contributed to this report.

Follow Jessica Gresko on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/jessicagresko>

What's that extra in my online cart? Soon, maybe a sales tax

By JOSEPH PISANI, AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Attention shoppers: You may soon be paying more taxes on what you put in your online cart.

The Supreme Court ruled Thursday that states can require online retailers to collect sales tax on purchases that come from states where they don't have any shops, offices or warehouses. Before that, retailers didn't have to collect state sales taxes if it was shipping items to someone in a state where the business didn't have a physical presence.

Shoppers were generally supposed to pay the sales tax to the state themselves, but most didn't, says Gerald Storch, who was CEO of department store operator Hudson's Bay and now runs a retail consulting firm.

The ruling is a victory for states that said they were losing billions of dollars in revenue every year, and for large retailers that had argued that the physical presence rule meant they were playing by different rules than online-only sellers. Small businesses may have to figure out how to comply with various state sales tax laws, though there are software options to help.

But what does it all mean for shoppers? Here's some more information about the effect of the ruling:

DON'T I ALREADY PAY SALES TAX WHEN I BUY ONLINE?

You may, depending on where you live and what online store you shop at. Many big retailers, such as Amazon.com and Macy's, already collected sales tax for online purchases because they had warehouses or stores in those states. But smaller online stores may not have been collecting sales tax, which the Supreme Court ruling could change.

WHEN WILL I START TO SEE CHANGES?

You'll have to pay up if the state you live in passes laws that require online retailers to collect sales tax, says Joseph Bishop-Henchman, the executive vice president of the Tax Foundation.

But when and if that happens depends on the state: Some may pass laws quickly, others can take years and some states, like the ones that don't have a sales tax, may choose not to require it, says Bishop-Henchman.

David Campbell, CEO of TaxCloud, one of the companies that manufactures tax compliance software, also noted that how long it may take for states to weigh in isn't known, since some have part-time legislatures.

I SHOP ON AMAZON ALL THE TIME, WILL IT COST MORE NOW?

If you're a big Amazon.com shopper, and live in one of the 45 states with a sales tax, you likely already pay sales tax on some orders. Amazon collects sales tax for products that it sells directly, but third-party vendors that sell goods on the site may not collect sales tax. That may change as state laws are modified. Amazon has said that half the items purchased from its site come from third-party sellers.

WILL PEOPLE BE TURNED OFF ONLINE SHOPPING BY A SALES TAX?

It remains to be seen if online shoppers will abandon their virtual carts because of a sales tax. Some shoppers may not notice, or care, analysts say. And some shoppers find online shopping too convenient to give up.

Ed Teisanu, a 39-year-old sales manager in Minnesota, doesn't think a new tax will change his buying

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habits, which is a mix of in-store and online. He said retail stores have essentially become showrooms for things he buys online and he will keep shopping online if he can still get a better price.

"I don't have to travel anywhere and typically online prices are still lower than retail stores," Teisanu said.

Associated Press writers Anne D'Innocenzio in New York and Youssef Rddad in Minneapolis contributed to this report.

Slow growth likely continues in rural parts of 10 states

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The economy should continue growing slowly in rural parts of 10 Plains and Western states, but the most recent survey of bankers in the area doesn't reflect all the recent tough trade talk.

Creighton University economist Ernie Goss says farmers are concerned that new tariffs could hurt exports at a time when their profits appeared lean, at best.

The overall index for rural parts of the region slipped to 56.1 in June from May's 56.3, but it remained in positive territory over 50.

Any score above 50 suggests a growing economy in the months ahead, while a score below 50 indicates a shrinking economy.

Bankers from Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming were surveyed.

2 South Dakota inmates sue over tablets

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Two lawsuits filed by South Dakota inmates allege the state Department of Corrections' tablet computers are blocking access to the courts.

Rex Gard, an inmate at Mike Durfee State Prison, filed the second tablet-related lawsuit in federal court on Tuesday, the Rapid City Journal reported. Gard alleges that the tablet software is prone to malfunctions and doesn't provide access to legal databases as promised.

South Dakota opted for the tablets in lieu of paying legal aides and furnishing a law library last year. The Corrections Department insisted that inmates could access the necessary legal documents to help in filing appeals and other civil documents through their tablets.

"The Lexis/Nexis application has been, despite frequent assurances that repairs were underway, only intermittently active since 2017, leaving many inmates with no access to the case law and statutes theoretically available on the tablets," Gard's lawsuit stated.

Another inmate at the same prison filed a similar federal lawsuit last month. Inmate Winston Brakeall claims the shuttering of the law library and the canceling of legal aid contracts left him unaware he had improperly filed a grievance. Brakeall had filed under the Americans with Disabilities Act protesting prison conditions.

The state's decision to deliver legal access through tablet computers will be contested Oct. 30 in the trial for Brakeall's case.

States must guarantee inmates the right to "adequate, effective and meaningful" access to the courts under the 14th Amendment, but the definition of access varies by state.

The Corrections Department declined the newspaper's request for comment.

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

Heavy rains cause roads to flood in southeast South Dakota

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Heavy rains are causing roads to flood in southeastern South Dakota.

The South Dakota Highway Patrol says Highway 11 in southeastern Sioux Falls is closed from 57th Street to 271st Street for water over the road. The National Weather Service reports more than 5 inches (13 centimeters) of rain fell in that area.

In Minnesota, part of Interstate 90 was closed 7 miles (11 kilometers) inside the Minnesota state line

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because of flooding Thursday, but has since reopened.

The Argus Leader reports a woman was rescued when her pickup became stranded in flood waters east of Sioux Falls.

In Sioux Falls, parts of a bike trail and some park roads are closed.

The weather service says flooding could get worse near area rivers over the next few days.

Most crops, pastures in South Dakota remain in decent shape

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Most crops in South Dakota remain in decent shape as they continue to develop. The federal Agriculture Department says in its weekly crop report that the corn, soybean, winter wheat, spring wheat, oats and sorghum crops all are in mostly fair to good condition.

Planting of sunflowers in South Dakota has reached three-fourths complete, behind last year's pace but ahead of the long-term average.

Topsoil moisture supplies are rated 79 percent adequate to surplus, and subsoil moisture is 71 percent in those categories.

Pasture and range conditions statewide are mostly rated fair or good.

Ellsworth chosen for new long-range anti-ship missile

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — The military has chosen Ellsworth Air Force Base and its B-1 bombers for a new missile.

The Air Force says the AGM-158C Long Range Anti-Ship Missile is used to strike enemy ships from long distances. It's going from the test phase to the operational phase.

Crew with Ellsworth's 28th Bomb Wing began training on the missile system this week.

McLaughlin, Lower Brule men charged in officer assault cases

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A McLaughlin man has been charged with assaulting a federal officer, while a Lower Brule man has been sentenced in a separate similar case.

The U.S. attorney's office says 19-year-old Austin Folsom of McLaughlin is accused of causing an undisclosed injury to a federal officer in March. Folsom has pleaded not guilty and is to stand trial in August.

Twenty-year-old Tristan Patterson pleaded guilty in March in his case and was recently sentenced to one year and eight months in prison.

Authorities say Patterson in July 2017 resisted while being booked into the Lower Brule jail, spit at officers and kicked an officer in the face. No one was hurt.

Rival Koreas agree to August reunions of war-split families

By KIM TONG-HYUNG, Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North and South Korea agreed Friday to hold temporary reunions of families divided by the 1950-53 Korean War as they boost reconciliation efforts amid a diplomatic push to resolve the North Korean nuclear crisis.

The reunions will take place at North Korea's Diamond Mountain resort from Aug. 20 to 26, Seoul's Unification Ministry said after a nine-hour meeting between officials from the two sides.

It said the countries will each send 100 participants to the reunions. People with mobility problems will be allowed to bring a relative to help them.

Such temporary reunions are highly emotional as most wishing to take part are elderly people who are eager to see their loved ones before they die. The families were driven apart during the turmoil of the war.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in agreed during a summit in April to hold the family reunions about Aug. 15, the anniversary of the Korean Peninsula's independence from Japanese colonial rule at the end of World War II in 1945.

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Friday's talks between Red Cross officials from the countries at the Diamond Mountain resort were to arrange details of the reunions.

Kim and Moon met again in May. Their two summits have opened various channels of peace talks between the countries. The rivals recently agreed to restore cross-border military hotline communication channels and field joint teams in some events at the upcoming Asian Games in Indonesia.

"If we sternly separate ourselves from the unfortunate past and acquire a strong mindset for the new times, humanitarian cooperation between the North and South will flourish," North Korea delegate Pak Yong Il said at the start of the meeting. Park Kyung-seo, South Korea's Red Cross chief, expressed hope for talks that could "resolve the grief of our nation."

The Koreans last held family reunions in 2015 before relations worsened because of North Korea's accelerated pursuit of nuclear long-range missiles and the hard-line response of Seoul's then-conservative government.

Since the end of the Korean War, both Koreas have banned ordinary citizens from visiting relatives on the other side of the border or contacting them without permission. Nearly 20,000 Koreans have participated in 20 rounds of face-to-face temporary reunions held between the countries since 2000.

Aside from setting up a new round of reunions, South Korean officials had hoped to discuss plans for a survey to confirm surviving members of war-separated families in North Korea and the possibility of hometown visits and exchanges of letters. It wasn't immediately clear whether they were discussed during the meeting.

The limited numbers of reunions are vastly insufficient to meet the demands of aging relatives, who are mostly in their 80s and 90s, South Korean officials say. According to Seoul's Unification Ministry, more than 75,000 of the 132,000 South Koreans who have applied to attend a reunion have died. None of the past participants has had a second reunion.

South Korea uses a computerized lottery to pick participants for the reunions, while North Korea is believed to choose based on loyalty to its authoritarian leadership. South Korean analysts say North Korea allows only infrequent reunions for fear of wasting what it sees as an important diplomatic bargaining chip. North Korea may also worry that its citizens will become influenced by the much more affluent South, which could loosen the government's grip on power.

There had been expectations that Friday's meeting could get contentious if North Korean officials reiterated the country's demand for the return of 12 North Korean restaurant workers in return for allowing reunions.

Seoul has said the 12 women, who had worked at a restaurant in China, had defected and willingly settled in South Korea in 2016 but is now reviewing the circumstances following a media report suggesting at least some were brought against their will.

It wasn't immediately clear whether North Korea raised the issue during Friday's meeting. The North rejected a South Korean proposal for family reunions last year, seeking the workers' return first.

'He cried and hugged me': Brazilian still separated from son

By PETER PRENGAMAN, Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Twenty-six days after being apprehended at the U.S.-Mexico border with his son, a Brazilian man in detention says he has no idea when he may see his 9-year-old, who he fears is distraught and having difficulty communicating because he only speaks Portuguese.

In a phone interview late Thursday from Cibola County Correctional Center in Milan, New Mexico, the 31-year-old father said he had only spoken to his son once by phone since they were separated. The father, who has applied for asylum, agreed to speak to The Associated Press on the condition his name not be used because he fears for his life if sent back to Brazil.

"He cried. He was so sad," said the father of his son. "I had promised him it would only be three to five days."

The man, from the central eastern Brazilian state of Minas Gerais, said he had recently lost his job in a bakery. He also said he had a debt of around US\$8,000 that he could not pay, and a criminal group was

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after him to come up with the money. He declined to give more details.

So he decided to go to the States, planning to find work and send for his wife and their other son, who is 3. He and his 9 year old took a flight to Mexico City, and then made their way to the border. When trying to cross illegally near San Ysidro, California, the two were picked up by border agents.

He and his son were taken to a detention center with many other families.

"For two days," the father said, "all we were given were Doritos, cereal bars and juice."

Then he was told that his son would be taken to a facility for minors, and that they'd be separated no more than five days.

"I didn't want to scare him. I said, 'Look son, I'll just be gone three days, five at the most, and then I will see you again,'" said the father. "He cried and hugged me. He is a good kid. He had never been separated from me or his mom."

Ten days later, the father learned his son had been taken to an Office of Refugee Resettlement in Chicago. He called a legal hotline, and an immigration lawyer eventually helped facilitate a 20-minute phone conversation with the boy.

Meanwhile, the child already had made contact with his mother back in Brazil. When they were separated, the father gave his son their cellphone, which had his mother's number.

Reached Thursday evening, the boy's mother told the AP that her son is allowed to call on Mondays and Thursdays, and each time they can speak 30 minutes. She said the boy is calmer than during their first conversations, but he is still anxious and wants to see his parents. The boy takes Ritalin for hyperactivity, and the facility has continued to give it to him, she said.

"He cries a lot and wants to leave," said the mother, who is 31 and cleans office buildings. "He is calmer now, but he still wants to get out of there."

"It's horrible. Awful," she said. "The kids are suffering. (Parents) are too."

Both parents told the AP they have repeatedly asked when they will see their son. They were hopeful that the executive order President Donald Trump signed Wednesday to cease such family separations for immigrants would help give them clarity, but so far there is none.

The father said he had an asylum interview on Thursday. When he asked about his son, the interviewing agent said that was the responsibility of a different department.

The mother said she has gotten similarly vague answers from the facility via a lawyer trying to help them.

A nonprofit law firm that works with immigrants pro bono, Aldea, The People's Justice Center, this week filed federal lawsuits on behalf of the 9-year-old and another Brazilian, a 15-year-old who also was separated from his father. The lawsuits contend the separation and processing of the parents and children separately are illegal, and demand reunification.

"We are bringing these suits because what these families have experienced is a travesty," said Karen Hoffmann, an attorney working on the cases. "Nobody knows what reunification is going to look like. The government certainly doesn't know."

Sharon Cohen, an Associated Press national writer in Chicago, contributed to this report.

See AP's complete coverage of the debate over the Trump administration's policy of family separation at the border: <https://apnews.com/tag/Immigration>

Confusion swirls on border after Trump reversal on families

By **WILL WEISSERT, SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN and COLLEEN LONG, Associated Press**

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — Immigration enforcement on the U.S.-Mexico border was plunged deeper into chaos over President Donald Trump's reversal of a policy separating immigrant children from parents, causing uncertainty for both migrant families and the federal agencies in charge of prosecuting and detaining them.

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A senior Trump administration official said that about 500 of the more than 2,300 children separated from their families at the border have been reunited since May. It was unclear how many of the children were still being detained with their families.

Federal agencies were working to set up a centralized reunification process for the remaining separated children and their families at a detention center just over the border in Texas, said the official, who was not authorized to speak publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

There were also signs that the administration was dialing back its "zero-tolerance" policy, for now.

The federal public defender's office for the region that covers cases from El Paso to San Antonio said Thursday the U.S. Attorney's Office would be dismissing cases in which parents were charged with illegally entering or re-entering the country and were subsequently separated from their children.

"Going forward, they will no longer bring criminal charges against a parent or parents entering the United States if they have their child with them," wrote Maureen Scott Franco, the federal public defender for the Western District of Texas, in an email shown to the AP.

In the Texas border city of McAllen, federal prosecutors unexpectedly did not pursue charges against 17 immigrants. A federal prosecutor said "there was no prosecution sought" in light of Trump's executive order ending the practice of separating families.

But the president showed no sign of softening in public remarks, even as Congress failed again to pass immigration reform.

Immigrants like Ever Castillo and Diva Funes were among those affected by the mixed signals from the U.S.

The couple from Comayagua, Honduras, arrived at the border Thursday and presented themselves for asylum with their five children, ages 1 to 12 years. Castillo said they did not know about the family separation policy when they began hitchhiking to the U.S. two weeks ago.

He said Border Patrol agents told them they would be separated if they entered the U.S., and they opted to walk back across the international bridge into Reynosa, Mexico. Rather than be separated from his children, "I said, 'better that we head back to my country,'" said Castillo.

A 7-year-old boy and his migrant mother separated a month ago were reunited Friday after she sued in federal court and the Justice Department agreed to release the child.

