

Groton Daily Independent

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



Monday, October 15, 2018

JH Choral Festival at Britton-Hecla High School
6:00pm: Langford Area at Groton Area for volleyball with JV match at 6 p.m. followed by varsity match.

7 p.m.: City Council Meeting at Groton Community Center.

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

5:00pm: Volleyball at Northwestern. 7th grade at 5 p.m., 8th grade at 6 p.m. JV at 6:30 p.m. followed by varsity match.

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

MathCounts at Warner High School

Thursday, October 18, 2018

First Round of Football Playoffs
LifeTouch Pictures

Friday, October 19, 2018

6:00pm: Volleyball at Milbank. C and JV matches at 6 p.m. followed by varsity match.

Saturday, October 20, 2018

State Cross Country at Sioux Falls.
Oral Interp at Florence
Robotics at Groton Area

Groton City Council Meeting Agenda
October 15, 2017 – 7:00pm
Groton Community Center

1. Open sealed bids for 2003 White Chevy Silverado
2. Clark Engineering – Engineering Agreement
3. Minutes
4. Bills
5. September Finance Report
6. Resolution to rearrange traffic signs
7. Main Street Closed on Halloween from 4-6pm
8. Surplus generator and lights
9. Public Comments - pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1
(Public Comments will offer the opportunity for anyone not listed on the agenda to speak to the council. Speaking time will be limited to 3 minutes. No action will be taken on questions or items not on the agenda.)
10. Executive session personnel & legal 1-25-2 (1) & (3)
11. Adjournment

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CLASS 11B - GAMES ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

Region 1

#4	Elk Point-Jefferson	3-5	40.125	at	#1	Ab. Roncalli	5-3	41.375
#3	Mobridge-Pollock	5-3	41.375	at	#2	Groton Area	5-3	41.375

Region 2

#4	Sioux Valley	4-4	41.125	at	#1	Canton	8-0	47.625
#3	SF Christian	6-2	43.500	at	#2	Beresford	6-2	43.875

Region 3

#4	WWSSC	3-5	39.750	at	#1	Bridgewater-Em/Eth.	7-1	44.875
#3	Stanley County	5-3	41.375	at	#2	Mt. Vernon/Plank.	7-1	43.750

Region 4

#4	Custer	5-3	42.125	at	#1	Winner	6-2	43.125
#3	Red Cloud	6-2	42.750	at	#2	Lead-Deadwood	6-2	43.125

CLASS 9A - GAMES ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

Region 1

#4	Potter Co.	5-3	41.750	at	#1	Britton-Hecla	8-0	46.125
#3	Clark/Willow Lake	6-2	42.75	at	#2	Warner	6-2	44.25

Region 2

#4	Ipswich/EC	3-5	39.75	at	#1	Canistota/Freeman	7-1	44.125
#3	Howard	5-3	41.375	at	#2	Deubrook Area	5-3	41.750

Region 3

#4	Platte-Geddes	1-7	37.75	at	#1	Alcester-Hudson	6-2	43.125
#3	Lyman	3-5	39.75	at	#2	Corsica-Stickney	4-4	40.75

Region 4

#4	Philip	3-5	40.125	at	#1	Timber Lake	8-0	46.875
#3	Lemmon/McIntosh	4-4	40.375	at	#2	New Underwood	5-3	40.625

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CLASS 9AA - GAMES ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

Region 1

#4	Miller/Highmore-Harrold	4-4	40.750	at	#1	Wolsey-Wess.	8-0	46.5
#3	North Border	4-4	41.125	at	#2	Webster Area	6-2	42.375

Region 2

#4	Elkton-Lake Benton	5-3	41.750	at	#1	Arlington/Lake P.	8-0	46.5
#3	Hamlin	7-1	44.875	at	#2	Garretson	8-0	45.75

Region 3

#4	Deuel	5-3	41.375	at	#1	Bon Homme	7-1	45.25
#3	Irene-Wakonda	6-2	42.000	at	#2	TDAACDC	6-2	43.125

Region 4

#4	Baltic	5-3	41.375	at	#1	Gregory	6-2	43.500
#3	Kimball/White Lake	5-3	42.125	at	#2	Jones Co/White River	6-2	42.750

CLASS 9B - GAMES ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

Region 1

#4	Hitchcock-Tulare	4-4	40.75	at	#1	Sully Buttes	8-0	48.375
#3	Langford Area	4-4	40.75	at	#2	Faulkton Area	6-2	43.125

Region 2

#4	DR St. Mary's	3-5	39.375	at	#1	Castlewood	6-2	42.75
#3	Bison	4-4	39.625	at	#2	Colman-Egan	6-2	42.75

Region 3

#4	Gayville-Volin	3-5	39.75	at	#1	Colome	8-0	46.875
#3	Sunshine Bible	5-3	40.25	at	#2	Burke	6-2	43.125

Region 4

#4	Faith	4-4	40.375	at	#1	Wall	8-0	46.125
#3	Kadoka Area	4-4	40.75	at	#2	Harding Co.	7-1	43.75

No. 2 Wolves hold steady in gritty win over the Vikings

Aberdeen, S.D. – It was scrappy match between the Wolves and the Vikings, with the No. 2 Northern State volleyball team coming away with a 3-1 victory. NSU defeated Augustana with set scores of 25-23, 25-22, 20-25, and 25-12, improving to 21-1 overall and 13-1 in the NSIC.

The Wolves offense struggled to find consistency in the first two sets, giving up 15 points on hitting errors alone. Northern however re-grouped and went on to hit a match high .324 in the fourth set where they went on a 12-0 run, taking a swift 17-2 lead over the Vikings. Augustana was unable to over-come the deficit which sealed the victory for the Wolves.

Northern combined for 58 kills, 86 digs, nine aces, and four blocks in the win, out-scoring the Vikings by 12.5 points. The Wolves averaged 21.5 digs per set, keeping the Vikings offense at bay and off the scoreboard. NSU tallied a .211 attack percentage in the win, while holding AU to a .147 hitting percentage on defense.

Laura Snyder led the team for the second straight match, hitting at a .471 clip. The sophomore also tallied a match high 18 kills, while adding two blocks, two digs, and one assist. Hailey Busch was second on the team with 12 kills, followed by Jenna Reiff and Sally Gaul with ten apiece. Morgan Baufield and Ashley Rozell rounded out the team total with five and three kills respectively.

Rozell was potent from the service line, with six aces in the match, boosting her season total to 48. The junior added 52 assists, averaging 13.00 per set, as well as six digs and one block. Baufield, Reiff, and Snyder led the defense at the net with two blocks each in the match.

Jaiden Langlie was again invaluable to the NSU defense with a match high 29 digs, averaging 7.25 per set. She also tallied two assists in the win. Busch notched her eighth double-double of the season, with a team second best 19 digs, averaging 4.75 per set. Lexi Boesl was the final Wolf in double figures with 13 digs, while Alyssa Deobler tallied eight in her second appearance of the season.

Northern hits the road next weekend for a pair of matches at Sioux Falls and No. 11 Southwest Minnesota State. Game time is set for 6 p.m. on Friday versus the Cougars and 2 p.m. on Saturday against the Mustangs.

Fourth quarter slips away from the Wolves in loss to Augustana

Aberdeen, S.D. – The Northern State University football team fell to Augustana University, 42-21 in the third annual Blackout Cancer game on Saturday afternoon. The game was neck and neck through the first three quarters, however the Vikings broke things up with a 21-point fourth quarter. With the loss, Northern slides to 2-5 overall.

The Wolves opened the first quarter with the ball, driving 59 yards to the Augustana 11. Jacob Wiedrich attempted a 29-yard field goal straight into a 25 mph wind, and the kick came up short. The Northern defense however answered quickly forcing the Vikings first punt of the afternoon just two minutes later. NSU junior Brayden McNeary came up big for the Wolves on the kick, both blocking the punt and recovering it for his first touchdown of the 2018 season. The 18-yard return gave the Wolves the 7-0 lead.

The Vikings tied things up to end the first quarter, and the two teams traded possessions through a majority of the second. Hunter Trautman hit Dakota Larson, for a 5-yard touchdown pass, with 3:12 on the clock, giving the Wolves the 14-7 lead. Augustana quickly answered back less than a minute later with a touchdown pass of their own, and the two teams entered the locker room tied at 14-all.

Augie scored first in the second half, on a short pass with 5:24 on the clock, leaving just enough time for the Wolves to take over. Northern went 15 plays and 80 yards down field, recording their third touchdown of the afternoon right as the clock hit 00:00 in the quarter. Trautman notched his second passing touchdown of the afternoon, this time into the arms of Zech Culbreath for a 14-yard reception.

The Augustana defense went on to hold the Wolves scoreless through the final 15 minutes of action, while the offense recorded two passing touchdowns and one rushing score, which secured the victory.

Northern tallied a game high 48 yards rushing, while adding 206 yards passing. They averaged 9.8 yards per completion, and 1.5 yards per rush. The NSU defense tallied one sack and held the Vikings of nine of their 15 third down attempts. The Wolves also added one interception and seven tackles for a total loss of 18 yards.

