

# Groton Daily Independent

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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.

Sperry Stump Removal Tyler: 605/216-8431

Over 30 Years of Combined Experience!

TJ: 605/380-7915 TreeLine Tree Service

## Groton Area Schedule of Events

**Wednesday, September 26th:**

King and Queen to St. Johns Preschool @ 8:45 AFTER attendance (with crowns and robes) MUST check out of office and back into office- NO DRIVING

Senior volleyball players, senior soccer players, and senior cross country to the elementary for lunch @ 11:30-12:20 MUST check out of office and back into office- NO DRIVING (Payton Maine, Portia Kettering, Miranda Hanson, Jennie Doeden, Taylor Holm, Spencer Jacobs, Mitchell Koens, Micah Poor, AnneMarie Smith, Emily Thompson, Sam Geffre, Devan Howard)

FCCLA Students to the Elementary School 11:30-12:30 (Jodi Hinman, Shannon Wiedrick)

King and Queen to St. Johns Preschool @ 12:45 AFTER attendance (with crowns and robes) MUST check out of office and back into office- NO DRIVING

King and Queen to Golden Living Center to crown King and Queen @ 3:00pm (with Mrs. Seibel, King and Queen in crowns and robes)

## **Strong August gaming numbers in Deadwood wipe out yearly losses - hotel occupancy flat**

DEADWOOD, S.D. (09/25/18) - According to statistics released yesterday by the South Dakota Commission on Gaming, the August 2018 gaming handle showed an increase of 7.69 percent, with slot machine handle increasing by 7.42 percent when compared to August 2017. The table game handle was up 11.71 percent when compared to 2017's August table game numbers. Deadwood gaming operators rewarded players with \$1,485,181 in "free-play" for the month of August, leaving taxable adjusted gross revenues of \$10,905,910 for August 2018.

"Deadwood gaming numbers were surprisingly strong in August and wiped-out the losses on the year," said Mike Rodman, executive director of the Deadwood Gaming Association. "We are extremely pleased that our market has stabilized and hopefully poised for growth in the future.

Deadwood Hotel occupancy rates were flat in August when compared with August 2017 numbers. According to monthly data released Friday by Deadwood's City Finance Office, hotels in Deadwood had an occupancy rate of 72.06 percent for August 2018, which is a 0.19 percent decrease when compared with August 2017.

"Because of increased hotel capacity, Deadwood rented 1,946 additional room nights this August when compared to August 2017," said Mike Rodman, executive director of the Deadwood Gaming Association. "These additional visitors to Deadwood have had a positive impact on Deadwood gaming numbers.

"Deadwood's August occupancy rate decrease was behind the national August hotel occupancy increase of 1.2 percent. Deadwood's occupancy rate slightly beat the national occupancy rate of 71.4 percent for August 2018."

On Thursday, September 27, the House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations will hold a hearing on Capitol Hill. The hearing entitled "Post-PASPA: An Examination of Sports Betting in America" will hear arguments presented by five key speakers.

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## Sunflower Golf Tournament Sept. 9 at Olive Grove Golf Course

### Championship Flight

69- Brad and Dar Larson  
72- Dillon Freudentag and Rachel Goslings  
72- Ryan and Whitney Patnoe  
73- Mike and Cherry Baker  
74- Jordan and Chelsey Kline  
75- Mark and Kari Herman  
75- Roger Colestock and Payton Colestock  
75- Brad and Brenda Waage

### First Flight

78- Jan and Nancy Gilchrist  
80- Randy and Sue Stanley  
81- Walt and Helen Plummage  
83- Lorin and Julie Fliehs  
83- Tom Mahan and Ranae Ball  
84- Dave and Marcy Blackmun  
86- Rich and Tami Zimney

### Second Flight

85- Tony and Mandy Grohs  
85- Jonathan and Mandilyn Fliehs  
87- Chad and Michelle Johnson  
87- Rod and Arlys Kluess  
88- Rod and Cheryl Paul  
91- Chad Gilbert and Becky Wirkus  
93- T.J. Harder and Marcy Harder  
94- Larry Frohling and Deb Fredrickson

#4 Closest to Pin Women: Brenda Waage

#8 Closest to Pin Men: Brad Larson

#9 Longest Putt: Rachel Goslings

## Groton Coffee Cup

**Sept. 25 Team Standings:** James Valley 10, Kens 9, Biker Chix 9, Ten Pins 4.

**High Games:** Nancy Radke 184, Vickie Kramp 179, Sam Bahr 171.

**High Series:** Vickie Kramp 481, Nancy Radke 466, Joyce Walter 452

## Conde National League

**Sept. 24 Team Standings:** Cubs 8, Pirates 8, Tigers 8, Braves 6, Mets 5, Giants 1.

**Men's High Games:** Butch Farmen 204, 181; Troy Lindberg 187; Lance Frohling 179.

**Men's High Series:** Butch Farmen 531, Topper Tastad 497, Ryan Bethke 469.

**Women's High Games:** Joyce Walter 196, Michelle Johnson 177, Mary Larson 169, Vickie Kramp 169.

**Women's High Series:** Joyce Walter 525, Mary Larson 465, Kira Cady 451.

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## Groton Garden Club members decorating Downtown

Members of the Groton Garden Club decorated several light poles in downtown Groton on Tuesday. Pictured left to right are Linda Gengerke, Marge Overacker, Pam Rix, Deb McKiver and Laurie Mitchell. (Photo by Tina Kosel)



## Decades Day Dress-up winners

Back row left to right are Faith Flihs 7th grade, Marlee Tollifson 8th grade, Alexis Hanten 10th grade, Cyruss DeHoet 11th grade, Kaitlyn Anderson 12th grade, and Sam Menzia 12th grade. Front row left to right are Trinity Smith 9th grade and Christain Ehresmann 6th grade. Missing is Emma Kutter 6th grade, Sam Geffre 12th grade and Shannon Wiedrick 12th grade.

(Photo by Tina Kosel)



## K-2 Munchkin Run

The K-2 Munchkin Run was held at the Olive Grove Golf Course prior to the varsity races. The winners of the K-2 run are pictured above. Left to right are 3, Trey Tietz; 2, Wesley Morehouse; 1, Drew Fjeldheim; 1, Abby Fjeldheim; 2, Kinley Sandness; and 3, Libby Johnson. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



## Grades 3-5 Munchkin Run

The Munchkin Run for grades 3-5 was held at the Olive Grove Golf Course prior to the varsity races. The winners are pictured above. Left to right are 3, TC Schuster; 2, Easton Weber; 1, Drake Peterson; 1, Jerica Locke; 2, Rylie Rose; and 3, McKenna Tietz. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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**Emily Thompson**  
9th Place



**Laura Sumption (12th Place), Chloe Arneson (14th Place),  
Brooklyn Podoll (7th Place)**

## Steve Grode Invitational – Groton Area School Cross Country Meet

### Girl's Varsity – 5K (27 runners)

1. Drea Frolek - Sargent Central/Lidgerwood/Oakes 19:34.07
7. Brooklyn Podoll – Frederick Area 22:04
9. Emily Thompson – Groton Area 22:17
12. Laura Sumption – Frederick Area 24:00
13. Morgan Sumption – Frederick Area 24:07
14. Chloe Arneson – Frederick Area 24:18
16. Rylie Rosenau – Groton Area 25:32
20. AnneMarie Smith – Groton Area 25:59
21. Sierra Erhesmann – Groton Area 26:36
23. Sofia Losure – Frederick Area 27:18.65

### Team (Top 3 runners count)

1. **Sargent Central/Lidgerwood/Oakes – 7 points**
2. **Dakota Hills – 16 points**

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**Rylie Rosenau and AnneMarie Smith**



**Sierra Erhesmann**



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**Mitchell Koens**  
13th Place



**Micah Poor**  
9th Place



**Isaac Smith**  
1st Place



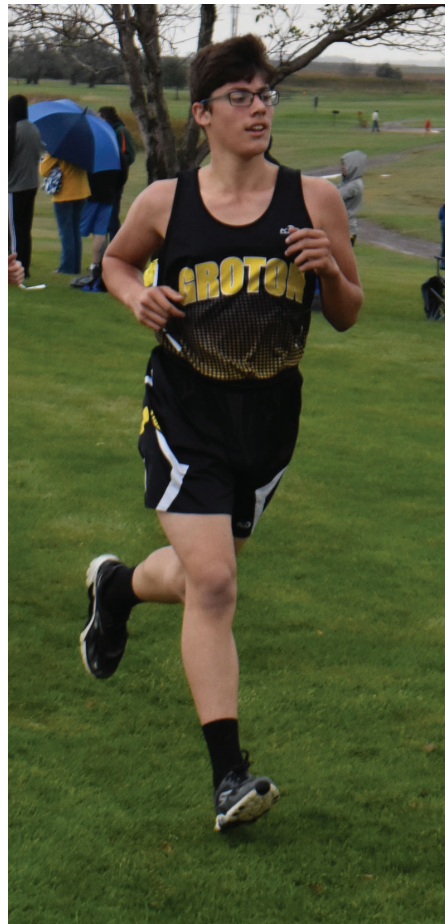
**Trevor Sumption (8th Place) in front,**  
**Jonathan Bretsch (12th Place) in middle,**  
**Isaac Sumption (16th Place) in back.**

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**Noah Poor**  
**18th Place**



**Spencer Jacobs**



**Jackson Garstecki**

## Steve Grode Invitational – Groton Area School Cross Country Meet

### Boy's Varsity – 5K (36 runners)

1. Isaac Smith – Groton Area 18:49
8. Trevor Sumption – Frederick Area 19:55
9. Micah Poor – Groton Area 19:58
12. Johnathan Bretsch – Frederick Area 20:47
13. Mitchell Koens – Groton Area 20:52
16. Isaac Sumption – Frederick Area 21:16
18. Noah Poor – Groton Area 21:56.44
24. Jackson Garstecki – Groton Area 24:12
25. Dillon Abeln – Groton Area 24:22.53
29. Spencer Jacobs – Groton Area 24:40
33. Caleb Sannes – Webster 25:42
34. Steven Paulson – Groton Area 25:43
36. Bradin Althoff – Groton Area 26:16

### Team Placings (Counted top 3 runners)

1. **Sargent Central/Lidgerwood/Oakes - 22 points**
2. **Groton Area – 23 points**

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**Dillon Abeln**



**Bradin Althoff and Steven Paulson**

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**Kash Cutler**



**Levi Little**



**Tristan Sumption**



**Brayden Sumption**



**Lillian Brooks**

## Junior Varsity

### JV Boys – 3K (13 runners)

1. Gannon Girard – Ellendale 12:05
4. Kash Cutler – Frederick Area 13:08
6. Levi Little – Frederick Area 13:27
8. Tristan Sumption – Frederick Area 13:36.40
11. Brayden Sumption – Frederick Area 14:39
12. Kannon Coats – Groton Area 17:55

### JV Girls – 3K (7 runners)

1. McKenna Glynn – Ellendale 13:55
7. Lillian Brooks – Groton Area 19:17

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**Angela Carlson reads off the times as Sue Stanley writes them down on the sheet.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

**Lynette Grieve runs the machine that keeps track of the time and then prints off a ticker tape.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



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## Share Your Story Today!

Opinion Piece by Doug Sombke, President of S.D. Farmers Union

During the recent National Farmers Union Fly-In, South Dakota Farmers Union members met with South Dakota congressional aides from who were surprised by the stories we shared, saying that when they visited with South Dakota agricultural producers this summer, they did not hear of the challenges facing farmers due to tariffs on top of already low farm gate prices and rising energy, shipping and input cost.

PLEASE share your story with them. Let them know how the tariffs and low commodity prices are impacting YOU.

Every day, as President of South Dakota Farmers Union, I talk to farmers, bankers and Main Street business owners who are struggling due to the current situation. Some farmers say this will be their last harvest.

Encourage your banker, neighbors and friends to share their story with our congressional leaders as well.



Here's how to reach them:

Senator John Thune

Phone: (202) 224-2321

Email: <https://www.thune.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact>

Senator Mike Rounds

Phone: (202) 224-5842

Email: <https://www.rounds.senate.gov/contact/email-mike>

Representative Kristi Noem

Phone: (202) 225-2801

Email: <https://noem.house.gov/index.cfm/email-kristi>

Thank you,

Doug Sombke, President of South Dakota Farmers Union & fourth-generation Conde farmer

## First Fall Frost Could Arrive in Early October According to Climate Outlook

BROOKINGS, S.D. - Climate models predict a near average first fall frost date for South Dakota as cooler weather moves across the state.

"With cool air moving into the region from Canada the first week in October, it is possible that temperatures will dip below freezing," said Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension State Climatologist.

She explained that for most of the state, the average first frost is the last week in September or early October. "The long-term trends in this region have been tending towards later first fall frost dates. In the last several years, we have seen first frost frequently occur in October, but also as late as mid-November."

The latest U.S. Climate Outlook for October, released by the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) September 20, shows the likelihood that southeastern South Dakota could be colder than average.

"Chances are very good that the early part of the month will be cooler than average, which may be enough to tilt the odds for the whole month, even if it turns warmer sometime later," Edwards said. "The rest of the state has equal chances of colder, warmer or near average in the month ahead."

A wetter than average growing season is one of the drivers of cooler temperatures, Edwards explained. "When soils are very wet, the air above it is often more humid than usual. Moist air and soil do not heat up as quickly as dry air, so temperatures remain more moderate in moist conditions."

Looking ahead to October, the precipitation outlook is less certain.

Early in the month, Edwards said the models point to an active weather pattern that may continue with several small systems passing through. Later in the month, there is more uncertainty. "As a result, equal chances of overall wetter, drier or near average precipitation is projected across the north central states," Edwards said.

However, October's temperatures are not an indication of what South Dakotans should expect this winter, Edwards said, explaining that a weak El Niño could gradually impact our winter climate. "Historically, this has often meant warmer than average temperatures. The long-lead outlook for October through December is consistent with this pattern. It shows an increased likelihood of warmer than average temperatures for October through December and into 2019."

The precipitation outlook for the remainder of the fall and early winter is also uncertain this year in our region. "There are no consistent signs of either wetter or drier conditions in computer-generated forecasts. Additionally, El Niño climate patterns have not been consistently tied to wetter or drier winters in the Northern Plains. As a result, the north central states currently have equal chances of these scenarios playing out at the end of this year," Edwards said.

### Climate impact on crops

Cool temperatures and wet conditions will make for a slow corn and soybean harvest season. Excess moisture could reduce quality of some crops. During this challenging time, when the grain market is low, mechanical grain drying may be required to ensure the highest quality seed possible after harvest.

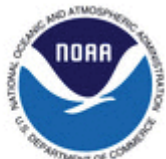
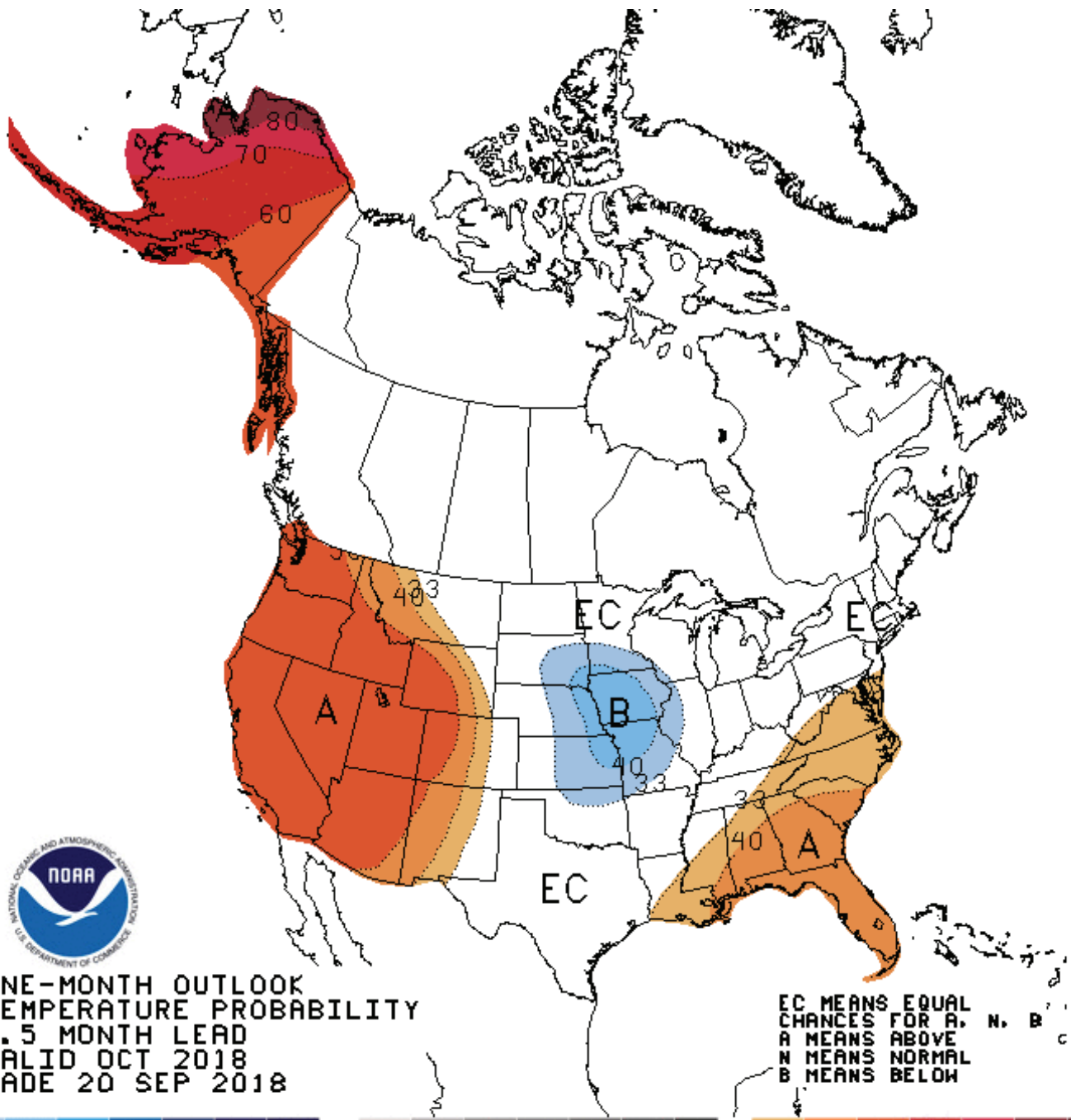
However, for winter wheat growers, some moisture could be beneficial, as planting season is underway. Some of the drier areas in central and northern South Dakota need rainfall to help with germination, so a wetter pattern would be favorable.

## Death Notice: Steve Giedt

Steve Giedt, 63, of Groton passed away Tuesday, September 25, 2018 at his home. Services are pending with Paetznick-Garress Funeral Chapel, Groton.

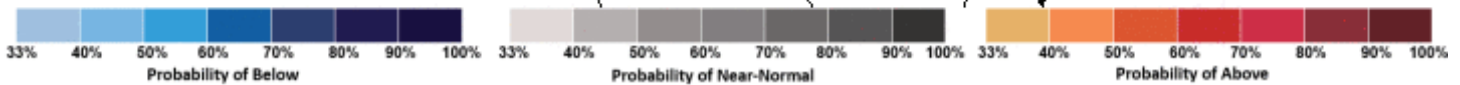
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ONE-MONTH OUTLOOK  
TEMPERATURE PROBABILITY  
0.5 MONTH LEAD  
VALID OCT 2018  
MADE 20 SEP 2018

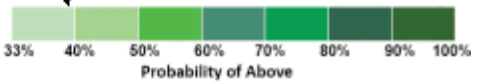
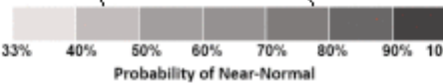
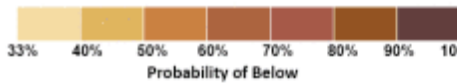
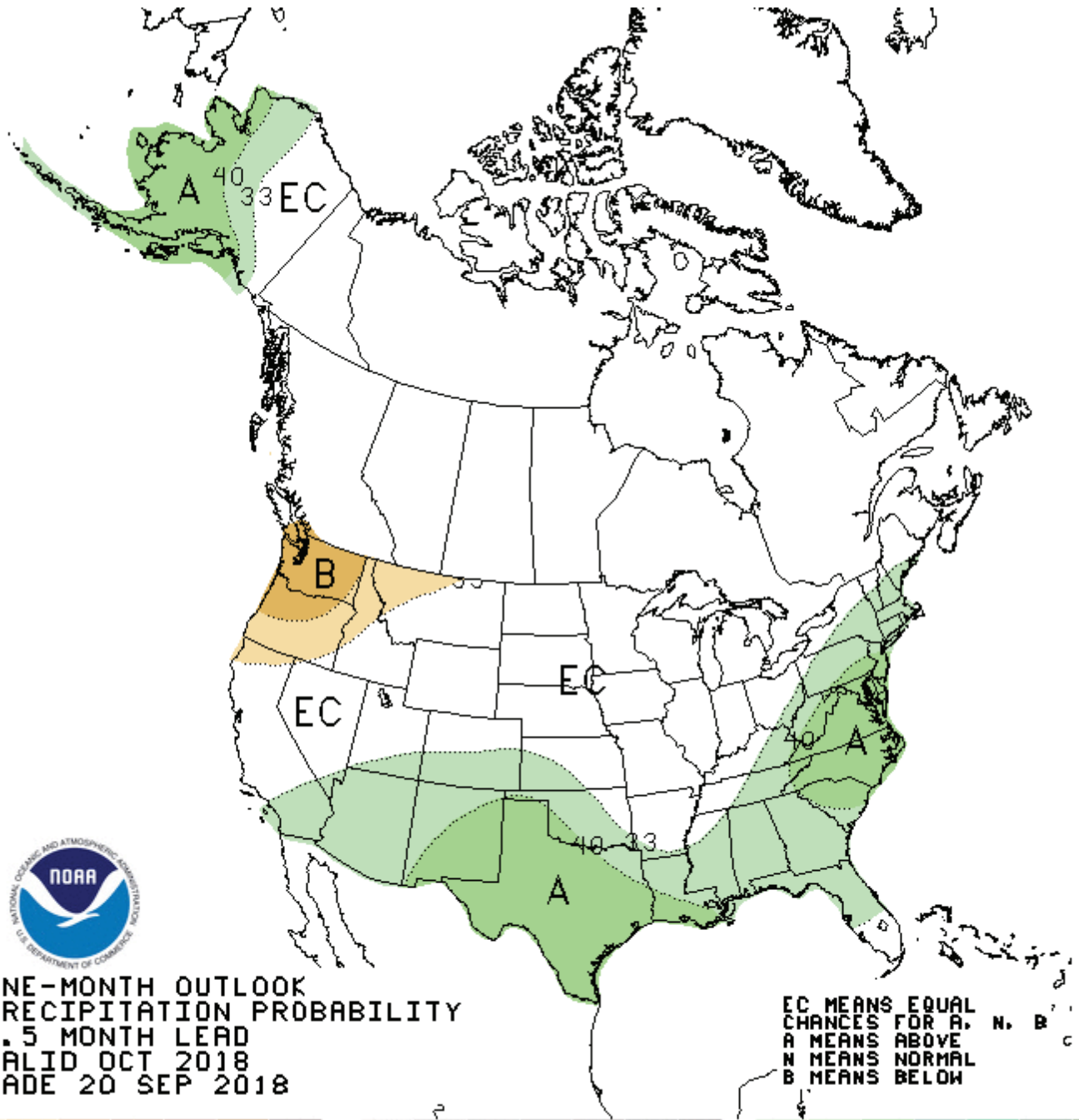
EC MEANS EQUAL  
CHANCES FOR A, N, B  
A MEANS ABOVE  
N MEANS NORMAL  
B MEANS BELOW





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## 2018 Governor's Awards Presented

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard presented the 2018 Governor's Awards today to South Dakota businesses and workers who have made significant contributions to the employment of people with disabilities.

Governor's Awards were presented to the following recipients:

Enma Lemus Arriaga of Watertown currently holds two jobs. Outside of work, Enma is an active member of her church, assisting with childcare and teaching Spanish. Enma has also served on the Watertown Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities. For her determination, hard work and self-motivation, Enma was awarded the Outstanding Citizen with a Disability Award.

Catherine Greseth of Custer has worked as an area manager for a national medical company and a business development director for several Fortune 500 companies. Greseth is legally blind due lingering results from physical abuse. Currently, she serves as the executive director of the Workforce Diversity Network of the Black Hills. Greseth was awarded the Outstanding Citizen with a Disability Award for her efforts.

Ryan Bartz of Sioux Falls was diagnosed with Autism at the age of ten. After acquiring a degree from Southwest Minnesota State University in Communication Studies, Bartz began two summer internships with the USD Center for Disabilities. After that, he began working at the center full-time while still holding a position at the local Hyvee. Outside of work, Bartz is a member of the Sioux Falls Young Professionals Network. For these achievements, Bartz was awarded the Outstanding Employee with a Disability Award.

Buger King #1187 of Mobridge retains individuals with disabilities as part of their winning workforce, and they have been recognized as the Outstanding Private Employer (Small Employer Category). Under the leadership of Bob Coulter, every employee or potential employee is treated as a person first.

Global Polymer of Madison was today's recipient of the Outstanding Private Employer (Large Employer Category). Global Polymer partners within the community to promote a diverse workforce, offering equal employment opportunities for all.

Outdoor Campus West of South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks received the Outstanding Employer Award. Outdoor Campus West has worked diligently to become a model employer in hiring individuals with disabilities. Every employee is a priority and are viewed on an equal status. They are held to the same standards and receive training in effective ways to work with a diverse customer and workforce base.

Dave Halverson of Sturgis has worked for 19 years to ensure that students with disabilities in western South Dakota receive services to make a positive transition from school to adult life. For that reason, Halverson has been selected as the recipient of the Outstanding Transition Services Award.

The 2018 Governor's Awards ceremony was co-sponsored by the Board of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Board of Service to the Blind and Visually Impaired, the Statewide Independent Living Council and the South Dakota Department of Human Services.