The two were reunited at about 2:30 a.m. at Baltimore-Washington International Airport in Maryland, hours after a Justice Department lawyer told a U.S. District Court judge the child would be released.

The mother, Beata Mariana de Jesus Mejia-Mejia, had filed for political asylum after crossing the border with her son, Darwin, following a trek from Guatemala. She said she started crying when the two were reunited and that she's never going to be away from him again.

Other immigrants who remained locked up and separated from their families struggled to stay in touch with children who are in many cases hundreds of miles apart.

A 31-year-old Brazilian man held in Cibola County Correctional Center in Milan, New Mexico, said he didn't know when he would see his 9-year-old son again.

The father told the AP in a phone interview Thursday that he spoke to his son once by phone since they were separated 26 days before. The man, who is seeking asylum, spoke on condition of anonymity because he said in Brazil he is sought by a criminal gang for failure to pay an \$8,000 debt, and fears retribution.

The man said he worried about his son, who only speaks Portuguese. "He cried. He was so sad," the father said. "I had promised him it would only be three to five days."

Thursday's uncertainty resulted from the abrupt ending of a White House policy that separated more than 2,300 children from their parents over the past several weeks — part of the administration's zero-tolerance immigration policy that was a signature campaign promise of Trump.

After Trump's executive order, a host of unanswered questions remained, including what will happen to the children already separated from their parents and where the government will house all the newly detained migrants in an already overcrowded system.

The administration began drawing up plans to house as many as 20,000 migrants on U.S. military bases, though officials gave differing accounts as to whether those beds would be for children or for entire fami-

lies. The Justice Department also went to court in an attempt to overturn a decades-old settlement that limits to 20 days the amount of time migrant children can be locked up with their families.

"We have to be very, very strong on the border. If we don't do it, you will be inundated with people and you really won't have a country," Trump said.

The Trump administration previously had not said whether any of the more 2,300 children separated from their families had been reunited. The senior Trump administration official who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity said many of the 500 children already reunited were back with their families within days of being separated. But other parents have said they didn't know where their children were.

Meanwhile, the mayors of about 20 U.S. cities gathered at a holding facility for immigrant children in the border city of El Paso. They accused Trump of failing to address a crisis of his own making and called for the immediate reunification of immigrant children with their families.

In Washington, the House killed a hard-right immigration bill Thursday and Republican leaders delayed a planned vote on a compromise GOP package, with party members fiercely divided on the issue. Democrats oppose both measures.

The rejected bill would have curbed legal immigration and bolstered border security but would not have granted a pathway to citizenship to "Dreamers" who arrived in the country illegally as children.

The delayed vote was on a compromise bill between GOP moderates and conservatives that would offer Dreamers a pathway to citizenship and provide \$25 billion for Trump's border wall, among other things.

First lady Melania Trump made a surprise visit to a McAllen detention center housing some of the children. She told the children to "be kind and nice to each other."

She made waves while boarding the flight to McAllen in a green military-style jacket with the message "I really don't care, do u?" on the back.

Montoya Bryan reported from El Paso and Long reported from Washington. Associated Press writers Peter Prengaman in Rio de Janeiro, Robert Burns in Washington, Nomaan Merchant in McAllen, Texas, and Amy Taxin in Riverside, California, contributed to this report.

See AP's complete coverage of the debate over the Trump administration's policy of family separation at the border: <https://apnews.com/tag/Immigration>

GOP struggles to salvage immigration bill, postpones vote

By LISA MASCARO, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House Republican immigration overhaul is dangling precariously. It is imperiled by stubborn differences between conservative and moderate factions — and by President Donald Trump's running commentary about a bill he only half-heartedly supported and then suggested would never become law.

Republican leaders were twice forced to postpone final voting, first until Friday and then punting it to next week, as negotiators made a last-ditch push for support.

They were trying to persuade colleagues to seize the moment and tackle immigration problems by approving the bill, which includes \$25 billion for Trump's border wall and a path to citizenship for young immigrants who have lived in the U.S. illegally since childhood.

Dems seek info about Virginia facility after abuse claims

By MICHAEL BIESECKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Virginia's two Democratic senators asked the Trump administration Friday for answers about operations at a juvenile detention facility in the state where immigrant children said they were bound, beaten and isolated in solitary confinement.

Sens. Mark Warner and Tim Kaine sent to the head of the U.S. Office of Refugee Resettlement questions

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about the Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Center. The Associated Press reported Thursday that six Latino teens had made sworn statements detailing severe abuse they said they endured between 2015 and 2018, under both the Obama and Trump administrations. In court filings, lawyers for the detention facility have denied all allegations of physical abuse.

The senators asked whether regulators had received any past complaints involving the facility located near Staunton, Virginia. The Democrats also want to know whether there is a system in place to discipline staff members who abuse children in federal custody.

Officials at the Department of Health and Human Services, which includes the Refugee Resettlement office, have refused to provide any comment this week about when they first learned of the abuse allegations and whether any action has been taken to determine the veracity of those claims.

Hours after AP's initial reporting Thursday, Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, also a Democrat, directed the state's secretary of public safety and homeland security and the Department of Juvenile Justice to report back to him "to ensure the safety of every child being held there."

The Shenandoah lockup is one of only three juvenile detention facilities in the United States with federal contracts to provide "secure placement" for immigrant children who had problems at less-restrictive housing.

The center was built by a coalition of seven nearby towns and counties to lock up local kids charged with serious crimes. Since 2007, about half the 58 beds are occupied by male and female immigrants between the ages of 12 and 17 facing deportation proceedings or awaiting rulings on asylum claims. It received \$4.2 million in federal funds last year to house the immigrant children.

On average, 92 immigrant children each year cycle through Shenandoah, most of them from Mexico and Central America. Though incarcerated in a facility similar to a prison, the children detained on administrative immigration charges have not yet been convicted of any crime.

As part of a federal class-action lawsuit, young immigrants held at the Shenandoah facility said in sworn statements said they were beaten while handcuffed and locked up for long periods in solitary confinement, left nude and shivering in concrete cells. Children as young as 14 also said the guards there stripped them of their clothes and strapped them to chairs with bags placed over their heads.

Follow Associated Press investigative reporter Michael Biesecker at <http://twitter.com/mbieseck>

Contact the AP's investigative team with tips about this or other matters: <https://www.ap.org/tips>

Muted reaction by 'pro-family' groups to family separations

By DAVID CRARY, AP National Writer

Even as many religious organizations, from liberal to conservative, denounced the Trump administration's policy of separating immigrant families at the U.S.-Mexico border, some major advocacy groups that depict themselves as "pro-family" declined to join in the criticism.

Two of the most influential anti-abortion groups in the U.S. — the National Right to Life Committee and the Susan B. Anthony List — said their focus on abortion is so intense that they avoid wading into other issues.

"We refrain from public comment on immigration and many other topics, including other policies that impact families," said the SBA List's president, Marjorie Dannenfelser.

David O'Steen, executive director of National Right to Life, said the organization has its hands full "trying to stop the killing of babies."

"There are many policies on which we have no stand, for or against," O'Steen said. "We're not on either side of this issue."

He noted that President Donald Trump had fulfilled several campaign promises to anti-abortion groups, including appointing federal judges endorsed by those groups and seeking to curtail government funding to Planned Parenthood.

O'Steen and Dannenfelser commented after their groups' silence on the separations was criticized in an

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opinion piece in The New York Times.

"If the traditional pro-life movement is to regain credibility as something other than a tool of the Trump administration, it must speak out clearly and forcefully against harming innocent children as a means of deterring undocumented immigration," wrote Charles Camosy, a Fordham University professor who is on the board of Democrats for Life of America.

The separation policy was in flux Wednesday as Republicans worked on legislation to address the issue permanently, and Trump signed an executive action to halt the separations.

Ahead of those new developments, two major Christian-oriented advocacy groups — the Family Research Council and Focus on the Family — had issued statements expressing regret that some immigrant families were being separated. But unlike numerous religious groups, they did not assail the Trump administration.

"It's impossible to feel anything but compassion for these kids, who must be dealing with a great deal of pain and confusion," wrote Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council. "But the origin of that pain and confusion isn't U.S. law or the Trump administration. That burden lies with their parents who knowingly put them in this position."

Jim Daly, president of Focus on the Family, wrote in a blog post that the crisis at the border is "a complex consequence of bad policy, unenforced laws and an inability of politicians to make difficult and often unpopular decisions."

In his post, he attacked Planned Parenthood — a leading provider of abortions — for its criticism of the separation policy.

"Planned Parenthood permanently separates children from their parents each and every day," Daly wrote.

The responses of these self-described family-values groups contrasted sharply with the harsh criticism of the policy from many religious organizations, including those with generally conservative outlooks.

"Families are the foundational element of our society, and they must be able to stay together," said the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Cardinal Daniel DiNardo. "Separating babies from their mothers is not the answer and is immoral."

Pope Francis, in an interview with Reuters published Wednesday, said he supported DiNardo's stance.

The Southern Baptist Convention, the largest Protestant denomination in the U.S., is broadly supportive of many Trump administration stances, but it passed a resolution at its recent national meeting saying "family unity" should be a priority of immigration policy.

One of the SBC's highest-profile leaders, the Rev. Russell Moore, was among eight prominent evangelicals co-signing a letter to Trump on June 1 warning that the family separations could cause "devastating and long-lasting" harm to the affected children.

The Mormon church said it was "deeply troubled" by the separations, depicting them as "aggressive and insensitive."

Attorney General Jeff Sessions was targeted with religious-based criticism after he cited biblical scripture to defend the separation policy.

Addressing "church friends" in a speech, Sessions said: "I would cite you to the Apostle Paul and his clear and wise command in Romans 13, to obey the laws of the government because God has ordained the government for his purposes."

This week, more than 600 members of Sessions' denomination, the United Methodist Church, signed a letter accusing him of child abuse, immorality and racial discrimination.

Sessions also was criticized Wednesday at the annual meeting of the largest black denomination in the U.S., the National Baptist Convention USA. Its president, the Rev. Jerry Young, said Sessions had taken the biblical passage out of context.

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Melania Trump dons 'I really don't care, do u?' jacket

By LEANNE ITALIE and DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Melania Trump went to Texas to show she cared about migrant children. Her fashion choice carried a baffling counter-message.

The first lady wore a green, hooded military jacket from the fast-fashion brand Zara that read "I really don't care, do u?" both as she departed and returned to Washington. The words were printed in white, in graffiti-style, on the jacket's back.

When asked what message the first lady intended to send, spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said: "It's a jacket. There was no hidden message. After today's important visit to Texas, I hope the media isn't going to choose to focus on her wardrobe."

Grisham underscored that message in a tweet with the hashtags #SheCares and #ItsJustAJacket.

But President Donald Trump offered his own interpretation, tweeting that it "refers to the Fake News Media. Melania has learned how dishonest they are, and she truly no longer cares!"

Mrs. Trump changed into a pale yellow jacket before the plane landed in McAllen, Texas, for a visit to the Upbring New Hope Children's Center, which houses 55 migrant children. But even after questions arose about her attire, Mrs. Trump was back in the green jacket when she returned to Washington in 80-degree weather. She has shown that she won't bow to public pressure or expectations about how she should comport herself as first lady.

Like it or not, Mrs. Trump's jacket, which reportedly retailed at \$39, had her trending on Twitter. One outraged user borrowed an image of the back of the jacket to promote groups working on behalf of immigrant children.

Zara, a Spain-based company with a large presence in the United States and around the world, had no comment. The jacket belongs to the Zara's spring-summer 2016 season and is no longer for sale by the company, though a few of the jackets popped up online for resale at a moderate profit for sellers.

The youthful jacket sharply contrasts with the first lady's typically bold, foreign-flavored and higher-priced wardrobe. In public appearances, the first lady has worn designs by Dolce & Gabbana (remember her \$51,500 D&G jacket at the G-7 summit in Italy?), Del Pozo, Christian Dior, Emilio Pucci, Givenchy and Valentino, often with daringly high Christian Louboutin heels.

It's not the first time the first lady's fashion choices have caused a stir.

Last August, a pair of Mrs. Trump's signature spike heels earned her a round of bafflement as she boarded Air Force One bound for Texas to tour devastation after Hurricane Harvey. She had changed into white sneakers by the time she and the president landed.

At the second 2016 presidential debate, Mrs. Trump showed up in a fuchsia silk blouse with a large bow at the neck, long known as a "pussy bow blouse." That was just days after reports surfaced that her husband had made lewd remarks years earlier about grabbing women by the genitals.

On the other side of the political aisle, former first lady Michelle Obama routinely caught grief from some critics for going sleeveless. Her husband, President Barack Obama, was the talk of a 24-hour news cycle when he donned a tan suit in 2014 for a media briefing.

Italie reported from New York.

Trump jabbed first, and now world hits back in trade fight

BY PAUL WISEMAN, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States attacked first, imposing tariffs on steel and aluminum from around the globe and threatening to hit tens of billions of dollars in Chinese products.

Now, the world is punching back.

The European Union is set Friday to slap tariffs on \$3.4 billion in American products, from whiskey and motorcycles to peanuts and cranberries. India and Turkey have already targeted U.S. products, ranging from rice to autos to sunscreen.

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And the highest-stakes fight still looms: In two weeks, the United States is to start taxing \$34 billion in Chinese goods. Beijing has vowed to immediately retaliate with its own tariffs on U.S. soybeans and other farm products in a direct shot at President Donald Trump's supporters in America's heartland.

The tit-for-tat conflict between the United States and China — the world's two largest economies — is poised to escalate from there. The rhetoric is already intensifying.

"We oppose the act of extreme pressure and blackmail by swinging the big stick of trade protectionism," a spokesman for China's Commerce Ministry said Thursday. "The U.S. is abusing the tariff methods and starting trade wars all around the world."

Cecilia Malmstrom, the EU's trade commissioner, acknowledged that the EU had targeted some iconic American imports for tariffs, like Harley-Davidson motorcycles and bourbon, to "make noise" and put pressure on U.S. leaders.

John Murphy, a senior vice president at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, estimates that \$75 billion in U.S. products will be subject to new foreign tariffs by the end of the first week of July.

"We've never seen anything like this," said Mary Lovely, a Syracuse University economist who studies international trade — at least not since countries tried to wall themselves off from foreign competition during the Great Depression.

Those personally in the line of fire are among the most concerned.

"It will be a disaster," said Nagesh Balusu, manager of the Salt Whisky Bar and Dining Room in London and expects the European Union's tariffs to add more than \$7 to the price of a bottle of Jack Daniels, which is imported from Tennessee. "It's going to hit customers, that's for sure. How they'll take it, we'll have to wait and see."

As painful as the brewing trade war could prove, many have seen it coming.

Trump ran for the presidency on a vow to topple seven decades of American policy that had favored ever-freer trade among nations. He charged that a succession of poorly negotiated accords — including the North American Free Trade Agreement and the pact that admitted China into the World Trade Organization — put American manufacturers at an unfair disadvantage and destroyed millions of U.S. factory jobs.

He pledged to impose tariffs on imports from countries that Trump said had exploited the United States. Late last month, Trump proceeded to infuriate U.S. allies — from the EU to Canada and Mexico by imposing tariffs of 25 percent on imported steel and 10 percent on aluminum. The president justified the move by saying imported metals threatened America's national security — a dubious justification that countries have used rarely because it can be so easily abused.

And he is threatening to impose another national security-based tariff on imports of cars, trucks and auto parts.

Trump has also started a trade fight with China over Beijing's sharp-elbowed efforts to overtake U.S. technological dominance. China's tactics range from forcing American companies to hand over technology in exchange for access to the Chinese market to outright cyber-theft.

The White House last week announced plans to slap 25 percent tariffs on 1,100 Chinese goods, worth \$50 billion in imports. Trump would start July 6 by taxing \$34 billion worth of products and later add tariffs on an additional \$16 billion in goods.