Trautman threw for 206 yards, completing 21-of-38 attempts with one interception and a 27-yard long. Chaka Kelly led the rushers with 42 total yards, including an 8-yard long. Dakota Larson notched his third straight game over 100 yards, with 104 and a touchdown. The freshman also tallied the team's 27-yard long. Jacob Streit added 58 yards receiving, followed by Culbreath with 24.

Noah MacPherson led the Wolves defense and the game with nine tackles, including six solo stops and 0.5 tackles for a loss of a yard. Chance Olson and Zach Mohs followed with eight and seven tackles respectively. Joe Gorghuber recorded the team's interception, which he returned 13 yards, while Preston Droessler and Tyler Trefethren each tallied 2.0 tackles for a loss. Trefethren notched the team's lone sack in the contest, and Etienne Ezeff led the defensive backs with three pass break-ups.

Wiedrich tallied 208 yards punting in some of the windiest conditions this season. The senior averaged 34.7 yards per punt with a 49-yard long and two inside the 20. He also recorded 216 yards on kickoffs, averaging 54.0 yards per kick. Larson and Spencer Johnson led the team with 25 and ten yards on kickoff returns.

The Wolves return to action next Saturday on the road at Southwest Minnesota State. Kickoff is set for 5 p.m. in Marshall.

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Record or Near Record Low Temperatures Forecast for Monday Morning October 15th.

Listed below are cities with the forecast temperature, the record temperature, and the year of the record temperature.

...Central and Northeast South Dakota...

City.....	Forecast Temp...	Record Temp...	Year Set
Aberdeen.....	15.....	18.....	1992
Watertown.....	22.....	19.....	1992
Pierre.....	22.....	23.....	1976
Mobridge.....	22.....	24.....	1970
Sisseton.....	23.....	10.....	1937
Kennebec.....	24.....	20.....	1970
Timber Lake.....	22.....	20.....	1966

...West Central Minnesota...

City.....	Forecast Temp...	Record Temp...	Year Set
Wheaton.....	24.....	20.....	1992



GROTON
CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER



Has a new
wage scale

LPN and RN

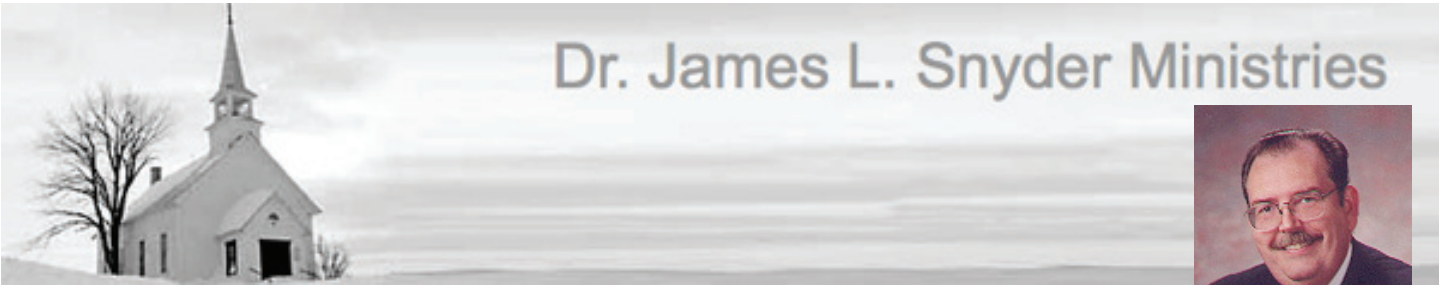
RN \$25-31
LPN \$20-26

For more details or to apply please call or
stop in and speak to Brynn Pickrel at

605-397-2365.

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Dr. James L. Snyder Ministries



"Here's My Hammer If You Need It"

I am not known as "Mr. Fix-It Man". When it comes to mechanical things, I am really handy-challenged. I can do many things, but I cannot fix anything.

When talking about the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, it is a different story. If there is something she cannot fix then it isn't broken. No matter what is broken or how long it has been broken, she somehow can fix it. I do not know how she does it, and believe me, I am not going to ask.

There is nothing I cannot break and there is nothing she cannot fix. We make a wonderful team as long as I keep that scenario in my mind.

If I, for whatever reason, think I can fix something, I am in deep trouble. The more I try to fix something, the more broken it becomes. I have learned long ago to own up to this in my life.

I think it is wonderful to know what you cannot do. That eliminates trying to do something and failing every time. It is more wonderful to know who can fix what you break.

"Honey," I say in a very sympathetic tone, "I broke this. Would you be able to fix it for me?"

"Of course," she will reply with a silly little grin on her face, "let me have it."

And I do.

The only thing I could ever fix is something needing a hammer. I can hammer something, but I can't screw or unscrew a bolt. Of course, I can screw anything up with a hammer.

A long time ago, I learned how to handle this. Whenever anything breaks in the parsonage I immediately say, "Should I get my hammer and try to fix it?" To which I get a resounding "Nooooooo".

I then say, "Well, if you need me just call for me." And I know I will never be called.

If I had the time, I would calculate how much money we have saved during our marriage by having her fix things that were broken. I think it would be an amazing amount of money.

A few weeks back the front plastic bumper on my truck broke and was hanging. I casually mentioned it to my wife not expecting anything. About 30 minutes later she came in and said, "I got your truck fixed."

I am not sure how much that saved me on auto repair but I sure thanked her and then took her out for lunch. After all, what's a husband supposed to do?

This all came to a head just a couple weeks ago. It is the beginning of a political cycle. We know it is a political cycle because all of the politicians are rather dizzy. My apologies to all the blondes out there.

We kept hearing the same phrase from every politician that was running. "Washington is broken and I'm going there to fix it."

I was ignoring it because I know that every politician has their tongue detached from their brain. Can you imagine what would really happen if we had intelligent people running for office?

As we were listening to some of these advertisements, my wife turned to me and said, "There, you could help them fix Washington."

I just looked at her and said, "Huh." I did not get anything that she was saying with that.

"You're always wanting to help fix things around here, why don't you offer to help fix Washington?"

I did not know if I should laugh or if I should be angry.

I was afraid to say anything but eventually I said, "What in the world do you mean?"

She looked at me with those giggly dancing eyes and said, "You are always offering to fix something with

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your hammer. Why don't you offer to give them your hammer so that they can fix Washington?"

Was she serious? Or, was she setting me up for something?

Staring at me she finally broke down into hilarious laughter.

"How better could they fix Washington than using your hammer?"

It does not happen often, but I wholeheartedly agreed with what she was saying.

If Washington is broken, and I am not sure what that means, perhaps they could fix it with my hammer by smashing everything in Washington. My hammer is a good tool for that kind of work. I cannot tell you how many things I have smashed unintentionally with my hammer.

We enjoyed a hearty laugh on that one. I never knew my wife to be politically minded like this. However, she had it. Then I said, "Why don't you run for some political office? I'll let you borrow my hammer."

We laughed some more and I got to thinking. How would Washington change if my wife was elected to some office and borrowed my hammer? She surely would get things done, I am sure.

Her "fix-it" ability along with my hammer would go a long way in fixing Washington.

As I thought of that I was reminded of what King Solomon said, "The way of man is froward and strange: but as for the pure, his work is right" (Proverbs 21:8).

Some things are too broken to fix for any person except God. There is no person so broken that he cannot fix and fix for eternity.

So, Mr. Politician Fix-It, you can use my hammer at any time if you want to.



Doug Fjeldheim County Commission

**A devoted FAMILY MAN,
a FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE leader,
and a Commissioner who will make
decisions based on COMMON SENSE.**

My fellow taxpayers of Brown County:

I am seeking re-election to the Brown County Commission because I believe I can and have contributed to the greater good by spending our tax dollars wisely.

As a farmer I know how important it is to have good roads and to have a county government that works with the people of the area to protect their interests.

I would be honored to serve another 4 years as a commissioner and treat your tax dollars as my own because just like you, some of them are!

On November 6th, please cast your ballot for Doug Fjeldheim for Brown County Commission.

Doug Fjeldheim

Doug Fjeldheim County Commission

Doug Fjeldheim is seeking to be re-elected to the Brown County Commission. Having over 32 years of management experience in business, 30 years of farming experience, and as the Westport Township Clerk since 2003, Doug is familiar with the challenges each township faces.

As your County Commissioner, Doug Fjeldheim pledges to continue being prudent with how the tax dollars of Brown County are spent.

Paid for by Fjeldheim for County Commission

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Today in Weather History

October 14, 1969: Cold air during the overnight produced lows from six degrees in Custer, Gillette, and Devils Tower to fifteen degrees in Dupree, Hot Springs, and the Rapid City Airport.

1909: An F3 tornado struck Pittsburg Landing and Stantonville, TN killing 23 people and injuring 80 others.

1941: America's first television weather forecast was broadcast on New York's WNBT (later WNBC). There weren't many televisions at that time, so viewers were limited to perhaps a few hundred people. The weathercast consisted of a sponsor's message followed by a screen of text containing the next day's forecast.