## South Dakota hunting laws most permissive in Great Plains SD law allows loaded guns in vehicles and firing from and across highways

Bart Pfankuch  
South Dakota News Watch

This story was produced by South Dakota News Watch, a non-profit news organization.

No neighboring state is as liberal as South Dakota when it comes to traveling with loaded guns or hunting on, along or over roads. Despite accidents in which hunters have been killed or maimed, it remains legal for a hunter to drive with a loaded, uncased firearm along almost any highway or road except an interstate.

The hunter can pull over, exit the vehicle, and then fire at pheasants, waterfowl or other small game from the pavement or the ditch - even at a bird flying across the travel lanes.

Even In the Black Hills National Forest, big-game hunters are allowed to drive down forest roads with a loaded, uncased rifle in the vehicle, pull over when an animal is seen, then step off the gravel road and immediately fire.

Hunters cannot fire within 660 feet of any church, school, occupied dwelling or livestock, and with few exceptions - special permits granted to handicapped hunters or people trying to kill predators such as coyotes -- are not allowed to shoot from the vehicle.

Even though driving with a loaded gun while on the hunt is legal, some law enforcement officers and hunter safety teachers say it is dangerous.

"It's kind of a been a strong issue with me, that it may be legal but it's not smart," said Ron Kolbeck of Salem, who has taught state HuntSAFE programs for more than 20 years. "I try to address what is the safest way and not just what's legal."

Numerous hunters have been injured in South Dakota while road hunting or while carrying a loaded gun in a vehicle, according to state records. From 2003-2013, 29 vehicle-related incidents leading to four deaths were reported. In the past three years, officials have documented 10 incidents involving road hunting or gun transport.

Kolbeck does not road hunt and never travels with a loaded gun. In addition to a couple close calls where family members had guns discharged in a vehicle, a co-worker of Kolbeck's lost her husband to a hunting



**Pheasants are the most common target of road hunters. State records show that from 2003-2013, 29 vehicle-related injury incidents leading to four deaths were reported.** (Photo Provided by the state of South Dakota)

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accident in South Dakota in 2008 when a loaded gun went off in a vehicle, killing him.

Laws allowing hunting in the rights-of-way, or the land under and alongside a highway or road, are part of a longstanding hunting tradition in South Dakota.

The main target of so-called "road hunting" in South Dakota is the state's famous pheasant population, which drew 120,000 hunters in 2017 – about 60 percent from other states – who took 830,000 birds during the 79-day season that starts in mid-October. The 2017 season generated \$209 million in direct and spin-off revenue, about \$132 million of that from non-resident hunters, according to the GFP.

Many hunters view the practice as safe if done properly, and see it as a way for people who don't have access to private land to hunt in areas where target animals congregate. Road hunting also makes hunting much easier because it doesn't require a bird dog, a large hunting party or long walks through a field. Game animals can be readily seen and pursued.

"There are people who have no place to hunt, and that's where they are going to hunt, and we're totally fine with it," said Rory Ehlers, operator of the Dakota Prairie Hunting reserve near Midland, S.D. "Sometimes when you're an individual, it's hard to walk 100 acres by yourself, or they could be older, so road hunting is the only option they have."

Not all hunters supportive of laws

But road hunting is unpopular among some members of the state's pheasant preserve hunting industry. At a Game, Fish & Parks Department listening session in July, some preserve owners complained that road hunters routinely break safety rules and laws and put their guests in danger by exiting vehicles in a state of "pheasant fever."

"We've had several near-misses and one of our guests was shot in the head by road hunters," one session attendee wrote. "We have also witnessed road hunters shooting out of windows."

Some preserve owners also say road hunters take advantage of the fact that preserve operators by law must purchase and release enough pen-raised pheasants to cover the number shot by their guests. Some road hunters drive alongside preserves and shoot any birds that scurry into the rights-of-ways.

Animals must be in the right-of-way or flying over it before they can legally be hunted from the roads and ditches. Hunters are allowed to retrieve birds that are shot and fly onto private property as long as they do not bring their gun during the retrieval.

But Ehlers and others say road hunters under the influence of adrenaline sometimes "push the laws to the limit" in order to take a bird.

"When the only place a person can find a bird is next to a preserve, it leads to a lot of hunting illegally because they are not road hunting 'the right way,'" one GFP session attendee commented. "When the preserve owner confronts the road hunter, it either leads to a chase or a confrontation because all hunters feel it is their right to road hunt and very few know the laws."

Statistics illustrate the dangers

Hunting carries inherent risks that, according to hunter safety teachers, can be minimized through a combination of following all laws, using common sense and engaging in practices that limit exposure to harm.

Each year, several South Dakota hunters are injured or killed while in the field, according to Patrick Klotz-

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bach, HuntSAFE Coordinator for the GFP.

The state has collected data on hunting incidents involving injury or death since 1988. Since then, about 920 incidents have been recorded, leading to 34 deaths mostly from firearm incidents though heart attacks and drownings while hunting are also included.

The vast majority of injuries occur during pheasant hunts when hunters are struck by pellets from shotgun shells fired by others in their party who swing the gun to follow a flying bird or who shoot unknowingly into other hunters ahead of them in a field.

But road hunting factors into many of the incidents:

- A hunter was shot while driving from one hunting spot to another with a loaded gun in Gregory County in October 2015.
- A passenger with his arm out the window of a passing truck was struck by pellets from a road hunter firing from a ditch in Hanson County in November 2016.
- A hunter shot himself in the foot while exiting a vehicle to shoot at a pheasant in a ditch in Hutchinson County in December 2016.
- And a man shot himself with a rifle while entering his truck in Lyman County in November 2017.

Klotzbach said the state does not record if injured hunters are from out of state, but he said he sees a rise in accidents when the pheasant population is high in a given year.

"People get real bird happy when they come to South Dakota to hunt," he said. "We're fortunate that there's not a lot of fatalities. Usually, it's just pellets in the eyes, or face or chest."

Klotzbach said he and other hunter safety trainers stress that guns should be unloaded around or in the vehicle even if it is legal.

"I always stress safety, even if it's not against the law," he said. "Usually it's carelessness, or buck fever or pheasant fever becomes a factor."

South Dakota laws most permissive

The laws in states surrounding South Dakota differ widely, though no other state allows both loaded guns in vehicles and road hunting in the right-of-way. Most cities have gun and hunting laws that are far more restrictive than state laws that apply to areas outside municipalities.

Of neighboring states, North Dakota hunting laws are the closest to those in South Dakota. Road hunting is legal on public rights-of-ways, though most roadside ditches and fields are privately owned in the state. It is the hunter's responsibility to know whether land is private. A gun can be uncased in vehicles in North Dakota, but cannot have a bullet in the chamber.

In Iowa, road hunting is allowed, but guns must be unloaded and cased in a vehicle unless the gun owner has a permit to carry a concealed firearm. All hunters are taught to know what lies beyond their targets, but road hunters who often act quickly must be especially sure of what is beyond their target before firing, said Greg Harson of the Iowa Department of Game and Fish.

"You have to be sure of your target and what's beyond it," Harson said. "If you hit a car or something like that, it can be considered reckless discharge and can lead to a felony."

In Nebraska, shotguns must be unloaded but can be uncased in a vehicle, while rifles can be loaded

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and uncased. Hunting from the road or in rights-of-ways is illegal in Nebraska.

In Minnesota, it is legal to road hunt for small game on public roads but guns must be unloaded at all times in a vehicle, though they can be uncased, said Jason Abraham of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Still, Abraham said he urges hunters to go beyond what is legal and do what is safe instead.

"The best bet is to keep your gun in a case and keep it unloaded; then you know you're safe," he said.

Montana allows hunters to carry loaded, uncased guns in their vehicles, but it is illegal to hunt on, from or across any public roadway, said Mike Lee, a wildlife permitting officer who spent a decade as a game warden in the field.

Lee said that the law against road hunting doesn't always stop the practice. He recalled an incident a few years ago when a hunter pulled over to shoot at a grouse and shot out the window of an oncoming semi.

"This is one of our more common violations in Montana," he said. "There's definitely public safety concerns with people hunting off a public roadway."

The danger in driving with a loaded, uncased firearm is that there is almost no safe way to ensure the muzzle of the gun is pointed in a safe direction, one of the most basic tenets of any hunting safety course, Kolbeck said.

The risk in hunting from the roadway, shoulders or ditches is that hunters must not only ensure the safety of themselves and others in their hunting party, but also drivers of vehicles or motorcycles that are passing by on the road, said Andy Alban, law enforcement administrator for the South Dakota GFP.

"You could shoot across the road, but I don't typically personally do that," Alban said. "Obviously, there's another safety concern in play there since you've got to be aware of oncoming traffic."

The vexing part of road hunting is that even when done legally, it can be dangerous to the hunter and unsuspecting hunters or non-hunters nearby, said Dave Olsen, owner of Pheasant Phun hunting preserve near the Beadle County town of Hitchcock, S.D.

Olsen said he will sometimes be guiding a group of clients on a hunt when a road hunter will pull up nearby and shoot without looking out for hunters in his party.

"Somebody who is completely law-abiding, a bird flies out toward my hunting party and he shoots," Olsen said. "A lot of people lose all common sense over a 6-pound bird."

Olsen said he supports road hunting as a practice but would like to see the 660-foot safety zone expanded to include roads along hunting preserves.

Barely surviving a road-hunting accident

A case of buck fever and disregard for basic safety rules nearly cost Lon Reidburn of Clark, S.D. his legs - and his life.

Reidburn, now 64, was road hunting with a neighbor on Nov. 22, 1982 when they saw some deer and pulled over to get a shot. As his friend moved across the front seat past the steering while holding his loaded rifle, it went off and the bullet struck Reidburn who was standing outside the truck. The bullet shattered both his femurs and left him unable to move and bleeding profusely.

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Soon after, Reidburn and his wife were told by doctors at a hospital in Watertown to “expect the worst” and that he was likely to lose his right leg. After a flight to Sioux Falls, a doctor saved both his legs, but Reidburn spent a year at home, out of work and needing constant care while convalescing.

Reidburn rarely hunts now, and never for deer. He has become an advocate for stricter gun transport and road hunting laws in South Dakota, and was featured in a video in 2014 as part of the state GFP safety promotional effort called “Get Outta the Truck.”

Reidburn – who had to give up his career as a carpenter in favor of selling insurance after the accident – said he is greeted with sympathy when he meets with lawmakers but has yet to see a legislator make a formal proposal to stiffen hunting safety laws.

With a mix of anger over lax laws, disappointment in himself for hunting so carelessly, and sadness over the year he lost and frequent leg pain he endures, Reidburn continues to call for action against carrying loaded guns in vehicles and hunting from state roadways.

“Why would you carry something loaded in your vehicle; what does it teach the kids when you do that?” Reidburn said.

Reidburn said he still sees hunters take needless risks. He recalls seeing a road hunter jump from a truck to shoot at a pheasant as his unattended vehicle drove itself into a ditch.

“Driving up and down the road 50 mph and slamming on the brakes and jumping out to shoot something. That’s not hunting, it’s just destroying,” Reidburn said. “It’s just wrong, wrong. There’s just so many things that can go wrong there, why would you want to do that? They should put a stop to it now.”

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## Today in Weather History

September 26, 1965: A hard freeze hit most of Minnesota in the early morning causing the loss of millions of bushels of corn and soybeans. Some temperatures fell below 20 degrees far north in the state.

September 26, 1981: A tornado touched down in the early morning hours several times east of Vermilion. Two barns received extensive damage.

1955: On this date, the Atlantic reconnaissance aircraft, "Snowcloud Five" went down while investigating Hurricane Janet and was never heard from again. Lt. Comdr. Windham with a crew of 8 and two newspapermen reported that they were about to begin penetrating the main core of the hurricane. They were never heard from again.

1971: Project Stormfury was an attempt to weaken tropical cyclones by flying aircraft into them and seeding with silver iodide. The project was run by the United States Government from 1962 to 1983. Hurricane Ginger in 1971 was the last hurricane Project Stormfury seeded.

1936 - Denver, CO, was buried under 21.3 inches of snow, 19.4 inches of which fell in 24 hours. The heavy wet snow snapped trees and wires causing seven million dollars damage. (26th-27th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1950 - Residents of the northeastern U.S. observed a blue sun and a blue moon, caused by forest fires in British Columbia. (David Ludlum)

1963 - San Diego, CA, reached an all-time record high of 111 degrees. Los Angeles hit 109 degrees. (David Ludlum)

1970 - Santa Ana winds brought fires to Los Angeles County, and to points south and east. Half a million acres were consumed by the fires, as were 1000 structures. Twenty firemen were injured. (25th-29th) (The Weather Channel)

1979 - In the midst of a hot September for Death Valley, California, the afternoon high was 104 degrees for the second of three days, the coolest afternoon highs for the month. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Freezing temperatures were reported in the Northern and Central Appalachians, and the Upper Ohio Valley. The morning low of 27 degrees at Concord NH tied their record for the date. Temperatures soared into the 90s in South Dakota. Pierre SD reported an afternoon high of 98 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Unseasonably warm weather prevailed across Florida. Afternoon highs of 92 degrees at Apalachicola and 95 degrees at Fort Myers were records for the date. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Rain spread from the southeastern states across New England overnight. Cape Hatteras NC reported measurable rainfall for the fourteenth straight day, with 15.51 inches of rain recorded during that two week period. Phoenix AZ reported a record high of 108 degrees, and a record 134 days of 100 degree weather for the year. Afternoon temperatures were only in the 40s over parts of northwest Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. (The National Weather Summary)

2004 - After making its infamous loop east of the Bahamas, Hurricane Jeanne made landfall the night of September 26th, 2004. Jeanne came ashore as a major category 3 hurricane just a few miles away from where Hurricane Frances made landfall a few weeks before. Jeanne produced extensive damage along the east central Florida coast from Volusia County south to Martin County. The highest wind gusts occurred over extreme Southern Brevard County as well as Indian River County with 110 - 120 mph estimates at the peak of the storm. (NWS, Melbourne, FL)



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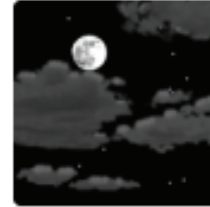
Today

Tonight

Thursday

Thursday  
Night

Friday



Sunny then  
Mostly Sunny  
and Breezy

Mostly Cloudy

Mostly Cloudy  
then Slight  
Chance  
Showers

Partly Cloudy  
then Areas  
Frost

Sunny

High: 67 °F

Low: 44 °F

High: 58 °F

Low: 34 °F

High: 52 °F

## Seasonal Temperatures Today

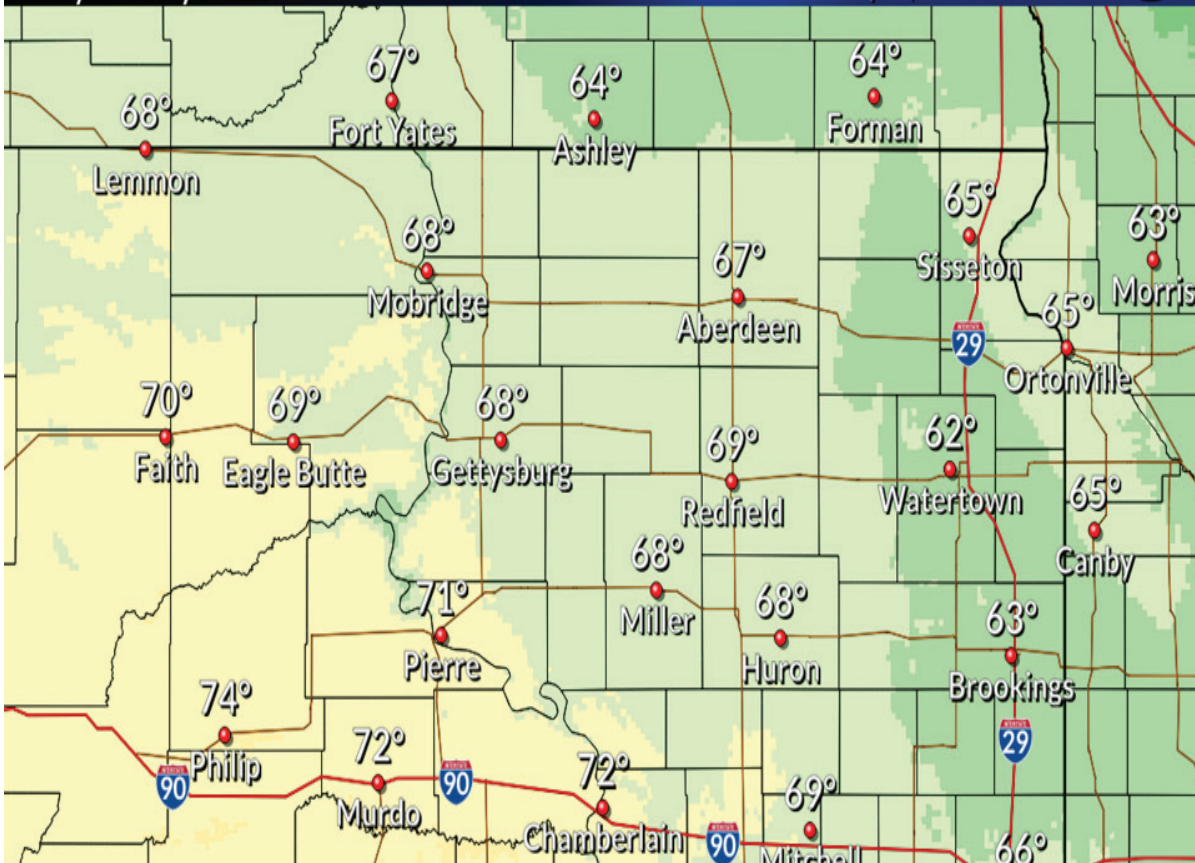
Weather Forecast Office

Aberdeen, SD

Issued Sep 26, 2018 5:49 AM CDT



Breezy Westerly Winds



Breezy westerly winds will bring warmer temperatures into the area today. Highs will reach the mid-60s to the lower 70s.

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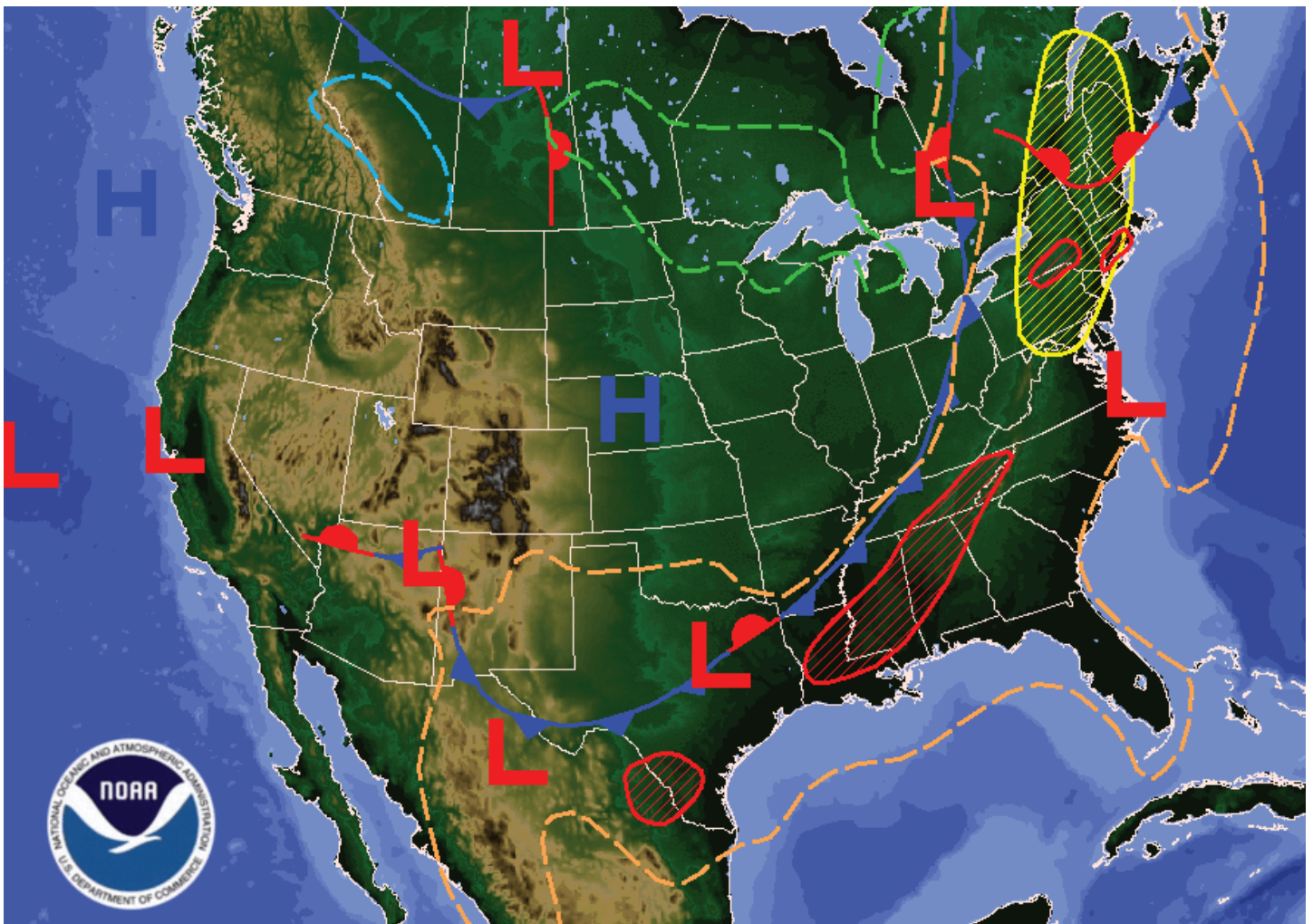
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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 59.1 F at 4:02 PM**  
**Low Outside Temp: 43.4 F at 11:28 PM**  
**High Gust: 21.0 Mph at 4:37 PM**  
**Precip: 0.26 on Monday plus .30 on Tuesday**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 97° in 1974**  
**Record Low: 17° in 1939**  
**Average High: 67°F**  
**Average Low: 41°F**  
**Average Precip in Sept.: 1.83**  
**Precip to date in Sept.: 2.36**  
**Average Precip to date: 18.12**  
**Precip Year to Date: 13.57**  
**Sunset Tonight: 7:23 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:27 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Sep 26, 2018, issued 4:51 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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## GOD OUR SUPPLIER

How do we know we can count on God to supply our needs? Can we be assured that he will hear and help us when we ask for His assistance? Yes/If. However, we must take into account the little word if. If we meet two important conditions that He has established.

Psalm 145:19 is interpreted correctly in the Living Psalms to read: He fulfills the desires of those who reverence and trust Him; He hears their cries for help and rescues them.

Reverence leads to respect and respect to honor. If we honor God and if our requests are in agreement with His nature and character, what we ask for will be consistent with what He intends for us to have. When we ask for lavish and unnecessary things that will not honor Him we only deceive ourselves. Extravagance always makes a mockery of prayer and displays an irreverence to Him.

Years ago, while in college, I had a post office box that could only be opened with the right combination of letters and numbers. When I turned the small dial in the right sequence, the door would open and I could get my mail.

So it is with prayer. When we use the right combination of reverence and trust, and our requests coincide with His plan and purpose for our lives, the combination will work, and He will grant our requests.

Remember: when my will is consistent with His will prayers will be answered, God will be honored, lives changed, and His purpose accomplished on earth.

Prayer: Lord, may our lives revere, respect and honor You and our requests be consistent with Your nature. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 145:19 He fulfills the desires of those who reverence and trust Him; He hears their cries for help and rescues them.

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## 2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- Nov./Dec./Jan./Feb./Mar. 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)
- Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
- 6/15/2019 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 7/4/2019 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 7/14/2019 Summer Fest
- 9/7/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching 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

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## News from the Associated Press

### Tuesday's Scores By The Associated Press

#### Volleyball

Andes Central/Dakota Christian def. Colome, 25-22, 25-22, 25-15  
Avon def. Scotland, 15-25, 25-22, 27-25, 25-22  
Baltic def. Dell Rapids St. Mary, 17-25, 25-18, 25-20, 25-27, 16-14  
Beresford def. Lennox, 23-25, 26-24, 25-23, 25-15  
Brookings def. Yankton, 25-17, 25-12, 25-22  
Canistota def. Freeman Academy/Marion, 25-8, 25-11, 25-14  
Clark/Willow Lake def. DeSmet, 25-19, 25-11, 22-25, 25-18  
Elkton-Lake Benton def. Garretson, 25-19, 25-20, 21-25, 25-16  
Estelline/Hendricks def. Flandreau Indian, 25-10, 25-12, 25-12  
Ethan def. Bridgewater-Emery, 26-24, 23-25, 25-16, 25-20  
Faulkton def. Langford, 25-14, 23-25, 25-17, 27-25  
Flandreau def. Sioux Valley, 18-25, 25-18, 25-19, 22-25, 15-13  
Gayville-Volin def. Mitchell Christian, 25-19, 25-12, 25-10  
Great Plains Lutheran def. Lake Preston, 25-18, 25-18, 25-17  
Harding County def. Dupree, 21-25, 25-19, 25-7, 25-9  
Herreid/Selby Area def. Edmunds Central, 22-25, 25-15, 25-12, 25-16  
Hill City def. Hot Springs, 25-23, 25-21, 25-23  
Hitchcock-Tulare def. Sunshine Bible Academy, 25-13, 25-8, 25-13  
Irene-Wakonda def. Menno, 25-15, 25-15, 25-13  
James Valley Christian def. Iroquois, 25-10, 25-22, 25-19  
Kadoka Area def. Bennett County, 25-12, 25-13, 25-20  
Kimball/White Lake def. Lyman, 25-21, 25-10, 17-25, 25-13  
Lead-Deadwood def. Red Cloud, 25-11, 25-23, 25-21  
Lemmon def. Bison, 25-13, 25-27, 25-15, 25-23  
Leola/Frederick def. Eureka/Bowdle, 25-16, 22-25, 29-27, 23-25, 16-14  
Little Wound def. Lower Brule, 25-12, 23-25, 16-25, 25-18, 15-12  
McCook Central/Montrose def. Dell Rapids, 25-23, 25-21, 25-14  
Miller def. Chamberlain, 25-10, 25-10, 25-21  
Mobridge-Pollock def. Cheyenne-Eagle Butte, 18-25, 25-18, 25-17, 25-27, 15-9  
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Platte-Geddes, 25-21, 25-15, 25-13  
Northwestern def. Redfield/Doland, 25-8, 25-13, 25-20  
Parker def. Viborg-Hurley, 25-11, 25-10, 25-11  
Pierre def. Brandon Valley, 25-20, 19-25, 25-15, 25-23  
Rapid City Stevens def. Rapid City Central, 25-14, 25-19, 25-11  
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket def. Highmore-Harrold, 25-21, 12-25, 22-25, 25-16, 15-12  
Sioux Falls Christian def. Vermillion, 25-12, 25-13, 25-23  
Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Sioux Falls Lincoln, 25-20, 25-22, 25-21  
Sioux Falls Washington def. Huron, 25-12, 25-21, 18-25, 25-20  
St. Thomas More def. Spearfish, 25-16, 25-18, 26-28, 25-21  
Sully Buttes def. Potter County, 25-19, 27-25, 25-21  
Tripp-Delmont/Armour def. Marty Indian, 25-16, 25-18, 25-13  
Wagner def. Hanson, 25-18, 27-25, 25-7  
Wall def. Jones County, 25-18, 25-14, 25-15

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Warner def. Aberdeen Roncalli, 25-17, 25-21, 25-7  
Watertown def. Mitchell, 25-23, 21-25, 25-12, 25-18  
Waubay/Summit def. Webster, 25-23, 25-11, 21-25, 21-25, 15-12  
Wessington Springs def. Corsica/Stickney, 17-25, 17-25, 26-24, 25-20, 16-14  
Winner def. Todd County, 25-17, 25-11, 25-7  
Deuel Triangular  
Castlewood def. Deuel, 25-11, 25-13, 25-22  
Hamlin def. Deuel, 25-10, 25-20, 25-14  
Hamlin def. Castlewood, 25-21, 26-24, 25-21  
Hay Springs Triangular  
Edgemont def. Hay Springs, Neb., 25-13, 20-25, 25-22, 25-15

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

08-16-32-48-61, Mega Ball: 12, Megaplier: 2

(eight, sixteen, thirty-two, forty-eight, sixty-one; Mega Ball: twelve; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$303 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$193 million

## Rapid City mayor supports new Native American health center

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Rapid City Mayor Steve Allender is backing efforts by the Oglala, Cheyenne River and Rosebud Sioux tribes to build a new Native American health care center in the city.