The Chinese have said they will respond in kind. Trump said he would then retaliate against any counterpunch from Beijing by targeting an additional \$200 billion in Chinese products, and then yet another \$200 billion if China refused to back down. All told, the \$450 billion in potential tariffs would cover nearly 90 percent of goods China sends to the United States.

The tariffs and threats have begun to take a toll. Steel and aluminum prices, for example, have shot up and supplies have become scarce.

"Steel pricing is usually relatively stable," said Al Rheinacker, CEO of American Piping Products in Chesterfield, Missouri, which distributes steel pipe to numerous industries. But "since April, you can quote something on Monday, and if the customer doesn't buy it right away, you may have to raise the price on Thursday."

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So far, Rheinnecker has managed to pass along the higher costs to his customers. He's not sure how long that will last.

The Commerce Department is allowing companies to request exemptions from the steel and aluminum tariffs — if they can show that the metals they need aren't available from American producers. The department expected 4,500 requests. But it's been overwhelmed by more than 20,000. This week, it said it has processed just 98 requests so far, approving 42 and denying 56.

The rising tensions and the chaos surrounding the steel and aluminum tariffs are starting to generate pushback on Capitol Hill. Senators this week grilled Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross.

"As you consider these tariffs, know that you are taxing American families, you are putting American jobs at risk, and you are destroying markets — both foreign and domestic — for American businesses of all types, sorts and sizes," said Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah.

Economists and trade analysts worry that there may be no way out of an all-out trade war between the United States and its most vital trading partners.

"The president has been so belligerent that it becomes almost impossible for democratically elected leaders — or even a non-democratic leader like (Chinese president) Xi Jinping — to appear to kowtow and give in," said Philip Levy, senior fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and a former White House trade adviser. "The president has made it very hard for other countries to give him what he wants."

This story has been corrected to show that Nagesh Balusu is the manager of the Salt Whisky Bar and Dining Room in London. An earlier version misspelled his surname as Balesu and incorrectly said he was the restaurant's owner.

AP Writer Robert Stevens in London contributed to this report.

Follow Paul Wiseman on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/PaulWisemanAP>

Official: Hundreds of kids reunited with families since May

By **NOMAAN MERCHANT, SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN and COLLEEN LONG, Associated Press**

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — About 500 of the more than 2,300 children separated from their families at the U.S.-Mexico border have been reunited since May, a senior Trump administration official said Thursday, as confusion mounted over the "zero tolerance" policy that called for the prosecution of anyone caught entering the United States illegally.

It was unclear how many of the roughly 500 children were still being detained with their families. Federal agencies were working to set up a centralized reunification process for the remaining separated children and their families at the Port Isabel Detention Center just north of border in Texas, said the official, who was not authorized to speak publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

The U.S. government was wrestling with the ramifications of President Donald Trump's move to stop separating families at the border and Congress again failing to take action on immigration amid outcry from all corners of the world, with the images and sounds of crying children dominating the news.

The Trump administration previously had not said whether any hundreds of children who were separated from their families had been reunited. The official said many of reunited families were back together after a few days of separation. But other parents have said they don't know where their children are and were struggling to get answers. Some mothers were deported without their kids.

Meanwhile, there were signs that the administration was dialing back its "zero tolerance" policy, for now.

The federal public defender's office for the region that covers cases from El Paso to San Antonio said Thursday the U.S. Attorney's Office would be dismissing cases in which parents were charged with illegally entering or re-entering the country and were subsequently separated from their children.

"Going forward, they will no longer bring criminal charges against a parent or parents entering the United States if they have their child with them," wrote Maureen Scott Franco, the federal public defender for the

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Western District of Texas, in an email shown to the AP.

In the Texas border city of McAllen, federal prosecutors unexpectedly did not pursue charges against 17 immigrants. A federal prosecutor said "there was no prosecution sought" in light of Trump's executive order ending the practice of separating families.

But president showed no sign of softening.

The Trump administration began drawing up plans to house as many as 20,000 migrants on U.S. military bases, though officials gave differing accounts as to whether those beds would be for children or for entire families. The Justice Department also went to court in an attempt to overturn a decades-old settlement that limits to 20 days the amount of time migrant children can be locked up with their families.

"We have to be very, very strong on the border. If we don't do it, you will be inundated with people and you really won't have a country," Trump said.

Thursday's uncertainty resulted from the abrupt ending Wednesday of a White House-sanctioned practice of separating more than 2,300 children from their parents over the past several weeks. After Trump's executive order, a host of unanswered questions remained, including what will happen to the children already separated from their parents and where the government will house all the newly detained migrants, with the system already bursting at the seams.

Officials from the Defense Department and Health and Human Services said the Pentagon has agreed to provide space on military bases to hold up to 20,000 people detained after illegally crossing the Mexican border.

It was unclear which bases would be used. But HHS has assessed four as prospective housing for children: Fort Bliss, Goodfellow Air Force Base and Dyess Air Force Base in Texas, and Little Rock Air Force Base in Arkansas.

The Justice Department asked a federal judge to change the rules regarding the detention of immigrant children, seeking permission to detain them for longer than the permitted 20 days in an effort to keep them together with their parents.

Meanwhile, the mayors of about 20 U.S. cities gathered at a holding facility for immigrant children in the border city of El Paso. They accused Trump of failing to address a crisis of his own making and called for the immediate reunification of immigrant children with their families.

"This is a humanitarian crisis," Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan said.

In Washington, the House killed a hard-right immigration bill Thursday and Republican leaders delayed a planned vote on a compromise GOP package, with party members fiercely divided on the issue. Democrats oppose both measures.

The rejected bill would have curbed legal immigration and bolstered border security but would not have granted a pathway to citizenship to "Dreamers" who arrived in the country illegally as children.

The delayed vote was on a compromise bill between GOP moderates and conservatives that would offer Dreamers a pathway to citizenship and provide \$25 billion for Trump's border wall, among other things.

Elsewhere, Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam of Virginia ordered an investigation into claims by children at an immigration detention facility that they were beaten while handcuffed and locked up for long periods in solitary confinement, left nude and shivering in concrete cells.

First lady Melania Trump made a surprise visit to a McAllen detention center that is housing some of the children. She told the children to "be kind and nice to each other."

She made waves while boarding the flight to McAllen in a green military-style jacket with the message "I really don't care, do u?" on the back.

Asked about it, her spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said: "It's a jacket. There was no hidden message."

Mrs. Trump was wearing a different jacket when the plane landed.

___ Montoya Bryan reported from El Paso, Long from Washington, D.C. Associated Press writers Robert Burns in Washington and Amy Taxin in Riverside, Calif., contributed to this report.

___ See AP's complete coverage of the debate over the Trump administration's policy of family separation at the border: <https://apnews.com/tag/Immigration>

Hope, despair in poetry by immigrant children in US lockup

By JAKE PEARSON, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The young immigrants held in prison-like conditions at a juvenile detention center in the mountains of Virginia express despair. Some cling to pleasant memories from home. For a select few, there is hope.

For a handful of immigrants who came to the U.S. from Central America — many as unaccompanied minors — poetry has given them a chance to tell the world both about their journeys north — and through the byzantine immigration system.

"A lot happens in life, most of it sad, an occasional happiness, and sometimes you have no choice but to play the clown and laugh on the outside, even though inside we feel less than failures," wrote one of them in a poem titled "The Future."

The collection of poems in "American Dream," published last year, was assembled by a Washington and Lee University professor and students who visited the Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Center in Staunton, Virginia, lockup and helped the young immigrants put pencil to paper, giving voice to a largely unheard population at the center of an increasingly heated U.S. policy debate.

The Associated Press reported Thursday that immigrants as young as 14 at the center said they were beaten, locked away in solitary confinement for long periods of time and left alone naked in cold cells. Their claims were included in a federal civil rights lawsuit filed in October. The AP's reporting also cited an adult who saw bruises and broken bones the children said were caused by guards. In court filings, officials at the detention facility denied all the allegations of physical abuse, which the lawsuit asserts happened between 2015 to 2018, during both the Obama and Trump administrations.

Republicans and Democrats in Washington said the allegations described by the AP were alarming, and Virginia's governor on Thursday ordered state officials to investigate the abuse claims.

The writings in "American Dream" offer another kind of sworn testimony than what is detailed in the court files, said poet Jimmy Santiago Baca, who visited the center last year and worked with the immigrants on their poems.

"Every single kid in there acknowledged it was despair without an outlet, it was a dark tomorrow without a voice," he said.

In a poem titled "Hi, Love," one of the immigrants wrote: "Bitterness, thank you for feeding me and giving me life. Without you I don't know what I'd be, I'd be someone without emotions, without reason to exist or reason to live."

In an untitled poem, another child wrote about trying to end his life six times.

"I don't know what will happen with my life," wrote yet another teen, in a poem called "I have a dream..." "But I don't worry about that. My life has been a disaster and I don't think that will change."

None of the poems' authors is identified and the facility in Virginia was not identified in the book.

Cristina Casado, who manages the Office of Refugee Resettlement program at the Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Center, wrote in a postscript of the 111-page book that the children had behavioral or criminal histories and experienced trauma in their home countries. She said, "working with these children in a secure environment is a difficult but extremely rewarding experience."

The book's publisher, Larry Moffi, said that so far "American Dream" sold about 1,500 copies, and all proceeds from the \$16 sales were donated to a Washington legal clinic representing the immigrants in their deportation proceedings.

"They were so excited to have this book," Moffi said. The immigrants were given copies of "American Dream" after it was published last fall. "It's the first book they'd ever had and they're in it."

Not all the poems dwell on the bleakness of their journeys north and confinement since.

In "My Dog Spay," one immigrant wrote about the joy of his long-lost pet.

"Being without him now makes me feel like I have nothing in my life," he wrote. "And when we see each other he's going to be so happy he'll start jumping like crazy."

Another immigrant directly addresses President Donald Trump.

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"You don't know what you're doing/ It's your fault we're being booted/ It's our jobs we're losing/ Damn fool, why you hassling us," he wrote.

No. 1 Sun: Phoenix takes Ayton; Trae Young, Doncic swapped

By BRIAN MAHONEY, AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Phoenix Suns stayed close to home for their first No. 1 pick. The Dallas Mavericks looked all the way to Slovenia for the player they hope can be their next European superstar.

Shortly after the Suns took Deandre Ayton to start the NBA draft Thursday night, the Mavericks traded up two spots for the rights to Luka Doncic.

The Atlanta Hawks swapped the rights to Doncic, the No. 3 pick who has spent the last year winning championships all over Europe, to Atlanta for Trae Young, the No. 5 selection from Oklahoma.

The Mavericks also gave up a future first-round pick to draft Doncic, who only arrived in New York on Wednesday after helping Spain's Real Madrid win its league championship after he won Euroleague MVP and Final Four MVP honors when they won that title this year.

His lengthy European season kept him from working out for teams but he knew the Mavericks were interested in having him on their team for what's expected to be Dirk Nowitzki's final NBA season.

"I've been talking to Dallas a lot. They really wanted me, and they were very, very nice," the 19-year-old said. "They were very nice to me, and I think we had a very good relationship."

The Hawks will get perhaps the most exciting player in college basketball last season in Young, the first player to lead the nation in scoring and assists in the same season.

"Whatever city I went to, I was going to be able to be comfortable in," said Young, who wore suit shorts with his burgundy-colored jacket. "I was just really excited to get to Atlanta."

After that, it was a mostly straightforward draft with little fireworks, but plenty of national champion Villanova Wildcats.

The top of it was dominated by big men, starting with a pair of former high school teammates.

The Suns made the 7-foot-1 Ayton the first No. 1 pick in franchise history. The center from Arizona averaged 20.1 points and 11.6 rebounds in his lone season in Tucson, tying for the national lead with 24 double-doubles in 35 games.

He joined Mychal Thompson — father of Golden State All-Star Klay Thompson — in 1978 as the only players from the Bahamas to be the No. 1 pick in the NBA draft.

"Having my name called to be the first pick for the Phoenix Suns was mind-blowing," Ayton said. "Having all that confidence and leading up to that point when I saw Adam Silver come out, I was just waiting for my name, and when he called it, my mind went blank."

The Sacramento Kings followed by taking Marvin Bagley III, the Duke big man who played with Ayton at Hillcrest Prep Academy in Phoenix in 2015-16.

With Michigan State's Jaren Jackson Jr. going fourth to Memphis, Texas center Mo Bamba going No. 6 to Orlando and Wendell Carter Jr. following to Chicago, it was an early run of big men in what's increasingly become a perimeter-based league.

Then it was another guard with Alabama's Collin Sexton going at No. 8 to Cleveland, triggering chants of Michael Porter Jr.'s name by Knicks fans who hoped they would take him with the No. 9 pick. But they ended up disappointed as New York went with Kentucky's Kevin Knox.

"They booed (Kristaps) Porzingis (on draft night) and look where he is now. That's the same mindset I'm going to have," Knox said. "They can chant Michael Porter all they want. But they got Kevin Knox, and I'm willing to work and I'm willing to get better."

With concerns over back problems that limited him to only three games at Missouri last season, followed by a recent hip injury that he believe scared off teams, Porter ended up falling all the way to Denver at No. 14, the last lottery position.

There were a couple other trades involving lottery picks. Mikal Bridges, the No. 10 pick from Villanova who thought he was staying in Philadelphia with the 76ers — who employ his mother — but was dealt

to Phoenix for the rights to No. 16 pick Zhaire Smith of Texas Tech and a 2012 first-round pick from the Miami Heat.

The Charlotte Hornets sent the rights to No. 11 pick Shai Gilgeous-Alexander — whose floral-patterned suit stood out among the selections — to the Clippers for No. 12 pick Miles Bridges and two future second-round picks.

After Bridges, Final Four Most Outstanding Player Donte DiVincenzo went to Milwaukee at No. 17 and Omari Spellman to Atlanta at No. 30, giving Villanova three first-round picks for the first time. National player of the year Jalen Brunson then was picked by Dallas with the third pick of the second round.

The Holiday brothers had an NBA reunion when Aaron Holiday was taken at No. 23 by Indiana. Brothers Jrue and Justin already play in the league.

Speaking of brothers, Kostas Antetokounmpo of Dayton, brother of Bucks All-Star Giannis Antetokounmpo, was the 60th and final pick by Philadelphia. That marked the first time three international siblings were drafted into the NBA, as Thanasis Antetokounmpo was the No. 51 pick in 2014.

More AP NBA: <https://apnews.com/tag/NBAbasketball>

Intel CEO out after consensual relationship with employee

By BARBARA ORTUTAY, AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Intel CEO Brian Krzanich resigned after the company learned of what it called a past, consensual relationship with an employee.

Intel said Thursday that the relationship was in violation of the company's non-fraternization policy, which applies to all managers. Spokesman William Moss said Intel has had the policy in place for "many years." He declined to comment further.

Chief Financial Officer Robert Swan will take over as interim CEO immediately. A search for a new CEO is underway.

Corporate America is under intense pressure to enforce workplace policies on gender equality and sexual harassment. Thanks largely to the #MeToo era, even relationships that appear consensual are closely scrutinized — and often prohibited by companies — if they involve a power imbalance such as the one between a manager and an employee.

Intel said it has enforced the policy, which has been in place since 2011, against managers on several occasions. It applies to both direct and indirect reports of managers. If an employee suspects such a relationship, they are required to report it.

Workplace impropriety that has cost executives their jobs runs a broad range from consensual dalliances to accusations of assault.

Earlier this month, Guess Inc. co-founder Paul Marciano stepped down following a company investigation into allegations of sexual harassment and assault.

John Lasseter, co-founder of Pixar Animation Studios and Walt Disney's animation chief, also recently said he was resigning over what he called "missteps" with employees.