1981: Four days of heavy rain across northern Texas and southern Oklahoma came to an end. The most torrential rains fell in a band from southwest of Abilene Texas to McAlester Oklahoma, with up to 21 inches reported at Breckenridge, in north central Texas. The torrential rains were the result of decaying Hurricane Norma, which also spawned thirteen tornadoes across the region. Seven deaths were attributed to the flooding.

1957 - Floodwaters roared through a migrant labor camp near the town of Picacho AZ flooding fifty cabins and a dozen nearby homes. 250 migrant workers lost their shelters. The month was one of the wettest Octobers in Arizona weather history. (The Weather Channel)

1965 - Heavy rains hit the coastal areas of southeastern Florida. In a 24 hour period rains of twenty inches were reported from Deerfield Beach to Fort Lauderdale, with 25.28 inches on the Fort Lauderdale Bahia-Mar Yacht Basin. Flooding that resulted caused considerable damage to roads and streets. The rains inundated numerous newly planted vegetable fields, and some residences. Ten miles away just 4.51 inches of rain was reported. (14th- 15th) (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1984 - Dense fog contributed to a 118 vehicle accident on I-94, just south of Milwaukee WI. It was the seventh day of an eight day stretch of dense fog. At the time of the accident the visibility was reportedly close to zero. (Storm Data)

1987 - Sixteen cities, mostly in the Appalachian Region, reported record low temperatures for the date. Record lows included 43 degrees at Lake Charles LA, 35 degrees at Augusta GA, and 27 degrees at Asheville NC. Gale force winds buffeted the Carolina coast. Light snow fell across parts of Wyoming, Colorado, and western South Dakota. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - Forty cities in the eastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. Elkins WV was the cold spot in the nation with a record low of 18 degrees above zero. Thunderstorms in Arizona drenched Phoenix with nine inches of rain in nine hours, the fifth highest total for any given day in ninety-two years of records. Carefree AZ was soaked with two inches of rain. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Thunderstorms produced severe weather over Michigan during the morning, and over New York State and Connecticut during the afternoon and evening hours. Thunderstorms spawned two tornadoes, and there were ninety reports of large hail or damaging winds, including seventy reports of damaging winds in New York State. A tornado at McDonough NY killed one person and injured three other people. Strong thunderstorm winds gusted to 105 mph at Somerset. Temperatures warmed into the 80s and lower 90s over much of the nation east of the Rockies, with eleven cities reporting record high temperatures for the date. Afternoon highs of 81 degrees at Beckley WV and Bluefield WV equalled October records. (Storm Data) (The National Weather Summary)

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Today



Mostly Cloudy

High: 37 °F

Tonight



Partly Cloudy

Low: 16 °F

Monday



Sunny

High: 50 °F

Monday
Night



Partly Cloudy

Low: 33 °F

Tuesday



Mostly Sunny

High: 52 °F

Cold, Mostly Cloudy, and Breezy Today

Mostly Sunny with less wind and Warmer on Monday

Today's Highs: 36 to 42

Monday's Highs: 45 to 55

Tonight's lows: 15 to 25
Record to Near Record Lows Possible

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
Updated: 10/14/2018 5:45 AM Central

Published on: 10/14/2018 at 5:52AM

Mostly cloudy skies along with cold temperatures will continue today with highs only in the upper 30s, to the lower 40s. Low temperatures tonight will drop into the teens and low 20s. Record to near record cold temperatures are possible. Temperatures will warm on Monday with highs reaching the mid-40s, to the mid-50s.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 47 °F at 10:57 AM

Low Outside Temp: 34 °F at 7:45 AM

High Gust: 30 mph at 12:45 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 87° in 1962, 1933

Record Low: 10° in 1937

Average High: 59°F

Average Low: 34°F

Average Precip in Oct.: 0.94

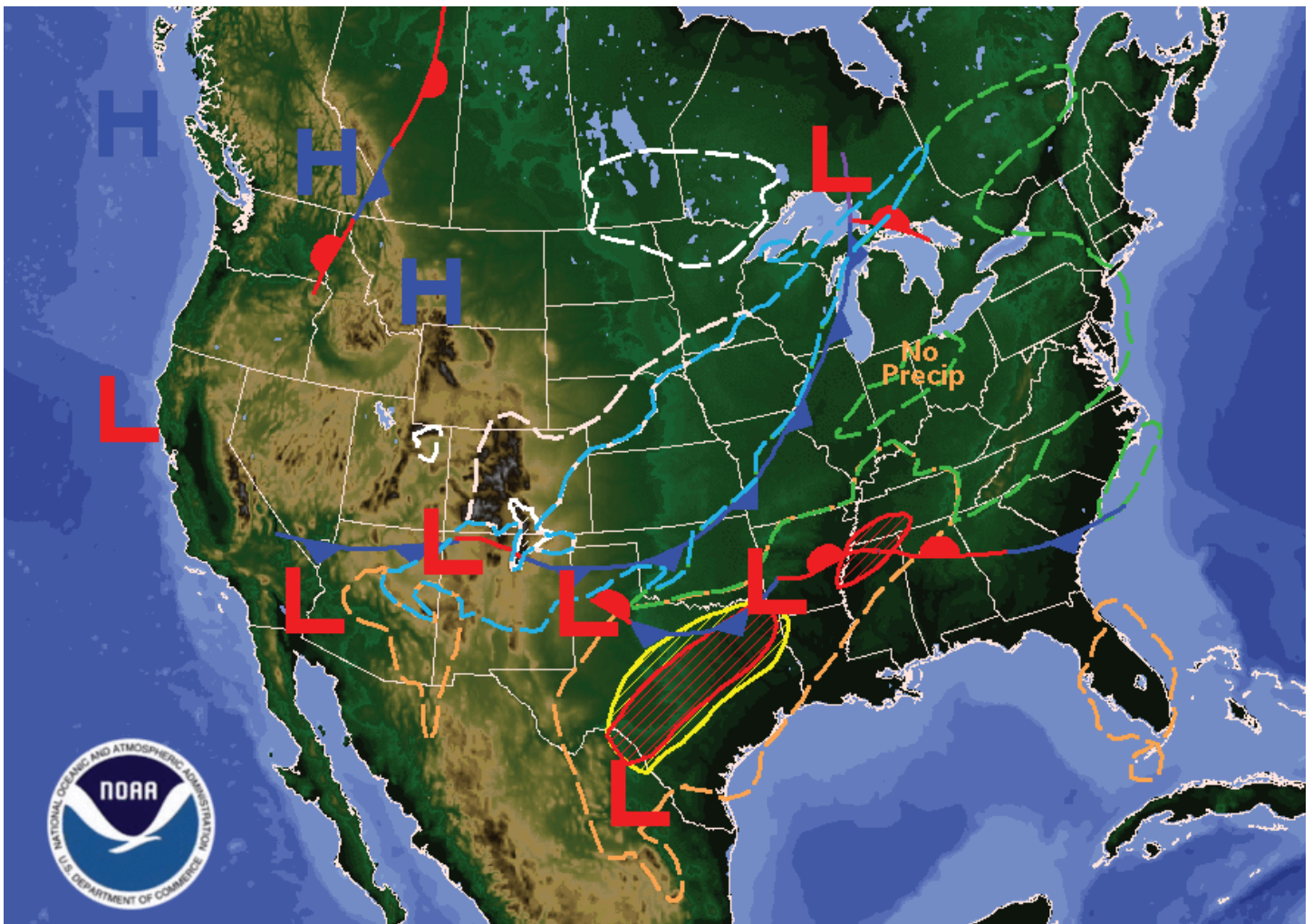
Precip to date in Oct.: 1.42

Average Precip to date: 19.42

Precip Year to Date: 15.03

Sunset Tonight: 6:50 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:50 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Oct 14, 2018, issued 4:29 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Gallina 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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WHY PRAISE THE LORD?

All of Scripture is punctuated with outbursts of praise. The reason? Praise rises spontaneously from an internal attitude of joy which is in the heart and life of the people of God. The Bible speaks of man being created to rejoice in Gods gifts and Gods grace and Gods goodness. Praising God should be as natural as breathing and as regular as the beating of our hearts.

Perhaps one of the significant aspects of praising is that it implies a close relationship with the one being praised. When we praise God, we are letting Him know that we are aware of and recognize His presence in our lives, that we are grateful for His benefits and blessings - big and small - and, that we are dependent on Him for all things. Consider this: If you give someone a gift, and they do not recognize you for it, do you feel unappreciated?

Along with praising God, however, is the duty to exalt His name. Exalt, in Scripture, means to elevate, to glorify and to recognize the place and power of the one being exalted. When we exalt God, we acknowledge His Lordship in our lives and recognize that He is above all, in all, and has control of all. As we lift Him up above all others, we naturally bow down in humility before Him.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted, said the Psalmist. Strange, isnt it, how the names of athletes and entertainers are more highly praised and exalted than Gods name. How very sad!

But the day is coming when every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!

Prayer: Lord, You are so thoughtful and generous. All that we are and have is because You care. Thank You! In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted.