Allender recently sent a letter to the Rapid City Council seeking support for a proposed health care facility for tribal members, the Rapid City Journal reported. Members of the Legal and Finance Committee will consider a resolution on Wednesday involving the relocation and construction of a new facility north of Western Dakota Technical Institute.

Tribal leaders and federal Indian Health Service officials were initially planning to demolish most of the Sioux San Hospital and replace it with a \$117 million clinic.

Allender criticized the Indian Health Service's administration of the Sioux San Hospital, which recently closed its emergency wing and has failed in recent years to meet standards of care imposed by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

"It is beyond time to get this done," Allender said.

The mayor noted that the resolution's proposed location is more accessible than Sioux San Hospital because of its proximity to the interstate, main city streets and the institute, which could lead to collaboration for hospital staffing. He noted that the location also benefits from access to bus routes, housing, employers and shopping centers.

"Relocating the new facility will not only improve access to health care for American Indians who utilize Sioux San but will also contribute to the economic engine in Rapid City," said Jerilyn Church, CEO of the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board.

The three tribes are invoking a federal law that could transfer the administration of Sioux San and the new facility to the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board, while the project is considered by city, state and federal officials.

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

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## **Tribal chairman: 'Struggle' over Keystone XL to begin soon**

EAGLE BUTTE, S.D. (AP) — A Native American tribal chairman says a "struggle" will begin soon against the Keystone XL oil pipeline after the project developer started pre-construction work near the tribe's South Dakota reservation.

Cheyenne River Sioux Chairman Harold Frazier said in a statement this week that the struggle is approaching with "forces intent on taking treaty territory" with "government forces that have decided to treat us as enemies instead of friends."

A spokesman for the tribe says the message is meant to let its allies know that developer TransCanada has started activities on the ground. The tribe says the pipeline would run through Great Sioux Nation homelands.

A TransCanada spokeswoman says its site near the reservation is a pipe yard, one of four being prepared in South Dakota before planned construction next year.

## **Authorities ID Texas man killed in South Dakota semi crash**

REVA, S.D. (AP) — Authorities have identified a Texas man who died in a semitrailer crash in northwestern South Dakota.

The Highway Patrol says 67-year-old Joe Vanhemert of Odessa, Texas, died Friday morning when he lost control of his semi and it rolled in a ditch off state Highway 79 in Harding County.

He was alone in the semi, and died at the scene about 25 miles northeast of Reva.

## **College system trustees to interview 4 chancellor finalists**

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The Nebraska State College System trustees intend this coming Sunday and Monday to interview the four finalists to be the next system chancellor.

Chancellor Stan Carpenter is retiring after 18 years of service to the system, which has campuses in Chadron, Peru and Wayne.

Among the four is state Sen. John Kuehn, a veterinarian who represents District 38 in the Legislature. He teaches biology at Hastings College.

The other three are Thomas Chesney, president of Brookhaven College in Farmers Branch, Texas; Rusty Monhollon, who is assistant commissioner for academic affairs, Missouri Department of Higher Education; and Paul Turman, who is system vice president for academic affairs for the South Dakota Board of Regents.

## **Sioux Falls man sentenced to 15 years for backyard rape**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls man has been sentenced to serve 15 years in prison for raping a drunk woman in a backyard and assaulting a man who tried to intervene.

Authorities say 28-year-old Zachary Piper had sex with the woman without her consent in August 2017. He maintained that the sex was consensual, but the Argus Leader reports that a jury convicted him earlier this summer of rape and aggravated assault.

Defense attorney Michelle Thomas says Piper plans to appeal his conviction.

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

## **Student arrested for threatening Sioux Falls schools**

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Authorities say a high school student has been arrested for making threats to harm students and staff in Sioux Falls.

Superintendent Brian Maher says he was alerted to the threat which was made on Twitter about 5:30 p.m. Monday. The school district turned the matter over to police.

The tweet read "shooting up my school tomorrow who should I kill first." A message sent to parents

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Monday night from the school district said police quickly resolved the matter with no cause for further concern.

Officials said Monday night a suspect had been located locally and was taken into custody. Maher says because it was an isolated incident there's no need to increase security at the schools.

## Wagner man accused in theft of cattle and feed checks

LAKE ANDES, S.D. (AP) — A Wagner man is accused of stealing nearly \$350,000 worth of cattle and feed checks.

The Daily Republic reports that Aaron Podzimek was indicted on felony grand theft charges in Charles Mix County on Thursday, and arrested on a warrant on Saturday.

Authorities didn't immediately provide details of the thefts they allege happened between February and July.

It wasn't clear if Podzimek has an attorney. He's scheduled to enter pleas on Oct. 29.

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

## 2 accused of officer assaults on Cheyenne Indian Reservation

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — Two men have pleaded not guilty to assaulting federal officers in unrelated incidents on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation.

The U.S. attorney's office says 31-year-old John Johnson of Dupree is accused of assaulting an officer on Aug. 2, and 45-year-old Roderick Dupris of Howes is accused in a May 24 incident.

A trial date was not immediately set in either case.

## Trump to chair Security Council meeting, meet with Netanyahu

By JONATHAN LEMIRE and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — President Donald Trump poured scorn on the "ideology of globalism" and heaped praise on his own administration's achievements in a speech to the U.N. General Assembly that drew headshakes and even mocking laughter from his audience of fellow world leaders.

"The U.S. will not tell you how to live and work or worship," Trump said as he unapologetically promoted his "America First" agenda. "We only ask that you honor our sovereignty in return."

Speaking in triumphal terms, Trump approached his address to the world body as something of an annual report to the world on his country's progress since his inauguration. He showcased strong economic numbers, declared that the U.S. military is "more powerful than it has ever been before" and crowed that in "less than two years, my administration has accomplished more than almost any administration in the history of our country."

Just sentences into the president's remarks, the audience began to chuckle and some leaders broke into outright laughter, suggesting the one-time reality television star's puffery is as familiar abroad as it is at home. Trump appeared briefly flustered, then smiled and said it was not the reaction he expected "but that's all right."

Later he brushed off the episode, telling reporters, "Oh it was great. Well, that was meant to get some laughter so it was great."

The leaders' spontaneous response to Trump's address only reinforced the American president's isolation among allies and foes alike, as his nationalistic policies have created rifts with erstwhile partners and cast doubt in some circles about the reliability of American commitments around the world.

Barely an hour before he spoke, in fact, U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres declared to the assembly that global cooperation is the world's best hope and "multilateralism is under fire precisely when we need it most."

Since taking office, Trump has removed the U.S. from the Paris climate accord, promoted protectionist tariffs and questioned the value of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and other alliances in further-



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ance of what he termed on Tuesday a strategy of "principled realism."

To that end, Trump flaunted his embrace of negotiations with North Korea's Kim Jong Un just a year after he had warned of raining down "total destruction" on a leader he branded "Little Rocket Man." As Trump praised Kim's "courage" on Tuesday, he unloaded harsh rhetoric on nuclear-aspirant Iran as a persistent malign influence across the Middle East.

"We ask all nations to isolate Iran's regime as long as its aggression continues," said Trump. The president has removed the U.S. from the 2015 nuclear accord with Iran, citing the country's destabilizing actions throughout the region and support for terrorist groups like Hezbollah, and he accused its leaders on Tuesday of sowing "chaos, death and destruction."

His national security adviser, John Bolton, was to go even further in a speech Tuesday, issuing a dire warning to Iran: "If you cross us, our allies or our partners; if you harm our citizens; if you continue to lie, cheat and deceive, yes, there will indeed be hell to pay," Bolton said, according to prepared remarks released by the White House.

In addition to his keynote speech, Trump is to chair a meeting of the U.N. Security Council about nuclear proliferation on Wednesday. His four days of choreographed foreign affairs were designed to stand in contrast to a presidency sometimes defined by disorder, but they were quickly overshadowed by domestic political crises.

The fate of his second Supreme Court nominee, Brett Kavanaugh, was in fresh doubt after a second allegation of sexual misconduct, which Kavanaugh denies. Kavanaugh and his first accuser testify to Congress on Thursday.

Drama also swirls around the job security of Trump's deputy attorney general. Rod Rosenstein was reported last week to have floated the idea of secretly recording the president last year and to have raised the idea of using the 25th Amendment to remove him from office. He will meet with Trump at the White House, also on Thursday.

At the U.N., Trump seized his opportunity to assert American independence from the international body. He showcased his decisions to engage with the erstwhile pariah North Korea, remove the U.S. from the international Iran nuclear accord and object to U.N. programs he believes are contrary to American interests.

"We reject the ideology of globalism and we embrace the doctrine of patriotism," Trump said.

He referenced a list of U.N. bodies, from the International Criminal Court to the Human Rights Council, that his administration is working to undermine.

"America will always choose independence and cooperation over global governance, control and domination," Trump declared. His denunciations of globalism drew murmurs from other members of the organization that stands as the very embodiment of the notion.

Shortly before he spoke, in fact, U.N. Secretary-General Guterres had defended international cooperation as the only way to tackle the challenges and threats of increasingly chaotic times.

"Democratic principles are under siege," Guterres said. "The world is more connected, yet societies are becoming more fragmented. Challenges are growing outward, while many people are turning inward."

On other tense subjects, Trump's criticism of Germany's pursuit of a direct energy pipeline from Russia drew a dismissive headshake from a member of the U.S. ally's delegation, and his mention of the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Qatar all in one breath was received with stone-faced expressions by Saudi officials. The UAE and Saudi Arabia have been boycotting Doha since last year as part of a dispute tearing apart the typically clubby Gulf Arab nations.

The laughter in the first moments of Trump's address evoked a campaign line Trump frequently deployed against his predecessor Barack Obama — who embraced international engagement — suggesting that due to weak American leadership, "the world is laughing at us."

In 2014, Trump tweeted, "We need a President who isn't a laughingstock to the entire World. We need a truly great leader, a genius at strategy and winning. Respect!"

Appearances on the global stage tend to elevate the stature of presidents both abroad and at home. But even before his arrival for the annual gathering of world leaders and diplomats, the desired image

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was being eclipsed as Trump was forced to confront the salacious and embarrassing in the controversies over Rosenstein and Kavanaugh.

With cable news chyrons flashing breathless updates about both Beltway dramas, news of Trump's foreign policy moves from the U.N., led by a new trade deal with South Korea, struggled to break through.

Follow Lemire on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/@JonLemire> and Miller at <http://twitter.com/@zekejmilller>

## 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

### 1. SENATE GOP BEGINNING TO SCHEDULE KAVANAUGH VOTES

Mitch McConnell predicted the Supreme Court nominee would win approval despite uncertainty about how pivotal Republicans would vote in a roll call now expected early next week.

### 2. HOW FRIENDS DESCRIBE KAVANAUGH'S SECOND ACCUSER

Deborah Ramirez is being called by those who know her as intensely private and one who rarely talks about her days at Yale University in the 1980s.

### 3. TRUMP TO CHAIR UN SECURITY COUNCIL

The council will be addressing the issue of nonproliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, giving Trump an opening to target Iran.

### 4. COSBY CAMP DECRIES PRISON SENTENCE

A publicist for the once-beloved actor complained that his conviction and incarceration for sexual assault stem from a racist and sexist justice system.

### 5. FLORENCE FLOODING SLOWLY ENVELOPS SOUTH CAROLINA HOMES

Firefighters in Conway are using maps that detail each of the nearly 1,000 homes that could expect to be inundated.

### 6. AFTER PARKLAND AND VEGAS, MORE OF THE SAME

An AP review of gun legislation passed in the U.S. this year finds that states mostly reverted to predictable and partisan form, with only Florida passing sweeping legislation.

### 7. FINDING BALANCE BETWEEN 'PRIVACY AND PROSPERITY'

When tech titans visit Capitol Hill, Congress will try to find the middle ground between consumer privacy and the companies that mine personal data for profit.

### 8. WHERE THE ART OF UNITY CAN BE FOUND

Along Chicago's Sedgwick Street, a little art studio thrives, where unlikely friends come together in pursuit of unity in a very divided city, the AP finds.

### 9. HIGHER INTEREST RATES MEAN DIFFERENT THINGS TO PEOPLE

With the Fed poised to raise rates, life is getting more expensive for borrowers. For savers, it means slightly bigger rewards.

### 10. ASTROS HEATING UP AS OCTOBER APPROACHES

Houston clinches another AL West title and reaches 100 wins for the second straight season after beating Toronto 4-1.

## GOP lines up Kavanaugh vote plan as showdown hearing nears

By ALAN FRAM and LISA MASCARO, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump denounced Democratic efforts to block Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court confirmation as a cynical "con job" on Tuesday and launched a dismissive attack on a second woman accusing the nominee of sexual misconduct in the 1980s, asserting she "has nothing."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell predicted that Kavanaugh would win approval, despite the new allegations and uncertainty about how pivotal Republicans would vote in a roll call now expected early next week. Like much of America, lawmakers awaited a momentous Senate Judiciary Committee hearing

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in which Kavanaugh and chief accuser Christine Blasey Ford are to testify Thursday, though not together.

Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley said Arizona prosecutor Rachel Mitchell will be brought in to handle questioning of Kavanaugh and Ford. Mitchell comes from the Maricopa County Attorney's Office in Phoenix, where she is the chief of the Special Victims Division, which covers sex crimes and family violence.

Hanging in the balance is Trump's chance to swing the high court more firmly to the right for a generation. Despite McConnell's forecast that Republicans will "win," Kavanaugh's fate remains uncertain in a chamber where Republicans have a scant 51-49 majority.

"I will be glued to the television," said Sen. Susan Collins, a moderate Republican from Maine, who has yet to declare her position on confirmation.

Hoping the hearing will yield no new surprises, the Senate Judiciary Committee scheduled its own vote on Kavanaugh for Friday, and Republican leaders laid plans that could keep the full Senate in session over the weekend and produce a final showdown roll call soon after — close to the Oct. 1 start of the high court's new term.

Given that the Judiciary Committee's GOP members are all male, McConnell said the panel was hiring a "female assistant" to handle the questioning for Republicans "in a respectful and professional way." Grassley, R-Iowa, identified Mitchell in a press release late Wednesday, describing her as "a career prosecutor with decades of experience prosecuting sex crimes."

"My gut is they're trying to avoid a panel of all white guys asking tone-deaf questions," said Democratic Sen. Chris Coons of Delaware.

Each senator on the 21-member panel will be allowed five minutes to ask questions, said committee spokesman Taylor Foy. That's a tight rein for such a major hearing.

Meanwhile, the Republicans were still assessing what Kavanaugh's Monday interview on the Fox News Channel — an unusual appearance for a Supreme Court nominee — indicates about how he would do in Thursday's hearing.

During the interview, Kavanaugh denied sexually assaulting anyone. He also denied the account of a second woman, Deborah Ramirez, who told The New Yorker magazine that Kavanaugh caused her to touch his penis at a party when both were Yale freshmen.

Some in the White House expressed relief that Kavanaugh, 53, presented a positive image to counter the allegations. Yet he appeared shaky at times. And there remained concern among aides and Trump himself about how Kavanaugh would hold up facing far fiercer questioning from Senate Democrats, according to a White House official not authorized to speak publicly.

The No. 2 Senate Republican, John Cornyn of Texas, acknowledged that for the nominee "it's extremely awkward to be talking about such private matters on TV." But Cornyn said he thought Kavanaugh "did well and did what he needed to do" in the interview.

Yet Kavanaugh's accounts of his behavior in high school and college have faced intense scrutiny, with some of his former classmates coming forward to challenge his claims. James Roche, a Yale graduate who says he was Kavanaugh's roommate in 1983, issued a public statement saying he was "close friends" with Ramirez and "cannot imagine her making up" the story about Kavanaugh exposing himself.

While a few Republicans have strongly challenged the credibility of Kavanaugh's accusers, Trump's words have been more biting. Last week, he lampooned Ford's allegation that an inebriated Kavanaugh trapped her beneath him on a bed at a high school house party and tried to take her clothes off before she escaped. Surely she would have reported it to police if the encounter was "as bad as she says," the president said.

"It's a con game they're playing," he said Tuesday. "They're really con artists. They don't believe it themselves, OK?"

Trump's latest broadside was aimed at Ramirez, who conceded to The New Yorker that she'd been drinking at the time she says Kavanaugh exposed himself. She also said she was uncertain of some details.

"The second accuser has nothing," Trump told reporters at the United Nations. "The second accuser doesn't even know— thinks maybe it was him, maybe not. She admits she was drunk. She admits time lapses."

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Predictably, that played badly with Democrats.

"How many women have heard that before? How many women have kept their experiences quiet because they knew they would hear that?" Sen. Patty Murray of Washington said of Trump's characterization.

She said Trump's remarks were "disgusting, it's disgraceful and by the way, women are paying attention." She herself was carried to Washington on a 1992 wave of fervor by female voters, a year after the Senate discounted sexual harassment allegations against Clarence Thomas and sent him to the Supreme Court.

In a phone call with Judiciary Committee staff of both parties, Kavanaugh denied Ramirez's story, panel spokesman Foy said.

Ramirez's attorney, John Clune, said his client stood by The New Yorker story and said he and Grassley's committee were trying to decide how to provide more information to the panel. He said an FBI investigation — which Democrats have also sought for Ford and Trump and Republicans have blocked — "is the only way to get the truth."

Aides said Kavanaugh answered questions by Judiciary panel staff members about Ramirez's allegations

Republicans are concerned that, win or lose, the battle over Kavanaugh's nomination is further animating women already inclined to vote against Trump's party in November's elections in which control of the next Congress is at stake.

Treatment of Ford, 51, on Thursday will be watched closely.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, a potentially key Republican vote, said GOP senators need to come into the hearing with open minds.

"It's very important to take allegations of those who come forward seriously, and I think we need to go into this hearing with the view that we will listen," she said.

Grassley is planning to use his committee's modest-sized hearing room instead of a far larger chamber that's often home to high-profile hearings. He said in a recent letter that the smaller room would help avoid a "circus atmosphere," and Ford herself has sought to limit the number of TV cameras and journalists covering the event.

Congressional testimony is often magnified by TV close-ups, and a single moment, good or bad, can have a major impact.

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Associated Press writers Kevin Freking, Mary Clare Jalonick, Padmananda Rama, Matthew Daly, Darlene Superville, Jonathan Lemire, Zeke Miller and Deb Riechmann contributed to this report.

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For more coverage of Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court nomination, visit <https://apnews.com/tag/KavanaughNomination>

## Cosby's defenders decry him as victim of racism and sexism

By MARYCLAIRE DALE and MICHAEL R. SISAK, Associated Press

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP) — A publicist for the once-beloved Bill Cosby complained that his conviction and three- to 10-year prison term for sexual assault stem from a racist and sexist justice system, as the defense vowed to appeal the first celebrity trial of the #MeToo era.

Cosby, 81, spent his first night alone in a Pennsylvania prison after being accustomed to a life filled with handlers and household help. He could eventually be sent to a state prison that has separate units for geriatric prisoners and programs for sex offenders.

Cosby spokesman Andrew Wyatt said Tuesday after the comedian's sentencing that Cosby was "one of the greatest civil rights leaders in the United States for over the past 50 years," while decrying the trial as the "most sexist and racist" in the country's history.

The judge, prosecutor and jury saw it differently.

"No one is above the law. And no one should be treated disproportionately because of who they are, where they live, or even their wealth, celebrity or philanthropy," Montgomery County Judge Steven O'Neill said in sentencing Cosby to an above-average sentence for a 2004 sex assault.

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Cosby's defense team has raised the racial issue before, in 2016, before quickly scrapping it.

"We prosecute where the evidence takes us and that was done in this (Cosby) case. When (U.S.) Judge (Eduardo) Robreno released the deposition and said that this is perhaps criminal, we're obligated to look at that and we did and we worked through the case and we got to where we are today."

Cosby broke racial barriers in the entertainment world in the 1960s but later became the first celebrity of the #MeToo era to be convicted. He was found guilty in April of drugging and sexually assaulting a woman at his gated estate in 2004 after being barraged with similar accusations from more than 60 women over the past five decades.

"It is time for justice. Mr. Cosby, this has all circled back to you. The time has come," O'Neill said. He quoted from victim Andrea Constand's statement submitted to the court, in which she said Cosby took her "beautiful, young spirit and crushed it."

In her statement, Constand, 45, wrote of Cosby: "We may never know the full extent of his double life as a sexual predator, but his decades-long reign of terror as a serial rapist is over."

Cosby declined the opportunity to speak before the sentence came down, and afterward sat laughing and chatting with his defense team. His wife of 54 years, Camille, was not in court. Constand smiled broadly on hearing the punishment and was hugged by others in the courtroom.

In a blistering statement, spokesman Wyatt said the comedian was subjected to the "most racist and sexist trial in the history of the United States." Wyatt said all three of the psychologists who testified against Cosby were "white women who make money off of accusing black men of being sexual predators."

Cosby's lawyers asked that he be allowed to remain free on bail while he appeals his conviction, but the judge appeared incredulous over the request and ordered him locked up immediately, saying that "he could quite possibly be a danger to the community."

Cosby — who is legally blind and uses a cane — removed his watch, tie and jacket and walked out in a white dress shirt and red suspenders, his hands cuffed in front of him. He appeared downcast, his eyes failing to meet the camera, in a mug shot released by authorities.

Cosby must serve the minimum of three years before becoming eligible for parole.

"For decades, the defendant has been able to hide his true self and hide his crimes using his fame and fortune. He's hidden behind a character he created, Dr. Cliff Huxtable," Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin Steele said at a news conference, referring to Cosby's best-known role. But "now, finally, Bill Cosby has been unmasked, and we have seen the real man as he is headed off to prison."

Constand stood at Steele's side but shook her head to say she had no comment.

Former model Janice Dickinson, who accused Cosby of violating her, looked at him in the courtroom and said: "Who gets the last laugh, pal?"

Another accuser in the courtroom, Lili Bernard, said: "There is solace, absolutely. It is his fame and his fortune and his phony philanthropy that has allowed him to get away with impunity. Maybe this will send a message to other powerful perpetrators that they will be caught and punished."

Cosby's punishment, which also included a \$25,000 fine, came at the end of a two-day hearing at which the judge declared him a "sexually violent predator" — a designation that subjects him to monthly counseling for the rest of his life and requires that neighbors and schools be notified of his whereabouts. A psychologist for the state testified that Cosby appears to have a mental disorder characterized by an uncontrollable urge to have sex with women without their consent.

Once known as America's Dad for his role on the top-rated "Cosby Show" in the 1980s, the actor was convicted of violating Constand, Temple University women's basketball administrator, at his suburban Philadelphia mansion in 2004.

Constand testified that Cosby gave her what she thought were herbal pills to ease stress, then penetrated her with his fingers as she lay immobilized on a couch. Cosby claimed the encounter was consensual, and his lawyers branded her a "con artist" who framed the comedian to get a big payday — a \$3.4 million settlement she received over a decade ago.

Five other accusers took the stand at the trial as part of an effort by prosecutors to portray him as a

predator.

Cosby faced anywhere from probation to 10 years in prison. His lawyers asked for house arrest, saying he is too old and vulnerable to go to prison. Prosecutors asked for five to 10 years behind bars, warning that he could still pose a threat to women.

Women's advocates hailed Cosby's sentence as a landmark #MeToo moment.

"Bill Cosby seeing the inside of a prison cell sends a strong message that predators — no matter who they are, from Hollywood to Wall Street to the Supreme Court — can no longer be protected at the expense of victims," said Sonia Ossorio, president of the National Organization for Women of New York.

Steele said Cosby could be sent to Laurel Highlands, a state prison for lower-risk inmates on the other side of the state, about 70 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

The AP does not typically identify people who say they are victims of sexual assault unless they come forward publicly, which Constand and other accusers have done.