Years before #MeToo, the CEO of Hewlett-Packard Co., Mark Hurd, was ousted following accusations of sexual harassment by a female contract worker. Hurd settled with the woman in 2010.

In 2012, Best Buy CEO Brian Dunn resigned abruptly after the company launched an internal investigation into what the company called his "personal conduct" unrelated to Best Buy's business. An audit later revealed the issue was an "extremely close personal relationship with a female employee."

The male-dominated tech industry has been a hotbed for allegations of harassment and discrimination, and in some ways foreshadowed #MeToo as female employees began speaking out. In February 2017, former Uber engineer Susan Fowler wrote an explosive, detailed blog post about the culture of systemic harassment and abuse that she experienced at the ride-hailing company. It wasn't until the fall that #MeToo began taking off.

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Krzanich joined Intel Corp. in 1982 as an engineer and rose through the ranks until he became CEO in 2013. During his tenure, Intel worked to push into growing businesses such as internet-based computing, high-speed memory chips and smart, connected objects that make up what's known as the "Internet of Things," or IoT — along with fields such as artificial intelligence and self-driving cars.

Earlier this year, Google security researchers announced that they have discovered serious security flaws affecting computer processors built by Intel and other chipmakers. Google's Project Zero team disclosed the vulnerability not long after Intel said it's working to patch it.

Krzanich sold about \$39 million in Intel stock and options in late November of last year, after Intel was notified but before the security vulnerability was publicly known. Intel had said it was notified about the bugs in June. But the company also said at the time that the stock sale was unrelated to the security flaws.

Krzanich had also been a champion of workplace diversity. In 2015 at the CES gadget show in Las Vegas, Krzanich challenged the tech industry to increase the hiring of women and minorities, and he set a goal of full representation in his company's workforce by 2020. Intel said it was investing \$300 million to improve diversity at the company.

Krzanich's resignation "comes at a difficult time for Intel," said Cowen analyst Matthew Ramsay in a note to investors. He added that he does not see a "clear internal long-term successor" given recent high-profile departures at the company. Diane Bryant, the former president of Intel's data center group, went to Google in 2017. Former CFO Stacy Smith announced his retirement last summer and Renee James, Intel's former president, left in 2015.

Given that so much change at the company was driven by Krzanich, Ramsay said his departure could make succession planning and further transitions "challenging."

His abrupt departure overshadowed otherwise positive news for the giant chip maker.

Intel said Thursday that it expects to post a per-share profit of 99 cents in the second quarter, 13 cents better than Wall Street was expecting, and revenue of \$16.9 billion, which is also better than had been projected by industry analysts.

Shares of Intel Corp., based in Santa Clara, California, closed down 2.4 percent at \$52.19.

AP Business Writer Damian Troise contributed to this story.

APNewsBreak: About 500 kids reunited with families since May

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — The Latest on the separation of immigrant children from their parents following President Donald Trump's order allowing them to remain with their parents (all times local):

8:25 p.m.

A senior Trump administration official says about 500 of the more than 2,000 children separated from their families at the border have been reunited since May.

The official said Thursday those children had been separated from their parents as a result of a "zero tolerance" policy that calls for the criminal prosecution of anyone caught crossing the U.S. border illegally. The official was not authorized to give out the number and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

The official says many of the children were reunited within days after being separated from their families. The official wasn't certain how many of the reunited children remained in custody with their families or how many were no longer in the country.

The official says U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Health and Human Services are working to set up a centralized reunification process at the Port Isabel Detention Center near Los Fresnos, Texas.

---Associated Press writer Colleen Long in Washington, D.C.

6:45 p.m.

An email from the federal public defender's office that covers cases from El Paso to San Antonio shows that the U.S. Attorney's Office will be dismissing cases in which parents were charged with illegally enter-

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ing or re-entering the country and were subsequently separated from their children.

The notification came Thursday afternoon from the federal public defender's office for the western district of Texas.

El Paso immigration attorney Carlos Spector says the notice puts "a major dent" in the zero-tolerance policy as it implies that federal officials will not be prosecuting these cases. It's unclear how many cases have been and will be dismissed as a result.

With the criminal charges dismissed, Spector said this removes the basis for separating children from their parents.

5:45 p.m.

Arkansas' Republican governor says he's opposed to the federal government using any facilities in the state to house migrant children who are separated from their parents.

Gov. Asa Hutchinson said Thursday he understands that officials are looking at the Little Rock Air Force Base and unused federal land in south Arkansas to house immigrants and that the decision on using the facilities is being made in Washington and not at the state level.

Hutchinson says any costs for housing immigrant families would be paid by the federal government.

Hutchinson a day earlier rejected calls from Democratic leaders in the majority-Republican legislature to recall the state's National Guard soldiers deployed to assist in border surveillance.

4:50 p.m.

Pope Francis says countries should take in as many migrants as they can handle and properly integrate into their societies.

Speaking to reporters aboard his airplane as he flew back to Rome on Thursday after a daylong trip to Geneva, Francis reiterated that he supports the U.S. bishops who condemned the immigration policy of separating children from parents who enter the United States illegally.

Francis also endorsed European proposals to develop jobs and education in African countries to combat trafficking of migrants seeking better lives in Europe.

The pope decried that migrants sent back to Libya suffer torture and other abuse in prisons he likened to World War II concentration camps.

He said: "Each country can accept the migrants that they can handle and integrate," including by having enough jobs.

4:10 p.m.

Two Pennsylvania facilities are housing immigrant children separated from their families at the border under President Donald Trump's "zero tolerance" policy.

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reports that about 50 children have been sent to the Holy Family Institute in Emsworth, about 8 miles (13 kilometers) north of Pittsburgh since April.

Facility CEO Sister Linda Yankoski confirmed the Institute is under contract with the Office of Refugee Resettlement, is housing the children and has housed unaccompanied minors since 2010.

WHYY radio reports at least nine children have been sent to another shelter in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley.

Elizabeth Yaeger, supervising attorney for HIAS Pennsylvania's Immigrant Youth Advocacy Project said she could not disclose the exact location or name of the shelter.

3:30 p.m.

An attorney representing immigrant children says a decades-old court settlement doesn't require or even imply that the U.S. government should separate families entering the country illegally.

Peter Schey said Thursday that he will oppose a Trump administration request for a federal judge in Los Angeles to alter the longstanding agreement that ensures children are released from detention facilities.

Schey says the administration is seeking to deflect blame for its recent family separation policy after public outcry and called the government's filing "deceptive and dishonest."

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The judge ruled during the Obama administration that children had to be released from family detention facilities after authorities began detaining mothers with children in response to a surge in Central American immigrants seeking asylum.

3:15 p.m.

The prospect of the U.S. government housing up to 20,000 migrant children on military bases has raised questions on Capitol Hill.

Sen. Chuck Schumer said Thursday that he wants to know how many children are already being held after illegally crossing the U.S.-Mexico border and in what conditions.

A defense official says the Department Health and Human Services asked for the space and the Pentagon agreed. The official had knowledge of the request and spoke on condition of anonymity because the arrangement hasn't yet been announced.

Schumer asked why reporters haven't been allowed to tour detention facilities and how the new plan would work. The New York Democrat also wondered how the Trump administration was keeping track of families separated under its "zero tolerance" policy on illegal border crossings.

— Associated Press journalist Robert Burns in Washington

3:15 p.m.

A Florida criminal defendant says he's been working at a Miami-area facility housing dozens of children separated from their families at the U.S.-Mexico border.

The Miami Herald reported that Franky Santos told Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Jeri Cohen this week that his job was "like a day care," overseeing children ages 12 to 17. He said he wasn't supposed to discuss it publicly.

Santos faces felony drug possession charges from a 2017 traffic stop where an officer found 20 grams of marijuana. He said the contractor running the facility knew his criminal history.

Cohen said Santos' hiring was "a disgrace" and urged him to quit. She said people with pending criminal cases shouldn't be working there.

The contractor, Comprehensive Health Services Inc., referred questions to the Department Health and Human Services.

2:45 p.m.

A defense official says the Pentagon has agreed to provide housing on military bases for up to 20,000 migrant children detained after illegally crossing the U.S.-Mexico border.

The official says the Department Health and Human Services asked for the space and the Pentagon agreed to support it. The official had knowledge of the request and spoke on condition of anonymity because the arrangement has not yet been announced.

It was first reported by The Washington Post.

It's unclear which military bases would be used to house the children. HHS has assessed four military bases as prospective housing for child migrants.

Three are in Texas: Fort Bliss, Goodfellow Air Force Base and Dyess Air Force Base. The fourth is Little Rock Air Force Base in Arkansas. It's not clear whether other bases are under consideration.

— Associated Press journalist Robert Burns in Washington

2:45 p.m.

Washington and more than a half-dozen other states say they plan to sue the Trump administration over a policy that separated immigrant families illegally entering the United States.

Washington Attorney General Bob Ferguson made the announcement Thursday outside a federal prison in the city of SeaTac, south of Seattle, where about 200 immigration detainees have been transferred — including women separated from their children.

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Ferguson says the separations violate the due process rights of children and their parents and that Trump's executive order Wednesday halting the practice hasn't resolved the legal concerns.

Massachusetts, California, Maryland, Oregon, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Minnesota plan to join the lawsuit. New York has separately announced plans to sue.

1:05 p.m.

First lady Melania Trump boarded a flight to a facility housing migrant children separated from their parents wearing a jacket that read "I really don't care, do u?"

The green hooded spring military jacket has the words written graffiti-style on the back.

When asked what message the first lady's jacket intended to send, spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said: "It's a jacket. There was no hidden message."

Mrs. Trump wore a different pale yellow jacket when the plane landed in McAllen, Texas, for a visit to the Upbring New Hope Children's Center, which houses 55 migrant children.

The trendy jacket sharply contrasts with the first lady's typically bold, foreign-flavored wardrobe.

In public appearances, the first lady has worn designs by Dolce & Gabbana, Del Pozo, Christian Dior, Emilio Pucci, Givenchy and Valentino, often with daringly high Christian Louboutin heels.

1 p.m.

The Justice Department has agreed to release a child separated from his migrant mother after she sued in federal court.

Justice Department lawyer Sarah Fabian told U.S. District Court Judge Paul L. Friedman at a hearing Thursday that the child would be released in the afternoon.

The mother is Beata Mariana de Jesus Mejia-Mejia. She filed for political asylum after crossing the border with her 7-year old son Darwin following a trek from Guatemala.

Mother and son will be reunited in the Washington area before traveling to Texas, where they will live while her asylum claim is being decided.

12:30 p.m.

The Justice Department has formally asked a federal judge to change the rules on detaining families caught at the border.

Lawyers on Thursday filed a memorandum to a class-settlement that governs how children are handled when they are caught crossing the U.S. border illegally.

The Flores settlement states that families cannot be detained longer than 20 days.

The move is aimed at stopping the separation of children from their families amid a new policy where anyone caught crossing the border is charged criminally.

President Donald Trump signed an order Wednesday stopping the practice that has resulted in the separation of more than 2,300 children from their families. Homeland Security officials will detain families together.

It's not clear what will happen with the children already separated.

12:25 p.m.

Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam has ordered state officials to investigate claims made by immigrant teens of severe physical abuse at a juvenile detention facility.

Northam announced the probe in a tweet on Thursday, hours after The Associated Press reported on a half-dozen sworn statements from Latino teens held at the Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Center.

Youths as young as 14 say they were beaten while handcuffed and locked up for long periods in solitary confinement, left nude and shivering in concrete cells.

Detainees also say the guards stripped them of their clothes and strapped them to chairs with bags placed over their heads.

The governor, a Democrat, said the allegations are disturbing and ordered the state's secretary of public safety and homeland security to report back to him about conditions inside the facility.

The center's lawyers deny all abuse allegations.

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12:20 p.m.

Melania Trump in a visit to Texas facility got a firsthand look at some of the migrant children sent there by the U.S. government after their families entered the country illegally.

The first lady's stop Thursday at Upbring New Hope Children's Center came the morning after President Donald Trump signed an executive order halting the practice of separating these families.

She visited a one-story red brick building, which houses 55 children between the ages of 12 and 17.

Third-graders welcomed the first lady with a large paper American flag they'd signed taped to a wall.

With the words, "Welcome! First Lady" written in black marker across the red and white bars, Mrs. Trump also signed the flag, which the children gave to her.

11:20 a.m.

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement office in Portland has been closed for a second day because of a demonstration against Trump administration immigration policies.

Agency spokeswoman Carissa Cutrell says people who had appointments scheduled for Thursday will be contacted by deportation officers to have their meetings rescheduled. The appointments will not be reported as missed check-ins.

Cutrell declined to say how many people work at the Portland office, or if they have been working from home.

The round-the-clock protest began Sunday, with protesters calling for an end to the Trump administration's "zero tolerance" policy in which all unlawful border crossings are referred for prosecution.

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler, a Trump critic, says he does not want city police involved in any effort to end the protest.

11:10 a.m.

A spokeswoman for the Department of Justice says a report is inaccurate that parents who try to illegally cross the border with children will no longer be criminally prosecuted.

Spokeswoman Sarah Isgur Flores says there has been no change to the "zero tolerance" policy that resulted in the separation of more than 2,300 children from their parents.

President Donald Trump on Wednesday signed an order to stop the separations. Justice Department lawyers are working on a legal challenge to allow families to be detained longer than 20 days.

The Washington Post reported that the policy was suspended until U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement could find space to detain them.

In McAllen, Texas, a civil rights group attorney says federal prosecutors unexpectedly dropped misdemeanor charges against 17 adult immigrants who crossed the border with children Thursday.

10:50 a.m.

Mayors who gathered at a holding facility for immigrant children at Texas' border with Mexico say that President Trump has failed to address a humanitarian crisis of his own making with an executive order to halt the separation minors from families that are detained crossing the U.S. border illegally.

Seattle Mayor and former U.S. attorney Jenny Durkan said Thursday at a news conference on the outskirts of El Paso that immigrant shelters have been overwhelmed by criminal prosecutions ordered by the Trump administration.

She joined about 20 mayors from cities across the country to call for the immediate reunification of immigrant children with their families.

New York Mayor Bill de Blasio says that separated immigrant children still don't know when they will see their parents again.

Columbia, South Carolina Mayor Steve Benjamin says a request to tour the holding facility for minors at Tornillo, Texas, was denied by the Department of Health and Human Services.

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9:50 a.m.

An official says three immigrant children who have been staying in a Catholic Charities shelter in Fort Worth, Texas, are expected to be reunited with their family Thursday.

Heather Reynolds, the nonprofit's director, says the three are among 12 immigrant children at the shelter who were separated from their parents under a Trump administration "zero tolerance" policy. She says half are boys and half are girls, and they range in age from age 5 to 12.

Reynolds declined to provide details about the three kids who are expected to be reunited with family Thursday.

She says Present Donald Trump's executive order Wednesday allowing immigrant kids to remain with their parents mentions how future illegal border crossing will be handled, but it doesn't address the more than 2,000 children who have already been separated since May. She says this leaves groups like hers "uncertain" about how to manage those kids already in detention in the U.S.

9 a.m.

A civil rights group attorney says federal prosecutors unexpectedly dropped misdemeanor charges against 17 adult immigrants who crossed the border with children.

Efren Olivares, a lawyer with the Texas Civil Rights Project, said outside of the federal courthouse in McAllen, Texas, that the 17 immigrants were supposed to have been sentenced Thursday morning for improperly entering the U.S.

Olivares says the 17 will likely be placed in immigration detention, though he didn't know whether they would be reunited immediately with their children or released altogether. Asked if they had any reaction to the charges against them being dropped, he said, "They're asking about their children, frankly."

The Texas Civil Rights Project is interviewing adults to track them and their children through separate government systems.

The dropping of the charges comes a day after President Donald Trump reversed a policy of forcibly separating immigrant children from their parents upon entering the U.S. without permission.