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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

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash

11-18-24-31-34

(eleven, eighteen, twenty-four, thirty-one, thirty-four)

Estimated jackpot: \$20,000

Lotto America

34-36-40-41-42, Star Ball: 7, ASB: 3

(thirty-four, thirty-six, forty, forty-one, forty-two; Star Ball: seven; ASB: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$9.51 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$654 million

Powerball

11-14-32-43-65, Powerball: 15, Power Play: 3

(eleven, fourteen, thirty-two, forty-three, sixty-five; Powerball: fifteen; Power Play: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$314 million

Saturday's Scores

By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Huron def. Rapid City Central, 25-20, 25-9, 25-23

Mt. Vernon/Plankinton def. Bon Homme, 25-22, 25-22, 27-25

Rapid City Stevens def. Mitchell, 25-17, 25-14, 25-15

Sioux Falls Lincoln def. Brookings, 27-25, 11-25, 25-19, 25-22

Warner def. Eureka/Bowdle, 25-8, 25-10, 25-7

Dakota Valley Conference Tournament

Pool Play

Pool A

Deubrook def. Oldham-Ramona/Rutland, 25-8, 25-11

Deubrook def. Colman-Egan, 25-19, 25-19

Pool B

DeSmet def. Dell Rapids St. Mary, 25-14, 25-22

Estelline/Hendricks def. Dell Rapids St. Mary, 25-13, 25-23

Estelline/Hendricks def. DeSmet, 25-16, 27-25

Dakota XII Tournament

First Round

Lennox def. Canton, 25-17, 24-26, 25-15

Vermillion def. West Central, 25-20, 25-23

Douglas Tournament

First Round

Kadoka Area def. Oelrichs, 25-5, 25-8

Red Cloud def. Todd County, 25-19, 25-23

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Lakeville North Tournament

Pool Play

Pool 2

Rochester Century, Minn. def. Sioux Falls Roosevelt, 25-22, 16-25, 15-9

Quarterfinal

Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Rochester Mayo, Minn., 25-14, 25-17

13th Place

Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Hill-Murray, Minn., 19-25, 25-21, 15-12

Panhandle Conference Tournament

First Round

Edgemont def. Hemingford, Neb., 25-17, 25-21

Semifinal

Sioux County, Neb. def. Edgemont, 25-21, 25-21

Third Place

Edgemont def. Morrill, Neb., 25-17, 25-19

Redfield-Doland Tournament

Pool Play

Pool A

Belle Fourche def. Webster, 25-22, 25-20

Northwestern def. Webster, 25-5, 25-10

Northwestern def. Belle Fourche, 25-10, 25-18

Pool B

Groton Area def. Wolsey-Wessington, 25-18, 25-23

Groton Area def. Waverly-South Shore, 25-23, 20-25, 28-26

Waverly-South Shore def. Wolsey-Wessington, 25-10, 25-11

Pool C

Beresford def. Florence/Henry, 25-23, 25-17

Redfield/Doland def. Beresford, 13-25, 26-24, 25-23

Redfield/Doland def. Florence/Henry, 25-10, 25-19

Gold Pool

Northwestern def. Redfield-Doland 25-9, 25-11

Northwestern def. Groton Area 25-17, 25-14

Redfield/Doland def. Groton Area 25-18, 24-26, 25-16.

Silver Pool

Waverly-South Shore def. Belle Fourche 25-20, 25-16

Beresford def. Belle Fourche 25-16, 22-25, 26-24

Beresford def. Waverly-South Shore 22-25, 25-21, 25-20

Bronze Pool

Wolsey-Wessington def. Webster Area 25-22, 16-25, 25-22

Florence-Henry def. Wolsey-Wessington 17-25, 26-24, 25-23

Webster Area def. Florence-Henry 25-16, 25-18

Thunder Nation Tournament

Pool Play

Pool A

Andes Central/Dakota Christian def. Freeman Academy/Marion, 27-25, 25-14

Pool B

Bridgewater-Emery def. Marty Indian, 25-10, 25-16

Bridgewater-Emery def. Corsica/Stickney, 25-23, 25-11

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Dunne's 5 TDs lead Northern Arizona past South Dakota, 42-28

VERMILLION, S.D. (AP) — Eli Dunne threw for 257 yards and four touchdowns, ran for a fifth and piloted Northern Iowa to a 42-28 Missouri Valley Conference victory over South Dakota on Saturday night.

The Coyotes took a 3-0 lead in the first quarter and held a 13-7 advantage after Austin Simmons hit Kai Henry with a touchdown pass from 3 yards out.

Dunne answered with two touchdowns in the final minute of the first half, hitting Marcus Weymiller with a 9-yard strike to take the lead, 14-13, and after South Dakota (3-3, 2-1) fumbled the ensuing kickoff Dunne scored from the 1 with :18 left.

Brandon Thull scored from the 2 and Simmons connected for a two-point conversion to tie the game at 21-21, but the Panthers (3-3, 2-1) scored three touchdowns in under five minutes to put the game out of reach.

Dunne fired 21 yards to Briley Moore, then hit Nick Fossey from the 25 for a score, and when South Dakota fumbled the ensuing kickoff Brawntae Wells pounced on it in the end zone for a touchdown that made it 42-21.

Christion leads South Dakota State by Youngstown State 36-7

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Taryn Christion threw for one touchdown and ran for two more, setting a Missouri Valley Conference record for total offense, and South Dakota State rolled to a 36-7 win over Youngstown State on Saturday.

Christion connected with Cade Johnson for a 23-yard score three minutes into the game and added scoring runs of 49 and 11 yards in the fourth quarter. The long touchdown gave Christion 10,969 yards of total offense, passing 10,952 by Matt Brown of Illinois State from 2009-12. C.J. Wilson, who had 119 yards on 16 carries, added a 48-yard scoring run in the third quarter.

After the Jackrabbits (4-1, 2-1 MVC) opened the scoring, they missed their extra point and the Penguins (2-4, 1-2) took the lead with a 78-yard drive, capped by a 27-yard pass from Montgomery VanGorder to Christian Turner. The Jacks, the fifth-ranked FCS team, responded with a go-ahead field goal on the next drive and pushed the lead to 16-7 on Mikey Daniel's 1-yard TD run in the final minute of the first half.

The Penguins had two turnovers and failed in their only trip in the red zone.

Minnesota college reviews Greek policy after student death

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The University of Minnesota is re-examining its Greek life policy following the second alcohol-related death of a campus fraternity member within a year.

The university launched a review into the campus' Greek organization policies last month in response to the death of sophomore Dylan Fulton, the Minnesota Daily reported. The 20-year-old student from Miller, South Dakota was found dead by fellow Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity members on Sept. 12. His death was the result of alcohol-related complications, according to an autopsy report that was recently released.

The university is meeting with Greek leaders to identify campus policy improvement and discuss individual chapters' current risk management strategies.

"All of the Greek organizations have a lot of educational efforts already in place," said Steve Henneberry, spokesman for University Student Unions and Activities. "So part of the goal of these meetings is to share ... what is currently happening and how can there be an effort to enhance the educational opportunities where they exist."

University President Eric Kaler issued a statement the day after Fulton's death that urged all Greek chapters to "immediately" implement the North-American Interfraternity Conference ban on alcohol over 15 percent by volume.

Members of the university's Interfraternity Council, which includes Alpha Gamma Rho, implemented the ban following Kaler's request.

Alpha Gamma Rho's international chapter is investigating a possible breach of the fraternity's policies

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relating to Fulton's death, according to Henneberry. The international chapter was unable to comment. The university won't conduct an official investigation into the death until the fraternity completes its own, he said.

Fulton's death is the second related to alcohol consumption involving a university fraternity member this year.

Mitchell Hoenig, 20, died in February after drinking excessive amounts of alcohol at Gamma Phi Beta sorority events. The sorority's international headquarters sanctioned the university's chapter for violating its policies.

Information from: The Minnesota Daily, <http://www.mndaily.com/>

Lead adopts noise ordinance; loud vehicles targeted

LEAD, S.D. (AP) — The city of Lead has adopted a new noise ordinance, and not everyone agrees that there should be exceptions.

The ordinance sets maximum permissible sound levels and time restrictions for three types of areas: residential, commercial and industrial. One of the targets is loud and disruptive vehicles traveling through town, which some residents have complained about, the Black Hills Pioneer reported.

"So when a resident or a citizen observes that, get a description of the vehicle, try to get a license number, provide it to the chief, and the chief can take care of it," City Administrator Mike Stahl said.

The city will soon begin acquiring noise meters so the new rules can be enforced properly, he said.

There are some exemptions to the rules, including noise generated by emergency vehicles and warning devices.

People and businesses also can seek permits for special events that might not be in compliance. That provision upsets at least one resident.

"I do not believe that you should allow anyone to have a permit to break the law," Mardi Ann Apa said.

City Commissioner David Vardamin said there will need to be discussion about "how to properly time those and what duration they run to so that (they're) not excessively late at night and causing disturbances."