Constand went to police a year after waking up in a fog at Cosby's estate, her clothes askew, only to have the district attorney pass on the case. Another DA reopened the file a decade later and charged the TV star after stand-up comic Hannibal Buress' riff about Cosby being a rapist prompted other women to come forward and after a federal judge, acting on a request from The Associated Press, unsealed some of Cosby's startling, decade-old testimony in Constand's related civil suit.

In his testimony, Cosby described sexual encounters with a string of actresses, models and other young women and talked about obtaining quaaludes to give to those he wanted to sleep with.

Cosby's first trial in 2017 ended with a hung jury.

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Associated Press writer Claudia Lauer contributed to this report. For more coverage, visit: <https://apnews.com/tag/BillCosby>

## **Kavanaugh's 2nd accuser never sought spotlight, friends say** **By GARANCE BURKE, ALANNA DURKIN RICHER and NICHOLAS RICCARDI, Associated Press**

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Between shifts ladling hot meals at the dining hall, Deborah Ramirez did her best to fit in with the blue-blooded social set of Yale University in the 1980s. She took a chartered flight to the Bahamas sophomore year with dozens of other spring breakers and attended booze-filled parties on campus with posh private-school grads.

What she says happened at one of those gatherings inside Yale's brick dormitory walls has pulled her from a life as an advocate for needy families and domestic violence survivors to the center of the battle over the shape of the Supreme Court.

Friends said Ramirez rarely talked about her college days and lived a private life in the Rocky Mountains foothills, but colleagues said they sensed something in her past had drawn her to devote her life to supporting women in trouble.

"I definitely had known she went to Yale and I knew that it wasn't always an easy experience for her," said Angela Hardin, who became close friends with Ramirez as they trained women's crisis volunteers a decade ago. "Debbie would talk about feeling various levels of discrimination."

Still, friends and colleagues said it came as a surprise when Ramirez decided to go public with allegations that while in his first year at Yale University, Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh placed his penis in front of her and caused her to involuntarily touch it during a drunken dormitory party. Kavanaugh denied the accusation soon after it was reported Sunday by The New Yorker magazine.

The magazine said that when it first contacted her, Ramirez was "hesitant to speak publicly, partly because her memories contained gaps because she had been drinking at the time of the alleged incident." After six days of going over her memories and talking with an attorney, the magazine reported, Ramirez "said that she felt confident enough of her recollections" to name Kavanaugh as the student who had exposed himself to her at the party.

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On Tuesday, President Donald Trump showered Kavanaugh with praise before world leaders, and said Ramirez's allegations were part of a "con game" engineered by the Democratic Party.

"She says it may not be him and there are gaps. And she was totally inebriated and all messed up, and she doesn't know. It might have been him, or it might not have been him. Gee, let's not make him a Supreme Court judge," Trump said on the same day he addressed the U.N. General Assembly.

Kavanaugh is set to testify Thursday at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing along with Christine Blasey Ford, a California professor who has accused him of sexually assaulting her when they were both teenagers during an early 1980s high school party.

Ramirez's attorney John Clune tweeted Tuesday that his client wants to give a sworn statement to the FBI. "Ms. Ramirez is ready to swear to the FBI under penalty of perjury," Clune tweeted. "Why won't the Senate Judiciary Committee welcome that?"

Clune did not respond to a request from The Associated Press for an interview with Ramirez.

Hardin, who spoke with Ramirez Sunday night, said her friend reluctantly decided to tell her story so that her own words would be shared, rather than having them filter out through others.

"The fact that she brought her story forward tells me that she had to have gone through a lot of introspection," said Lisa Calderon, Ramirez's former supervisor at a Boulder nonprofit that assists survivors of domestic violence. "Bringing in what she went through would have been in some ways compromising boundaries because she always felt it wasn't about her. ... She had a passion for social justice, helping people, particularly women of color whose voices tended to not be heard."

Ramirez, who grew up Catholic in Connecticut, attended a co-ed, parochial high school in Trumbull and graduated from nearby Yale in New Haven with a degree in sociology in 1987.

Classmates described Ramirez, 53, as friendly, well-liked and quiet. Some of her closest friends were athletes and she made extra cash by working in the dining hall at her residential college, serving food and washing dishes, classmates said.

"She was not someone to want to be in the spotlight," said Julie Heller, who was a year behind and lived in her residential college.

She spent her spring break in 1985 with a large group of students in the Bahamas, where they partied, searched for the cheapest drinks, lounged on the beach and tried their luck at the casino, according to a Yale Daily News article from the time.

Ramirez also saw herself as an outsider as a woman of Puerto Rican descent who didn't come from the wealth and privilege of many of her classmates, said James Roche, a close friend who was also Kavanaugh's freshman year roommate.

Roche said he didn't interact much with Kavanaugh, who he said was typically reserved but was a "notably heavy drinker" who "became aggressive and belligerent when he was very drunk."

"Based on my time with Debbie, I believe her to be unusually honest and straightforward and I cannot imagine her making this up," Roche said in a statement. "Based on my time with Brett, I believe that he and his social circle were capable of the actions that Debbie described."

Ramirez's sister, who was a year behind her at Yale, said in a Facebook message that she's proud of her sister.

"This is not easy for anyone, but Deb has been tremendously brave and her honesty is above reproach," Denise Ramirez said.

After moving to Boulder, Colorado, Ramirez joined a local running club, where she met a group of friends who got together for weekly after-work runs and ski trips to Vail.

Scott Fliegelman, a friend from the running group, described her as shy "in that she was outgoing recreationally but not an overly ebullient-type personality. I know religion played a role for her — she was a strong Christian."

Ramirez started volunteering at the Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence and soon was brought on staff by Calderon, who described her as a talented, humble employee who wanted to be among the people she served.

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Mercedes Lindenoak, who served on the nonprofit's board for two years with Ramirez, said training focused on race and gender diversity sometimes got heated, but that Ramirez was respectful of her colleagues, even when she disagreed.

"We didn't talk about what drew her there," Lindenoak said.

Ramirez now works as a senior volunteer coordinator in Boulder County's housing agency, but she has stayed connected to Safehouse as a member of its board.

She also began to voice her thoughts on gender equality publicly, writing a letter to the editor of the Boulder paper in 2014 denouncing a T-shirt for a running race that said "Sea Level is for Sissies." She said she gets hurt, shows her emotions and is a "strong, tough" woman who rock climbs. She said she would "never wear a t-shirt that does not value these traits in all genders."

She met her husband, a technology consultant, through a friend at the Safehouse, Hardin said. The couple lives in a small house in a late 1970s-era development in Boulder dotted with aspen trees and sunflowers, where black bears and mountain lions sometimes visit.

Neighbors, who did not want their names used, described Ramirez as an avid outdoors woman, and said she was a grounded, honest person driven by the urge to help others.

Behind Ramirez's home there's a walking trail and a park, and a vista of a legendary rock-climbing destination beloved by residents of the athletic, liberal college town.

Late Monday, the Boulder County Commission released a statement backing Ramirez.

"We stand firmly behind our brave Boulder County employee who chose to speak publicly about a demeaning and demoralizing act of sexual misconduct she experienced as a young woman," the statement said.

Hardin said that when she reached Ramirez on Sunday to offer her support, Ramirez told her she felt a sense of freedom in having finally come forward with her memories of what happened decades ago in that college dorm.

"She had fears about coming forward because she had been under the influence at the time," Hardin said. "She said that as painful as it was, it also felt freeing to not hold onto this anymore and to be able to talk about it, not having shared any of this with more than a few people in her life until now."

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Burke reported from San Francisco and Durkin Richer from Boston.

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## In Chicago, can art unite a deeply divided neighborhood?

By MARTHA IRVINE, AP National Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — The sixth-graders, from very opposite sides of the street, sat in pairs, a list of questions before them: "What do you dream about?" "Do you think about dying?" "Are you scared?"

Their task, at once easy and awkward, was to learn about one another — and differences surfaced quickly. One African-American boy from a public school pulled up a pant leg to reveal where a bullet had pierced his calf in a wrong-place, wrong-time shooting. His partner, a white boy who attends a private school and lives three blocks yet worlds away, was shocked, then saddened.

The 40 or so children who'd gathered found common ground, too: a love of family, sports, animals and video games, a wish to one day succeed.

"I dream about having a big dog and a big, giant house."

". that I'll get into college and get good grades."

". that I'll always have my friends."

Charlie Branda walked around quietly and listened. This is what she'd had in mind when she opened a small art studio on Chicago's Sedgwick Street, smack in the middle of a great divide. The stretch of asphalt in the Old Town neighborhood of one of America's most segregated cities starkly separates black and white, haves and have-nots.

The area was settled by German, Irish and Sicilian immigrants until the 1950s and '60s, when white flight began. Then Old Town became an eclectic enclave of African-Americans to the west and Puerto



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Ricans and hippies to the east. Massive public housing high-rises sprung up nearby, only to be gradually torn down as the neighborhood gentrified.

Today, on the west side of Sedgwick, stand blocks of subsidized housing where mostly African-American families live. On the east side are condominiums and luxury homes, filled mostly with white families. Both sides of the street are lined with metal fences and gates, often locked — sometimes to keep people out, sometimes to keep them in.

Branda is not an artist. The 53-year-old mom and former commercial banker simply wanted to get to know her neighbors better and connect the two sides of Sedgwick.

“The way it is now isn’t the way it has to be,” she remembers thinking.

But could something like art really help bring together one deeply divided neighborhood in a city, and a country, so desperately in need of unity?

Branda had lived for years in and around Old Town when she moved with her husband and two children to a red-brick, two-story house on the east side of Sedgwick in 2008.

Initially, she joined with her neighbors to demand, with some success, that the city, police and absentee landlords do something about drug-dealing and occasional gunfire in the neighborhood. But she also spent a lot of time walking around, ignoring those who advised her to stay on “her side” of the street.

“Hello!” she’d chirp, smiling as she regularly greeted strangers from Marshall Field Garden Apartments, the place one white homeowner calls “the 800-pound gorilla in the neighborhood” because of the perceived influence its 3,000 residents — most of them African-American and two-thirds younger than 18 — have on life here.

Precious Murphy, a mother of four who lived in Marshall Field, was among those Branda frequently encountered. Murphy was more accustomed to watching white parents scoop up their kids and leave when she and her children arrived at neighborhood playgrounds. “But Charlie, for some reason, she just kept coming back,” Murphy says.

Then in 2013, a young African-American father from the Marshall Field complex was fatally shot while on his way to get diapers at a convenience store, just steps from the Brandas’ home. Some residents were ready to move, and at least one family on Branda’s block eventually did. But she couldn’t shake the idea that she didn’t even know the family that had lost a loved one.

“She saw us as neighbors,” says Adell Thomas, a longtime resident of Marshall Field and president of its tenants’ association.

Branda had been reading a book — “Make the Impossible Possible” by William Strickland Jr., a community activist in Pittsburgh who credits a high school art teacher with helping him find his way in life. She kept thinking about an image Strickland described: a ball of clay and how “you can make a miracle with your hands,” she recalls.

Branda began telling people about her vision for a neighborhood art studio, and eventually presented the idea at community meetings. Thomas was inspired: “Man,” she thought. “I want to be part of that.” As she got to know Branda, Thomas was surprised to learn she’d grown up in Anchorage, Alaska, with a single mom and modest means. Branda, meanwhile, saw a bit of her tough-yet-compassionate mom in Thomas.

A few others, including Murphy, joined in. A board was formed. And in October 2015, the first Art on Sedgwick studio opened in a tiny storefront across the street from Marshall Field Garden Apartments. That day, neighbors stopped to write on a chalkboard outside the studio that had rows of the unfinished sentence, “Before I die, I want to \_\_\_\_\_.”

“Do Art,” one girl wrote.

And so it began.

The first classes, including cartoon drawing and embroidery, were small but consistently attended. The victories also were small, but satisfying in their own way. It started with “just showing up,” says Cory Stutts, middle school director at the private Catherine Cook School, two blocks east of Sedgwick Street.

Stutts was embarrassed that she’d seen so few Catherine Cook families at Art on Sedgwick events that first year. She blamed herself. So to set the example, she signed up for a group outing to a museum.

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Stutts, who is white, met Thomas on the trip, their conversation sparked by admiration of a pair of earrings. Soon they connected on social media and met again later with others from the neighborhood for a peace march to protest Chicago's gun violence.

Stutts' next goal was to get more of her students involved. That chance came with what was informally known as "the kite project," which brought together the sixth-graders from Catherine Cook and Manierre Elementary, a public school tucked behind the Marshall Field apartments. Though Manierre sits just four blocks from her own school, Stutts never knew it existed until she spent time at Art on Sedgwick.

The students met for three sessions during school hours in spring 2017. They started out with the ice-breaker interviews, then photographed one another and eventually made kites with those photographs. Cecil McDonald Jr., an artist-in-residence at Art on Sedgwick, conceived and led the project. But it was Branda who suggested pairing the two schools, introducing administrators, teachers and students in what would become a mini-social experiment.

Since so few kids volunteered when she first floated the idea, Stutts made it a class project. "There's benefit in being uncomfortable," she told her students.

At the portrait session, Catherine Cook student Dylan Flohr posed for the camera. A girl from Manierre leaned toward him and said sweetly, "I like how you smile." "Thanks," he responded, shyly.

There were some tense moments, too. At one point, a Manierre student confronted a girl from Catherine Cook because she thought she gave her a dirty look. The private school kids complained that the public school students were sometimes too loud. But eventually, they began to mix more informally, chatting or teaching each other hand-clapping games.

"A group of white kids and black kids playing together — you really don't see that nowadays," marveled participant Eric Evans, now an eighth-grader at Manierre.

With each art show and class and community event, more participants have trickled into Art on Sedgwick. One Saturday each month, a faithful group of adults from varied backgrounds gathers for a "Sip and Paint," a chance to do art, chat and drink a little wine. Branda and Thomas, now friends, often take part.

"In some ways, I feel like we've accomplished so much in terms of building community and maybe changing the discussion," Branda says. "On the other hand, I feel like we've just barely scratched the surface."

Last year, she ran Art on Sedgwick on a budget of \$35,000 and expects it to be only slightly larger this year. She takes no salary and manages this, in part, by doubling as the director of the Marshall Field community center. Thomas works with her there, too, and continues to have faith that they can have more impact.

"We're doing this," she says, when asked about their chances. "Yeah. We're doing this."

In March 2017, just before the start of the kite project, Art on Sedgwick moved into a larger storefront studio in Marshall Field Garden Apartments, which had been sold. Some in the neighborhood had privately hoped the new owners would convert the buildings — built in 1929 by the family of the department store magnate — into luxury condos. Instead, they kept the complex subsidized. They also renovated each apartment to the delight of many residents, whose units had been plagued by rodents and were often in disrepair.

The day of the studio move, a group of African-American men showed up in the cold to lug boxes, tables and artwork across the road. "Here to help Ms. Charlie," one said, as Branda trotted alongside with a large painting.

The men were from Brothers Standing Together, an organization that supports people recently released from prison. Raymond Richard, its founder and a former gang member who grew up in the old Cabrini-Green public housing complex southwest of Sedgwick, had become friends with Branda when he led a poetry workshop at her home.

Branda's move across the street reminded Richard of a day more than three decades ago, when someone challenged his young self to cross a street into Chicago's downtown for the first time. He was hesitant, but when he did it, the man told him, "See? You just came that much further."

"That was a lasting impression on me," says Richard, whose youth was largely spent in a four-block area. As he saw it, moving Art on Sedgwick inside the Marshall Field apartments would challenge others, espe-

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cially white neighbors, in a similar way. "We have to step across the street," he says. "It goes both ways." There are people on both sides of Sedgwick who aren't as sure the issues that divide them can be overcome.

A few months back, Branda's next-door neighbor, Jerry Capell, drove past Marshall Field for the first time in a while, right by the same corner where the young dad was killed in 2013. Capell, a white resident who moved with his husband to the east side of Sedgwick in the late 1990s, commented aloud that there seemed to be less crime — "activity," as he called it. He and others say the change in management at Marshall Field and another group of subsidized buildings next door has helped.

But as property values on his side of the street have increased, he says the disconnect between the west and east sides of Sedgwick is "as wide as it's ever been." The father of two adopted African-American children, Capell sees that divide as more economic than racial. Either way, he says, "people tend to hang with people who are like them."

"It's a shame," he adds.

From her apartment on the other side of the street, Sherise McDaniel, mother of Manierre student Eric Evans, also still sees very separate worlds.

"I would consider Charlie the exception. Charlie is like a vein connecting those people to us and us to them," says McDaniel, who is African-American and a special education aide at a high school. She has lived in Marshall Field apartments since 2000. "I love this neighborhood. ... I love this city. I wish it loved me back."

And though she remains proud of Art on Sedgwick, Precious Murphy, one of the original board members, moved to Bloomington, Indiana, in search of safety for her children and new opportunities.

Branda, nevertheless, senses a "deep love for this place and for this ground" from many people on both sides of the street.

She thinks about that a lot as she continues to walk the neighborhood, still smiling, still greeting people, many who know her now. With each step, she considers the many whose feet have touched the same pavement. "You can't 'un-connect' us," she insists.

She gets teary when she says this. "I think I'm tired of the divisiveness," she explains.

A while later, outside the Art on Sedgwick studio, a few kids from Marshall Field run to hug her, as they often do.

"Hi, art teacher! Hi, art teacher!" they shout. Branda wraps her arms around all of them, closing her eyes as she squeezes tightly.

She still doesn't consider herself an art teacher.

But she is their neighbor.

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Art on Sedgwick: <http://www.artonsedgwick.org/>

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## 2-time Olympic skiing medalist Weibrecht carves new life

By JOHN KEKIS, AP Sports Writer

LAKE PLACID, N.Y. (AP) — Andrew Weibrecht steers his pickup truck off the main drag of the Olympic village where he grew up and heads down a narrow, wooded dirt road to water's edge, grabs a fishing pole and gazes out at windswept Lake Placid, Whiteface Mountain looming in the distance like a giant sentinel.

Home again.

"I love time in the woods so much, whether it's going out canoeing, hiking, or just bushwhacking around with my dog," said the two-time Olympic medalist in Alpine skiing. "Whatever I'm doing in the woods ... just really centers me. It's why I love living here. To be able to walk out the door and be out in it is pretty special."

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The man who earned the nickname "War Horse" for his unbridled fury in attacking a course — he blew out each ankle and had surgery on both shoulders and a knee in his career with the U.S. ski team — announced his retirement in May after nearly three decades of competitive skiing. The transition from the frenetic pace of the ski season into the role of husband to wife Denja and father to his two young daughters has been seamless.

"It's been really good. I was ready to move on to different things," said Weibrecht, who will be inducted into the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame and Museum in April. "I think in that respect I've been really lucky because not everybody has that luxury where they're ready to do something different. Being able to spend as much time as I have with my family ... has been a treat.

"It came down to two things," Weibrecht added. "My body took a serious hit the last couple of years. It's not that I probably couldn't have gone through it physically, but it just doesn't really make sense to me. The other part is we had another daughter. Once we had our first daughter, it was definitely a different situation with me being on the road and knowing what I went through and what I missed. I really didn't want to do that a second time."

That he made the right decision at the age of 32 to walk away from the sport he's loved since he was a toddler is evident to those who know him best.

"I think this is the happiest I've seen him in a long time," said his mom, Lisa. "It's really interesting."

Weibrecht's career on the slopes was unique. Before he earned a spot on a World Cup podium for the first time, he already had won Olympic bronze, at the 2010 Vancouver Games, and silver, at Sochi in 2014, both in super-G.

"The timing of the Olympics was very fortuitous," said Weibrecht, whose Olympic medal streak ended at Pyeongchang in February when he failed to finish. "Those just happened to be the times that I was peaking in my career, for whatever reason. From Sochi on for a couple of years it was a great run for me.

"The things that really halted my development — if I could do it again, I would just get hurt less," he added with a laugh. "That was always the limiting factor. When I would get injured, then I'd have to start the process over again. I got good at it because I did it a lot. I think that having that process down so well I could have gotten back to where I wanted to be athletically, but I'm just at a different place in my life."

That place is action-packed, too. Weibrecht earned his license to be a guide during the summer and is studying to complete the degree he started long ago at Dartmouth with an eye toward going on for an MBA. He's also fulfilling a physical education requirement by helping coach the Dartmouth ski team, which makes his mom chuckle.

"I started it and went through part of the process," Weibrecht said. "I never went to high school that much (because of skiing), so being able to have the opportunity to go to college and see that through is something personal that I want to accomplish. This one I want to actually complete."

Weekends are spent home in Lake Placid, where Lisa and husband Ed operate the stately Mirror Lake Inn, one of the signature resort hotels in the East. On Friday nights, Andrew makes s'mores for hotel guests on the shore of Mirror Lake, and by day he's in business meetings and patrolling the dining room pouring coffee, just like mom and dad, as he learns the business alongside his wife.

His parents are thrilled.

"For us, it's personal. That's where I grew up," said Andrew, whose Olympic medals hang behind the front desk at the inn. "It's my parents' life work. It's very personal to them. To me, that's really cool — to be involved in a business that you really care about on a deeper level than the spreadsheet end of it.

"Things are different now than it was when my dad started (in the 1970s), but the premise of providing people with a special experience isn't, and that's what it's all about."

That special experience will include skiing at Whiteface with guests starting this winter and, in the future, there likely will be a chance to join a two-time Olympic medalist on wilderness outings in the Adirondack Mountains.

Imagine that.

"He loves being a dad and doesn't want to miss out on that," U.S. skier Steven Nyman said. "And being a guide I think that will put him in his element. It could also be a good feature for the family business. Go

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hunting with the War Horse! I would pay for that.”

The U.S. ski team is preparing for the upcoming season and Weibrecht figures he might get the itch again when the snow flies.

Then again.

Nah!

“I’m sure at some point come December when everybody’s out at Beaver Creek it’ll be a different story and I’ll get a little bit nostalgic for it,” he said. “But as far as it goes right now, I couldn’t even imagine being in South America (training).

“I’m going to go out and ride my mountain bike for three hours. Tomorrow, I don’t want to do anything. For years it was, ‘OK, you can go ride for an hour and a half, but it’s got to be within this heart rate. Tomorrow, ride for three hours but it’s got to be really low heart rate.’ You’re never really having fun with it. To get the maximum benefit, you’re really structured.

“Now, I run as hard as I want, I go for a bike ride, and if I decide I want to do 45 minutes and not any more, I go home.”

\_\_\_ AP Sports Writers Pat Graham in Denver, and Teresa Walker in Nashville, Tennessee, contributed.

\_\_\_ Kekis on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/Greek1947](http://www.twitter.com/Greek1947)

\_\_\_ More AP sports: <https://apnews.com/tag/apf-sports> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/AP_Sports)

## Are they ready? Kavanaugh, Ford prep for high-stakes hearing

By LAURIE KELLMAN and DAVID BAUDER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — On Thursday morning, a psychology professor from California will sit before lawmakers to accuse a Supreme Court nominee of sexual assault — while all of Washington, and much of the nation, watches it live. It’s a high-stakes, high-drama moment with the power to sink Judge Brett Kavanaugh’s chances of winning a seat on the high court and to shift the dynamic in the upcoming mid-term elections.

How will Kavanaugh and Ford prepare for the make-or-break event? Here’s a look at what it takes to get ready for a public grilling.

### REHEARSAL SESSIONS

First, they will practice. Both Kavanaugh and Ford have undoubtedly spent time with lawyers and other experts in the art of mounting a strong public defense.

These sessions can be nasty, merciless and rough — often called murder boards. They’re designed to squeeze frustration or even anger out of a nominee before the public hearing. Better that it come out in private than in front of the cameras, the thinking goes.

Justices John Roberts, Samuel Alito, Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor all underwent this grilling before their confirmation hearings. So do presidential candidates ahead of televised debates. Ohio Republican Sen. Rob Portman, for example, played Democrats Al Gore and Barack Obama in mock debates with George W. Bush and Mitt Romney to help the Republicans withstand anything that might throw them off-stride.

Kavanaugh spent hours at a time in the White House complex last week preparing for the upcoming hearing. He was joined by a team of officials including White House counsel Don McGahn and members of his staff, officials from the Justice Department, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders, deputy press secretary Raj Shah and communications director Bill Shine. Shine’s presence was noteworthy, since he was ousted from his previous job at Fox News in part due to his handling of sexual harassment claims at the company.

### TEST THE MESSAGE

Kavanaugh had a dry run of sorts with his Monday night interview with Martha MacCallum of Fox News Channel.

With wife Ashley at his side, the appellate court judge denied at least six times ever sexually assaulting anyone. He said 15 times that he wants a “fair” hearing. He refused to speculate on Ford’s motives for

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making such an accusation. He volunteered that he was a virgin throughout high school and for years afterward.

Kavanaugh, 53, even seemed emotional — not necessarily a bad thing, according to Josh Kroon, a Washington-based expert in crisis communications for the firm Levick International.

"I think it played well for the people at home," Kroon said of the glimmer of Kavanaugh's frustration. "I think he's going to have to expand on the language. He has to get away from 'fair process' and 'I didn't do it.'"

Ari Fleischer, former press secretary to President George W. Bush, said, "The challenge for Brett will be conveying the expected emotion that would come with a full-throated denial. His nature is to be quiet, buttoned-down and studious, and if I'm accused of something I didn't do, I get a little hot, I get a little emotional."

Dan Pfeiffer, former aide to President Barack Obama, suggested that Kavanaugh came across as insincere and the product of elite society.

"He seemed entitled," Pfeiffer said. "He left a lot of additional ground for the Senate to cover on Thursday."

After the interview aired, the sense in the West Wing was relief that Kavanaugh was able to present an image to counter the allegations. Yet there remained concern among aides, and Trump himself, as to how Kavanaugh, who appeared shaken at times during the interview, would hold up facing far fiercer questioning from Senate Democrats on Thursday, according to a White House official not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations.

As for Ford, 51, she and her team have said nothing about how she's preparing for the hot lights to which she is even less accustomed than Kavanaugh. She works as a psychology professor in a consortium between Stanford and Palo Alto University.