First lady visits migrant children housed in Texas

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

McALLEN, Texas (AP) — Melania Trump visited with migrant children Thursday during a brief stop at a Texas facility housing some of the youth separated from their parents as her husband's administration prosecutes adults who enter the U.S. illegally from Mexico.

The first lady, who has a 12-year-old son, smiled and laughed with the migrant children. "Be kind and nice to each other, OK," she said as she left one classroom at Upbring New Hope Children's Center and headed for another.

Plans for her to visit a second facility where children housed in cages were seen by The Associated Press last week were canceled because of flooding there.

The first lady said in a written statement after she returned to the White House that the visit had "impacted me greatly." She called on Congress to work together on immigration legislation that would benefit the children.

"Spending time with them reinforces the fact that these kids are in this situation as a direct result of adult actions," she said. "It is my hope that Members of Congress will finally reach across the aisle and work together to solve this problem with common sense immigration reform that secures our borders and keeps families together."

The first lady's stop in McAllen came one day after President Donald Trump ordered a halt, at least for now, to the separation of immigrant families who are detained at the border.

Her visit to the one-story, red brick building was quickly arranged after Mrs. Trump decided earlier this week that she wanted to go, her spokeswoman said, adding that she wanted to lend support to children who have been separated from their parents. The facility housed 55 boys and girls, ages 12-17, on Thurs-

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day, but only about six of them had been separated from parents, officials said. The other children were placed there after they crossed into the U.S. alone.

"I'm here to learn about your facility," the first lady said as she met with staff and federal health and border patrol officials. She asked how she could help "these children to reunite with their families as quickly as possible" and how often they communicate with their families. She learned the children are allowed a 10-minute phone call twice a week.

Students welcomed her with a large paper American flag taped to a wall that they'd signed. The words, "Welcome! First Lady" were written in black marker across the red and white bars. Mrs. Trump, herself an immigrant from Slovenia, signed the flag and gifted it back to the center.

She visited three classrooms, each time asking the children where they came from, their ages, how long they'd been at the center and their favorite subjects. Staff said the children, who are mostly from Guatemala, typically spend between 42 and 45 days at the facility, which is operated by a Lutheran social services organization contracted by the government.

The children are often distraught when they arrive, staff said, but they reassured Mrs. Trump the youth are quickly assessed for any physical or mental health issues and are well-cared for. The children attend school five days a week and have access to a variety of activities.

"We see them as if they were our own," said Roy De La Cerda, the program director.

Mrs. Trump left Washington wearing a green, hooded military jacket that had "I really don't care, do u?" written in graffiti-style on the back in white lettering that left the blogosphere wondering what message she was trying to send as she flew off to visit migrant children.

Asked about the message, spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said by email that it was just a jacket.

"There was no hidden message. After today's important visit to Texas, I hope the media isn't going to choose to focus on her wardrobe." Grisham underscored that message with a tweet and the hashtags #SheCares and #ItsJustAJacket.

Mrs. Trump had changed into a pale yellow jacket before arriving in McAllen and wore that during the more than hour-long visit to the center, but donned the green jacket once again as she returned to the White House. She went straight to the Oval Office to brief the president, who later tweeted that the jacket's message referred to her feelings about the "Fake News Media."

The president had come under withering pressure to stop separating migrant families, including from the first lady, following a public outcry sparked by widespread government-distributed images of children held in fence-like structures.

Some 2,300 migrant children have been separated from their families since May, according to the government.

Mrs. Trump reached her decision to make Thursday's trip before the president's executive order to keep families together was in the works.

"She told her staff she wanted to go and we made that happen," Grisham said. "She told him 'I am headed down to Texas' and he was supportive."

Mrs. Trump, whose focus as first lady is on child well-being, appears to have been among those pushing him to act.

Grisham released a statement last weekend saying the first lady "hates" to see children separated from their families and "believes we need to be a country that follows all laws, but also a country that governs with heart."

Shortly before Trump signed the executive order, a White House official revealed that Mrs. Trump had been voicing her opinion to the president for some time. The official refused to be identified discussing Trump's private conversations with his wife.

Associated Press writer Catherine Lucey in Washington contributed to this report.

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

Obama, like Trump, grappled with family immigration

By AMY TAXIN, Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — The Trump administration isn't the first to grapple with the question of how to handle tens of thousands of immigrant families stopped along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Four years ago, Barack Obama faced a similar crisis when record numbers of Central American immigrants fleeing violence began showing up at the border. Officials had to deal with the same court case the current administration began fighting Thursday, a day after President Donald Trump issued a new executive order to stop separating migrant families whose parents were arrested for illegally entering the country.

More than 60,000 family "units" — which the U.S. government defines as a parent and child — were stopped along the border in the 2014 fiscal year, a fourfold increase from a year earlier. In the last fiscal year, that number exceeded 70,000.

Initially, the Obama administration released mothers and children with notices to appear in immigration courts in the cities where they were headed. At times, immigrants were transported from Texas to Border Patrol facilities in other states so agents could keep up with ballooning arrivals.

The Obama administration then moved to hold mothers with children in family detention facilities — a 100-bed center in Pennsylvania and two larger facilities that opened in Texas in 2014. Those spaces provided a few thousand beds.

Immigrant advocates opposed the move, arguing that minors couldn't be kept for long periods in these facilities because of a 1997 settlement agreement governing the treatment of immigrant children. A federal judge in Los Angeles agreed and ruled that the children could not be kept in detention.

At the same time, the Obama administration faced criticism when photos of children in cages at a Nogales, Arizona, facility became front-page news — reminiscent of what happened last week when similar images came out of Texas.

Republican critics blamed the crisis on Obama immigration policy and the administration launched public relations campaigns in Central America to warn people to not make the journey. The crisis became a big campaign issue in midterm races in border states like Arizona.

After the federal ruling, the government started releasing many families more quickly since short detention stints would neither deter immigrants from coming nor give immigration courts enough time to evaluate asylum claims, said Seth Stodder, a former assistant secretary of homeland security for border, immigration and trade policy in the Obama administration.

The U.S. government could erect more detention facilities, Stodder said, but resolving asylum claims quickly isn't so easy since immigration courts are backlogged with hundreds of thousands of cases and immigrants often need time to obtain evidence from their countries.

"It is less about whether there is space to put people. They can find space to put people. The real issue is legal," he said, adding that ankle bracelets or monitoring programs might help ensure immigrants show up for court without the need for continued detention.

The Trump administration has sought to deter immigration through a "zero-tolerance" policy announced in April that mandated the criminal prosecution of all immigrants caught at the border. Authorities began jailing the parents and sending their children to government-contracted shelters, sparking an outcry from immigrant advocates and many lawmakers.

After separating more than 2,300 children from their parents, the administration shifted course this week and said families would be detained together. Officials filed a request to change the rules governing the detention of children under the court settlement — a move that advocates for the children said they would oppose.

Another challenge the administration faces stems from claims by many of these immigrants that they are fleeing violence and persecution in their countries. After initial screenings, they may proceed in many cases to seek asylum.

A recent decision by Attorney General Jeff Sessions to narrow the scope of asylum cases based on gang or domestic violence might result in cases moving quickly. But Stodder said doing so could also lead to

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more appeals and possibly more challenges of immigration rulings in the federal courts.

"Due process will be had," he said. "The question is whether it is in the immigration courts or whether it is in the circuit courts."

Associated Press Writer Colleen Long in Washington, D.C., contributed to this report.

Charles Krauthammer, prominent conservative voice, has died

By HILLEL ITALIE, AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Charles Krauthammer, the Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and pundit who helped shape and occasionally dissented from the conservative movement as he evolved from "Great Society" Democrat to Iraq War cheerleader to denouncer of Donald Trump, died Thursday.

He was 68.

His death was announced by two organizations that were longtime employers, Fox News Channel and The Washington Post.

Krauthammer had said publicly a year ago he was being treated for a cancerous tumor in his abdomen and earlier this month revealed that he likely had just weeks to live.

"I leave this life with no regrets," Krauthammer wrote in The Washington Post, where his column had run since 1984. "It was a wonderful life — full and complete with the great loves and great endeavors that make it worth living. I am sad to leave, but I leave with the knowledge that I lived the life that I intended."

Sometimes scornful, sometimes reflective, he was awarded a Pulitzer in 1987 for "his witty and insightful" commentary and was an influential voice among Republicans, whether through his syndicated column or his appearances on Fox News Channel. He was most associated with Brit Hume's nightly newscast and stayed with it when Bret Baier took over in 2009.

Krauthammer is credited with coining the term "The Reagan Doctrine" for President Reagan's policy of aiding anti-Communist movements worldwide. He was a leading advocate for the Iraq War and a prominent critic of President Barack Obama, whom he praised for his "first-class intellect and first-class temperament" and denounced for having a "highly suspect" character.

Krauthammer was a former Harvard medical student who graduated even after he was paralyzed from the neck down because of a diving board accident, continuing his studies from his hospital bed. He was a Democrat in his youth and his political engagement dated back to 1976, when he handed out leaflets for Henry Jackson's unsuccessful presidential campaign.

But through the 1980s and beyond, Krauthammer followed a journey akin to such neo-conservative predecessors as Irving Kristol and Norman Podhoretz, turning against his old party on foreign and domestic issues. He aligned with Republicans on everything from confrontation with the Soviet Union to rejection of the "Great Society" programs enacted during the 1960s.

"As I became convinced of the practical and theoretical defects of the social-democratic tendencies of my youth, it was but a short distance to a philosophy of restrained, free-market governance that gave more space and place to the individual and to the civil society that stands between citizen and state," he wrote in the introduction to "Things That Matter," a million-selling compilation of his writings published in 2013.

For the Post, Time magazine, The New Republic and other publications, Krauthammer wrote on a wide range of subjects, and in "Things That Matter" listed chess, baseball, "the innocence of dogs" and "the cunning of cats" among his passions. As a psychiatrist in the 1970s, he did groundbreaking research on bipolar disorder.

But he found nothing could live apart from government and the civic realm. "Science, medicine, art, poetry, architecture" and other fields were "fundamentally subordinate. In the end, they must bow to the sovereignty of politics."

Ever blunt in his criticisms, Krauthammer was an "intense disliker" the liberal columnist E.J. Dionne told Politico in 2009. And opponents had words for him. Christopher Hitchens once called him the "newest of the neocon mini-windbags," with the "arduous job, in an arduous time, of being an unpredictable conformist."

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He was attacked for his politics, and for his predictions. He was so confident of quick success in Iraq he initially labeled the 2003 invasion "The Three Week War" and defended the conflict for years. He also backed the George W. Bush administration's use of torture as an "uncontrolled experiment" carried out "sometimes clumsily, sometimes cruelly, indeed, sometimes wrongly. But successfully. It kept us safe."

And the former president praised Krauthammer after hearing of his death.

"For decades, Charles' words have strengthened our democracy," George W. Bush said in a statement. "His work was far-reaching and influential — and while his voice will be deeply missed, his ideas and values will always be a part of our country."

Krauthammer was sure that Obama would lose in 2008 because of lingering fears from the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, and foresaw Mitt Romney defeating him in 2012.

But he prided himself on his rejection of orthodoxy and took on Republicans, too, observing during a Fox special in 2013 that "If you're going to leave the medical profession because you think you have something to say, you betray your whole life if you don't say what you think and if you don't say it honestly and bluntly."

He criticized the death penalty and rejected intelligent design as "today's tarted-up version of creationism." In 2005, he was widely cited as a key factor in convincing Bush to rescind the Supreme Court nomination of the president's friend and legal adviser Harriet Miers, whom Krauthammer and others said lacked the necessary credentials. And he differed with such Fox commentators as Bill O'Reilly and Laura Ingraham as he found himself among the increasingly isolated "Never Trumpers," Republicans regarding the real estate baron and former "Apprentice" star as a vulgarian unfit for the presidency.

"I used to think Trump was an 11-year-old, an undeveloped schoolyard bully," he wrote in August 2016, around the time Trump officially became the Republican nominee. "I was off by about 10 years. His needs are more primitive, an infantile hunger for approval and praise, a craving that can never be satisfied. He lives in a cocoon of solipsism where the world outside himself has value — indeed exists — only insofar as it sustains and inflates him."

Trump, of course, tweeted about Krauthammer, who "pretends to be a smart guy, but if you look at his record, he isn't. A dummy who is on too many Fox shows. An overrated clown!"

Krauthammer married Robyn Trethewey, an artist and former attorney, in 1974. They had a son, Daniel, who also became a columnist and commentator.

The son of Jewish immigrants from Europe, Krauthammer was born in New York City and moved with his family to Montreal when he was 5, growing up in a French speaking home. His path to political writing was unexpected. First, at McGill University, he became editor in chief of the student newspaper after his predecessor was ousted over what Krauthammer called his "mindless, humorless Maoism."

In the late 1970s, while a psychiatric resident at Massachusetts General Hospital, a professor with whom he had researched manic depression was appointed to a mental health agency created by President Jimmy Carter. Krauthammer went, too, began writing for The New Republic and was soon recruited to write speeches for Carter's vice president and 1980 running mate, Walter Mondale.

Carter was defeated by Reagan and on Jan. 20, 1981, Reagan's inauguration day, Krauthammer formally joined The New Republic as a writer and editor.

"These quite fantastic twists and turns have given me a profound respect for serendipity," he wrote in 2013. "A long forgotten, utterly trivial student council fight brought me to journalism. A moment of adolescent anger led me to the impulsive decision to quit political studies and enroll in medical school. A decade later, a random presidential appointment having nothing to do with me brought me to a place where my writing and public career could begin."

"When a young journalist asks me today, 'How do I get to a nationally syndicated columnist?' I have my answer: 'First, go to medical school.'"

AP Television Writer David Bauder contributed to this report.

Messi, Argentina beaten 3-0 at World Cup, Croatia advances

By STEPHEN WADE, AP Sports Writer

NIZHNY NOVGOROD, Russia (AP) — Lionel Messi's frustrating international career may be coming to an early and anti-climactic finish after Argentina's worst loss in World Cup group play in 60 years.

With Diego Maradona watching from the stands, the 2014 runners-up were routed by Croatia 3-0 Thursday. The Croats are moving on to the round of 16.

Messi got off only one shot in a defeat that pushed Argentina to the brink of elimination. Messi, who turns 31 on Sunday, has never won a major title with Argentina's senior national team despite of decade of championships with Barcelona and five player of the year awards.

"He is our captain, he leads the team and we quite simply couldn't pass to him," Argentina coach Jorge Sampaoli said. "We work to give Leo the ball, but the opponent also works hard to prevent him from getting the ball."

Messi also missed a penalty kick in his team's opening 1-1 draw against Iceland.

Argentina, hurt by the poor play of goalkeeper Willy Caballero on Thursday, had not lost by such a large margin in the first round since a 6-1 defeat to Czechoslovakia in 1958. Caballero gained the starting role because No. 1 keeper Sergio Romero injured his knee last month in the run-up to the tournament.

"We have to swallow the poison," Argentina midfielder Javier Mascherano said. "The game says it all."

Argentina, which has not missed making the second round since 2002, has not been eliminated. But the two-time champions need to win their next match against Nigeria on Tuesday, as well as get help from other matches.

Thursday's humiliating loss came in humiliating fashion for one of soccer's most storied nations.

Caballero mangled a clearance and kicked the ball toward Croatia defender Ante Rebic, who one-timed it into the net in the 53rd minute.

Caballero buried his face in his hands while a giant television screen showed Maradona doing the same.

"After they scored on us, we were emotionally broken," Sampaoli said. "I had a lot of hope. I am extremely hurt by this defeat, but I probably didn't understand the match the way I should have."

And it got worse as Argentina crumbled, frustrated by the Croatian defense. Modric scored with a hooking shot in the 80th and Ivan Rakitic added the third in stoppage time.