Information from: Black Hills Pioneer, <http://www.bhpioneer.com>

South Dakota lake board considers creating nonprofit

MITCHELL, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota lake advisory committee is exploring philanthropic measures to help fund upgrades to a maligned lake, including forming a nonprofit group.

The Lake Mitchell Advisory Committee earlier this year recommended a \$19 million plan to clean up Lake Mitchell, which has had water quality issues for decades, The Daily Republic reported. The plan has three phases: in-lake, near-lake and watershed improvements.

City officials have begun working with members of District III Planning and Development, Ducks Unlimited and the James River Water Development District on securing potential watershed funding for next year.

A nonprofit group could help raise funds for the project and apply for grants to improve the lake, the committee said.

"I like that idea. I don't know if it feels like we're maybe twiddling our thumbs a little, but maybe we could be creating some positive momentum," committee member Mark Puetz said. "You never know until we try."

Chairman Joe Kippes said he believes the committee owes it to the community to explore as many funding sources as possible. Local foundations, nonprofit groups, and corporate organizations may also be interested in helping restore the lake, he said.

"The one thing about our lake that has become true is that it's become a much bigger topic than it was a year ago, both statewide and nationwide," Kippes said.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources' 2018 South Dakota Integrated Report for Surface Water Quality Assessment marked the lake as Category 5, the worst designation.

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

Saudis warn against threats as stock market plunges

By JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Saudi Arabia warned Sunday it will respond to any “threats” against it as its stock market plunged following President Donald Trump’s warning of “severe punishment” over the disappearance of Washington Post contributor Jamal Khashoggi.

Trump made a point of visiting the kingdom on his first overseas trip as president and has touted arms sales to Saudi Arabia. But both the White House and the kingdom are under mounting pressure as concern grows over the fate of the veteran journalist, who hasn’t been seen since he entered the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2.

“The kingdom affirms its total rejection of any threats and attempts to undermine it, whether through economic sanctions, political pressure or repeating false accusations,” the kingdom’s statement said. “The kingdom also affirms that if it is (targeted by) any action, it will respond with greater action.”

The statement came after the Tadawul exchange in Riyadh dropped by 7 percent at one point during the week’s first day of trading, with 182 of its 186 listed stocks showing losses by the early afternoon. The market clawed back some of the losses, trading down over 4 percent later on.

Turkish officials say they fear Saudi agents killed and dismembered Khashoggi after he entered the consulate, saying they have audio and video recordings of it that they have not released. The kingdom has called the allegations “baseless,” but has offered no evidence the writer ever left the consulate.

In an interview to be aired Sunday, Trump told CBS’ “60 Minutes” that the consequences of Saudi Arabia being involved would be “severe.”

“There’s something really terrible and disgusting about that, if that was the case, so we’re going to have to see,” Trump said. “We’re going to get to the bottom of it and there will be severe punishment.”

However, Trump in the same interview said: “As of this moment, they deny it and they deny it vehemently. Could it be them? Yes.”

Saudi officials had no immediate comment on the stock sell-off, though state television aired an interview with an analyst who blamed it on weaker markets in the U.S. However, other stock exchanges in the Mideast saw far less volatility Sunday. U.S. markets have been rattled by rising interest rates, signs of a slowdown in the global economy and the U.S.-China trade dispute.

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has aggressively pitched the kingdom as a destination for foreign investment. But Khashoggi’s disappearance, and suspicions he may have been targeted over his criticism of the crown prince, have led several business leaders and media outlets to back out of an upcoming high-profile investment conference in Riyadh.

Trump also said “we would be punishing ourselves” by canceling arms sales to Saudi Arabia, which his administration touted on his first overseas trip. The sale is a “tremendous order for our companies,” and if the kingdom doesn’t buy its weaponry from the United States, they will buy it from others, he said. Trump said he would meet with Khashoggi’s family.

American lawmakers in both parties have been more critical of Saudi Arabia, with several suggesting officials in the kingdom could be sanctioned if they were found to be involved in Khashoggi’s disappearance and alleged killing.

Khashoggi, who was considered close to the Saudi royal family, had become a critic of the current government and Prince Mohammed, the 33-year-old heir apparent who has shown little tolerance for criticism.

As a contributor to the Post, Khashoggi has written extensively about Saudi Arabia, including criticism of its war in Yemen, its recent diplomatic spat with Canada and its arrest of women’s rights activists after the lifting of a ban on women driving.

Those policies are all seen as initiatives of the crown prince, who has also presided over a roundup of activists and businessmen.

Associated Press writer Malak Harb contributed to this report.

Mattis pushes closer ties to Vietnam amid tension with China

By **ROBERT BURNS, AP National Security Writer**

WASHINGTON (AP) — By making a rare second trip this year to Vietnam, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis is signaling how intensively the Trump administration is trying to counter China's military assertiveness by cozying up to smaller nations in the region that share American wariness about Chinese intentions.

The visit beginning Tuesday also shows how far U.S.-Vietnamese relations have advanced since the tumultuous years of the Vietnam War.

Mattis, a retired general who entered the Marine Corps during Vietnam but did not serve there, visited Hanoi in January. By coincidence, that stop came just days before the 50th anniversary of the Tet Offensive in 1968. Tet was a turning point when North Vietnamese fighters attacked an array of key objectives in the South, surprising Washington and feeding anti-war sentiment even though the North's offensive turned out to be a tactical military failure.

Three months after the Mattis visit, an U.S. Navy aircraft carrier, the USS Carl Vinson, made a port call at Da Nang. It was the first such visit since the war and a reminder to China that the U.S. is intent on strengthening partnerships in the region as a counterweight to China's growing military might.

The most vivid expression of Chinese assertiveness is its transformation of contested islets and other features in the South China Sea into strategic military outposts. The Trump administration has sharply criticized China for deploying surface-to-air missiles and other weapons on some of these outposts. In June, Mattis said the placement of these weapons is "tied directly to military use for the purposes of intimidation and coercion."

This time Mattis is visiting Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's most populous city and its economic center. Known as Saigon during the period before the communists took over the Republic of South Vietnam in 1975, the city was renamed for the man who led the Vietnamese nationalist movement.

Mattis also plans to visit a Vietnamese air base, Bien Hoa, a major air station for American forces during the war, and meet with the defense minister, Ngo Xuan Lich.

The visit comes amid a leadership transition after the death in September of Vietnam's president, Tran Dai Quang. Earlier this month, Vietnam's ruling Communist Party nominated its general secretary, Nguyen Phu Trong, for the additional post of president. He is expected to be approved by the National Assembly.

Although Vietnam has become a common destination for American secretaries of defense, two visits in one year is unusual, and Ho Chi Minh City is rarely on the itinerary. The last Pentagon chief to visit Ho Chi Minh City was William Cohen in the year 2000; he was the first U.S. defense secretary to visit Vietnam since the war. Formal diplomatic relations were restored in 1995 and the U.S. lifted its war-era arms embargo in 2016.

The Mattis trip originally was to include a visit to Beijing, but that stop was canceled amid rising tensions over trade and defense issues. China recently rejected a request for a Hong Kong port visit by an American warship, and last summer Mattis disinvited China from a major maritime exercise in the Pacific. China in September scrapped a Pentagon visit by its navy chief and demanded that Washington cancel an arms sale to Taiwan.

These tensions have served to accentuate the potential for a stronger U.S. partnership with Vietnam.

Josh Kurlantzick, a senior fellow and Asia specialist at the Council on Foreign Relations, said in an interview that Vietnam in recent years has shifted from a foreign and defense policy that carefully balanced relations with China and the United States to one that shades in the direction of Washington.

"I do see Vietnam very much aligned with some of Trump's policies," he said, referring to what the administration calls its "free and open Indo-Pacific strategy." It emphasizes ensuring all countries in the region are free from coercion and keeping sea lanes, especially the contested South China Sea, open for international trade.

"Vietnam, leaving aside Singapore, is the country the most skeptical of China's Southeast Asia policy and makes the most natural partner for the U.S.," Kurlantzick said.

Vietnam's proximity to the South China Sea makes it an important player in disputes with China over territorial claims to islets, shoals and other small land formations in the sea. Vietnam also fought a border

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war with China in 1979.

Traditionally wary of its huge northern neighbor, Vietnam shares China's system of single-party rule. Vietnam has increasingly cracked down on dissidents and corruption, with scores of high-ranking officials and executives jailed since 2016 on Trong's watch.

Sweeping economic changes over the past 30 years have opened Vietnam to foreign investment and trade, and made it one of fastest growing economies in Southeast Asia. But the Communist Party tolerates no challenge to its one-party rule. Even so, the Trump administration has made a focused effort to draw closer to Vietnam.

When he left Hanoi in January, Mattis said his visit made clear that Americans and Vietnamese have shared interests that in some cases predate the dark period of the Vietnam War.

"Neither of us liked being colonized," he said.

US pastor freed from Turkey prays with Trump in Oval Office

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Freed American pastor Andrew Brunson fell to one knee in the Oval Office and placed his hand on President Donald Trump's shoulder in prayer before asking God to provide Trump "supernatural wisdom to accomplish all the plans you have for this country and for him."