## PREPPING THE QUESTIONS

Senators and their staffs are preparing, too, for a hearing that they may see as unavoidable. Ahead of the hearing, they're honing strategies, questions and follow-ups, all while laboring to avoid an election-year spectacle like the 1991 confirmation hearings of Justice Clarence Thomas with his accuser, Anita Hill.

This time, the all-male Republican members of the Judiciary Committee are hiring an outside female counsel to, in effect, cross-examine Ford.

Jeffrey Sonnenfeld, senior associate dean for leadership studies at Yale University, said Thursday's hearing is unprecedented.

"This is different from all others," he said. "We don't have a press for comity the way we did for Anita Hill, with a lot of senators trying to avoid a partisan mud-throwing situation. Here, we're almost already there."

Fleischer said there is pressure on Republican senators to not appear too harsh when they interview Ford, but he said there's also pressure on Democratic senators interviewing Kavanaugh.

"If they come off looking like they have their fingers in Brett's chest, lecturing him ... they risk riling up half the nation," Fleischer said.

Baader reported from New York. Associated Press writers Jonathan Lemire, Juliet Linderman and Eric Tucker and researcher Jennifer Farrar contributed to this report.

For more coverage of Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court nomination, visit <https://apnews.com/tag/KavanaughNomination>

## Fed seems poised to raise rates for a 3rd time this year

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER, AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve is set Wednesday to raise interest rates for a third time this year and possibly modify the likely direction of rates in the months ahead.

The big question is whether the strong U.S. economy, which has been fueled this year by tax cuts and increased government spending, could weaken next year, especially if President Donald Trump's trade fights begin to inflict damage and the benefits of tax cuts start to fade.

If the Fed finds that prospect likely, it might signal Wednesday that it expects to slow its rate increases next year.

The Fed's key short-term rate — a benchmark for many consumer and business loans — now stands in a range of 1.75 percent to 2 percent after two quarter-point increases in March and June. A similar rate hike Wednesday would raise that range to a still-low 2 percent to 2.25 percent.

Many analysts expect the economy to eventually weaken, in part from the effects of the conflicts Trump has pursued with China, Canada, Europe and other trading partners. If the economy should slow sharply in 2019, the Fed might decide to pull back on its rate increases to avoid hampering growth too much. In that scenario, it might raise rates only twice in 2019 and then retreat to the sidelines to see how the economy fares.

Some analysts, though, say they think the momentum built up from the government's economic stimulus will keep strengthening the job market and lowering unemployment — at 3.9 percent, already near a 50-year low. A tight job market could accelerate wages and inflation and prod the Fed to keep tightening credit to ensure that the economy doesn't overheat.

Any light the Fed might shed on those questions could come in the statement it will make after its latest policy meeting ends, in updated economic and rate forecasts it will issue or in a news conference that Chairman Jerome Powell will hold afterward.

The modest rate increase that's widely expected reflects the continued resilience of the U.S. economy, now in its 10th year of expansion, the second-longest such stretch on record. Most analysts expect the Fed to signal that it plans to raise rates a fourth and final time this year, presumably in December. The Fed's rate increases typically lead to higher rates on some consumer and business loans.

Should neither Powell nor the Fed itself clarify expectations for the months ahead, it could be because the policymakers are sharply divided and are coalescing into two familiar opposing groups — "hawks" and "doves."

Doves focus on the Fed's mandate to maximize employment and worry less about inflation. Hawks tend to concern themselves more with the need to prevent high inflation. One Fed board member, Lael Brainard, a leading dove, earlier this month surprised some with a speech that emphasized her belief in the need for continued gradual rate hikes.

By its latest reckoning, the Fed estimates its "neutral rate" — the point where it's thought to neither stimulate nor restrain growth — at around 2.9 percent. Two more hikes this year and two in 2019 would lift the Fed's benchmark rate to that level.

Many economists worry that Trump's combative trade policies could significantly slow the economy next year. Trump insists that the tariffs he is imposing on Chinese imports, to which Beijing has retaliated, are needed to force China to halt unfair trading practices. But concern is growing that China won't change its practices, the higher tariffs on U.S. and Chinese goods will become permanent and both economies — the world's two largest — will suffer.

Powell has so far been circumspect in reflecting on Trump's trade war. The Fed chairman has suggested that while higher tariffs are generally harmful, they could serve a healthy purpose if they eventually force Beijing to liberalize its trade practices.

In the meantime, economists are divided over how many Fed rate increases are likely in 2019. The projections range from as few as two to a total of four.

## Small question, big consequences: Is N. Korea a nuke power?

By FOSTER KLUG, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — As Donald Trump and Kim Jong Un stand on the brink of a widely expected Summit No. 2 to unstick deadlocked nuclear diplomacy, a crucial but often overlooked question looms: Is North Korea actually a nuclear power?

Kim and his well-amplified propaganda specialists certainly say it is. And most casual observers, after watching last year's run of increasingly powerful weapons tests, would probably agree.

But Washington has always refused to accept that as fact. It is wary that doing so would allow Pyongyang to follow the path of India and Pakistan and a handful of other outliers who have built illicit nuclear programs outside the global Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which aims to stop the spread of nuclear weapons.

Moon Jae-in, the South Korean president whose tireless shuttle diplomacy has made Trump-Kim Part II possible, is working this week to explain the results of his own recent summit with Kim to Trump and other world leaders gathered at U.N. General Assembly meetings.

At the same time, the debate over whether to treat North Korea as a de facto nuclear power could influence whether fragile diplomacy continues or Northeast Asia returns to the threats of nuclear strikes that had many fearing war just last year.

The AP takes a look:

### ACCEPT REALITY

The technical state of North Korea's closely guarded nuclear program is unclear, but experts believe that Pyongyang can probably arm its short and midrange missiles with nuclear warheads. However, its ability to accurately fire longer range nuclear missiles at targets on the U.S. mainland — the benchmark for any viable nuclear arsenal — is probably not perfected.

Despite the uncertainties, some argue, North Korea is a nuclear power that will never relinquish its bombs.

These experts have studied the U.S. invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan, and watched the fate of late Libyan leader Muammar al-Qaddafi, who was lauded by U.S. officials for giving up his nuclear development program in 2003 before being killed in 2011 during a revolution. They say the North will never relinquish the weapons that are the only way to make to make sure the Kim family dynasty lives on.

Kim "presumes that no great power would risk attacking a nuclear state or sticking a hand into its internal strife," according to Andrei Lankov, a North Korea specialist at Kookmin University in Seoul.

"And so North Korean leaders are determined to stick to their nuclear development, and see nuclear weapons as the major guarantee of their security. There is no form of pressure that can convince them to budge on this, no promise that will seduce them into compliance. They believe that without nuclear weapons, they are as good as dead."

Accepting North Korea for what it is could then allow negotiators to push for a freeze or a scale-back or a permanent test ban.

But the old dream that had guided so many U.S. negotiators intent on getting the North to abandon all its nukes? Not going to happen, at least not in the current scenario.

"It is possible to manage the nuclear program and put some cap on its further development, provided the Kim family still feels it has the deterrent value it needs," Lankov wrote, though he added that North Korea "will expect generous concessions for any freeze, and might not stick to it even then."

At the next expected summit between Trump and Kim they'll likely focus on North Korea's demand for a declaration formally ending the Korean War, which still technically continues. Washington wants Pyongyang to list the contents of its nuclear program — widely seen as the first step in showing a true willingness to disarm — before the Korean War declaration.

Even within the Trump administration, however, there's "a profoundly skeptical view of the possibility of achieving 'final, fully verified denuclearization of North Korea,'" the stated U.S. goal. That's what Daniel Sneider, a specialist in international policy at Stanford University who recently met with senior administra-



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tion officials dealing with North Korea, wrote last month.

"The only possible exception," he wrote, "is the president himself."

## STAND FIRM

Washington has always refused to give North Korea the title of nuclear power. Any diplomacy, multiple U.S. administrations have said, must have as its endgame the total abandonment of all North Korean bombs. That means treating the North's nuclear program as temporary, not permanent.

Trump should declare that Washington won't sign a peace treaty with a nuclear-armed North Korea and won't support an end of Korean War declaration until Pyongyang takes significant disarmament steps, according to Evans Revere, a former State Department Asia specialist.

"The president should state publicly that the U.S. goal is and will remain nothing less than the end of North Korea's nuclear weapons program," Revere wrote, and not fall into North Korea's trap of trying to "draw Washington into an endless arms control negotiation, thereby legitimizing Pyongyang's possession of nuclear weapons."

North Korea's acceptance as a nuclear state could also rattle the decades-long Nuclear Non-proliferation treaty and trigger a nuclear arms race in Northeast Asia by leading many in Seoul and Tokyo to question the American guarantee to protect its allies.

South Korea may find it politically impossible to accept North Korea as a nuclear state after decades of animosity and occasional bloodshed, said Cheon Seong-whun, a presidential secretary during Seoul's previous conservative government.

If the current round of nuclear diplomacy derails, Seoul and Washington must develop strategies to manage the threat while pursuing denuclearization as a long-term goal, Cheon said.

Those include strengthened sanctions and stronger South Korean efforts to undermine Kim's leadership, such as increasing the North Korean people's access to outside information.

The allies should also consider bringing back the tactical nuclear weapons that the United States withdrew from South Korea in the 1990s to increase pressure on the North and create conditions for mutual nuclear disarmament, Cheon said.

"South Korea can't wage a war with North Korea to eliminate its nuclear weapons. It can't surrender its statehood to the North either," Cheon said. "We will have to learn to confront and manage the threat of North Korea's nuclear weapons over a long period of time."

Foster Klug, AP's bureau chief for South Korea, has covered the Koreas since 2005. Follow him on Twitter at @APKlug. AP writer Kim Tong-hyung contributed to this report from Seoul.

## With bated breath, UN awaits another first for Trump

By **MATTHEW PENNINGTON** and **EDITH M. LEDERER**, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — More world leaders step up to the podium at the U.N. General Assembly on Wednesday but the lion's share of attention will be down the hall where U.S. President Donald Trump will be chairing the Security Council.

It'll be Trump's first experience in leading a session of the U.N.'s most powerful body, where the U.S. currently holds the rotating presidency — a perch it is using to double down on its criticism of Iran.

While Wednesday's meeting of the council will be addressing the issue of nonproliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, Trump himself has left little doubt that it'll be another chance to target Tehran.

On Tuesday, during an unabashedly "America First" speech, Trump said Iranian leaders "sow chaos, death and destruction" and "spread mayhem across the Middle East and far beyond." His national security adviser, John Bolton, warned that there would be "hell to pay" if Tehran crossed the U.S., its allies or their partners.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani responded by accusing the Trump administration of violating the rules

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of international law and "state obligations" by withdrawing from the 2015 nuclear deal that Iran signed with the U.S. and five other major powers.

Rouhani is almost certain not to attend the Security Council meeting that will test Trump's ability to maintain diplomatic decorum and interact with representatives of rival nations.

The council is populated by five permanent members — the U.S., China, Russia, Britain and France — and 10 other member states, who occupy a council seat for two-year terms. Iran is not among them.

Business will continue Wednesday at the General Assembly, where for a second day, 193 U.N. members take turns to speak out on pressing world issues and their national priorities in world affairs.

Among those tentatively scheduled to speak are the leaders of Panama, Iraq, Colombia, Afghanistan and Cuba.

This year, 133 world leaders have signed up to attend this year's assembly session, which ends Oct. 1, a significant increase from the 114 leaders last year.

However, America's go-it-alone attitude and growing divisions among key world powers risk eroding the U.N.'s ability to bring positive change in global affairs and end conflicts in Syria, Yemen, and elsewhere.

## Senate panel to hear from internet execs on privacy policies

By MARCY GORDON, AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration is hoping Congress can come up with a new set of national rules governing how companies can use consumers' data that finds a balance between "privacy and prosperity."

But it will be tricky to reconcile the concerns of privacy advocates who want people to have more control over the usage of their personal data — where they've been, what they view, who their friends are — and the powerful companies that mine it for profit.

Executives of a half-dozen U.S. internet titans are due to appear Wednesday before the Senate Commerce Committee to explain their privacy policies. Senior executives from AT&T, Amazon, Apple, Google, Twitter and Charter Communications are expected to testify at the hearing, amid increasing anxiety over safeguarding consumers' data online and recent scandals that have stoked outrage among users and politicians.

But the approach to privacy legislation being pondered by policymakers and pushed by the internet industry leans toward a relatively light government touch.

An early move in President Donald Trump's tenure set the tone on data privacy. He signed a bill into law in April 2017 that allows internet providers to sell information about their customers' browsing habits. The legislation scrapped Obama-era online privacy rules aimed at giving consumers more control over how broadband companies like AT&T, Comcast and Verizon share that information.

Allie Bohm, policy counsel at the consumer group Public Knowledge, says examples abound of companies not only using the data to market products but also to profile consumers and restrict who sees their offerings: African Americans not getting access to ads for housing, minorities and older people excluded from seeing job postings.

The companies "aren't going to tell that story" to the Senate panel, she said. "These companies make their money off consumer data."

What is needed, privacy advocates maintain, is legislation to govern the entire "life cycle" of consumers' data: how it's collected, used, kept, shared and sold.

Meanwhile, regulators elsewhere have started to act.

The 28-nation European Union put in strict new rules this spring that require companies to justify why they're collecting and using personal data gleaned from phones, apps and visited websites. Companies also must give EU users the ability to access and delete data, and to object to data use under one of the claimed reasons.

A similar law in California will compel companies to tell customers upon request what personal data they've collected, why it was collected and what types of third parties have received it. Companies will be

able to offer discounts to customers who allow their data to be sold and to charge those who opt out a reasonable amount, based on how much the company makes selling the information.

The California law doesn't take effect until 2020 and applies only to California consumers, but it could have fallout effects on other states. And it's strong enough to have rattled Big Tech, which is seeking a federal data-privacy law that would be more lenient toward the industry.

"A national privacy framework should be consistent throughout all states, pre-empting state consumer-privacy and data security laws," the Internet Association said in a recent statement. The group represents about 40 big internet and tech companies, spanning Airbnb and Amazon to Zillow. "A strong national baseline creates clear rules for companies."

The Trump White House said this summer that the administration is working on it, meeting with companies and other interested parties. Thune's pronouncement and one from a White House official stress that a balance should be struck in any new legislation — between government supervision and technological advancement.

The goal is a policy "that is the appropriate balance between privacy and prosperity," White House spokeswoman Lindsay Walters said. "We look forward to working with Congress on a legislative solution."

## Deported man is suspect in deadly California beatings

By CHRISTOPHER WEBER, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A man who was deported from the United States six times was expected in court Wednesday to face charges after police say he killed three people and injured four in attacks targeting sleeping homeless men in California.

Investigators believe Ramon Escobar, 47, began attacking the men at random on Sept. 8, shortly after he arrived in California from Houston, where he's considered a person of interest in the disappearance of his uncle and aunt.

Escobar, who was believed homeless himself, likely targeted victims to rob them, Los Angeles police Capt. William Hayes told reporters Tuesday.

Detectives have seized a wooden baseball bat and bolt cutters that they believe were used to bludgeon men as they lay sleeping on the beach or on the street in Los Angeles and suburban Santa Monica, police said. All but one of the men was homeless.

Escobar was arrested Monday and was expected to be charged with murder and attempted murder as early as Wednesday, followed by his arraignment.

It wasn't immediately known whether Escobar had an attorney who could speak for him.

Escobar was being held without bail but U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement officials have filed a detainer seeking to take him into custody if he is released, the agency said.

Escobar was first ordered removed from the country in 1988 and was deported to his native El Salvador six times between 1997 and 2011, ICE said in a statement Tuesday night.

He was released from ICE custody last year after successfully appealing his latest immigration case, ICE said. The agency didn't indicate his current legal status.

However, Escobar has six felony convictions for burglary and illegal reentry, ICE said.

Escobar spent five years in prison for robbery starting in the mid-1990s, Hayes said. Records in Texas show Escobar has had arrests for vehicle burglary, trespassing, failure to stop, public intoxication and two assaults, most recently in November 2017. That case was described as a misdemeanor.

Texas authorities also want to talk to Escobar about the disappearances late last month of 60-year-old Dina Escobar and her brother, 65-year-old Rogelio Escobar, Houston police said in a statement.

Dina Escobar's burned van was found in Galveston, Texas, a few days after she went looking for her brother. She was last seen Aug. 28, two days after her brother vanished, the statement said.

Dina Escobar's daughter, Ligia Salamanca, told KTRK-TV in Houston earlier Tuesday that her cousin, Ramon Escobar, had never come across as violent and wasn't a source of trouble for the family.

"She loved him as she would a son," Salamanca said of her mother's devotion to Ramon Escobar.

Salamanca said he had been looking for work and needed a place to stay, so he was taken in by his uncle, who went missing days later.

Investigators believe Escobar was the man who used a baseball bat to bash the heads of three homeless men sleeping on downtown Los Angeles streets before dawn on Sept. 16, police said in a statement. Two died.

Escobar is believed to be the man captured on surveillance video ransacking the pockets and belongings of some downtown Los Angeles victims.

Two homeless men sleeping on the beach were bludgeoned in the head early on Sept. 8 and Sept. 10, leaving one in critical condition, officials said.

Another man who apparently was sleeping on the beach was found dead under the Santa Monica Pier on Sept. 20. Steven Ray Cruze Jr., 39, of San Gabriel, had been beaten to death.

Authorities at first described him as homeless, but family and friends said the father of two, who loved to fish at the pier, worked boats in neighboring Marina del Rey and sometimes camped out under the pier to avoid the long commute home.

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Associated Press journalists Robert Jablon and John Antczak in Los Angeles, David Warren in Dallas and researcher Jennifer Farrar in New York contributed to this report.

## Into the fold? What's next for Instagram as founders leave

By BARBARA ORTUTAY, AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — When Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger sold Instagram to Facebook in 2012, the photo-sharing startup's fiercely loyal fans worried about what would happen to their beloved app under the social media giant's wings.

None of their worst fears materialized. But now that its founders have announced they are leaving in a swirl of well wishes and vague explanations, some of the same worries are bubbling up again — and then some. Will Instagram disappear? Get cluttered with ads and status updates? Suck up personal data for advertising the way its parent does? Lose its cool?

Worst of all: Will it just become another Facebook?

"It's probably a bigger challenge (for Facebook) than most people realize," said Omar Akhtar, an analyst at the technology research firm Altimeter. "Instagram is the only platform that is growing. And a lot of people didn't necessarily make the connection between Instagram and Facebook."

Instagram had just 31 million users when Facebook snapped it up for \$1 billion; now it has a billion. It had no ads back then; it now features both display and video ads, although they're still restrained compared to Facebook. But that could quickly change. Facebook's growth has started to slow, and Wall Street has been pushing the company to find new ways to increase revenue.

Instagram has been a primary focus of those efforts.

Facebook has been elevating Instagram's profile in its financial discussions. In July, it unveiled a new metric for analysts, touting that 2.5 billion people use at least one of its apps — Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp or Messenger — each month. While not particularly revealing, the measurement underscores the growing importance Facebook places on those secondary apps.

Facebook doesn't disclose how much money Instagram pulls in, though Wedbush analyst Michael Pachter estimates it'll be around \$6 billion this year, or just over 10 percent of Facebook's expected overall revenue of about \$55.7 billion.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has long seen Instagram's promise. At the time, it was by far Facebook's largest acquisition (although it was dwarfed by the \$19 billion Zuckerberg paid for WhatsApp two years later). And it was the first startup allowed to operate mostly independently.

That has paid off big time. Not only did Instagram reach 1 billion users faster than its parent company,

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it also succeeded in cloning Snapchat's popular "Stories" feature, dealing a serious blow to that social network upstart and succeeding where Facebook's own attempts had repeatedly failed. Instagram also pioneered a long-form video feature to challenge YouTube, another big Facebook rival.

Recently, Instagram has been on a roll. In June, Systrom traveled to New York to mark the opening of its new office there, complete with a gelato bar and plans to hire hundreds of engineers. Only a month earlier, Instagram had moved into sparkly new offices in San Francisco. In a July earnings call, Zuckerberg touted Instagram's success as a function of its integration with Facebook, claiming that it used parent-company infrastructure to grow "more than twice as quickly as it would have on its own."

But Instagram has also been a case study in how to run a subsidiary independently — especially when its parent is mired in user-privacy problems and concerns about election interference, fake news and misinformation. And especially when its parent has long stopped being cool, what with everyone and their grandma now on it.

Instagram's simple design — just a collection of photos and videos of sunsets, faraway vacations, intimate breakfasts and baby close-ups — has allowed it to remain a favorite long after it became part of Facebook. If people go to Twitter to bicker over current events and to Facebook to see what old classmates are up to, Instagram is where they go to relax, scroll and feast their eyes.

So, will that change?

"I don't think Zuckerberg is dumb," Akhtar said. "He knows that a large part of Instagram's popularity is that it's separate from Facebook."

As such, he thinks Facebook would be wise to reassure users that what they love about Instagram isn't going to change — that they are not going to be forced to integrate with Facebook. "That'll go a long way," he said.

Internally, the challenge is a bit more complicated. While Systrom and Krieger didn't say why they're leaving, their decision echoes the recent departure of WhatsApp's co-founder and CEO Jan Koum, who resigned in April. Koum had signaled years earlier that he would take a stand if Facebook's push to increase profits risked compromising core elements of the WhatsApp messaging service, such as its dedication to user privacy. When Facebook started pushing harder for more revenue and more integration with WhatsApp, Koum pulled the ripcord.

One sign that additional integration may be in Instagram's future: Zuckerberg in May sent longtime Facebook executive Adam Mosseri to run Instagram's product operation. Mosseri replaced longtime Instagrammer Kevin Weil, who was shuffled back to the Facebook mothership.

That likely didn't sit well with Instagram's founders, Akhtar and other analysts said. Now that they're gone as well, Mosseri is the most obvious candidate to head Instagram.

"Kevin Systrom loyalists are probably going to leave," Akhtar said.

Which means Facebook may soon have a new challenge on its hands: Figuring out how to keep Instagram growing if it loses the coolness factor that has bolstered it for so long.

## Border Patrol's first female chief hopes to inspire women

By COLLEEN LONG, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. Border Patrol Chief Carla Provost says she hopes she can inspire other women to sign up with the agency, which has just one female agent for every 20 men.

"If you're a woman in law enforcement, I don't care where you're at, you're a minority," Provost told The Associated Press in an interview.

Provost, who joined the agency in 1995 and became its acting chief in April 2017, took over last month as the first female chief in its 94-year history.

The Border Patrol and its 19,000 agents have been under a constant spotlight. Curbing immigration remains at the top of President Donald Trump's priorities, and the administration plans to add 5,000 Border Patrol agents.

The agency has come under fire for its checkpoints within 100 miles (160 kilometers) of the border. And

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it faced withering criticism for its role in the administration's zero-tolerance policy this spring that resulted in the separation of nearly 3,000 migrant children from their parents. It's the subject of federal litigation on holding facilities where migrants complain of freezing temperatures, inedible food and overcrowding.

Earlier this month, a supervisor in Laredo, Texas, was arrested on allegations he killed four women. Provost placed him on unpaid suspension and said she was "sickened and saddened" by the alleged acts of a "rogue individual."

"I would hate for this to tarnish the great work that those men and women do," she said at a news conference aside Texas law enforcement.

Provost is also dealing with increased arrests at the southwest border — a possible marker that more people are coming in illegally and one that roils the Trump administration and the president himself. But for all the controversy surrounding her agency, she is not a controversial figure. Her appointment didn't require Senate confirmation and immigration advocates and Democratic lawmakers critical of Trump's policies haven't criticized her.

Provost is personable and deeply knowledgeable about the Border Patrol. She started as an agent in Douglas, Arizona, after a short tenure as a police officer in Kansas, where her detail included breaking up fights at bars. She said she wanted to get into federal law enforcement and had never been to the border before joining the agency.

Back then apprehension was mostly just returning people over the line. They'd turn around and come right back, Provost said, and she'd catch the same group three times a night. She liked the work, but it was frustrating.

"And I think the difference then, too, is we didn't deliver any consequences," she said.

The only way someone was fingerprinted was if the person was recognized to be a smuggler, Provost said.

"And you took him into the station, rolled their prints, faxed them off to the FBI," Provost said. "What were we really accomplishing then?"

She said being a woman in a largely male organization didn't cause her problems.

"Now, I'm 6-foot tall. That might help when it comes to my stature. Whether it was the police department or the Border Patrol, I was a police officer, not a female police officer. I'm a Border Patrol agent, not a female Border Patrol Agent."

She worked in top management positions in El Paso, Texas, and El Centro, California, before transferring in 2015 to headquarters, where she focused on efforts to clamp down on corruption, misconduct and mismanagement.

"There is no one more suited to lead the Border Patrol," U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Kevin McAleenan said after her appointment.

Even without the public pressure, recruiting for the job is difficult, Provost said. Agents must undergo a detailed background investigation, plus a polygraph exam with an average 28 percent pass rate.

They're stationed in remote locations along difficult terrain and work grueling shifts in scorching heat or bitter cold, often walking miles alone tracking people who crossed illegally. Sometimes backup is hours away.

"The majority of my personnel are working along the southwest border. I can't compete with a police department where you can live in the city you were born and raised in," she said.

Provost said the agency also struggles with available child care, education and access to medical care in the most remote locations. But she said agents are now allowed to move around after a few years, a big change she hopes will result in more people willing to start off in a remote post and transfer to a border city.

"Honestly, the fact that I'm sitting in the position I'm sitting in will help as well," she said.

## With Kavanaugh nomination, Trump faces #MeToo

By CATHERINE LUCEY, ZEKE MILLER and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's victory helped give rise to the #MeToo era. Now, as it threatens his latest pick to the Supreme Court and his party's electoral majorities in Congress, Trump is taking aim at the movement that has spurred a national reckoning around gender equity and sexual consent.

Arguing that "false accusations of all types are made against a lot of people," Trump defended Judge Brett Kavanaugh on Tuesday against allegations of decades-old sexual abuse.

Eyeing the Kavanaugh nomination fight through the prism of his own experiences with sexual assault allegations, Trump asked: "Who is going to want to go before the system to be a Supreme Court judge or to be a judge, or to be even a politician?"