Croatia frustrated Argentina throughout the match and never gave Messi space to operate.

"Argentina wasn't confused. We were excellent," Croatia coach Zlatko Dalic said. "We beat a great Argentina with the best player in the world playing, Messi."

Croatia, which reached the 1998 World Cup semifinals but has not advanced past the group stage since then, will face Iceland on Tuesday in Rostov-on-Don.

"Let's keep our feet firmly on the ground and prepare for the next matches," said Modric, the man of the match. "We should be focused on what awaits. Every next game is going to be more difficult, but our main objective has been reached. It looks easy, but it was not that easy."

Argentina won the World Cup in 1978 and 1986 — the last with Maradona as the star player — but has not won any major title in 25 years. The Argentines also lost in the last two Copa America finals.

GROUP DYNAMICS

Croatia has advanced with six points from two matches in Group D, while Argentina has only one point and is facing elimination.

Iceland also has one point, and Nigeria has zero. Nigeria and Iceland play on Friday.

KEYS TO SUCCESS

Croatia stymied Messi for 90 minutes, not allowing even one shot.

The Croats played with five midfielders and seemed to close down any possible space.

Before the match, Dalic said this was going to be Croatia's "easiest game." He clarified that by saying it would not be an "easy opponent" but it would be a "pressure-free match."

MESSI OR RONALDO?

Sampaoli didn't want to choose when asked if Cristiano Ronaldo was the best player in the world.

"I think Cristiano is a great player. You can look at all he has achieved as a player for his club and his country," Sampaoli said. "Right now we shouldn't compare these two players ... Leo is limited because the team doesn't gel ideally as it should. As coaches we need to realize these things and I am the one who needs to accept that."

More AP World Cup coverage: <https://apnews.com/tag/WorldCup>

This story has been corrected to show the last time Argentina failed to make the second round was 2002.

Orlando International Airport to scan faces of US citizens

By **MIKE SCHNEIDER, Associated Press**

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Florida's busiest airport will be the first in the nation to require a face scan of passengers on all arriving and departing international flights, officials said Thursday, a move that pleases airport executives but worries privacy advocates.

Officials at Orlando International Airport said the expansion of face scans would speed up the time it takes for passengers to go through customs.

"It's almost like Christmas in June for me," said Phil Brown, chief executive of the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority. "The process of going into and out of Orlando is going to be greatly enhanced."

But some privacy advocates say there are no formal rules in place for handling data gleaned from the scans, nor formal guidelines on what should happen if a passenger is wrongly prevented from boarding.

Airports in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Las Vegas, Miami, New York and Washington already use face scans for some departing international flights, but they don't involve all international flights at the airports as the program's expansion in Orlando would.

The image from the face scan is compared to a Department of Homeland Security biometric database that has passport images of people who should be on the flight in order to verify the traveler's identity. The images are held in the database for 14 days before being deleted, said John Wagner, an official with U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

The face scan expansion is costing the Orlando airport authority \$4 million. The program should be rolled out at other airports in other U.S. cities in the next year, Wagner said.

"We're comparing you against a photograph you've given the U.S. government for the purposes of travel," Wagner said. "You know your picture is being taken. You're standing in front of a camera. There's nothing subversive about this, and we're only comparing you against your passport photo."

U.S. citizens at these airports can opt out, but the agency "doesn't seem to be doing an adequate job letting Americans know they can opt out," said Harrison Rudolph, an associate at the Center on Privacy & Technology at the Georgetown University Law Center.

The Orlando announcement marks a step up in the scope of the face scan program, Rudolph said.

"We're not talking about one gate," he said. "We're talking about every international departure gate, which is a huge expansion of the number of people who will be scanned. Errors tend to go up as uses go up."

Orlando International Airport had about 6 million international passengers in the past year. Face scans for arrivals and departures should be fully in place by the end of the year, although passengers landing at Orlando International Airport currently undergo them upon arriving. Passengers who had their photos taken Thursday at the Orlando airport took it in stride.

"It was fine, efficient, very fast," said Katrina Poulsen, a Denmark resident who arrived in Orlando on a flight from London.

Andrea Nabarria, who arrived on the same flight, said he understands the concerns about privacy but that passengers may have to give up something in exchange for beefed up security.

"At least that's what we're told," said Nabarria, an Italian who is a resident of Denmark.

Rudolph said he has concerns about the face scans' accuracy, since some research shows they are less accurate with racial minorities, women and children. Researchers say this is because photos used to train

the face-scanning software underrepresent minorities, women and young people.

Wagner said the agency hasn't seen discrepancies based on race or gender using face scans at the other airports.

Two U.S. senators last month sent a letter to the Department of Homeland Security, which is home to the border protection agency, urging that formal rules be implemented before the program is expanded.

"It will also ensure a full vetting of this potentially sweeping program that could impact every American leaving the country by airport," said the letter from U.S. Sen. Ed Markey, D-Mass. and U.S. Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah.

Iraq set for election recount to salvage tainted result

By PHILIP ISSA, Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's Supreme Court on Thursday upheld a disputed law ordering a hand recount of the ballots from last month's national elections after widespread allegations of fraud embarrassed political leaders and marred the initial result.

What was supposed to mark the start of a new era for Iraq has turned into a political crisis as the charges of vote tampering grew too loud for Prime Minister Haidar al-Abadi's government to ignore.

The May 12 election was the first since Iraq declared victory over the Islamic State group, which was in control of one-third of Iraqi territory just three years ago. But the euphoria over that milestone was quickly overshadowed by the charges of voter irregularities that surfaced on the day of the election and grew louder in the weeks that followed.

Adding to the outcry was a suspicious fire days after Parliament ordered the recount that burned down a warehouse believed to contain some of the ballots cast by Baghdad voters.

The Interior Ministry said the June 10 blaze was confined to a storage unit holding the electronic machinery introduced in the election to speed up the vote count and protect against ballot stuffing, and insisted the ballots were secure. But eyewitness reports said some ballots were charred and others soaked as firefighters battled the blaze.

A hand recount of all 11 million ballots could take weeks, if not longer, and promises to delay the already sluggish process of forming a new government.

Still, the populist preacher Muqtada al-Sadr, who came in a surprise first place in the vote, called on his supporters to respect the recount ruling.

"I call on everyone to show restraint and deference to the law, even if they are not convinced by it," al-Sadr said in a statement.

Thursday's Supreme Court decision upheld a law ordering a recount passed by Parliament after the initial results showed that two-thirds of current lawmakers would lose their seats. The timing of the law's passage led President Fuad Masum and the national elections commission to charge lawmakers with political interference.

But the Supreme Court ruled that the legislation was broadly constitutional and endorsed an order to replace the Independent Elections Commission with a panel of nine judges to supervise a recount. The commission, disputing the fraud allegations, had refused to conduct one of its own.

However, the court rejected a measure invalidating all ballots cast abroad and by Iraqis displaced by recent conflict. Chief Justice Medhat al-Mahmoud said that sweeping measure was unjust to voters who cast legitimate ballots.

An estimated 3 million Iraqis live in displaced persons camps, and international groups urged authorities to take measures to ensure they could vote. Many were driven from their homes during battles against the Islamic State group, and are presumed to be overwhelmingly Sunni, reinforcing the perception that they are being marginalized by the Shiite-dominated government in Baghdad.

Still, a hand recount is unlikely to dispel the fraud allegations.

Ahmad al-Abadi, a lawyer representing Parliament's case to the Supreme Court, said the recount would get the country "70, 80, 90 percent" of the way to having an untainted result, but that because of the

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Baghdad warehouse fire there would never be 100 percent certainty.

Outgoing Parliament Speaker Salim al-Jabouri called the fire arson, but authorities have not named any suspects in their investigation.

A recount is not likely to change the balance of power between the country's Shiite, Sunni, and Kurdish blocks, according to Bilal Wahab, a fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

"The majority of accusations of fraud were from within the communities, and not between them," Wahab said.

Shiite groups have dominated government since the U.S. invaded Iraq in 2003, deposing Saddam Hussein and ushering in an era of sectarian civil war.

While the charges of voting irregularities in the May election have centered on alleged tampering with the electronic voter machines and falsified results, scores of voters were turned away from voting stations because the election authority failed to issue proper identity documents in time. Those irregularities, as well as reports of voter intimidation and vote buying, will be impossible to detect in a recount said Vian al-Sheikh Ali, director of the election monitoring group Tammuz.

Voter turnout in the election was 44 percent, the lowest in the post-Saddam era.

The most serious allegations of foul play came from Iraq's Kurdish provinces, as well as the predominantly Sunni province of Anbar and Kirkuk, a province that Iraq's regional Kurdish administration claims for its own, al-Sheikh Ali said.

After the results were released, Arab and Turkmen voters in Kirkuk demonstrated in front of the election commission headquarters, saying the margin of victory for a mainstream Kurdish party was not believable.

As the allegations reached a crescendo, Prime Minister Abadi's government said it had found "unprecedented" violations in the vote, faulting the politically appointed elections commission.

Wahab said the broad nature of the allegations and network of institutions linked to the charges meant it was unlikely voters would ever get to the bottom of the fraud.

"It's an art that's been almost perfected in Iraq," he said.

Supporters of Trump steadfast despite immigration uproar

By **AMY FORLITI** and **ANGIE WANG**, Associated Press

DULUTH, Minnesota (AP) — Big Lake, Minnesota, resident Pam Tolve believes President Trump was just doing his job when he decided to separate children from parents who crossed the border illegally.

Billy Inman of Woodstock, Georgia, said he felt sorry for the children but that their parents were responsible.

Die-hard Trump supporters remained steadfast, even as heart-rending photos of children held in pens and audio of terrified children crying out for their parents stoked outrage among Democrats and Republicans alike. They believed Trump and Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen when they falsely claimed that they had no choice but to enforce an existing law.

After Trump signed an executive order on Wednesday to end forced separations — acknowledging he could act without Congress after all — they shrugged. The end, they suggested, justified the means, and the separations were the fault of Congress and those crossing the border illegally.

"It's been blown out of proportion by the Democrats and the left," said Tolve, who attended a Trump rally Wednesday in Duluth, Minnesota. "I think it's being handled appropriately and they are just seeing a different way to put a bad light on the president."

She and Inman, like many Trump supporters, blamed the separations on the border-crossers rather than the president.

"The mamas and daddies are responsible for that," said Inman, a 55-year-old truck driver. "I feel sorry for the kids ... but why can't we protect our borders the way other countries protect theirs?"

John Trandem, 42, who owns an automotive services company near Fargo, North Dakota, said he has supported all of Trump's decisions during the border controversy.

"He's not a monster as he's being framed by the media and by the left," said Trandem, who was a delegate

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at the 2016 Republican convention where Trump clinched the nomination for president. "Nobody wants to see parents and children separated, but ... the blame should be put squarely back on the shoulders of the people who broke the law in the first place."

Enforcement of immigration laws, though, happens at the president's discretion.

Under the Obama administration, families that crossed illegally usually were referred for civil deportation proceedings, not requiring separation. In April, Trump's administration adopted a "zero-tolerance" policy, choosing to prosecute such crossings as crimes, meaning that any minors accompanying that person were taken away.

Trump and Nielsen misled the public by denying that separating families was a result of Trump's policy — and many believed them.

"The main thing Trump is saying is he wants to obey the law, and the law has been passed years ago," said Mary Broecker, a Republican voter from LaGrange, Kentucky.

Now that he reversed course, "it sounds like he's kind of giving in a little bit if he's going to take the families and find a place to house them," Broecker said, adding it would "give them a room and a bathroom and a sink and everything, which is probably better than what they have had."

Trump voter Terry Welch of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, said he blames Congress and its GOP leadership for not reforming immigration laws, though he admits he doesn't like Trump as a person.

"It's a terrible situation," Welch, 43, said of the distraught children. "I think everybody believes that."

Still, he said the president's dramatic reversal on separating children won't solve anything: "I see that as placating people."

In Cincinnati, Andrew Pappas said the family separations worked because they got Congress talking about immigration reform.

"The optics of what's happening here directly at the border isn't something that he wants to have on his watch, but at the end of the day, he still wants to focus the attention of Congress on the fundamental need for immigration reform in the United States," said Pappas, 53.

"Now...everyone's talking about immigration reform and I think President Trump is getting exactly what he wants."

Kolpack reported from Fargo, North Dakota.

Associated Press reporters Adam Kealoha Causey in Oklahoma City; Mike Householder in Lansing, Michigan; Dave Kolpack in Fargo, North Dakota; Dylan Lovan in Louisville, Kentucky; Tammy Webber in Chicago; Doug Glass in Minneapolis; and Kevin McGill in New Orleans contributed to this report.

See AP's complete coverage of the debate over the Trump administration's policy of family separation at the border: <https://apnews.com/tag/Immigration>

APNewsBreak: Schools mum on ties to doc in sex abuse inquiry

By KANTELE FRANKO and COLLIN BINKLEY, Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A now-dead doctor accused of sexual misconduct by former student athletes at Ohio State University said he acted as a team physician at other universities, most of which won't say if they are reviewing those connections or whether any concerns were raised about him.

Ohio State employment records reviewed by The Associated Press indicate Richard Strauss worked at five schools in the decade between leaving the Navy as a submarine medicine instructor and joining the university in Columbus in 1978.

Strauss researched, taught or practiced medicine at Harvard University, Rutgers University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Washington and the University of Hawaii, according to his resume.

He "remained within the academic community, acting as a part-time team physician at the universities with which I have been associated," according to a note from Strauss in 1980, around the time he was

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being considered for a leadership appointment in sports medicine at Ohio State. He didn't specify which teams with which he worked or in what capacity.

When contacted by the AP, most of the other schools in Strauss' work history would say or knew little about any ties to him or whether they were reviewing his work and affiliations.

A spokesman for the University of Hawaii said Thursday that officials had yet to find any complaints against Strauss but are still looking for records. So far, little has been uncovered beyond employment records and a listing in a course catalog, spokesman Dan Meisenzahl said.

Ohio State hasn't disclosed exactly how many people have raised allegations about Strauss or details about those claims. Reports of alleged misconduct have come from male athletes affiliated with 14 sports: baseball, cheerleading, cross country, fencing, football, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, swimming, tennis, track, volleyball and wrestling.

There are also allegations related to Strauss' private, off-campus medical office in Columbus, according to a law firm representing the university.

Ohio State said independent investigators have conducted or scheduled more than 130 interviews with people who reported having relevant information.

There is no standard response when schools learn a former employee was later accused of abuse, said Djuna Perkins, a lawyer who has conducted sexual misconduct investigations at dozens of universities. Some schools might investigate to ease any concerns, she said, but some might not see the value in that if no accuser has come forward at the institution.

"It would be typical to at least take a preliminary look to see, was this guy here? Did he have contact with students? And then if he did, was there anything we can do about it or should do about it?" she said.

On the other hand, she said, some schools might think, "Why take huge steps and get everyone rattled if in fact there is nothing?"

In such situations, lawyers would probably advise the school where allegations were raised not to notify other employers of the accused, because such issues are seen as personnel matters and not typically shared, Perkins said.

A spokesman for Ohio State wouldn't comment on whether it has contacted Strauss' other listed employers.

But Ohio State has done other outreach, emailing student athletes and other alumni from the mid-1970s to 2001 to ask that anyone with information contact investigators from Seattle-based law firm Perkins Coie.

According to his resume, Strauss did postdoctoral research in physiology at Washington from 1968-1970 and volunteered at a free clinic in Seattle; taught physiology at Penn between 1970-72 and worked at its hospital's hyperbaric therapy service; and then taught physiology at Hawaii from 1972-74 and was a physician for a clinic in that state.

The resume says he was a medical resident at Rutgers from 1974-75; a research fellow in medicine at Harvard Medical School and Boston's Peter Bent Brigham Hospital from 1975-77; and a fellow in sports medicine at Children's Hospital Medical Center in Boston before becoming an Ohio State assistant professor.