Trump welcomed Brunson to the White House on Saturday to celebrate Brunson's release from nearly two years of confinement in Turkey, which had sparked a diplomatic row with a key ally and outcry from U.S. evangelical groups.

Brunson returned to the U.S. aboard a military jet shortly before meeting the president. He was detained in October 2016, formally arrested that December and placed under house arrest on July 25 for health reasons.

"From a Turkish prison to the White House in 24 hours, that's not bad," Trump said.

Brunson's homecoming amounts to a diplomatic — and possibly political — win for Trump and his evangelical base. Coming on the heels of the confirmation of a conservative justice to the Supreme Court, Brunson's return is likely to leave evangelical Christians feeling good about the president and motivated get to the polls in the Nov. 6 midterm elections.

Brunson appeared to be in good health and good spirits. When he asked Trump if he could pray for him, the president replied, "Well, I need it probably more than anyone else in this room, so that would be very nice, thank you."

Brunson left his chair beside Trump, knelt and placed a hand on the president's shoulder. As Trump bowed his head, Brunson asked God to "give him supernatural wisdom to accomplish all the plans you have for this country and for him. I ask that you give him wisdom in how to lead this country into righteousness."

He continued: "I ask that you give him perseverance, and endurance and courage to stand for truth. I ask that you to protect him from slander from enemies, from those who would undermine. I ask that you make him a great blessing to this country. Fill him with your wisdom and strength and perseverance. And we bless him. May he be a great blessing to our country. In Jesus' name, we bless you. Amen."

Brunson, originally from Black Mountain, North Carolina, had lived in Turkey with his family for more than two decades and led a small congregation in the Izmir Resurrection Church. He was accused of committing crimes on behalf of Kurdish militants and to aid a Pennsylvania-based Muslim cleric, Fethullah Gulen, accused by Turkey of engineering the failed coup. He faced up to 35 years in jail if convicted of all the charges against him.

Administration officials cast Brunson's release as vindication of Trump's hard-nosed negotiating stance, saying Turkey tried to set terms for Brunson's release but that Trump was insistent on Brunson's release without conditions. Trump maintained there was no deal for Brunson's freedom, but the president dangled the prospect of better relations between the U.S. and its NATO ally.

"We do not pay ransom in this country," Trump said.

Where previous administrations kept negotiations over U.S. prisoners held abroad close to the vest,

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Trump has elevated them to causes célèbres, striking a tough line with allies and foes alike.

Trump thanked Turkey's president, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who had resisted the demands of Trump and other high-level U.S. officials for Brunson's release. Erdogan had insisted that his country's courts are independent, though he previously had suggested a possible swap for Brunson.

The U.S. had repeatedly called for Brunson's release and, this year, sanctioned two Turkish officials and doubled tariffs on steel and aluminum imports citing in part Brunson's plight.

Trump said the U.S. greatly appreciated Brunson's release and said the move "will lead to good, perhaps great, relations" between the U.S. and fellow NATO ally Turkey, and said the White House would "take a look" at the sanctions.

Trump asked Brunson and his family which candidate they voted for in 2016, saying he was confident they had gone for him. "I would like to say I sent in an absentee ballot from prison," Brunson quipped.

Evangelical voters overwhelmingly voted for the president despite discomfort with his personal shortcomings, in large part because he pledged to champion their causes, from defending persecuted Christians overseas to appointing conservative justices to the Supreme Court. In the space of seven days, less than a month from the midterm elections, Trump delivered on both fronts.

Prominent evangelical leaders such as Tony Perkins have championed Brunson's case, as has Vice President Mike Pence. First word of Brunson's arrival back on American soil Saturday came from Perkins, president of the Family Research Council. Perkins tweeted just after noon that he had landed at a military base outside Washington with Brunson and his wife, Norine.

Erdogan said on Twitter that he hoped the two countries will continue to cooperate "as it befits two allies." Erdogan also called for joint efforts against terrorism, and he listed the Islamic State group, Kurdish militants and the network of a U.S.-based Muslim cleric whom Turkey blames for a failed coup in 2016.

Relations between the countries have become severely strained over Brunson's detention and a host of other issues.

A Turkish court on Friday convicted Brunson of having links to terrorism and sentenced him to just over three years in prison, but released the 50-year-old evangelical pastor because he had already spent nearly two years in detention. An earlier charge of espionage was dropped.

Hours later, Brunson was flown out of Turkey, his home for more than two decades. He was taken to a U.S. military hospital in Landstuhl, Germany, for a medical checkup.

"I love Jesus. I love Turkey," an emotional Brunson, who had maintained his innocence, told the court at Friday's hearing.

Brunson's release could benefit Turkey by allowing the government to focus on an escalating diplomatic crisis over Jamal Khashoggi, a Saudi contributor to The Washington Post who has been missing for more than a week and is feared dead after entering the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. Turkish officials suspect Khashoggi, a critic of the Saudi government, was killed in the consulate; Saudi officials deny it.

Trump maintained the two cases were not linked, saying Brunson's release amid the Khashoggi investigation was "strict coincidence."

Turkey may also hope the U.S. will now lift the tariffs on Turkish steel and aluminum imports, a move that would inject confidence into an economy rattled by high inflation and foreign currency debt.

But Brunson's release doesn't resolve disagreements over U.S. support for Kurdish fighters in Syria, as well as a plan by Turkey to buy Russian surface-to-air missiles. Turkey is also frustrated by the refusal of the U.S. to extradite Gulen.

Associated Press writer Zeynep Bilginsoy in Istanbul contributed to this report.

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

Pope makes El Salvador's Oscar Romero, Pope Paul VI saints

By NICOLE WINFIELD and MARCOS ALEMAN, Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis on Sunday praised two of the towering figures of the 20th-century Catholic Church as prophets who shunned wealth and looked out for the poor as he canonized the modernizing Pope Paul VI and martyred Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero.

Francis declared the two men saints at a Mass in St. Peter's Square before some 70,000 faithful, a handful of presidents and 5,000 Salvadoran pilgrims who had traveled to Rome. Tens of thousands more Salvadorans stayed up all night at home to watch it on giant TV screens outside the San Salvador cathedral where Romero's remains are entombed.

In a sign of the strong influence Paul and Romero had on history's first Latin American pope, Francis wore the blood-stained rope belt that Romero wore when he was gunned down in 1980 and also used Paul's staff, chalice and pallium vestment.

Paul presided over the modernizing yet polarizing church reforms of the 1960s, while Romero was murdered by El Salvador's right-wing death squads for his fearless defense of the poor.

In his homily, Francis called Paul a "prophet of a church turned outwards" to care for the faraway poor. He said Romero gave up his security and life to "be close to the poor and his people."

And he warned that those who don't follow their example to leave behind everything, including their wealth, risk never truly finding God.

"Wealth is dangerous and — says Jesus — even makes one's salvation difficult," Francis said.

"The love of money is the root of all evils," he said. "We see this where money is at the center, there is no room for God or for man."

For many in San Salvador, it was the culmination of a fraught and politicized campaign to have the church formally honor a man who publicly denounced the repression by El Salvador's military dictatorship at the start of the country's 1980-1992 civil war.

"I am here to give glory to Monsignor Romero," said Aida Guzman, a 68-year-old Salvadoran woman who carried photos of people killed during the war as she joined thousands in a Saturday evening procession in San Salvador. "He is a light for our people, an inspiration for all."

Romero, the archbishop of San Salvador, was murdered as he celebrated Mass on March 24, 1980, in a hospital chapel. A day before he was killed, he had delivered the latest in a series of sermons demanding an end to the army's repression — sermons that had enraged El Salvador's leaders.

Almost immediately after his death, Romero became an icon of the South American left and is frequently listed along with Martin Luther King Jr. and Mohandas Gandhi as one of the world's most influential human rights campaigners. The United Nations commemorates the anniversary of his death each year.

But his popularity with the left led to a decades-long delay in his saint-making cause at the Vatican, where right-wing cardinals led by Colombian Cardinal Alfonso Lopez Trujillo warned his elevation would embolden Marxist revolutionaries on the continent.

Eventually Pope Benedict XVI unblocked the cause and Francis saw it through to its conclusion Sunday, including his determination that Romero was a martyr for the church — killed out of hatred for the faith and for preaching the Gospel, even though his assassins were Catholics like him.

Romero's influence continues to resonate with El Salvador's youth as the country endures brutal gang violence that has made the Central American nation one of the most violent in the world.

"He is my guide, and from what I have read about his life, I want to follow in his steps," said Oscar Orelana, a 15-year-old who joined the San Salvador procession wearing a white tunic like the one Romero used to wear.

Paul VI, for his part, is best known for having presided over the final sessions of the Second Vatican Council, the 1962-65 church meetings that opened up the Catholic Church to the world. Under his auspices, the church agreed to allow liturgy to be celebrated in the vernacular rather than in Latin and called for greater roles for the laity and improved relations with people of other faiths.

Paul is also remembered for his two most important encyclicals, or teaching documents, that have had

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a profound effect on the church: One, "The Progress of Peoples" denounced the mounting inequality between rich and poor, and the other, "Humanae Vitae," reaffirmed the Catholic church's opposition to artificial contraception.