The backdrop for the president's fervent defense of Kavanaugh is his belief that men can be ruined by false accusations. He told one associate in recent days that he believed the media was always inclined to give credence to an accuser's lies — as happened with his own accusers during the 2016 campaign, according to a Republican close to the White House who was not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations.

While Trump has repeatedly weathered allegations from women, the Kavanaugh controversy presents the biggest challenge yet for Trump in the #MeToo moment. And it reveals a Republican Party — and a president — struggling with issues of gender equity and sexual consent just weeks before midterm elections in which women already were leaning toward Democrats by lopsided margins.

Kavanaugh, who is defending himself against allegations from two women who accuse him of sexual misconduct in the 1980s, sat for an interview on Fox News on Monday, an unusual move for a nominee to the high court. His cautious performance reassured some White House officials, but also left lingering concerns about how he would stand up under questioning from Democrats at a Judiciary Committee hearing Thursday, where one of his accusers, Christine Blasey Ford, is expected to appear.

After initially showing caution with the accusations against Kavanaugh, Trump has grown increasingly frustrated, viewing the process as a political plot against his efforts to advance a long-sought conservative makeover of the high court.

For a time, Trump told confidants that he did not need to wade into the specific allegations since they did not involve him, although they did evoke sexual misconduct allegations against him. But late last week Trump became convinced the allegations were a Democratic scheme to undermine his pick. On Friday, he fired off a tweet challenging Ford directly. That tweet — he questioned why Ford did not report the alleged assault at the time — drew a fiery response from women online, with many posting first-person stories about their experiences with the Twitter hashtag #WhyIDidntReport.

Trump's skepticism was only bolstered by a piece published in The New Yorker on Sunday recounting a second allegation against Kavanaugh, this time about college-era sexual misconduct. Trump spoke to advisers inside and outside the White House on Sunday about the report and it did not shake his support for Kavanaugh, said a person with knowledge of the conversations who was not authorized to speak publicly.

Trump's dismissal of the claims against Kavanaugh echo his past defenses of his own behavior.

More than a dozen women have accused him of sexual misconduct, which he denies. In the 2005 "Access Hollywood" tape that repelled many Republicans when it became public during the 2016 election, Trump can be heard boasting of grabbing women by their genitals and kissing them without permission. Trump apologized but also defended himself, dismissing his comments as "locker-room talk."

In Bob Woodward's recent book about the Trump administration, he writes that Trump once told a friend who had acknowledged treating women badly: "You've got to deny, deny, deny and push back on these women. If you admit to anything and any culpability, then you're dead."

Trump has demonstrated he's not averse to deploying the potent politics around the issue to his own advantage.

During the 2016 campaign, after threatening to use Bill Clinton's sexual history against his Democratic opponent Hillary Clinton, Trump did just that. Before an October debate, he met publicly in a hotel confer-

ence room with three women — Paula Jones, Juanita Broaddrick and Kathleen Willey — who had accused Bill Clinton of unwanted sexual advances — even rape in Broaddrick's case. Kathy Shelton, a fourth woman who appeared with Trump, was a 12-year-old Arkansas sexual assault victim whose alleged assailant was defended by Hillary Clinton.

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway acknowledged the perilous moment, saying on CBS this week that "there's pent-up demand for women to get their day, women who have been sexually harassed and sexually assaulted."

She added: "I personally am very aggrieved for all of them, but we cannot put decades of pent-up demand for women to feel whole on one man's shoulders."

Lemire and Miller reported from New York.

For more coverage of Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court nomination, visit <https://apnews.com/tag/KavanaughNomination>

## Florence flooding slowly envelops South Carolina homes

By JEFFREY COLLINS, Associated Press

GEORGETOWN, S.C. (AP) — A week ago, firefighters in Conway went to a neighborhood and told surprised residents their houses would flood from Hurricane Florence even though they had never had water in them before.

On Monday and Tuesday, those same firefighters checked on those same neighborhoods with maps that detailed each of the nearly 1,000 homes that could expect to be inundated.

"It's kind of playing out exactly like we forecast," Conway Fire Chief Le Hendrick said.

Twelve days after the once-fierce hurricane arrived on the coast, and more than a week after it blew north and dissipated, rivers swollen by its relentless rains are still flooding homes and businesses in their paths as they make their way to the sea.

The slow-moving disaster has allowed forecasters to pinpoint exactly who will flood. There have been few rescues or surprises in South Carolina — just black, reeking water slowly seeping in and even more slowly receding.

"You find yourself sitting around a lot and thinking, 'What if,' or, 'I wonder what things are like right now,'" said Vivian Chestnut, who left her home in Conway a week ago and might not get back until well into October. "And wondering what you are going to find when you finally get back."

The Waccamaw River, which flows through the city of 23,000, was expected to crest on Wednesday at 21.7 feet (6.6 meters). It surpassed the previous record high of 17.9 feet (5.5 meters) set in 2016 by Hurricane Matthew on Friday.

The waterway was not expected to drop below 18 feet (5.5 meters) or so until sometime next week. The river floods at 11 feet (3.4 meters).

All that water is making its way to Georgetown, where five different rivers reach the sea. Officials there said the worst of the flooding would start Wednesday and last until Thursday, likely leaving only one highway into the city.

And if that weren't bad enough, more weather was forming off the coast in a hurricane season that still has two months to go. National Hurricane Center forecasters watching a low pressure area about 200 miles (320 kilometers) south of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, said it could become a tropical depression as it approaches the coast before moving quickly to the north.

While it will likely dump some additional rain on the Florence-battered city of Wilmington, it wasn't expected to be significant enough to worsen the flooding.

"It shouldn't put much of a dent in the rivers," said Reid Hawkins, a National Weather Service meteorologist in Wilmington.

Officials at South Carolina's state-owned utility were still warily monitoring two coal-ash ponds near



Conway. Santee Cooper officials said floodwater from the Waccamaw River had already made it into one pond, but most of the ash had already been removed from it during an earlier cleanup project.

The river is likely to flood the second pond soon, but the utility promised it has taken steps to lessen the environmental impact, such as installing silt fencing and a floating environmental containment boom.

Not far from the ash ponds, engineers are keeping an eye on U.S. Highway 501, the main link to Myrtle Beach. Water is now touching a temporary barrier of sand and plastic that has been erected to keep water off the bridge. Called the Lifeline, the temporary wall will remain effective if the water doesn't rise more than an additional 5 feet (1.5 meters) from its current level, according to the state Department of Transportation.

In North Carolina the rivers have stopped rising, but the recovery process is really just beginning. In rural Jones County, between Kinston and New Bern, two of the county's six schools will have to be demolished after floodwaters left mold and mildew in their wake, School Superintendent Michael Bracy said..

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Associated Press writers Jonathan Drew, Gary D. Robertson and Alex Derosier in Raleigh; Meg Kinnard in Columbia, South Carolina; and AP Science Writer Seth Borenstein in Washington contributed to this report.

## **If Rosenstein leaves Justice Department, what happens next?**

**By MICHAEL BALSAMO, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The investigation into Russian election interference is often called the Mueller probe, but it's Rod Rosenstein who oversees it.

Rosenstein's fate as deputy attorney general remains in the air after reports last week that he floated the idea of recording President Donald Trump. Rosenstein went to the White House on Monday expecting to be fired, but the president gave him a three-day reprieve, and the two are set to have a face-to-face showdown on Thursday.

So what happens to the Russia investigation if Rosenstein loses his job after Thursday's meeting?

Some questions and answers:

### **WHAT IS ROSENSTEIN'S ROLE IN THE MUELLER PROBE?**

Rosenstein is Mueller's boss. Attorney General Jeff Sessions has recused himself from the Russia probe, to Trump's great frustration, and left the duties of overseeing the investigation to Rosenstein. After Trump fired FBI Director James Comey, Rosenstein appointed Mueller as special counsel to take over the investigation. Rosenstein is acting in Sessions' place to oversee the probe and has the power to fire Mueller — for cause — under Justice Department guidelines.

Rosenstein makes nearly all the pivotal decisions in the Mueller investigation, including signing off on indictments. In an interview with USA Today in March, Rosenstein said Mueller was "not an unguided missile."

In an investigation kept decidedly out of the public spotlight, it was Rosenstein — not Mueller — who briefed the president and then stood before the microphones when indictments were announced. He did so most recently in July, when the Justice Department charged 12 Russian intelligence officers in the hacking of Democratic Party and Hillary Clinton campaign emails during the 2016 election.

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### **WHO WOULD REPLACE ROSENSTEIN IF HE IS OUSTED?**

Under the Justice Department's succession plan, control of the Russia probe would be turned over to Solicitor General Noel Francisco.

He is the highest-ranking official after Rosenstein who has been confirmed by the Senate — a requirement for the position. The acting associate attorney general is actually ranked higher but would be ineligible because it is not a Senate-confirmed position.

But Francisco wouldn't take over as acting deputy. Sessions would likely move his chief of staff, Matthew Whitaker, into that position. He would take over Rosenstein's responsibilities outside the Mueller probe.

That would be a departure from the department's regular succession plan, which would make Rosenstein's chief deputy, Edward O'Callaghan, the acting deputy.

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## WHO IS NOEL FRANCISCO?

As solicitor general, Francisco is the president's top lawyer who has successfully defended controversial Trump policies, including the travel ban, before the Supreme Court.

Francisco served in President George W. Bush's administration, was a law clerk to Justice Antonin Scalia and was an attorney at the Washington law firm Jones Day, where he took on a number of conservative causes. The firm represents the Trump campaign, which could raise questions about whether he would have a conflict overseeing the Russia investigation. Francisco has recused himself from Supreme Court cases in which Jones Day represents a party.

If Francisco recuses himself from the Mueller probe, Steven Engel, the head of the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel, would be next in line to take over the investigation.

## WHY IS IT SIGNIFICANT WHETHER ROSENSTEIN RESIGNS OR IS FIRED?

The circumstances of Rosenstein's departure would affect Trump's ability to pick a replacement.

Under a law known as the Federal Vacancies Reform Act, if Rosenstein resigns, the president would have the power to temporarily move any Senate-confirmed appointee into the vacant post.

But Trump has less flexibility if he fires Rosenstein. The Justice Department would likely need to adhere to its succession plan, appointing Francisco as the overseer of the Mueller probe and Whitaker as deputy attorney general.

## COULD THIS CHANGE THE COURSE OF THE MUELLER INVESTIGATION?

If Rosenstein were to depart, Mueller and his investigators would be losing the oversight of an official who has protected their work despite the relentless attacks of Trump and his congressional allies. Time and again, Rosenstein has signed off on critical investigative steps they have taken.

As the person who appointed Mueller and constructed his mandate, Rosenstein is intimately familiar with the details of the investigation. There is little likelihood that a successor would be nearly as familiar with the specifics of the investigation.

There is also no guarantee that Rosenstein's successor would be willing or able to withstand the political pressures and be similarly supportive and protective of the work of Mueller's team.

Associated Press writer Eric Tucker contributed to this report.

## In most global of settings, UN ponders populism's problems

By **EDITH M. LEDERER and JENNIFER PELTZ, Associated Press**

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Warning that the world has a bad case of "trust deficit disorder" and risks "runaway climate change," U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged global leaders Tuesday to abandon unilateralism and reinvigorate cooperation as the only way to tackle the challenges and threats of increasingly chaotic times.

The U.N. chief painted a grim picture of the state of the world in his opening address to the annual gathering of presidents, prime ministers, monarchs and government officials from the U.N.'s 193 member nations. He pointed to rising polarization and populism, ebbing cooperation, "fragile" trust in international institutions and "outrage" at the inability to end wars in Syria, Yemen and elsewhere.

"Democratic principles are under siege," Guterres said. "The world is more connected, yet societies are becoming more fragmented. Challenges are growing outward, while many people are turning inward. Multilateralism is under fire precisely when we need it most."

In contrast, U.S. President Donald Trump defended an America-first policy, rejecting "global governance, control and domination." He said he expects other nations to honor America's sovereignty in return.

"America is governed by Americans," Trump said in his speech. "We reject the ideology of globalism, and we embrace the doctrine of patriotism."

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But French President Emmanuel Macron assailed self-interest in his address soon after Trump, saying "nationalism always leads to defeat."

He drew loud applause for his impassioned plea against isolationism and for global cooperation.

"Friends, I know you may be tired of multilateralism. I also know that the world is flooded with information, and one becomes indifferent. It all starts to look like a big show," he said. "Please, don't get used to it, don't become indifferent. Do not accept the erosion of multilateralism. Don't accept our history unraveling. I'm not getting used to this, and I'm not turning my head."

In his speech, Iranian President Hassan Rouhani took a dig at Trump over the issue — indirectly, if not by name.

"Confronting multilateralism is not a sign of strength; rather it is a symptom of the weakness of intellect — it betrays an inability in understanding a complex and interconnected world," Rouhani said.

Iran has been a target of escalating U.S. accusations over its nuclear and missile programs and international terrorist activities. It vehemently denies any nuclear ambitions or involvement in international terrorism.

Trump earlier had blasted what he called Iran's "corrupt dictatorship," saying he has launched an "economic pressure" campaign against the country. The U.S. withdrew this year from a 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers.

Rouhani accused the U.S. of trying to overthrow his government, rejecting bilateral talks after Trump predicted stepped-up U.S. sanctions would get Tehran to negotiate over its nuclear program.

Guterres highlighted two challenges that have taken on "surpassing urgency" since last year: climate change and new risks from advances in technology.

"Climate change is moving faster than we are," he warned. "If we do not change course in the next two years, we risk runaway climate change. ... Our future is at stake."

Guterres said artificial intelligence, blockchain and biotechnology can potentially "turbocharge progress," but also pose risks and serious dangers.

Technology stands to change or eliminate some jobs and is being misused for sexual abuse, for terrorism and for malicious acts in cyberspace including disinformation campaigns, discrimination against women and for reinforcing "our male-dominated culture," he said.

"The weaponization of artificial intelligence is a growing concern," he added.

General Assembly President Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garces opened the gathering by asking the VIPs to stand in silent tribute to former Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who died Aug. 18 at age 80.

Espinosa Garces, who was Ecuador's foreign minister, echoed Guterres' appeal on multilateralism, saying the General Assembly is "the only place where a meeting of this kind is possible," and where all countries "have the opportunity to hear and be heard."

She said the U.N.'s global contribution has been immense, from international law and the promotion of peace to human rights, combatting poverty and preserving the environment.

"The reality is that the work of the United Nations is as relevant today as it was 73 years ago," she said. "Multilateralism stands alone as the only viable response to the global problems that we are faced with. To undermine multilateralism, or to cast a doubt upon its merits, will only lead to instability and division, to mistrust and polarization."

On a light-hearted note at a lunch for the visiting dignitaries, Guterres picked up on Trump's patriotism comment and spoke about going to the Broadway hit show "Hamilton" and being fascinated "by the pride and the patriotism" demonstrated by the audience.

Turning to Trump, he said, "you are a proud American," and all leaders are proud of their countries and have patriotism. "But we are also — all of us — citizens of the world, and we are also united in a cosmopolitan way by a common cause: the well-being of humanity."

Brazil's President Michel Temer also focused on threats to global cooperation.

"We live in times clouded by isolationist forces," he said. "Old forms of intolerance are being rekindled. Unilateral relapses are, today, increasingly less of an exception."

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"However, these challenges should not and cannot possibly intimidate us. Isolationism, intolerance, unilateralism — we must respond to each of these different trends with the very best of our peoples," Temer said.

Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto, attending his last assembly meeting before stepping down, warned of the return of nationalism, protectionist trade policies and the questioning of multilateralism. These policies promote political exclusion of minorities, social exclusion of vulnerable groups and economic exclusion of the dispossessed, he said.

Pena Nieto urged all U.N. members to strengthen the United Nation. "This organization is the best evidence that it is worthwhile fighting for a more peaceful, safe world — a world that is more inclusive, more equal, more developed and sustainable," he said.

Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was sharply critical of the veto power wielded by the five permanent members of the Security Council — the U.S., Russia, China, Britain and France — and warned that the U.N. risks becoming an organization with "a reputation for failure" if it continues catering to them "while standing idle to the oppression in the other parts of the world."

He cited genocides in Bosnia and Rwanda and the failure to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, calling for the Security Council to be restructured to reflect the 21st century.

This year, 133 world leaders have signed up to attend the session, which ends Oct. 1, a significant increase from the 114 leaders last year. Populist leaders attending include Poland's President Andrzej Duda and Italy's Premier Giuseppe Conte, along with the foreign ministers of Hungary and Austria.

In speeches and nearly 350 meetings on the assembly sideline, the conflicts, hotspots and issues contributing to that turbulence will be debated.

The seven-year conflict in Syria and the three-year war in Yemen that has sparked the world's worst humanitarian crisis and now seriously threatens large-scale famine are certain to be in the spotlight, along with African hotspots including Libya, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Mali and Congo.

The U.S., which holds the rotating presidency of the U.N. Security Council in September, has scheduled two meetings, one chaired by Trump on Wednesday that was initially to focus on Iran but has now been broadened to "nonproliferation" of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

The second one, to be chaired Thursday by U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, is on North Korea, the one major issue where there is a glimmer of hope for progress. The 15 council nations have been united in imposing increasingly tough sanctions to try to rein in Pyongyang's nuclear program. But that unity appears to be at risk over enforcement of sanctions and the broader issues of how to achieve denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, and when sanctions should be lifted.

## **Cosby in cuffs: TV star gets 3 to 10 years for sex assault**

**By MARYCLAIRE DALE and MICHAEL R. SISAK, Associated Press**

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (AP) — At an age when other Hollywood stars are settling into retirement and collecting lifetime-achievement awards, an 81-year-old Bill Cosby was led away to prison in handcuffs Tuesday, sentenced to three to 10 years behind bars in what was seen by many of his accusers as a reckoning richly deserved and long overdue.

The comedian, TV star and breaker of racial barriers became the first celebrity of the #MeToo era to be sent to prison. He was found guilty in April of drugging and sexually assaulting a woman at his gated estate in 2004 after being barraged with similar accusations from more than 60 women over the past five decades.

"It is time for justice. Mr. Cosby, this has all circled back to you. The time has come," Montgomery County Judge Steven O'Neill said. He quoted from victim Andrea Constand's statement to the court, in which she said Cosby took her "beautiful, young spirit and crushed it."

Cosby declined the opportunity to speak before the sentence came down, and afterward sat laughing and chatting with his defense team. His wife of 54 years, Camille, was not in court. Constand smiled broadly on hearing the punishment and was hugged by others in the courtroom.

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In a blistering statement, Cosby spokesman Andrew Wyatt said the comic was subjected to the "most racist and sexist trial in the history of the United States." Wyatt said all three of the psychologists who testified against Cosby were "white women who make money off of accusing black men of being sexual predators."

Cosby's lawyers asked that he be allowed to remain free on bail while he appeals his conviction, but the judge appeared incredulous over the request and ordered him locked up immediately, saying that "he could quite possibly be a danger to the community."

The comedian — who is legally blind and uses a cane — removed his watch, tie and jacket and walked out in a white dress shirt and red suspenders, his hands cuffed in front of him. He appeared downcast, his eyes failing to meet the camera, in a mug shot released by authorities.

Cosby must serve the minimum of three years before becoming eligible for parole.

"For decades, the defendant has been able to hide his true self and hide his crimes using his fame and fortune. He's hidden behind a character he created, Dr. Cliff Huxtable," Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin Steele said at a news conference, referring to Cosby's best-known role. But "now, finally, Bill Cosby has been unmasked, and we have seen the real man as he is headed off to prison."

Constand stood at Steele's side but shook her head to say she had no comment.

Former model Janice Dickinson, who accused Cosby of violating her, looked at him in the courtroom and said: "Who gets the last laugh, pal?"

Another accuser in the courtroom, Lili Bernard, said: "There is solace, absolutely. It is his fame and his fortune and his phony philanthropy that has allowed him to get away with impunity. Maybe this will send a message to other powerful perpetrators that they will be caught and punished."

Cosby's punishment, which also included a \$25,000 fine, came at the end of a two-day hearing at which the judge declared him a "sexually violent predator" — a modern-day scarlet letter that subjects him to monthly counseling for the rest of his life and requires that neighbors and schools be notified of his whereabouts. A psychologist for the state testified that Cosby appears to have a mental disorder characterized by an uncontrollable urge to have sex with women without their consent.

The comic once known as America's Dad for his role on the top-rated "Cosby Show" in the 1980s was convicted in April of violating Constand, Temple University women's basketball administrator, at his suburban Philadelphia mansion in 2004. It was the first celebrity trial of the #MeToo era.

Constand testified that Cosby gave her what she thought were herbal pills to ease stress, then penetrated her with his fingers as she lay immobilized on a couch. Cosby claimed the encounter was consensual, and his lawyers branded her a "con artist" who framed the comedian to get a big payday — a \$3.4 million settlement she received over a decade ago.

Five other accusers took the stand at the trial as part of an effort by prosecutors to portray him as a predator.

Cosby faced anywhere from probation to 10 years in prison. His lawyers asked for house arrest, saying he is too old and vulnerable to go to prison. Prosecutors asked for five to 10 years behind bars, warning that he could still pose a threat to women.

The sentencing came as another extraordinary #MeToo drama unfolded on Capitol Hill, where Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh stands accused of sexual misconduct more than three decades ago.

Women's advocates hailed Cosby's sentence as a landmark #MeToo moment.

Sonia Ossorio, president of the National Organization for Women of New York, credited Cosby's accusers with helping pave the way for #MeToo.

"Bill Cosby seeing the inside of a prison cell sends a strong message that predators — no matter who they are, from Hollywood to Wall Street to the Supreme Court — can no longer be protected at the expense of victims," she said.

Steele said Cosby could be sent to Laurel Highlands, a state prison for lower-risk inmates on the other side of the state, about 70 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. It serves inmates with special needs and has separate housing units for geriatric prisoners and programs for sex offenders.

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In a statement submitted to the court and released Tuesday, Constand, 45, said that she has had to cope with years of anxiety and self-doubt. She said she now lives alone with her two dogs and has trouble trusting people.

"When the sexual assault happened, I was a young woman brimming with confidence and looking forward to a future bright with possibilities," she wrote in her five-page statement. "Now, almost 15 years later, I'm a middle-aged woman who's been stuck in a holding pattern for most of her adult life, unable to heal fully or to move forward."

She also wrote of Cosby: "We may never know the full extent of his double life as a sexual predator, but his decades-long reign of terror as a serial rapist is over."

The AP does not typically identify people who say they are victims of sexual assault unless they come forward publicly, which Constand and other accusers have done.

Constand went to police a year after waking up in a fog at Cosby's estate, her clothes askew, only to have the district attorney pass on the case. Another DA reopened the file a decade later and charged the TV star after stand-up comic Hannibal Buress' riff about Cosby being a rapist prompted other women to come forward and after a federal judge, acting on a request from The Associated Press, unsealed some of Cosby's startling, decade-old testimony in Constand's related civil suit.

In his testimony, Cosby described sexual encounters with a string of actresses, models and other young women and talked about obtaining quaaludes to give to those he wanted to sleep with.

Cosby's first trial in 2017 ended with a hung jury. He was convicted at a retrial that opened months after the #MeToo movement had taken down such figures as Hollywood studio boss Harvey Weinstein, NBC's Matt Lauer, actor Kevin Spacey and Sen. Al Franken.

"We are the floodgates," said Victoria Valentino, who has accused Cosby of drugging and raping her. "We gave the women who opened their mouths about Harvey Weinstein courage."

Cosby, whose estimated fortune once topped \$400 million, broke barriers in the 1960s as the first black actor to star in a network show, "I Spy." He went on to superstardom as wise and understanding Dr. Cliff Huxtable on "The Cosby Show," a sitcom that showed America a new kind of black TV family: a warm and loving household led by two professionals, one a lawyer, the other a doctor.

He also found success with his Saturday morning cartoon "Fat Albert," appeared in commercials for Jello-O pudding and became a public moralist, lecturing the black community about young people stealing things and wearing baggy pants. He won a Presidential Medal of Freedom and countless Emmys, Golden Globes and Grammy awards.

As the allegations mounted, his career all but collapsed, "Cosby Show" reruns were taken off the air, and one college after another stripped him of his honorary degrees.

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Associated Press reporter Claudia Lauer contributed to this story.

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For more coverage, visit: <https://apnews.com/tag/BillCosby>

## Trump hits 'con job' on Kavanaugh before showdown hearing

By ALAN FRAM and LISA MASCARO, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump denounced Democratic efforts to block Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court confirmation as a cynical "con job" on Tuesday and launched a dismissive attack on a second woman accusing the nominee of sexual misconduct in the 1980s, asserting she "has nothing."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell predicted that Kavanaugh would win approval, despite the new allegations and uncertainty about how pivotal Republicans would vote in a roll call now expected early next week. Like much of America, lawmakers awaited a momentous Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in which Kavanaugh and chief accuser Christine Blasey Ford are to testify Thursday, though not together.

Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley said Arizona prosecutor Rachel Mitchell will be brought in to handle questioning of Kavanaugh and Ford. Mitchell comes from the Maricopa County Attorney's Office in Phoe-

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nix, where she is the chief of the Special Victims Division, which covers sex crimes and family violence.

Hanging in the balance is Trump's chance to swing the high court more firmly to the right for a generation. Despite McConnell's forecast that Republicans will "win," Kavanaugh's fate remains uncertain in a chamber where Republicans have a scant 51-49 majority.

"I will be glued to the television," said Sen. Susan Collins, a moderate Republican from Maine, who has yet to declare her position on confirmation.

Hoping the hearing will yield no new surprises, the Senate Judiciary Committee scheduled its own vote on Kavanaugh for Friday, and Republican leaders laid plans that could keep the full Senate in session over the weekend and produce a final showdown roll call soon after — close to the Oct. 1 start of the high court's new term.

Given that the Judiciary Committee's GOP members are all male, McConnell said the panel was hiring a "female assistant" to handle the questioning for Republicans "in a respectful and professional way." Grassley, R-Iowa, identified Mitchell in a press release late Wednesday, describing her as "a career prosecutor with decades of experience prosecuting sex crimes."

"My gut is they're trying to avoid a panel of all white guys asking tone-deaf questions," said Democratic Sen. Chris Coons of Delaware.