The resume also lists him as a "physician for university diving activities" at Washington and Hawaii. Spokeswomen for those schools couldn't provide further information this week about those activities or his work, and didn't address questions about whether their schools are reviewing connections to Strauss.

Penn didn't respond to a similar inquiry.

Rutgers hasn't found any record of Strauss having been an employee or medical resident there, spokesman John Cramer said. Rutgers isn't aware of any concerns raised about Strauss, he said.

Spokespeople for Harvard Medical School and what is now Brigham and Women's Hospital said they couldn't provide further information about Strauss' work or whether any concerns were raised about him. Harvard spokeswomen wouldn't say whether his past is being investigated there.

A spokeswoman at the University of Chicago, where Strauss graduated from medical school in 1964, also wouldn't comment.

Strauss' personnel file doesn't indicate whether Ohio State was aware of alleged sexual misconduct. It includes employment- and tenure-related letters in which colleagues praise him as a well-known educator and productive author of articles in his field.

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In one letter in early 1984, the dean of the medical college at the time, Manuel Tzagournis, characterized Strauss as "an outstanding individual in every sense" and noted: "Since meeting Dr. Strauss I have never once considered questioning his integrity nor his professional abilities."

Tzagournis didn't respond to phone and email messages left for him at Ohio State, where he has an emeritus position.

The Associated Press hasn't been able to locate relatives who could be asked about the allegations against Strauss, whose 2005 death in Los Angeles was ruled a suicide.

The Strauss investigation comes as universities face heightened attention about the handling of sexual misconduct allegations following the case of former campus sports doctor Larry Nassar at Michigan State University, which recently agreed to a \$500 million settlement with hundreds of women and girls who said Nassar sexually assaulted them.

Strauss had a Michigan State link, too. He said he earned his bachelor's degree there in chemistry in 1960, decades before Nassar attended and worked at MSU.

Binkley reported from Boston. Follow the reporters on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/kantele10> and <https://twitter.com/cbinkley>. Have a tip? Contact the authors securely at <https://www.ap.org/tips>

Courting Putin, Trump jolts the West with a nationalist bent

By MATTHEW LEE and JOSH LEDERMAN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As Donald Trump presses ahead with plans for a summer summit with Russia's Vladimir Putin, the U.S. president is jolting relationships with some of America's longest and strongest allies. Amid concerns over Trump's apparent desire to be cozy with the Russian leader, he is pursuing increasingly nationalistic foreign and trade policies and delivering scathing personal attacks on traditionally friendly leaders who don't share his views.

The White House announced Thursday that national security adviser John Bolton would travel to Moscow next week, after stops in London and Rome, to discuss the potential Trump-Putin meeting, expected to be held in the Austrian capital of Vienna in the days following NATO's July 11-12 leaders' summit in Brussels. Administration officials say a White House advance team has traveled to Vienna to scout locations and make other logistical preparations for a summit should it come off.

Bolton's stops in Britain and Italy may be designed to assuage nervous Europeans about Trump's intentions for the Putin meeting, which would come just weeks after Trump stunned European allies by suggesting that Russia should be re-admitted to the Group of Seven club of industrialized economies without forsaking its annexation of Crimea for which it was expelled in 2014.

Yet the hawkish Bolton's discussions in the European capitals are unlikely to smooth over what are becoming widening fractures in the trans-Atlantic relationship that the president has seemed to welcome.

To Trump, the tough approach to allies constitutes a long-needed reassertion of U.S. sovereignty following a worrying period of decline in which Washington was too deferential, too politically correct on the world stage and too trusting of global institutions to look out for America's best interests. Those who complain that the status quo is being upended, Trump argues, are correct — and missing the point.

And the list of spurned parties is quickly growing. Trump's pursuit of his "America First" agenda has put the U.S. at odds with the rest of the G-7 democracies, sowed major divisions with Europe and Canada and risks altering the balance of power in the Asia-Pacific.

Nowhere, though, have the tensions crystalized more than in Europe, where concerns about Moscow are visceral and closer to home. In recent weeks, Trump has attacked Germany's chancellor, ignored her and the leaders of Britain and France, embraced Italy's new populist prime minister and congratulated Hungary's authoritarian premier.

The result has alarmed many who view the trans-Atlantic partnership to be a bedrock of post-World War II international stability and security. But it has also left America isolated as administration promises that "America First does not mean America Alone" appear to fall by the wayside.

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German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier, in a speech in Los Angeles this week about democracy, warned the mounting damage to the trans-Atlantic partnership "could be irreparable."

"I believe that the United States needs partners, and it needs these partners," Steinmeier said. "However, America can only recognize such a partnership if it regards the 'West' as more than a geographical term, and the world as more than a boxing ring in which everyone fights against everyone else."

Supporters of Trump's approach say that's easy for Europe and other allies to say. They argue that the allies have taken advantage of the U.S. for decades, with America shouldering much of the burden for the West's security and defense. They have also benefited from trade and economic policies that Trump's administration believes are robbing the American economy.

"The era of American complacency in the international marketplace is over," Trump's trade adviser Peter Navarro wrote this month in an op-ed in The New York Times.

Trump has also managed to rattle usually unflappable Canada by hurling personal insults at its prime minister, Justin Trudeau. He has accused Trudeau of making "false statements" about trade and has slammed the prime minister for acting "meek and mild" in his presence and then complaining about Trump and tariffs publicly.

"Very dishonest & weak," Trump wrote about Trudeau on Twitter after leaving the G-7 summit. Then he unexpectedly yanked the U.S. out of the traditional joint statement issued by the G-7 leaders at the conclusion of their summit.

At the same time, Trump has fueled anger, resentment and confusion in Europe with punitive trade tariffs, withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal and the Paris climate accord, and pullouts from two Europe-based U.N. agencies, including the Human Rights Council just this week.

"The ties that bind us are under strain," NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg wrote in an opinion piece this week. Stoltenberg, who has had a relatively cordial personal relationship with Trump, was hopeful for the future but his warning was a clear sign of unease about the friction.

"Nowhere is it written in stone that the trans-Atlantic bond will always thrive. That doesn't, however, mean that its breakdown is inevitable," Stoltenberg said.

Yet Trump has shown little interest in preventing a breakdown. To the contrary, he appears to take pleasure in trying to score political points through insults and targeted praise of leaders who, like him, seek to disrupt the status quo.

As German Chancellor Angela Merkel's fragile government faces intense internal divisions over her approach to Europe's migration crisis, Trump has seemed eager to fan the flames. For days he has taken to Twitter to assert — erroneously — that crime in Germany is "way up" and to claim that aggressive immigrants are to blame.

"The people of Germany are turning against their leadership as migration is rocking the already tenuous Berlin coalition," Trump tweeted on Monday. "Big mistake made all over Europe in allowing millions of people in who have so strongly and violently changed their culture!"

Trump's tweeted tweaks at Merkel stand in stark contrast to the praise he has lavished on conservative Euro-skeptic leaders like newly installed Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and Hungary's Viktor Orban.

"Just met the new Prime Minister of Italy, @GiuseppeConteIT, a really great guy," the president wrote on Twitter after seeing Conte at the G-7 meeting in Quebec. "He will be honored in Washington, at the @WhiteHouse, shortly. He will do a great job - the people of Italy got it right!"

Science Says: What makes something truly addictive

By LINDSEY TANNER, AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Now that the world's leading public health group says too much Minecraft can be an addiction, could overindulging in chocolate, exercise, even sex, be next?

The short answer is probably not.

The new "gaming disorder" classification from the World Health Organization revives a debate in the medical community about whether behaviors can cause the same kind of addictive illness as drugs.

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The strictest definition of addiction refers to a disease resulting from changes in brain chemistry caused by compulsive use of drugs or alcohol. The definition includes excessive use that damages health, relationships, jobs and other parts of normal life. Brain research supports that definition, and some imaging studies have suggested that excessive gaming might affect the brain in similar ways.

Under a looser definition, addiction is considered "a disease of extreme behavior. Any behavior carried to extreme that consumes you and keeps you from doing what you should be doing becomes an addiction as far as life is concerned," said Dr. Walter Ling, a UCLA psychiatrist.

In its widely used manual for diagnosing mental illness, the American Psychiatric Association calls excessive video gaming a "condition" but not a formal diagnosis or disease, and says more research is needed to determine if it qualifies as an addiction.

DRUGS AND THE BRAIN

Certain drugs including opioids and alcohol can over-activate the brain's reward circuit. That's the system that under normal circumstances is activated when people engage in "behaviors conducive to survival" including eating and drinking water when thirsty, explained Dr. Andrew Saxon, chairman of the association's addiction psychiatry council. The brain chemical dopamine regulates these behaviors, but narcotic drugs can flood the brain with dopamine, encouraging repeated use and making drug use more rewarding than healthy behaviors, Saxon said. Eventually increasing amounts are needed to get the same effect, and brain changes lead to an inability to control use.

WHAT ABOUT OTHER SUBSTANCES?

Caffeine is a stimulant and also activates the brain's reward system, but to a much lesser degree than addictive drugs. The "reward" can make people feel more alert, and frequent users can develop mild withdrawal symptoms when they stop, including headaches and tiredness. Caffeine-containing chocolate may produce similar effects. Neither substance causes the kinds of life problems found in drug addiction, although some coffee drinkers develop a tolerance to caffeine and need to drink more to get the same "buzz" or sense of alertness.

The World Health Organization recognizes caffeine "dependence" as a disorder; the American Psychiatric Association does not and says more research is needed.

"The term 'addiction' is tossed around pretty commonly, like 'chocoholic' or saying you're addicted to reality TV," said Dr. Ellen Selkie, a University of Michigan physician who studies teens' use of digital technology. But addiction means an inability to control use "to the point where you're failing at life," she said.

WHAT ABOUT BEHAVIOR?

The only behavior classified as an addiction in the American Psychiatric Association's diagnostic manual is compulsive gambling. To be diagnosed, gamblers must have several symptoms including repeatedly gambling increasing amounts of money, lying to hide gambling activity, feeling irritable or restless when trying to stop, and losing jobs or relationships because of gambling. Research suggests excessive gambling can affect the brain in ways similar to addictive drugs. Since the diagnostic manual was last updated, in 2013, studies have bolstered evidence that excessive video gaming may do the same thing, and some experts speculate that it may be added to the next update.

The manual doesn't include sex addiction because there's little evidence that compulsive sexual behavior has similar effects on the brain.

Many excessive gamblers, gamers and sex "addicts" have other psychiatric conditions, including anxiety, attention deficit disorder and depression, and some mental health specialists believe their compulsive behaviors are merely symptoms of those diseases rather than separate addictions.

Excessive use of the internet and smartphones is also absent from the psychiatric manual and World Health Organization's update. Psychiatrists disagree on whether that is a true addiction — partly because overuse is hard to measure when so many people need to use their smartphones and the internet for their jobs.

DOES THE TERM MATTER?

The World Health Organization's decision to classify excessive video gaming as an addiction means "gaming disorder" will be added to this year's update to the organization's International Classification of

Diseases. Doctors worldwide use that document to diagnose physical and mental illnesses. Insurers, including Medicaid and Medicare, use billing codes listed there to make coverage decisions. The American Psychiatric Association's manual is widely used for defining and diagnosing mental disorders. If conditions aren't listed in these documents, insurance coverage for treatment is unlikely.

Follow AP Medical Writer Lindsey Tanner on Twitter at @LindseyTanner. Her work can be found here.

This Associated Press series was produced in partnership with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

New evidence that viruses may play a role in Alzheimer's

By LAURAN NEERGAARD, AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Viruses that sneak into the brain just might play a role in Alzheimer's, scientists reported Thursday in a provocative study that promises to re-ignite some long-debated theories about what triggers the mind-robbing disease.

The findings don't prove viruses cause Alzheimer's, nor do they suggest it's contagious.

But a team led by researchers at New York's Mount Sinai Health System found that certain viruses — including two extremely common herpes viruses — affect the behavior of genes involved in Alzheimer's.

The idea that infections earlier in life might somehow set the stage for Alzheimer's decades later has simmered at the edge of mainstream medicine for years. It's been overshadowed by the prevailing theory that Alzheimer's stems from sticky plaques that clog the brain.

Thursday's study has even some specialists who never embraced the infection connection saying it's time for a closer look, especially as attempts to block those so-called beta-amyloid plaques have failed.

"With an illness this terrible, we cannot afford to dismiss all scientific possibilities," said Dr. John Morris, who directs the Alzheimer's research center at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. He wasn't involved in the new research but called it impressive.

The study also fits with mounting evidence that how aggressively the brain's immune system defends itself against viruses or other germs may be riskier than an actual infection, said Alzheimer's specialist Dr. Rudolph Tanzi of Massachusetts General Hospital. With Harvard colleague Dr. Robert Moir, Tanzi has performed experiments showing that sticky beta-amyloid captures invading germs by engulfing them — and that's why the plaque starts forming in the first place.

"The question remained, OK, in the Alzheimer brain what are the microbes that matter, what are the microbes that trigger the plaque?" explained Tanzi, who also had no role in the new research.

The team from Mount Sinai and Arizona State University came up with some viral suspects — by accident. The study, funded by the National Institutes of Health, wasn't hunting viruses but was looking for new drug targets for Alzheimer's. The researchers were using complex genetic data from hundreds of brains at several brain banks to compare differences between people who'd died with Alzheimer's and the cognitively normal.

The first clues that viruses were around "came screaming out at us," said Mount Sinai geneticist Joel Dudley, a senior author of the research published Thursday in the journal *Neuron*.

The team found viral genetic material at far higher levels in Alzheimer's-affected brains than in normal ones. Most abundant were two human herpes viruses, known as HHV6a and HHV7, that infect most people during childhood, often with no symptoms, and then lie dormant in the body.

That wasn't unusual. Since 1980, other researchers have linked a variety of bacteria and viruses, including another type of herpes that causes cold sores, to an increased risk of Alzheimer's. But it was never clear if germs were merely bystanders, or actively spurring Alzheimer's.

The new study went farther: Researchers used computer models to check how the viral genes interacted with human genes, proteins and amyloid buildup, almost like the viruses' social media connections, Dudley explained.

"We're able to see if viral genes are friending some of the host genes and if they tweet, who tweets back," Dudley said.

They found a lot of interactions, suggesting the viruses could even switch on and off Alzheimer's-related genes. To see if those interactions mattered, the researchers bred mice lacking one molecule that herpes seemed to deplete. Sure enough, the animals developed more of those amyloid plaques.

"I look at this paper and it makes me sit up and say, 'Wow,'" said Alzheimer's Association scientific programs director Keith Fargo.

He said the research makes a viral connection much more plausible but cautioned that the study won't affect how today's patients are treated.

If the findings pan out, they could change how scientists look for new ways to treat or prevent Alzheimer's, said Dr. Miroslaw Mackiewicz of NIH's National Institute on Aging. Already, NIH is funding a first-step study to see if an antiviral drug benefits people who have both mild Alzheimer's and different herpes viruses.

Just having a herpes virus "does not mean you're going to get Alzheimer's," Mass General's Tanzi stressed. It may not even have penetrated the brain.

But in another study soon to be published, Tanzi showed biologically how both HHV6 and a cold sore-causing herpes virus can trigger or "seed" amyloid plaque formation, supporting the Mount Sinai findings.

Still, he doesn't think viruses are the only suspects.

"The Mount Sinai paper tells us the viral side of the story. We still have to work out the microbe side of the story," said Tanzi, who is looking for bacteria and other bugs in what's called the Brain Microbiome Project. "The brain was always thought to be a sterile place. It's absolutely not true."

The Associated Press Health & Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

Israeli PM's wife charged with fraud, breach of trust

By JOSEF FEDERMAN, Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — The wife of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was charged Thursday with misusing some \$100,000 in public funds to order lavish meals from celebrity chefs, dealing an embarrassing blow to the country's first family and drawing fresh attention to a series of separate corruption investigations plaguing the prime minister.