The stark prohibition against contraception like birth control pills or condoms empowered conservatives but drove progressives away. Even today, studies show that most Catholics ignore that teaching and use contraception anyway.

Francis was deeply influenced by Paul, who was the pope of his formative years as a young priest in Argentina and was instrumental in giving rise to the Latin American church's "preferential option for the poor."

Francis has also adopted the "church of the poor" ethos that Paul embodied when Paul formally renounced wearing the bejeweled papal tiara.

Paul is also very important to another pope, Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI, whom Paul made a cardinal in 1977. There had been speculation that the 91-year-old Benedict might attend Sunday's canonization, but officials said he has recently weakened. Instead, Francis paid a visit to Benedict at his home in the Vatican gardens on the eve of the Mass.

Aleman reported from San Salvador.

This story corrects the day of the procession in San Salvador to Saturday.

Florida officials fear Michael's death toll will rise

By **RUSS BYNUM** and **BRENDAN FARRINGTON**, Associated Press

MEXICO BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Search and rescue personnel are continuing to comb through the ruins of a small Florida Panhandle community destroyed by Hurricane Michael, which has left hundreds thousands without power and without easy access to supplies.

So far, one body has been found in Mexico Beach, but authorities say there is little doubt the death toll will rise.

Crews with dogs went door-to-door Saturday in Mexico Beach, pushing aside debris to get inside badly damaged structures in a second wave of searches following what they described as an initial, "hasty" search of the area. About 1,700 search and rescue personnel have checked 25,000 homes, Florida Gov. Rick Scott said.

Michael made landfall Wednesday as a Category 4 hurricane with 155 mph winds (249 kph) and heavy storm surge. The tally of lives lost across the South stood at 15, including the victim found in the rubble of Mexico Beach, where about 1,000 people live.

"Everything is time consuming," said Capt. Ignatius Carroll, of the South Florida Urban Search and Rescue task force. "You don't want to put a rush on a thorough rescue."

More roads were passable along the storm-ravaged coast as crews cleared downed trees and power lines, but traffic lights remained out and there were long lines at the few open gas stations.

About 4,000 members of Florida's national guard have been called up to deal with the storm, including 500 added on Saturday. Nearly 2,000 law-enforcement officials have been sent into the Panhandle.

Schools will stay closed indefinitely, a hospital halted operations and sent 200 patients to hospitals elsewhere in Florida and in Alabama, and more than 253,000 customers in the Panhandle remain without power.

"Everybody just needs to help each other right now," Scott said after meeting with emergency responders in the Panama City area.

"You feel sorry for people," Scott said. "They might have lost their house. They worry about their kids getting into school. You know, people don't sit and have a whole bunch of extra money in the bank just waiting for a disaster."

Some residents were packing up and getting as far away as they could.

Jeff and Katrina Pearsey, with a ruined rental home in the Panama City area and no indication of when they could again earn a living, said they were heading to Bangor, Maine, where Katrina once worked as a

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nurse. Several trees came down on their property, including one that smashed through the roof.

"We're getting our stuff and we're going," said Jeff Pearsey, 48. "We're probably done with Panama City."

Michael was one of the most powerful hurricanes to ever make landfall in the U.S. While most residents fled ahead of the storm's arrival, others stayed to face the hurricane. Some barely escaped with their lives as homes were pushed off their foundations and whole neighborhoods became submerged.

Hector Morales, a 57-year-old restaurant cook, never even thought of evacuating. His mobile home wasn't on the beach but when it suddenly began floating during the hurricane, he jumped out and swam to a fishing boat and clambered aboard.

"I lost everything," Morales said. "But I made it."

How many others were not so fortunate was still not clear. By one count, state officials said, 285 people in Mexico Beach defied mandatory evacuation orders and stayed behind. It's unclear how many people stayed behind in nearby communities.

One who did, Albert Blackwell, was preparing on Saturday to cover holes in the roof of his apartment and take a chain saw to trees that fell and broke his windows just outside Panama City.

"I'm the idiot that rode it out here in this place," said Blackwell, 65, sweat dripping from his face. He doesn't plan to leave; he wants to protect his home from looters.

Emergency officials said they've received thousands of calls asking about missing people, but with cell-phone service out across a wide area, they found it impossible to know who among those unaccounted for were safe but just unable to dial out to friends or family.

Federal Emergency Management Agency chief Brock Long said he expected the death toll to rise. Searchers were trying to determine if the person found dead in Mexico Beach had been alone or was part of a family.

Authorities have set up distribution centers to dole out food and water to victims. They've also set up a triage tent to treat residents stepping on nails and cutting themselves on debris.

President Donald Trump announced plans to visit Florida and hard-hit Georgia early next week but didn't say what day he would arrive. On Saturday he approved federal disaster aid relief for four Alabama counties affected by the storm.

Trump spoke with Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal and "reiterated that the federal government is fully available," the White House said Saturday.

"We are with you!" he tweeted.

Contributors in Florida include Associated Press writers Russ Bynum in Mexico Beach, Brendan Farrington in Panama City, Gary Fineout in Tallahassee

_____ For the latest on Hurricane Michael, visit <https://www.apnews.com/tag/Hurricanes>

Turkey: 22 migrants die in truck crash, 13 others injured

ISTANBUL (AP) — At least 22 migrants, including children, have been killed in a truck accident Sunday, Turkey's official news agency said.

The Anadolu news agency said the migrants were traveling in a truck in the western province of Izmir that rolled over off a bridge. Video footage showed a destroyed truck, tipped upside down in a waterway with personal items scattered all around.

Thirteen people were injured in the crash and were being treated in nearby hospitals. Their nationalities were not given and authorities have launched an investigation.

Turkish media reported the driver was among the injured and said in his initial statement to police that a car had swerved in front of him.

Hundreds of thousands of migrants have set out to sea from Turkey's coasts in the last few years to try to reach neighboring Greece, which is a member of the European Union. A deal with the EU in 2016 to send those migrants back to Turkey significantly curbed the number of border crossings but many desperate migrants still attempt the journey.

Irish border riddle confounds EU, UK as Brexit end nears

By LORNE COOK, Associated Press

CARRICKCARNAN, Ireland (AP) — The land around the small Irish town of Carrickcarnan is the kind of place where Britain's plan to leave the European Union runs right into a wall — an invisible one that's proving inordinately difficult to overcome.

Somehow, a border of sorts will have to be drawn between Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom, and EU member Ireland to allow customs control over goods, produce and livestock once the U.K. has fully left the bloc.

That means the largely unpoliced and invisible Irish land border will become the boundary between the EU and the UK — raising vexing questions about trade and customs checks.

Of all the thorny issues in Brexit negotiations, this has been the toughest, because the challenge of keeping trade running smoothly is deeply entangled with questions of identity: what it means to be from Northern Ireland.

Northern Ireland's Catholic and Protestant communities remain divided decades after 30 years of conflict claimed around 3,700 lives. The peace agreement signed in 1998 provides people with the freedom to identify as Irish or British, or both. It helped dismantle Northern Ireland's once heavily-policed and militarized border with Ireland — and the last thing people want now is a new one.

"The peace process took identity and borders out of politics. Brexit has put them slap bang back into the middle again," lamented Northern Ireland business and strategy adviser Conor Houston.

EU leaders and British Prime Minister Theresa May hope to make progress this week as the Brexit divorce saga comes to a critical juncture.

The Northern Ireland-Ireland border zig-zags all over the map. It cuts around properties, veers over roads and dodges villages. People cross it when they leave home to visit their doctor or go shopping. It's mostly only visible when the speed signs change from kilometers to miles.

The dividing line stretches for 500 kilometers (312 miles) and is dotted with over 250 official road crossings, more than on Europe's entire eastern flank.

A fine example of the Brexit conundrum is the Jonesborough Parish Church. A padlock secures the gate of this run-down Protestant place of worship in the U.K. An Irish flag flies in the cemetery next door, over the border. In the parking lot, a weather-beaten sign reads: "No EU Frontier in Ireland."

Not so long ago, 12 fortified watchtowers, 4 helicopter bases, a handful of army barracks and police stations dotted the countryside within a 10-mile (16-kilometer) radius.

Border posts stood for authority and made easy targets for paramilitaries. So police came to guard the customs officers. Then the army was called in to protect the police.

Some think that modern technology — drones and cameras — can defeat old enmities. Others suspect they would be used for target practice.

"For some, that will be seen as surveillance and a throwback to the troubles. Then you're going to have to decide how to protect those drones and cameras," said Peter Sheridan, a retired senior police officer with 32 years' experience in dealing with organized crime.

Still, Sheridan says politicians should not cave in to threats.

"We cannot be pressured into decisions by those who wield the biggest stick," he said.

About 65 kilometers (40 miles) to the north, in Northern Ireland's capital of Belfast, the barriers are far more visible. In many places, neighborhoods are still separated by high, graffiti-daubed "peace walls." Schools are mostly segregated.