Each senator on the 21-member panel will be allowed five minutes to ask questions, said committee spokesman Taylor Foy. That's a tight rein for such a major hearing.

Meanwhile, the Republicans were still assessing what Kavanaugh's Monday interview on the Fox News Channel — an unusual appearance for a Supreme Court nominee — indicates about how he would do in Thursday's hearing.

During the interview, Kavanaugh denied sexually assaulting anyone. He also denied the account of a second woman, Deborah Ramirez, who told The New Yorker magazine that Kavanaugh caused her to touch his penis at a party when both were Yale freshmen.

Some in the White House expressed relief that Kavanaugh, 53, presented a positive image to counter the allegations. Yet he appeared shaky at times. And there remained concern among aides and Trump himself about how Kavanaugh would hold up facing far fiercer questioning from Senate Democrats, according to a White House official not authorized to speak publicly.

The No. 2 Senate Republican, John Cornyn of Texas, acknowledged that for the nominee "it's extremely awkward to be talking about such private matters on TV." But Cornyn said he thought Kavanaugh "did well and did what he needed to do" in the interview.

Yet Kavanaugh's accounts of his behavior in high school and college have faced intense scrutiny, with some of his former classmates coming forward to challenge his claims. James Roche, a Yale graduate who says he was Kavanaugh's roommate in 1983, issued a public statement saying he was "close friends" with Ramirez and "cannot imagine her making up" the story about Kavanaugh exposing himself.

While a few Republicans have strongly challenged the credibility of Kavanaugh's accusers, Trump's words have been more biting. Last week, he lampooned Ford's allegation that an inebriated Kavanaugh trapped her beneath him on a bed at a high school house party and tried to take her clothes off before she escaped. Surely she would have reported it to police if the encounter was "as bad as she says," the president said.

"It's a con game they're playing," he said Tuesday. "They're really con artists. They don't believe it themselves, OK?"

Trump's latest broadside was aimed at Ramirez, who conceded to The New Yorker that she'd been drinking at the time she says Kavanaugh exposed himself. She also said she was uncertain of some details.

"The second accuser has nothing," Trump told reporters at the United Nations. "The second accuser doesn't even know— thinks maybe it was him, maybe not. She admits she was drunk. She admits time lapses."

Predictably, that played badly with Democrats.

"How many women have heard that before? How many women have kept their experiences quiet because they knew they would hear that?" Sen. Patty Murray of Washington said of Trump's characterization.

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She said Trump's remarks were "disgusting, it's disgraceful and by the way, women are paying attention." She herself was carried to Washington on a 1992 wave of fervor by female voters, a year after the Senate discounted sexual harassment allegations against Clarence Thomas and sent him to the Supreme Court.

In a phone call with Judiciary Committee staff of both parties, Kavanaugh denied Ramirez's story, panel spokesman Foy said.

Ramirez's attorney, John Clune, said his client stood by The New Yorker story and said he and Grassley's committee were trying to decide how to provide more information to the panel. He said an FBI investigation — which Democrats have also sought for Ford and Trump and Republicans have blocked — "is the only way to get the truth."

Aides said Kavanaugh answered questions by Judiciary panel staff members about Ramirez's allegations. Republicans are concerned that, win or lose, the battle over Kavanaugh's nomination is further animating women already inclined to vote against Trump's party in November's elections in which control of the next Congress is at stake.

Treatment of Ford, 51, on Thursday will be watched closely.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, a potentially key Republican vote, said GOP senators need to come into the hearing with open minds.

"It's very important to take allegations of those who come forward seriously, and I think we need to go into this hearing with the view that we will listen," she said.

Grassley is planning to use his committee's modest-sized hearing room instead of a far larger chamber that's often home to high-profile hearings. He said in a recent letter that the smaller room would help avoid a "circus atmosphere," and Ford herself has sought to limit the number of TV cameras and journalists covering the event.

Congressional testimony is often magnified by TV close-ups, and a single moment, good or bad, can have a major impact.

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Associated Press writers Kevin Freking, Mary Clare Jalonick, Padmananda Rama, Matthew Daly, Darlene Superville, Jonathan Lemire, Zeke Miller and Deb Riechmann contributed to this report.

## Laughter at Trump among a long line of shocking UN moments

By TAMER FAKAHANY, Associated Press

The laughter was sudden, loud and unexpected.

It came at the expense of the U.S. president as he addressed global leaders at the United Nations, and it was witnessed by an audience of tens of millions viewing immediate clips online of an awkward moment for Donald Trump.

The laughter followed Trump's boasts that "in less than two years, my administration has accomplished more than almost any administration in the history of our country."

Clearly startled by the laughter, he joked that it wasn't the reaction he expected.

Later, as he left the U.N. grounds, he told reporters that he had meant to be funny.

"Oh it was great, well, that was meant to get some laughter, so it was great," he said.

Nonetheless, it was a jaw-dropping moment in the hallowed hall where war and peace, prosperity and poverty, famine and plenty have been passionately discussed over the decades.

A look at some other moments that shocked at the General Assembly.

KHRUSHCHEV'S SHOE

Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev did more than raise a few eyebrows in 1960 as the Cold War raged when he pounded his shoe on a desk in fury. It happened after the head of a delegation from the Philippines criticized Moscow for restricting the freedom of Eastern Europeans. His granddaughter later wrote that he was wearing new shoes that were tight, so he took them off while sitting. She and his interpreter said that when Khrushchev stood up, he pounded the table so hard with his fists that his watch fell off, and when he went to retrieve it, he saw the shoe and switched to banging that instead. The Berlin Wall



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went up the next year.

## ARAFAT'S OLIVE BRANCH AND GUN

Yasser Arafat was the embodiment of the Palestinian quest for independence — a road littered with displacement and death. In 1974, he was invited to represent the Palestine Liberation Organization and his people before the world body, where he made it clear he was ready to use any means for statehood. He spoke of oppressed people and liberation the world over. Wearing his trademark Palestinian keffiyeh scarf, he concluded with an enduring quote: "Today I have come bearing an olive branch and a freedom fighter's gun. Do not let the olive branch fall from my hand."

## CASTRO'S LONG SPEECHES

Cuban leader Fidel Castro gave many speeches at the U.N., railing at those he characterized as his country's capitalist oppressors. The U.N. asks leaders to keep their speeches brief. But that was never for Castro: his General Assembly address in 1960 was timed at 4 1/2 hours. Clad in his trademark green military fatigues, Castro said the revolution he led 20 months earlier had ended the country's status as "a colony of the United States," but the U.S. still believed it had "the right to promote and encourage subversion in our country." In the rambling speech, Castro defended Cuba's links to the Soviet Union, expressed serious concern that America's "imperialist government" might attack Cuba, and called U.S. President John F. Kennedy "an illiterate and ignorant millionaire." Castro also complained of undergoing "degrading and humiliating treatment" in New York, including being evicted from his hotel.

## GADHAFI GOES FREE FORM

Libya's Moammar Gadhafi also had a predilection for long, rambling monologues in his speeches at the world body. His 2009 address, clocked in at 1 hour, 40 minutes. Dressed in flowing brown Bedouin robes and a black beret, he chastised the United Nations for failing to prevent dozens of wars, suggested that those who caused "mass murder" in Iraq be tried, and defended the Taliban's right to establish an Islamic emirate. At one point, Gadhafi waved a copy of the U.N. Charter and appeared to tear it, saying he did not recognize the document's authority. Later that day, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown told the assembly: "I stand here to reaffirm the United Nations Charter, not to tear it up."

## CHAVEZ AND THE DEVIL

The late Venezuelan leader Hugo Chavez drew gasps at the U.N. in 2006 when he said of U.S. President George W. Bush, "Yesterday, the devil came here," adding that the podium "still smells of sulfur." The U.S. was at the time heavily embroiled in the Iraq War, which Chavez had vehemently opposed.

## AHMADINEJAD AND 9/11

Iran's hard-line President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad prompted disgusted walkouts from the assembly in 2010 when he questioned whether the Sept. 11 attacks were staged. He suggested an inside job, arguing that only an explosion, not planes, could have brought down the twin towers. His visits to New York prompted fury among locals, but delighted the hard-line wing in Iran.

## BIBI AND THE BOMB

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, speaking to the General Assembly about Iran's nuclear program on Sept. 27, 2012, held up a large, cartoonish diagram of a bomb. The bomb was divided into sections marking 70 percent and 90 percent. Netanyahu said that Iran was 70 percent of the way to enriching uranium for a nuclear weapon and urged the world to draw a clear "red line" and stop the country's nuclear program. He then drew a red line under 90 percent, asserting that the Iranians would be that far along by mid-2013 and must not be allowed to get there. Netanyahu warned that "nothing could imperil the world more than a nuclear-armed Iran" and insisted that "red lines" prevent wars.

## Iran says US wants to overthrow govt, rejects two-way talks

By EDITH M. LEDERER, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Iranian President Hassan Rouhani accused the United States on Tuesday of trying to overthrow his government, rejecting bilateral talks after President Donald Trump denounced Iran's leaders and predicted stepped-up U.S. sanctions would get Tehran to negotiate over its nuclear program.

Addressing world leaders at the U.N. General Assembly, Rouhani accused the Trump administration of violating the rules of international law and "state obligations" from the Obama administration by withdrawing from the 2015 nuclear deal that Iran signed with the U.S. and five other major powers.

"On what basis and criteria can we enter into an agreement with an administration misbehaving such as this?" Rouhani asked. "It is ironic that the U.S. government does not even conceal its plan for overthrowing the same government it invites to talks."

Rouhani invited the U.S. to come back to negotiations within the U.N. Security Council, which endorsed the nuclear deal. There, he said, both sides can listen to each other.

"Beginning the dialogue starts with ending threats and unjust sanctions that negate the principles of ethics and international law," he said. "What Iran says is clear: no war, no sanctions, no threats, no bullying. Just acting according to the law and the fulfillment of obligations."

In remarks released while Rouhani was still talking, U.S. National Security Adviser John Bolton doubled down on the decision to withdraw from the deal, calling it "the worst diplomatic debacle in American history." He echoed Trump's strong language and used blunt words to dismiss any entreaties from Tehran.

"According to the mullahs in Tehran, we are 'the Great Satan,' lord of the underworld, master of the raging inferno," Bolton said in remarks prepared for delivery at a New York meeting convened to oppose Iran's nuclear ambitions.

"So, I might imagine they would take me seriously when I assure them today: If you cross us, our allies, or our partners; if you harm our citizens; if you continue to lie, cheat, and deceive, yes, there will indeed be HELL to PAY," Bolton said.

The capitalizations were included in the text of the quotes released to journalists.

In his General Assembly speech, Rouhani targeted Trump in language if not directly in name.

"The United States' understanding of international relations is authoritarian," he said. "In its estimation, might makes right."

Rouhani condemned "recklessness and disregard of some states for international values and institutions." He laid into leaders who believe they can "ride public sentiments and gain popular support through the fomenting of extremist nationalism and racism" and through what he called "xenophobic tendencies resembling a Nazi disposition."

Trump, in his own speech, said Americans "reject the ideology of globalism" in favor of what he called "the doctrine of patriotism." He also blasted what he called Iran's "corrupt dictatorship" and said its leaders "sow chaos, death and destruction" and "spread mayhem across the Middle East and far beyond."

The Iranian president took a dig at Trump's opposition to nations working together, adding a personal twist.

"Confronting multilateralism is not a sign of strength. Rather, it is a symptom of the weakness of intellect. It betrays an inability in understanding a complex and interconnected world." Rouhani said.

Rouhani accused the U.S. of pressuring other countries to violate the nuclear agreement and threatening to punish those who comply with the Security Council resolution endorsing it. He said Iran appreciates the European Union, Russia and China for supporting its implementation.

Foreign ministers from the five remaining signatories to the nuclear deal — Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China — agreed at a meeting with Iran's foreign minister Monday to establish a financial facility in the European Union to facilitate payments for Iranian imports and exports including oil. That was sought by Tehran to counter U.S. sanctions.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo harshly criticized those countries for attempting to subvert U.S. sanctions, telling an anti-Iran meeting: "This is one of the most counterproductive measures imaginable

for regional and global peace and security.”

Trump’s administration reinstated sanctions on Iran after pulling Washington out of the 2015 nuclear deal. The administration has accused Iran of promoting international terrorism.

In remarks earlier Tuesday, Trump predicted that the pressure from renewed sanctions would force Iran back to the table to negotiate. But Rouhani noted that Iranians have endured sanctions before and cannot be “brought to the negotiating table by force.”

The Iranian president said his country will remain a link between East and West, noting that it fought Iraq’s ruling party before Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait in 1990, battled the Taliban and al-Qaida before 9/11 and was opposing the Islamic State extremist group before its attacks in Europe.

“Appreciate these historical realities about Iran,” Rouhani told leaders at the end of his speech. “Quit imposing sanctions and end extremism. The world will not have a better friend than Iran, if peace is what you seek.”

Associated Press writers Jennifer Peltz and Maria Sanminiatelli contributed to this report.

## **Kavanaugh classmate who wrote of partying goes silent**

**By STEPHEN BRAUN, JEFF HORWITZ and BRIAN WITTE, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mark Judge spent decades mining his recollections and writing books and articles full of semi-confessional details about the suburban Maryland prep school he attended with future Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh. Now, though, Judge’s memory has drawn a blank.

Judge, identified by Christine Blasey Ford as an eyewitness to her claim that Kavanaugh sexually assaulted her during a 1980s teen party, has said he has “no memory” of the episode. Ford, now a college professor in California, claims Judge watched the attack and urged Kavanaugh on. Judge told the Senate Judiciary Committee last week: “I do not recall the party described in Dr. Ford’s letter. More to the point, I never saw Brett act in the manner Dr. Ford describes.”

Over much of his adult life, Judge has dived back repeatedly into his memories of Georgetown Preparatory School student life in the early 1980s, and his two memoirs and a cluster of internet essays provide cautionary takes on his prep school days and boozy weekend rounds as a teenage drinker. Judge’s book “Wasted: Tales of a GenX Drunk” surveyed his alcohol-fueled escapades in high school and college, a time of “drinking and smoking and hooking up,” he wrote in a 2015 essay on the Acculturated website.

After Judge was publicly identified by Ford, some former Georgetown Prep classmates sifted through their own memories, trying to reconcile their recollections with Ford’s account.

Those classmates said they could not recall any instances where Kavanaugh acted similarly to Ford’s account. But three classmates, one speaking publicly and the other two speaking anonymously, portrayed Judge as a bullying presence during classes, and at weekend parties where athletes gathered at night to tap kegs of beer and woo girls from nearby schools. The two who requested anonymity did so out of concern that talking publicly about this issue could jeopardize their business and professional relationships within the tight-knit Georgetown Prep community.

Maryland state Sen. Richard Madaleno, who was in Georgetown Prep’s 1983 graduating class with Kavanaugh and Judge, sharply remembers Judge as “nasty to other people.”

“He was an unhappy person who dealt with his own demons by making other people unhappy,” Madaleno said, “especially those of us who he perceived to be on a lower rung of the high school ladder.” A Democrat who mounted an unsuccessful 2018 candidacy for Maryland governor, Madaleno said if he had been asked 25 years ago who was the most difficult person at the school, “I would have answered Mark Judge.”

Although Kavanaugh and Judge played on the school’s football team and partied together, Madaleno did not remember the future judge the same way. “There’s no guilt by association,” he said.

Two other Georgetown Prep classmates elaborated on Judge’s “bully” persona at the time: Quick-witted and adroit with insults, he taunted kids with weight problems or foreign names. He dismissed many of those outside of his circle as “losers.” He questioned the sexuality of members of the school’s swim team.

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He sometimes openly mocked teachers and priests.

"He had a way of being funny at other peoples' expense," one former classmate said. "You'd want to be on his good side so that you weren't his target."

Judge's lawyer, Barbara Van Gelder, said he "is not speaking during the pendency of the Kavanaugh hearings."

A Washington Post reporter caught up with Judge on Monday in Bethany Beach, Delaware, where he had been holed up in a beachfront house in recent days, ordered by Van Gelder to leave town. "How'd you find me?" is all he said.

"He is a recovering alcoholic and is under unbelievable stress," Van Gelder told the Post.

The Delaware and Maryland shores are habitats that Judge has sketched repeatedly in his writings, describing liquor-soaked parties where he and his prep school mates drank themselves into stupors and desperately tried to lose their virginity. In a scene in "Wasted," Judge described a drunken chat with several friends that mentioned what some classmates suggest is a very thinly veiled reference to Kavanaugh.

Asked about a friend named "Bart O'Kavanaugh," Judge replies that "he's around here somewhere," and then is told, "I heard he puked in someone's car the other night."

In "God and Man at Georgetown Prep," a book about his school days, Judge writes that "Prep was a school positively swimming in alcohol, and my class partied with gusto — often right under the noses of our teachers." Judge added that "my class of 80 decided that we would drink 100 kegs of beer."

Both Kavanaugh's and Judge's yearbook entries contain references to "100 KEGS or Bust." Kavanaugh is also listed as "Keg City Club (Treasurer)."

But while the classmates say they were aware that Brett Kavanaugh attended some of the weekend house parties and summer beach gatherings with football team members and other friends, they never saw any evidence that he was a heavy drinker in the way that Judge describes himself at the time.

One of the classmates, who said he attended several parties with Kavanaugh and Judge, said: "Brett would have at most two or three beers. Other guys would down twice that amount."

Charles Koones, who graduated a year ahead of Kavanaugh and Judge, said Judge's recollections of a drunken, sex-infused Georgetown Prep did not match his own. While students at the school did drink and have parties, Koones said, he doubted Judge's recollections of a teacher admonishing the class over how many pregnancies its members had caused.

"I never knew that to happen," he said. "And I wasn't one of the shrinking violets."

Koones said he remembered Kavanaugh from the school's football team and recalled him fondly. He declined to offer thoughts on the sexual assault allegations, but said he found the school's portrayal to be unfortunate.

"The whole thing is a crying shame," he said. "The Prep community is confident in the positive things we put into the world."

Witte contributed to this report from Annapolis, Maryland, and Ashraf Khalil from Washington.

For more coverage of Brett Kavanaugh's Supreme Court nomination, visit <https://apnews.com/tag/KavanaughNomination>

## Antibiotics for appendicitis? Surgery often not needed

By LINDSEY TANNER, AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — When emergency tests showed the telltale right-sided pain in Heather VanDusen's abdomen was appendicitis, she figured she'd be quickly wheeled into surgery. But doctors offered her the option of antibiotics instead.

A new study from Finland shows her choice is a reasonable alternative for most patients with appendicitis. Five years after treatment with antibiotics, almost two-thirds of patients hadn't had another attack.

It's a substantial change in thinking about how to treat an inflamed appendix. For decades, appendicitis

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has been considered a medical emergency requiring immediate surgery to remove the appendix because of fears it could burst, which can be life-threatening.

But advances in imaging tests, mainly CT scans, have made it easier to determine if an appendix might burst, or if patients could be safely treated without surgery.

The results suggest that nearly two-thirds of appendicitis patients don't face that risk and may be good candidates for antibiotics instead.

"It's a feasible, viable and a safe option," said Dr. Paulina Salminen, the study's lead author and a surgeon at Turku University Hospital in Finland.

Her study in adults is the longest follow-up to date of patients treated with drugs instead of surgery for appendicitis and the results confirm one-year findings reported three years ago.

Research has also shown antibiotics may work for some children with appendicitis.

The Finnish results were published Tuesday in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

A journal editorial says "it's a new era of appendicitis treatment."

Appendix removal is the most common emergency surgery worldwide, with about 300,000 performed each year in the United States alone, said Salminen. She said the results from her study suggest many of those surgeries could be avoided.

U.S. doctors have started offering antibiotics instead of surgery and Salminen says she occasionally does too. The journal editorial says appropriate patients should be given that option.

The study involved about 500 Finnish adults who had CT scans to rule out severe cases.

Half were treated with antibiotics; the others had surgery.

Among the antibiotics patients, 100 ended up having surgery within five years of treatment — most for a suspected recurrence of appendicitis in the first year. Seven of them did not have appendicitis and likely could have avoided surgery. The results suggest the success rate for antibiotic treatment was almost 64 percent, the authors said.

About 1 in 4 surgery patients had complications, including infections around the incision, abdominal pain and hernias, compared with only 7 percent of antibiotics patients. Antibiotic patients had 11 fewer sick days on average than the surgery group. In the first year, their treatment costs were about 60 percent lower. A cost analysis for the full five years wasn't included in the published results.

Surgery patients in the Finnish study all had conventional incisions rather than the less invasive "keyhole" surgeries that are more common for appendix removal in the United States. The non-surgery patients received three days of IV antibiotics in the hospital, followed by seven days of pills at home.

Dr. Giana Davidson, a University of Washington surgeon, is involved in a similarly designed multicenter U.S. study that may answer whether similar benefits would be seen for antibiotics versus "keyhole" surgery.

Davidson called the Finnish study "a critical piece to the puzzle but I don't think it answers all of the questions."

Heather VanDusen was treated at the University of Washington in 2016. She said she chose antibiotic treatment partly to avoid surgery scars, and now offers advice to patients for Davidson's study.

"I knew the worst case scenario was ending up back in the hospital so why not try antibiotics first," said VanDusen, who works in university communications.

She said she has done well since her treatment, but that the biggest drawback "is wondering, with every episode of stomach or bad gas, if it could happen again."

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

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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.

## Woman says ex pressed for baby, didn't know her plan to kill

By DAVE KOLPACK, Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — A North Dakota woman convicted of killing her pregnant neighbor by cutting the baby from her womb testified Tuesday that her boyfriend had pressured her to "produce a baby" after figuring out she had lied about being pregnant.

Brooke Crews told the court that she had concocted a phony pregnancy to keep from losing William Hoehn, who is on trial for conspiracy in the August 2017 death of 22-year-old Savanna Greywind. Hoehn has admitted helping to cover up the crime but says he didn't know that Crews had planned to kill Greywind and take her baby. Crews testified that she never "explicitly" told Hoehn that was her plan.

Crews said Hoehn appeared surprised when he entered the bathroom in their apartment and discovered she had cut Greywind's baby from her body. Crews said Hoehn then retrieved a rope and tightened it around Greywind's neck, saying: "If she wasn't dead before, she is now."

Greywind's daughter survived and is being raised by family.

Hoehn spoke regularly with his attorney, Daniel Borgen, during Crews' testimony but showed little emotion. Crews was crying and sniffing throughout.

"You never told Will that you had planned to do this, is that right?" Borgen asked.

"Not kill Savanna for her baby, no," Crews replied.

"In fact, there was never a conversation at all about killing Savanna and taking her baby," Borgen said.

"Not explicitly," she said.

It wasn't clear what Crews meant by "explicitly."

Crews later disputed Borgen's assertion that she had told a fellow inmate at her New England prison that she had strangled Greywind. She also disputed that she told the same inmate that Hoehn and Greywind were having an affair and the baby might be Hoehn's.

Crews described her relationship with Hoehn as rocky and violent, saying it was fueled by drugs and alcohol. She said they broke up at one point, and that's when she lied to him about being pregnant. She went so far as to email him a phony positive pregnancy test and sonogram photo.

In early August, Hoehn told Crews he didn't believe she was pregnant and said she needed "to produce a baby." Crews said she believed this was "an ultimatum."

"I took that to mean I better have a baby, no matter how it happened," Crews said.

Crews originally told police that Greywind had given her the child. She later told police they had argued and that she pushed Greywind down and knocked her out before cutting her open. A medical examiner testified Monday that there was no evidence of any head injuries.

Crews stuck to her story Tuesday, saying she pushed Greywind, who was knocked out when her head hit the bathroom sink. Crews said that's when she got a knife and began cutting the baby out.

Crews said the couple kept ropes around the house because Hoehn liked to tie her up during sex, including around her neck. She also said Hoehn expressed fantasies about killing people and Crews said she initially told him she would be interested in that too.

The medical examiner who performed the autopsy, Dr. Victor Froloff, testified Monday that he isn't sure whether Greywind died from blood loss or strangulation.

Greywind's disappearance sparked several searches before her body was found several days later, shrouded in plastic and dumped in the Red River. Crews testified Tuesday that police missed Greywind's body and her baby during three searches of the couple's apartment.

Crews testified that Greywind's body was in the bathroom closet and the baby was covered up next to Hoehn on a bed during one of those searches. She said Hoehn eventually moved Greywind's body to a hollowed-out dresser and the two of them carried it out of the apartment.

Fargo Police Chief David Todd did not immediately respond to a message seeking comment on Crews' testimony.

Crews pleaded guilty to murder and is serving life in prison without parole. She said she has no agreement with prosecutors for a lesser sentence in exchange for testifying.

Greywind's death prompted North Dakota Sen. Heidi Heitkamp to introduce Savanna's Act, which aims to improve tribal access to federal crime information databases and create standardized protocols for responding to cases of missing and slain Native American women. A similar bill has been introduced in the House.

\_\_\_ The Latest updates from the trial: <https://bit.ly/2Q2dR7t>

## Just Dunkin': Dunkin' Donuts to change its name

By DEE-ANN DURBIN, AP Business Writer

Dunkin' is dropping the donuts — from its name, anyway.

Doughnuts are still on the menu, but Dunkin' Donuts is renaming itself Dunkin' to reflect its increasing emphasis on coffee and other drinks, which make up 60 percent of its sales.

The 68-year-old chain has toyed with the idea for a while. In 2006, it released a new motto — "America runs on Dunkin'" — that didn't mention doughnuts. Last fall, it tested the "Dunkin'" logo on a new store in Pasadena, California; it has put the name on a few other stores since then.

"Our new branding is a clear signal that there's something new at Dunkin'. It speaks to the breadth of our offerings," said David Hoffman, the CEO of Dunkin' Brands, the chain's parent company, in a conference call with media.

The name change will officially take place in January, when it will start appearing on napkins, boxes and signs at new and remodeled U.S. stores. The change will gradually be adopted as franchisees update their stores. It will be phased in overseas over the next year, the company said. Dunkin' Donuts has 12,500 restaurants worldwide.