Although the indictment against Sara Netanyahu did not directly affect the prime minister, it ended a period of political victories that had bolstered the Israeli leader and distracted attention from his legal woes. Her lawyers denounced the charges as "baseless and delusional."

Sara Netanyahu has long faced allegations of abusive behavior and living extravagantly. In 2016, a court ruled she abused an employee and awarded the man \$42,000 in damages. Other former employees have accused her of mistreatment, charges the Netanyahus have vehemently denied.

In Thursday's indictment, the Justice Ministry said Sara Netanyahu was charged with fraud and breach of trust for allegedly overspending roughly \$100,000 on private meals at the prime minister's official residence, even when there was a full-time chef on staff. A former deputy director of the official residence was also charged.

Sara Netanyahu acted "to circumvent the rules and conditions" governing the official residence "in order to fraudulently obtain state funding for various expenses for the accused and her family that were not supposed to be financed in this manner," the indictment said.

It was not immediately clear when her trial would begin. If convicted, she could face a maximum sentence of five years behind bars for the most serious charge, though that appeared unlikely.

In a statement posted on the prime minister's Facebook page, her lawyers called the indictment "baseless and delusional." It said she was not even aware of the regulations, that the food had been ordered by an assistant and served primarily to staff and visiting dignitaries.

"This is the first time in Israel and in the world that the wife of a leader is brought to justice over food

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trays," it said. "There was no fraud or breach of trust here or deceptively receiving things or any other crime."

The indictment threatened to reinforce the unflattering reputation the Netanyahus have gained over the years of enjoying an expensive lifestyle and being out of touch with most Israelis. Netanyahu also faces several police investigations into alleged corruption, including accepting expensive gifts from billionaire friends. The Netanyahus have denied any wrongdoing, and say they are the victims of a political witch hunt and hostile media.

Netanyahu has managed to deflect attention from his legal problems through a string of political and diplomatic victories in recent months. In May, Netanyahu announced that the Mossad spy agency had stolen tens of thousands of sensitive nuclear documents from archenemy Iran. The following week, the U.S. withdrew from the international nuclear deal with Iran, a move that was warmly welcomed by Netanyahu. Israel has also carried out a number of successful airstrikes on Iranian targets in neighboring Syria, and it has celebrated the U.S. decision to move its embassy to Jerusalem over strong Palestinian and international objections.

But Thursday's indictment provided a fresh reminder that Netanyahu has not put his legal troubles behind him.

Gil Hoffman, chief political correspondent of the Jerusalem Post, said the indictment was a "devastating blow" to the prime minister. He described Sara as "the power behind the throne."

"He consults with her on key issues, both personal, political and even diplomatic and security issues and now she's under indictment and that's very serious," Hoffman said. "He himself has three criminal investigations hanging over his head and that will make it harder for Netanyahu to govern."

Israeli police questioned Netanyahu, his wife and son last week in connection to a corruption case involving the country's telecom giant, Bezeq.

Netanyahu is suspected of promoting regulations that provided hundreds of millions of dollars in benefits for the company in return for more favorable coverage of the Netanyahu family on Bezeq's influential news site, Walla.

Israeli police have already recommended indicting Netanyahu for bribery, fraud and breach of trust in two separate cases.

Netanyahu is suspected of accepting lavish gifts from billionaire friends, and promising to promote legislation to help a major Israeli newspaper against its free rival in exchange for favorable coverage.

Israel's attorney general is now reviewing the police recommendations and is expected to decide whether to indict Netanyahu in the coming months.

AP-NORC Poll: Majority approve of Trump's North Korea effort

By EMILY SWANSON and CATHERINE LUCEY, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A majority of Americans now approve of President Donald Trump's handling of U.S. relations with North Korea, a change that comes after his historic summit with that country's leader, Kim Jong Un. But most don't believe Kim is serious about addressing the international concerns about his country's nuclear weapons program.

A new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research released Thursday finds that 55 percent of Americans approve of Trump's diplomacy with North Korea, up from 42 percent in March and 34 percent last October. It's the highest rating for the Republican president on any individual issue on an AP-NORC poll since his inauguration.

The survey was conducted immediately after Trump concluded a one-day meeting with Kim, the first between a U.S. and North Korean leader in six decades of hostility, at which they agreed North Korea would work toward denuclearization in exchange for U.S. security guarantees.

The positive feelings about the summit among Americans don't appear to have made a dent in Trump's overall approval rating, which stands at just 41 percent and has not significantly changed since March. As the poll was being conducted, Trump was embroiled in controversy over his administration's policy of

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separating children from their parents after border agents catch the families crossing into the U.S. illegally.

Yet even people unhappy with Trump overall are willing to admire his efforts at detente with North Korea. Last September, Trump taunted Kim as "Rocket Man" in a speech at the United Nations, during which he vowed to "totally destroy North Korea" if the U.S. was forced to defend itself or its allies. Last week, after meeting with Kim, he tweeted, "there is no longer a nuclear threat from North Korea."

"I hate to give Donald Trump any credit, but the fact is he was able to sit down with the man and possibly get the volume of that threat turned down significantly," said Susan Leo, 66, a retired minister from Santa Cruz, California, who supported Democrat Hillary Clinton for president.

Still, she added, when she considers the big picture, Trump's presidency is "a nightmare. There's absolutely no integrity in his life and in his presidency overall."

Leo isn't alone in having such split views of the president. While only 9 percent of Democrats and 37 percent of independents approve of how Trump's performance as president overall, 31 percent of Democrats and 53 percent of independents approve of his work with North Korea.

Americans also have mixed feelings about Trump's announcement that he would end military exercises with South Korea while negotiations with North Korea are ongoing, with about 3 in 10 in favor and 3 in 10 opposed.

Even as they broadly give Trump solid reviews for the summit, Americans remain skeptical about what sort of deal he may ultimately reach with a country controlled by what he once called a "depraved regime." Trump's critics have responded to his confidence in the agreement struck with Kim at the summit with reminders that North Korea has never signed such a deal that it didn't later break.

A majority of Americans — 52 percent — have little to no confidence that negotiations with Kim will lead to North Korea giving up its nuclear weapons, while just 12 percent are very or extremely confident. Fifty-five percent think North Korea isn't serious about addressing international concerns about its nuclear weapons program.

Roger D'Aquin, a retired security manager from New Orleans who voted for libertarian candidate Gary Johnson in 2016, said that he thought Trump's tactics with Kim worked, but added, "I have no confidence that Kim wants to cooperate and wants to get rid of his nukes."

"Overall Trump handled that well," said D'Aquin, 50, who said he was happy Trump won the election and that he gave him a "C" for the job so far.

Even among Republicans, just 25 percent say they're very confident that North Korea will eventually agree to a deal to give up its nuclear weapons. A large majority of Democrats have little confidence the Kim regime will ever do so.

Trump's meeting with Kim came on the heels of his combative G-7 meeting with traditional U.S. allies, including Canada and the United Kingdom. After departing that gathering in Quebec, Trump attacked Justin Trudeau as "dishonest" and "weak" after the Canadian prime minister told reporters his government would retaliate against new U.S. tariffs it viewed as unfair.

Only 43 percent of Americans approve of Trump's handling of relationships with U.S. allies or of his handling of trade negotiations with other countries, a figure that's similar to his overall approval rating. Just 23 percent of Americans say they're very or extremely confident in his ability to handle complex foreign policy situations, while 53 percent are not very or not at all confident.

Asked about Trump's potential options at the negotiating table in future talks with North Korea, more Americans say they'd oppose than favor withdrawing U.S. troops from South Korea (41 percent to 29 percent) and giving economic aid to North Korea (47 percent to 24 percent) in exchange for Kim surrendering his country's nuclear weapons.

More Americans favor than oppose ending sanctions designed to limit North Korea's economy (37 percent to 27 percent), and a large majority — 69 percent — say they'd favor a treaty marking an official end to the Korean War. There's even some support for inviting Kim to the White House, with 39 percent of Americans open to an idea that 25 percent oppose.

Kim Oldfield, 67, of Culverville, California, a registered Independent who voted for Trump, said she was

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fine Kim coming to Washington as part of a nuclear deal.

"Sure, why not," she said. "There's a first time for everything."

The AP-NORC poll of 1,109 adults was conducted June 13-18 using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4.1 percentage points.

Respondents were first selected randomly using address-based sampling methods, and later interviewed online or by phone.

Online:

AP-NORC Center: <http://www.apnorc.org/>

Asian stocks down as multiple trade disputes worry investors

By YOUKYUNG LEE, AP Business Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Asian stocks fell Friday following Wall Street losses overnight as investors were still wary over trade disputes between China and the U.S. as well as between the U.S. and Europe that could hurt corporate profit and jobs.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 lost 0.9 percent to 22,500.45 while Hong Kong's Hang Seng index edged down 0.2 percent to 29,257.41. Shanghai Composite Index added 0.2 percent to 2,881.13 but it was still more than 5 percent lower than the start of the week. South Korea's Kospi rose 0.3 percent to 2,344.55 after losing more than 3 percent this week. Australia's S&P-ASX 200 was flat at 6,229.30. Stocks in Taiwan, Singapore and Southeast Asian countries were lower.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "Heightened global trade tensions remain a theme going into the end of the week," said Jingyi Pan, a market strategist at IG. "The overnight action on Wall Street had once again been one of risk-off, continuing to cast the shadows into the end of the week for Asia."

TRADE TENSIONS: The U.S. is to start taxing \$34 billion in Chinese goods in two weeks while Beijing has vowed to retaliate with its own tariffs on U.S. soybeans and other farm products. The European Union is set to slap tariffs on \$3.4 billion in American products on Friday, in response to the U.S. move to impose tariffs on steel and aluminum from around the globe. Turkey also imposed tariffs on nearly two dozen U.S. products starting Thursday to strike back at Washington's sanctions on imported steel and aluminum. On Thursday, German automaker Daimler said the tariffs China plans to put on cars imported from the U.S. will contribute to a small decline in earnings this year.

WALL STREET: U.S. stock markets finished lower on Thursday. The S&P 500 index slid 17.56 points, or 0.6 percent, to 2,749.76. The Dow fell 196.10 points, or 0.8 percent, to 24,461.70. The Nasdaq composite lost 68.56 points, or 0.9 percent, to 7,712.95. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks declined 18.04 points, or 1.1 percent, to 1,688.95.

OIL: Prices of oil rose ahead of OPEC meeting on Friday. Benchmark U.S. crude gained 95 cents to \$66.49 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Thursday, it dropped 0.3 percent to \$65.54 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, the international standard for oil prices, rose 96 cents to \$74.01 per barrel in London. It lost 2.3 percent to \$73.05 a barrel on Thursday.

CURRENCIES: The dollar rose to 110.00 yen from 109.99 yen while the euro strengthened to \$1.161 from 1.160.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Friday, June 22, the 173rd day of 2018. There are 192 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

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On June 22, 1918, a train carrying members of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus and their families was rear-ended during an emergency stop by another train near Hammond, Indiana, killing at least 86 people aboard the circus train.

On this date:

In 1611, English explorer Henry Hudson, his son and several other people were set adrift in present-day Hudson Bay by mutineers aboard the Discovery.

In 1868, Arkansas, which had seceded in 1861, was re-admitted to the Union.

In 1911, Britain's King George V was crowned at Westminster Abbey.

In 1937, Joe Louis began his reign as world heavyweight boxing champion by knocking out Jim Braddock in the eighth round of their fight in Chicago. (A year later on this date, Louis knocked out Max Schmeling in the first round of their rematch at Yankee Stadium.)

In 1940, during World War II, Adolf Hitler gained a stunning victory as France was forced to sign an armistice eight days after German forces overran Paris.

In 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, more popularly known as the "GI Bill of Rights."

In 1945, the World War II battle for Okinawa ended with an Allied victory.

In 1969, singer-actress Judy Garland died in London at age 47.

In 1977, John N. Mitchell became the first former U.S. Attorney General to go to prison as he began serving a sentence for his role in the Watergate cover-up. (He was released 19 months later.)

In 1988, gay rights activist Leonard Matlovich, discharged from the U.S. Air Force because of his homosexuality, died at age 44. Singer Dennis Day, Jack Benny's sidekick, died at age 72.

In 1993, former first lady Pat Nixon died in Park Ridge, New Jersey, at age 81.

In 2012, ex-Penn State assistant coach Jerry Sandusky was convicted by a jury in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, on 45 counts of sexually assaulting 10 boys over 15 years. (Sandusky is appealing a 30- to 60-year state prison sentence.)

Ten years ago: Zimbabwe's opposition leader, Morgan Tsvangirai (SVAHNG'-ur-eye), withdrew from a presidential runoff against Robert Mugabe. Acerbic standup comedian and satirist George Carlin died in Santa Monica, California, at age 71. Comedian Dody Goodman died in Englewood, New Jersey, at age 93.

Five years ago: Islamic militants disguised as policemen killed 10 foreign climbers and a Pakistani guide in a brazen overnight raid at the base camp of Nanga Parbat, saying it was to avenge the death of their deputy leader in a U.S. drone strike. A plane carrying a wing walker crashed at an air show near Dayton, Ohio, killing both the pilot, Charlie Schwenker, and the stunt performer, Jane Wicker.

One year ago: An online conspiracy theory dubbed "pizzagate" ended with real-world consequences as a North Carolina man was sentenced to four years in prison for firing an assault rifle inside Comet Ping Pong, a Washington, D.C. pizza restaurant. California officials denied parole for convicted killer Patricia Krenwinkel, a follower of cult leader Charles Manson, for the 1969 slayings of pregnant actress Sharon Tate and four other people. The Philadelphia 76ers selected guard Markelle Fultz with the No. 1 pick in the NBA draft.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Prunella Scales (TV: "Fawlty Towers") is 86. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., is 85. Singer-actor Kris Kristofferson is 82. Movie director John Korty is 82. Actor Michael Lerner is 77. Actor Klaus Maria Brandauer is 75. Fox News analyst Brit Hume is 75. Singer Peter Asher (Peter and Gordon) is 74. Actor David L. Lander is 71. Singer Howard "Eddie" Kaylan is 71. Singer-musician Todd Rundgren is 70. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., is 69. Actress Meryl Streep is 69. Actress Lindsay Wagner is 69. Singer Alan Osmond is 69. Actor Murphy Cross is 68. Actor Graham Greene is 66. Pop singer Cyndi Lauper is 65. Actor Chris Lemmon is 64. Rock musician Derek Forbes is 62. Actor Tim Russ is 62. Rock musician Garry Beers (INXS) is 61. Actor-producer-writer Bruce Campbell is 60. Rock musician Alan Anton (Cowboy Junkies) is 59. Actress Tracy Pollan is 58. Environmental activist Erin Brockovich is 58. Rock singer-musician Jimmy Somerville is 57. Basketball Hall of Famer Clyde Drexler is 56. Actress Amy Brenneman is 54. Author Dan Brown is 54. Rock singer-musician Mike Edwards (Jesus Jones) is 54. Rock singer Steven Page is 48. Actor Michael Trucco is 48. Actress Mary Lynn Rajskub (RYS'-kub) is 47. TV personality Carson Daly is 45.

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Rock musician Chris Traynor is 45. Country musician Jimmy Wallace is 45. Actor Donald Faison (FAY'-zahn) is 44. Actress Alicia Goranson is 44. Actor-comedian Mike O'Brien (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 42. TV personality/actor Jai Rodriguez is 39. Americana singer-songwriter John Moreland is 33. Actress Lindsay Ridgeway is 33. Pop singer Dina Hansen (Fifth Harmony) (TV: "The X Factor") is 21.

Thought for Today: "Study men, not historians." — President Harry S. Truman (1884-1972).