The new logo will still have Dunkin' Donuts' familiar rounded font and orange-and-pink color scheme, which the company has used since 1973. The Canton, Massachusetts-based company isn't saying how much the change will cost.

Dunkin' Donuts has always sold coffee, but hot breakfast sandwiches and specialty drinks like the fruity Coolatta and Cold Brew iced coffee have become increasingly important to the chain. In the second quarter of this year, the company noted that overall U.S. store traffic was down, but revenue was up thanks to sales of higher-margin iced coffee drinks and breakfast sandwiches.

Dunkin' says the name change is one of several things it's doing to stay relevant to younger customers. It's also simplifying its menu and adding dedicated mobile ordering lanes.

But changing the name of iconic brands can be a big mistake, says Laura Ries, an Atlanta-based marketing consultant.

Ries says "Dunkin'" eventually won't mean anything to younger customers who haven't grown up with the full name. Specific words are easier for people to remember and conjure emotional connections, she said. Having "Donuts" in the name is also easier for people in overseas markets who may not know what "Dunkin'" means.

Messing with iconic brands can also have consequences. In 2016, 15 years after replacing Kentucky Fried Chicken with KFC, the company had to issue a press release to combat an online rumor that it was forced to change its name because it doesn't serve real chicken.

And IHOP faced some backlash earlier this summer when it announced it was changing its name to IHOB to remind customers that it serves burgers as well as pancakes. That one was a publicity stunt, but it annoyed some customers.

Dunkin' Donuts' Chief Marketing Officer Tony Weisman said the company has done a lot of testing and doesn't expect any customer backlash from the decision.

"The reaction has been overwhelmingly positive," Weisman said. "It's just going to feel very familiar to people."

But Reis said even if doughnuts have fallen out of favor among a more health-conscious customer base, people already know Dunkin' Donuts as a place where they can just get coffee and enjoy the doughnuts' smell.

"There's nothing wrong with still having 'Donuts' in your name," she said. "Long term it was helping them, giving them a brand identity that was the opposite of Starbucks."

## Is a hunt the answer when bears start getting bolder?

By PAT EATON-ROBB, Associated Press

CANTON, Conn. (AP) — Tom Bradley had grown accustomed to seeing black bears walk through his Connecticut neighborhood, but this month he was alarmed to find something trying to turn a doorknob to enter his house.

He used his key fob to set off his car horn, to scare away whatever was in his garage. When he went outside, he saw a bear and two cubs that had been trying to get into his mudroom.

"I think what is happening is, the bears are learning," Bradley said. "It was sort of a step from going outside to get the garbage, to going into the garage where the cans are, and now they are moving into the homes because they have discovered that is where the food is."

Bears have been encroaching on humans in record numbers this year in Connecticut, which has seen increases in the black bear population like other nearby states and is the only that one does not allow bear hunting. There have been 24 reports of bears breaking into homes and businesses in Connecticut this year, well above the yearly average of about six, said Paul Rego, a state wildlife biologist.

It's one of several states that have been grappling with how best to minimize encounters between bears and humans, including discussions of expanded hunts and improved garbage management systems.

Maine has the largest black bear population on the East Coast at about 36,000 animals, but the number of nuisance bear complaints in the state has held about steady, averaging about 500 per year. The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife said the number of complaints usually correlates to the abundance of natural foods, such as nuts and berries.

The state uses a popular fall hunting season to try to control the growth of the population. But Bob Humphrey, a wildlife biologist and hunter in the state, said it might be time to consider adding a spring hunt, because the bear population just keeps growing.

New Jersey restarted regulated bear hunting in 2003 after nearly three decades without one. But this year, Gov. Phil Murphy barred black bear hunting on state-owned lands and said the state will pursue more nonlethal methods to manage the population, such as better garbage management policies.

Hunt supporters, just as John Rogalo, the vice president of the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, say the hunt has worked to teach bears to avoid humans and worries that trend will be reversed if the hunt is ended.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission provides grants to counties, mostly for bear-resistant trash containers. Some of that grant money came from fees raised from a 2015 bear hunt, the only one the state has held in more than two decade.

In recent months, bears in Connecticut's suburbs have shredded a car's interior, wandered into a liquor store, even woken residents in their own bedrooms.

"We have many cases where bears have become very comfortable living close to humans and not being impressed by barking dogs and yelling people," Rego said.

Bear encounters are up in some other states, as well. New York has received 1,282 nuisance bear reports this year, such as the animals getting into garbage or bird feeders, compared with 700 a year ago, the state Department of Environmental Conservation. Officials believe drought conditions earlier this summer, which led to fewer berries, may be a factor.

But drought wasn't an issue in Connecticut, Rego said. A study last year by the University of Connecticut showed the bears are actually choosing to make their homes near people.

As the bear population grows, the animals are finding perfect living conditions in exurban areas, where there are plenty of woods but also homes every acre or two, providing access to easy food sources, said Tracy Rittenhouse, an assistant professor of wildlife ecology at UConn.

"We have this perfect mixture of forest and human houses and the bears are moving into these places," she said. "It's not people moving into where bears occur, it's bears moving into where people occur."

Bears stop by the Steve and Julie Sonlin's home in Avon several times a year and have looked into the windows, grabbed a bag of birdseed from the garage, even taken a dip in their hot tub.



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"They don't seem to be aggressive," Steve Sonlin said. "But they don't seem to be afraid. They seem to be indifferent."

When alerted to bears encroaching on homes, the Connecticut environmental department tries to dissuade the animals it captures from coming back by "hazing" them, shooting them with rubber bullets, bean bags or paint balls, and exposing them to loud noises, Rego said.

But, he said, bears are most often rewarded for living near people and seldom face a negative consequence. He would like Connecticut to open a hunting season on bears.

Recent legislation to introduce a bear hunt has failed in the legislature, with opposition from animal rights groups.

Some fear that without a hunt eventually there will be attacks on humans.

Bradley said he has already witnessed some close calls, such as recently when a mother bear found herself and her cubs between a neighbor's yard with a barking dog and another with a child playing in it. He alerted the child's mother, he said, and she took her child back inside the house.

"It's scary," he said. "Sooner or later, some child, some elderly person, some dog is going to walk out between a bear and her cub and it's going to be a disaster."

Associated Press reporter Patrick Whittle in Portland, Maine, contributed to this report.

## **CBS' 'Murphy Brown' is back, ready to 'make some noise'**

**By LYNN ELBER, AP Television Writer**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Last season's short-lived "Roseanne" revival blew an air kiss to President Donald Trump in its debut episode before it reverted to finding laughs in family and working-class woes, not politics. Expect "Murphy Brown," another reborn 20th-century sitcom, to be consistently faithful to its own roots.

Washington tumult, social issues and the role of journalism will be central when the sitcom starring Candice Bergen as a tough TV reporter returns 9:30 p.m. EDT Thursday on CBS, said creator and executive producer Diane English.

The series is "here to make some noise," English said in an interview, sketching out a few of topics to be featured in the season's 13 episodes: "We're doing an immigration episode, we're doing a midterm-elections episode. We're doing a Me Too episode," she said.

The debut half-hour is "so ambitious and so fearless," Bergen told a TV critics' news conference. "During the taping, I turned to Joe (Regalbuto, her co-star) at one point and I said, 'This show has no fear of anyone.'"

In the revival, former network reporter Murphy is now on cable with the frothily titled "Murphy in the Morning." Along for the ride at the fictitious CNC news channel are her old "FYI" news magazine colleagues, including Regalbuto's Frank Fontana, Faith Ford's Corky Sherwood and Grant Shaud's Miles Silverberg.

Murphy and her colleagues "are trying to present the facts in a straight down the middle way," English said. "Their show is issue-oriented and facts, with no personal opinion."

Jake McDorman ("Shameless") joins the cast as Murphy's son, Avery, a reporter at the competing and conservative Wolf — ahem — news channel. He's liberal, but his work outside of the Washington beltway "bubble" has given him an appreciation for different views, English said.

"He has paid attention to the people who feel that they were passed over and he's their voice, to some degree. The way he creates his own show gives a voice to people that are the forgotten and the people who the elites, in quotes, call 'the flyovers,'" she said.

An advantage the new series has over the 1988-98 original comes courtesy of technology, with digital recording allowing references to real-world news to be updated close to air, an impossibility in the old era of film.

The original "Murphy Brown" wasn't shy about intersecting with reality, most notably after the 1992 presidential campaign in which Dan Quayle, vice president to George H.W. Bush, lambasted the unmarried Murphy's pregnancy as a mockery of fatherhood and a Hollywood raspberry to American morality.

The top-rated, Emmy-winning series fired back in an ongoing tiff that generated headlines and fierce

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debate — this before the advent of social media and its incendiary effect on anything and everything, and before public distrust of journalism became more entrenched.

English, herself a sparing user of online platforms (she enjoys Instagram and finds it largely friendly, but has harsh words for Facebook) said she's prepared for backlash.

"I am very aware of the fact that we're in a different world. But as in the old days, we never really censored ourselves in terms of the kinds of stories we would tell and the positions that we would have characters take," she said. "So, yeah, we're in a very divisive climate right now, but we're still going to be the show that we always were."

That means topical, funny and, importantly, "no vitriol in the scripts. That's something I want to keep my antenna up about. And, hopefully, through humor shed some light on some things that any reasonable person, whether you're a Republican or a Democrat or an independent, can find interesting," she said.

The Louisiana-born Ford said she reminds her politically "middle-ish" family back home that the joke is frequently on the show's imperfect characters.

"We are all flawed as human beings ... we all make fun of ourselves, and so the whole point of it is to make people laugh at whatever is going on right now," Ford said.

English, with credits including a 2008 version of Clare Booth Luce's play (and 1939 film) "The Women," initially hesitated when Warner Bros. studio executives approach her about bringing it back amid other successful revivals — which included "Roseanne," until star Roseanne Barr's racist tweet killed it. (ABC is rolling the dice this season on its spinoff, "The Conners," minus Barr.)

"When you've been on the air for 10 years and people call you an iconic series, do you want to go back and take that risk that you might ruin it or it wouldn't be as good as it was at one time?" English said.

Watching "Will & Grace" manage a successful comeback piqued her interest, but it was the aftermath of the 2016 election that made the difference.

"I started really thinking seriously about it as things in our country got worse and worse," she said. "And I thought, 'You know, all these shows are coming back but ours is the one that has the real reason to come back.' We are about the press. We always were a politically and culturally relevant show."

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This story has been corrected the attribution to quotes made by Ford, not her character, Sherwood.

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## What's yogurt? Industry wants greater liberty to use term

By **CANDICE CHOI, AP Food & Health Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — If low-fat yogurt is blended with fatty ingredients like coconut or chocolate, is it still low-fat? Is it even yogurt?

The U.S. government has rules about what can be called "yogurt," and the dairy industry says it's not clear what the answers are. Now it's hopeful it will finally get to use the term with greater liberty, with the Trump administration in the process of updating the yogurt definition.

The industry push to open up the yogurt standard illustrates how fraught it can be to define a food, especially as manufacturing practices and consumer tastes change.

Timothy Lytton, a professor of law at Georgia State University, notes the economic and political factors that determine food standards. "These are social constructions," Lytton said.

Government standards exist for a range of packaged foods, mostly for one-time pantry staples such as bread, jam and canned peas. The standards were supposed to ensure a level of quality as mass production took hold decades ago.

But writing those rules sometimes turned into a bureaucratic nightmare — peanut butter's definition took more than a decade — and regulators eventually stopped setting new standards. That's part of the reason foods like ketchup have rules, but others like mustard don't.

The ongoing dispute over yogurt offers a taste of how sour things can get.

The Food and Drug Administration established a standard for foods labeled as "yogurt" in 1981 that

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limited its ingredients. The industry swiftly objected. The following year, the agency suspended enforcement on various provisions and allowed the addition of preservatives.

A never-finalized 2009 proposal offered a unified standard and allowed emulsifiers as well. The yogurt industry says that has cultivated confusion and left it vulnerable to lawsuits.

"What's the rule? I mean, make a rule," said Bailey Wood, spokesman for the International Dairy Foods Association, whose members include Chobani, Danone and Yoplait.

Adding to the confusion, the association says yogurt makers can opt to follow the 1981, 1982 or 2009 provisions in the absence of a final rule.

## STANDARDS REVIEWED

FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb is reviving the matter with plans to "modernize" the standards. Milk producers take it as a sign the agency will crack down on soy and almond drinks that call themselves "milk," which the standards say comes from a cow.

Gottlieb has also called out yogurt as a category where there have been "innovations." An FDA email from June obtained by The Associated Press through a public records request includes "rulemaking action" for yogurt, though the attachment with the details was not released.

In addition to finalizing a yogurt standard, the International Dairy Foods Association is renewing its push to get rid of the requirement that regular yogurt have at least 3.25 percent milkfat. It says that causes confusion over products that mix low-fat yogurt with ingredients like coconut that push up the fat content.

The resulting product can be called neither "low-fat" nor "yogurt," the association says.

Instead, the association says regular yogurt should simply be required to have more than 3 grams of fat — whether it's from milkfat, coconut, chocolate or other ingredients. If the overall product has 3 grams of fat or less, then it could be labeled low-fat in line with the broader definition of "low fat," the group says.

## THE PEANUT BUTTER RULE

Industry complaints about the standards aren't new. It's one reason finalizing the rules for peanut butter was such an ordeal.

The FDA proposed a peanut butter standard in the late 1950s after investigating Jif for having just 75 percent peanuts, according to Angie Boyce, a fellow at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics who researched food standards.

The Peanut Butter Manufacturers Association objected, saying ingredients like oils and sweeteners make peanut butter tastier and easier to spread. Disagreement over exactly when a peanut spread turns into peanut butter spiraled into a yearslong fight.

It wasn't until 1970 that the FDA drew a line: Peanut butter needs to be at least 90 percent peanuts.

The Association for Dressing & Sauces has also been calling for the repeal of the standard for French dressing, given the proliferation of dressings like Ranch and Italian that do not have standards. The FDA appears to be preparing to grant that wish, according to an April email.

Over the years, the FDA moved away from trying to establish new standards in favor of requiring products to list ingredients and nutrition information, said Xaq Frohlich, a professor of food labeling at Auburn University.

The policy shift was partly a response to the rise of low-fat diets, he said. Products that may have once been considered cheap imitations were suddenly desirable because they didn't conform to the standards for fat.

## LASTING DEFINITIONS

Debate around what foods can be called is popping up again as startups develop alternatives to meat and other products. It's a reminder of how messy it can be to spell out food meanings.

"Even if they seem right at the moment, they can very quickly become outdated," said Stuart Pape, an attorney who previously worked for the yogurt industry and vegan alternatives.

Food-makers can also get around existing standards with a little creativity.

A product named "Bred-Spred" once defied expectations for jam. Cool Whip skirts the milkfat requirement for whipped cream. And in the yogurt section, there's now a nondairy product called Cashewgurt.

Such newcomers may be why the dairy industry still wants some guardrails around yogurt.

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"You can't make something completely out of the line and call it yogurt," said John Allan of the dairy foods association.

Follow Candice Choi at [www.twitter.com/candicechoi](http://www.twitter.com/candicechoi)

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.

## Syria: Everyone else's battleground, in both war and peace

By ANGELA CHARLTON, Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — As world leaders talk peace at the U.N. this week, the people of Idlib cling to fragile hope that diplomacy will avert a blowout battle over Syria's last rebel stronghold.

Yet diplomacy hasn't served Syria well so far. Those same world powers trying to negotiate a peaceful outcome in Idlib have been using Syria as a proxy battleground for years.

Here's a look at the conflicting objectives of countries near and far with a stake in Syria's future, as Idlib holds its breath and the seven-year civil war approaches a likely end.

### WHAT RUSSIA WANTS

When it comes to Syria's future, Russia is in the driver's seat.

Russian forces turned the tide in the international fight against Islamic State extremists — and then Moscow clinched victory for Syrian President Bashar Assad by sending warplanes, generals and alleged mercenaries to cripple and dissipate the Syrian rebellion.

After reshaping the Syrian battlefield, Russia is now trying to design the peace. Its peace efforts alongside Turkey and Iran have sidelined or subsumed parallel Western negotiating tracks.

And last week, Russia struck a bold deal with Turkey that averts a battle for Idlib — at least for now. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov will seek broader backing for the accord at the U.N. General Assembly this week, and try to drum up Western money for Syria's costly reconstruction.

Syria's Cold War patron, Russia wants to maintain influence over Damascus once the war winds down, to keep a strategic foothold in the Mideast and a stable client for Russian weapons and commodities — and to warn the U.S. and its allies against future interference. Russia's announcement Monday that it will supply Syria's government with sophisticated S-300 air defense systems sent that message loud and clear.

### WHAT TURKEY WANTS

Turkey is the last hope left for Syria's splintered rebels, but its leverage is waning after years of shifting allegiances.

Turkey has gained little from working with Russia and Iran on the peace process, and its relations with the U.S. and Europe are at an exceptionally low point over Erdogan's hard-line leadership. So Ankara is playing Russia and the West against each other.

As Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan takes the stage Tuesday at the U.N. General Assembly, he will be seeking to head off or at least delay new crises along the Syrian border. Turkey wants to avoid a new wave of refugees and stop extremists it once tacitly supported from setting up camp on Turkish soil. And most of all, Ankara wants to keep the region's Kurds at bay.

Idlib epitomizes Turkey's dilemma. Tens of thousands of opposition fighters have been preparing for what might be their last stand, digging trenches, piling up sand bags, reinforcing caves. Turkey sent reinforcements of its troops ringing Idlib, but stands little to gain from an eventual battle launched by Syria's Russia- and Iran-backed government forces.

So Turkey struck an 11-hour deal with Moscow for a ceasefire and buffer zone around Idlib, just in time for the U.N. meetings this week. But analysts and Turkey's allies alike question whether Ankara can bring the desperate and disparate rebel fighters to heel.

### WHAT IRAN WANTS

Iran is playing a long, unwavering game. Syria's closest ally, Iran had fighters on Syrian soil since early

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in the war. Iran has no plans to leave, and wants to maintain latitude for its proxy militia Hezbollah and keep Syria allied against Israel.

Iran is loath to see an expansion of Turkish and U.S. influence in the region, and argues that the West fueled jihadis with past support for the Syrian opposition.

Iran's economy and clout are weakened by the U.S. withdrawal from the 2015 nuclear accord and pending new sanctions. But Iran has time on its hands, and will stick it out in Syria until everyone else goes home.

## WHAT THE US AND ALLIES WANT

The U.S., Europe and their Gulf allies backed the losing side in Syria's war but are loath to admit it. As the opposition splintered, then-President Barack Obama was reluctant to commit to full-scale war or regime change.

The U.S. maintains a military presence in the area to ensure that Islamic State extremists in the region are wiped out, and that Syria's civilians get humanitarian aid and aren't targeted by chemical weapons.

Western powers that for years chanted for Assad's exit are now trying to save face with some kind of political deal that allows the possibility of an eventual future without Assad.

The Russian-Turkish deal may offer that kind of cover: Western countries at the U.N. this week are trying to expand it to include political options.

## Asian markets rally ahead of US Fed rate hike

By ANNABELLE LIANG, Associated Press

SINGAPORE (AP) — Asian markets rose on Wednesday as traders awaited a third interest rate hike by the U.S. Federal Reserve for this year.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 rose less than 0.1 percent to 23,953.98. Hong Kong's Hang Seng index, which reopened after a holiday, jumped 1.5 percent to 27,914.26. The Shanghai Composite Index rallied 1.4 percent to 2,818.88. Australia's S&P ASX 200 added 0.1 percent to 6,192.30. Shares fell in Taiwan but rose in Singapore and Indonesia. Markets were closed in South Korea for a national holiday.

WALL STREET: U.S. benchmarks finished mixed on Tuesday as rising interest rates hurt stocks that pay big dividends. Higher oil prices pulled transportation and shipping companies lower. The S&P 500 index lost 0.1 percent to 2,915.56, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average shed 0.3 percent to 26,492.21. The Nasdaq composite was 0.2 percent higher at 8,007.47. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks gained 0.2 percent to 1,708.80.

U.S. INTEREST RATES: On Wednesday, the Federal Reserve is expected raise its benchmark interest rate to between 2-2.25 percent in its ninth increase since late 2015. Another increase is expected later this year, with more to come in 2019. Traders will also be keeping an eye on the Fed's economic projections and Chairman Jerome Powell's press conference afterward. Stocks usually do well when the Fed starts to raise interest rates because the higher rates reflect solid economic growth, which is associated with strong company profits. But as the rate increases continue, in line with the Fed's goal of keeping inflation in check, the effect on stocks can become negative as economic growth slows.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "The market has already priced in a 25 basis points lift to the Fed funds rate. The economic projections and the speech by Chair Fed Powell will be dissected for insights into what the central bank sees in 2019," Alfonso Esparza of OANDA said in a commentary.

ENERGY: Oil futures fell after news that a weekend meeting of OPEC and its allies ended without an increase in production boosted prices. Benchmark U.S. crude dropped 11 cents to \$72.17 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract gained 0.3 percent on Tuesday to close at \$72.28. Brent crude, used to price international oils, fell 4 cents to \$81.22 per barrel. It settled at \$81.26 after climbing to \$81.87 per barrel in London, its highest price since November 2014.

CURRENCIES: The dollar eased to 112.91 yen from 112.97 yen. The euro weakened to \$1.1764 from \$1.1766.

AP Markets Writer Marley Jay contributed to this report.

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## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Sept. 26, the 269th day of 2018. There are 96 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 26, 1960, the first-ever debate between presidential nominees took place as Democrat John F. Kennedy and Republican Richard M. Nixon faced off before a national TV audience from Chicago.

On this date:

In 1777, British troops occupied Philadelphia during the American Revolution.

In 1789, Thomas Jefferson was confirmed by the Senate to be the first United States secretary of state; John Jay, the first chief justice; Edmund Randolph, the first attorney general.

In 1892, John Philip Sousa and his newly formed band performed publicly for the first time at the Stillman Music Hall in Plainfield, New Jersey.

In 1955, following word that President Eisenhower had suffered a heart attack, the New York Stock Exchange saw its worst price decline since 1929.

In 1957, the musical play "West Side Story" opened on Broadway.

In 1962, Maury Wills of the Los Angeles Dodgers stole his 100th base during a 13-1 victory over the Houston Colt .45s. "The Beverly Hillbillies" premiered on CBS.

In 1977, Sir Freddie Laker began his cut-rate "Skytrain" service from London to New York. (The carrier went out of business in 1982.)

In 1986, William H. Rehnquist was sworn in as the 16th chief justice of the United States, while Antonin Scalia joined the Supreme Court as its 103rd member.

In 1990, the Motion Picture Association of America announced it had created a new rating, NC-17, to replace the X rating.

In 1991, four men and four women began a two-year stay inside a sealed-off structure in Oracle, Arizona, called Biosphere 2. (They emerged from Biosphere on this date in 1993.)

In 1997, a Garuda Indonesia Airbus A-300 crashed while approaching Medan Airport in north Sumatra, killing all 234 people aboard.

In 2003, President George W. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin (POO'-tih-n) opened a two-day summit at Camp David.

Ten years ago: Hollywood screen legend and philanthropist Paul Newman died in Westport, Conn. at age 83. In their first debate of the presidential campaign, held at the University of Mississippi, Republican John McCain portrayed himself as a battle-tested elder running against a naive rookie, while Democrat Barack Obama suggested McCain was a hothead who'd made the wrong choices on the Iraq war, corporate taxes and more. Swiss pilot Yves Rossy leapt from a plane over Calais, France, and crossed the English Channel on a homemade jet-propelled wing in 13 minutes.

Five years ago: It was revealed that some workers at the National Security Agency had misused the government's secret surveillance systems at least 12 times over the previous decade, including instances where they spied on spouses, boyfriends or girlfriends, according to embarrassing new details disclosed by the agency's inspector general. The U.S. and its international partners emerged from a U.N. meeting with Iran declaring a "window of opportunity" had opened to peacefully settle their nuclear standoff. Bud Selig announced plans to retire as baseball commissioner in January 2015.

One year ago: Republican Sen. Bob Corker of Tennessee announced that he would not seek re-election. Former Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore won the state's Republican primary for U.S. Senate, defeating incumbent Sen. Luther Strange, who'd been backed by President Donald Trump. (Moore would lose the December special election to Democrat Doug Jones.) Amid criticism that the federal response to Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico was insufficient, the administration said it was sending a flotilla of ships and thousands more military personnel to the island to address the growing humanitarian crisis there, and President Donald Trump announced that he would visit Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands the fol-

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lowing week. Saudi Arabia announced that women would be allowed to drive for the first time, starting in the summer of 2018.

Today's Birthdays: Retired baseball All-Star Bobby Shantz is 93. Actor Philip Bosco is 88. Actor Richard Herd is 86. Country singer David Frizzell is 77. Actor Kent McCord is 76. Television host Anne Robinson is 74. Singer Bryan Ferry is 73. Actress Mary Beth Hurt is 72. Singer Olivia Newton-John is 70. Actor James Keane is 66. Rock singer-musician Cesar Rosas (Los Lobos) is 64. Country singer Carlene Carter is 63. Actress Linda Hamilton is 62. Country singer Doug Supernaw is 58. Rhythm-and-blues singer Cindy Herron (En Vogue) is 57. Actress Melissa Sue Anderson is 56. Actor Patrick Bristow is 56. Rock musician Al Pitrelli is 56. Singer Tracey Thorn (Everything But The Girl) is 56. TV personality Jillian Barberie is 52. Contemporary Christian guitarist Jody Davis (Newsboys) is 51. Actor Jim Caviezel (kuh-VEE'-zuhl) is 50. Actress Tricia O'Kelley is 50. Actor Ben Shenkman is 50. Actress Melanie Paxon is 46. Singer Shawn Stockman (Boyz II Men) is 46. Music producer Dr. Luke is 45. Jazz musician Nicholas Payton is 45. Actor Mark Famiglietti (fah-mihl-YEH'-tee) is 39. Singer-actress Christina Milian (MIHL'-ee-ahn) is 37. Tennis player Serena Williams is 37. Actress Zoe Perry is 35.

Thought for Today: "A child educated only at school is an uneducated child." — George Santayana, American philosopher (born 1863, died this date in 1952).