The territory has the U.K.'s highest poverty, suicide and unemployment rates — and there are fears that Brexit might make things worse.

"The tensions just can't be underestimated and it's absolutely pervasive" in parts of Belfast, said Angila Chada from Springboard, a group working with unemployed Protestant and Catholic young people.

It's not all bad news. Trade — mostly in the agricultural and food sectors — has doubled in the last 20 years and Northern Ireland's economy has steadily improved. Still, even in the best Brexit scenario, Aodhan

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Connolly of the Northern Ireland Retail Consortium notes there will be "a substantial new administrative burden."

More checks on goods crossing the border will mean more paperwork. That means delays, and delays create costs.

"There is very little wiggle room for business. These costs will get passed onto the consumer," Connolly told reporters during a visit to Northern Ireland organized by the Irish government. "It's literally death by a thousand cuts. The food prices will go up, the fuel will go up, the shirt on your back."

Creating a "hard border" — something all parties want to avoid — would make things worse.

On average, commercial vehicles cross the border 13,000 times each day. In the future, around 3,000 loads a day carrying beef, lamb, pork, poultry, eggs or dairy products might have to be stopped. Each check would take about 10 minutes, said Seamus Leheny from Freight Transport Association.

"We would have paralysis here on the border," he said.

Whether customs and other checks could be done away from the border — at airports, ports, factories or markets — remains to be seen.

In coming weeks, EU officials and the British and Irish governments must come up with a policy which guarantees that goods can be controlled without stifling the economy. Above all, the Brexit Irish border plan must respect the unique identities of Northern Ireland's people and not inflame tensions, as many fear it might.

Mourners pack funeral for 8 of 20 killed in NY limo crash

By MICHAEL HILL, Associated Press

AMSTERDAM, N.Y. (AP) — Mourners at a funeral for four sisters and their family members killed in a New York limousine crash were assured Saturday that their loved ones can still see their tears and feel their heartache.

On a damp, chilly day, hundreds of people packed the pews of an old brick church in Amsterdam at the service for eight of the 20 people killed last Saturday when the limousine they hired for a 30th birthday celebration crashed. The stretch limo barreled down a hill past a stop sign into another vehicle in the parking lot. All 17 passengers and the driver were killed, as well as two pedestrians standing in the parking lot.

"The question that is in the hearts of so many is: Why?" The Rev. O. Robert DeMartinis told hundreds of mourners. "Why did these 20 individuals have to be taken from us so quickly and so unexpectedly?"

DeMartinis spoke on an altar flanked by pictures of Allison King, sister Abigail Jackson and her husband Adam Jackson, sister Mary Dyson and her husband Robert Dyson, sister Amy Steenburg and her husband Axel Steenburg and his older brother, Richard Steenburg.

Urns containing their remains were placed beneath the pictures, with each of the three married couples sharing urns. Five teddy bears lay by the urns, one for each young child who lost a parent.

A week ago, the group — most of them in their 30s — was headed to a birthday party for Amy Steenburg at a local brewery in Cooperstown. DeMartinis said he believes Amy and her friends were able to celebrate Amy's 30th birthday, but in their afterlife. He told mourners to take solace in their eternal life.

DeMartinis married Amy and Axel Steenburg in June. He recalled them as a laughter-loving couple who made a sign asking wedding guests not to take pictures, because "we suggest that you live in the moment."

He had wondered why they never picked up the sign. Now, he said, he knew.

"That's what they're asking me to ask you to do today," DeMartinis said, holding the sign aloft.

The sisters grew up in Amsterdam, a small upstate New York city, and many of the victims have deep ties to the area. The city has been stricken with grief amid a series of funerals.

Meanwhile, authorities continue to investigate the cause of the crash while prosecutors have charged the operator of the limo company, Nauman Hussain, with criminally negligent homicide, saying he allowed an improperly licensed driver to operate an "unserviceable" vehicle.

Thousands came together for a candlelight rally by the Mohawk River on Monday night, and thousands more attended calling hours Friday evening for the sisters and their family members.

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"What good can come from this tragedy?" DeMartinis asked the packed church as he spread his arms wide. "Take a look - thousands and thousands of people."

This story corrects the spelling of DeMartinis.

Bavaria votes in tough test for Merkel's conservative allies

By GEIR MOULSON, Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Bavarians were voting Sunday in a state election that was expected to deal the prosperous region's long-dominant conservative party a stinging setback, with unpredictable consequences for German Chancellor Angela Merkel's federal government.

Some 9.5 million people are eligible to vote for the state legislature in Munich, where the Christian Social Union — an important but often-awkward Merkel ally — has held an absolute majority for all but five of the past 56 years.

Polls suggest it will lose that majority by a wide margin.

The CSU, which has taken a hard line against migration and has a socially conservative tradition, appears to be losing support on both the left and the right, with the Greens picking up liberal-minded voters and the far-right Alternative for Germany party set to win seats.

While the CSU is unlikely to lose power altogether after a 61-year reign, just needing coalition partners to govern would be a humiliating setback.

In Berlin, the CSU is one of three parties in Merkel's federal coalition government along with its sister, Merkel's Christian Democratic Union, and the center-left Social Democrats.

That alliance has been notable largely for internal squabbling since it took office in March — with the CSU leader, Interior Minister Horst Seehofer, often playing a starring role. The parties are sagging in national polls, and the Social Democrats also appear set to lose significant ground Sunday.

Back in Bavaria, a long-running CSU power struggle saw the 69-year-old Seehofer give up his job as state governor this year to younger rival Markus Soeder.

Soeder wants voters to give the CSU credit for Bavaria's enviable prosperity, with an unemployment rate of just 2.8 percent, and keep it strong to ensure stability. He has blamed goings-on in Berlin for poor poll ratings.

"Where Germany is good, Bavaria is better," he told a rally Friday. "It is no coincidence when the results on the economy, security and finances are so clear. A country needs a backbone — in Germany, the backbone is Bavaria, but in Bavaria the backbone is the Christian Social Union."

Regional Green co-leader Katharina Schulze says people are fed up with the politics of "hate and agitation" and "want a policy that gives courage instead of fear."

And the far-right Alternative for Germany, which entered Germany's national parliament only last year, is appealing to voters who want an uncompromising anti-migration, law-and-order stance.

Seehofer has sparred with Merkel about migration on and off since 2015, when he assailed her decision to leave Germany's borders open as refugees and others crossed the Balkans. They argued in June over whether to turn back small numbers of asylum-seekers at the German-Austrian border, briefly threatening to bring down the national government.

Seehofer also starred in a coalition crisis last month over Germany's domestic intelligence chief, who was accused of downplaying recent far-right violence against migrants.

There is widespread speculation that a poor performance Sunday could cost Seehofer his job, though he has insisted he will stay. Soeder, meanwhile, has pivoted from tough talk on migration to trying to project an inclusive image as Bavaria's leader.

Polls put support for the CSU as low as 33 percent, down from 47.7 percent in 2013. Alternative for Germany looks set to win 10 percent or more.

The Greens are running second, with support up to 19 percent, and the Social Democrats could lose nearly half the 20.6 percent they won five years ago.

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Such results would likely leave the CSU seeking a coalition with the Greens, their often-bitter opponents, or an alliance with the pro-business Free Democrats and center-right Free Voters. A four-way alliance without the CSU might be mathematically possible, but impractical.

It's not yet clear whether the Bavarian vote will affect the national government's stability — or Merkel's long-term future. Its aftershocks may be delayed, because another state election is coming Oct. 28 in neighboring Hesse, where conservative Volker Bouffier is defending the 19-year hold of Merkel's CDU party on the governor's office.

The 64-year-old Merkel, who has led Germany since 2005, has already been weakened by government infighting and the ouster of a close ally as her party's parliamentary leader. She will hope that poor state election results don't create new political problems before a CDU party convention in December where her leadership is due for renewal.

"Of course I hope for a good result for the CSU," she said Friday. "I know that we don't live in easy times. Otherwise, I'm waiting for the result."

Verlander cools off Red Sox 7-2 in Game 1 of ALCS

By JIMMY GOLEN, AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — With temperatures dipping into the 40s, numbing their fingertips as they tried to grip the baseball, Justin Verlander and Chris Sale both struggled to get the ball over the plate.

Verlander recovered quickly.

Sale never did.

After walking in one run and giving up the tying score on a wild pitch, Verlander struck out Andrew Benintendi on a contested called third strike, and the Houston Astros pulled away to beat the Boston Red Sox 7-2 on Saturday night in the AL Championship Series opener.

The teams combined for just eight hits, but Red Sox pitchers walked 10 and hit three batters. Verlander walked four — tying a career postseason high, and more than he had in any outing in the regular season this year. Three of them and one of his two wild pitches came in a fifth inning that almost chased him from the game.

"That inning I had kind of lost my feel a bit. Couldn't point a finger to why," Verlander said. "The tying run scoring was a little disappointing. ... But once that happens, then you've got to reset and not relinquish the lead."

Verlander pitched six innings of two-hit ball, and Carlos Correa fisted a single into left field to break a sixth-inning tie. Josh Reddick hit a solo homer to lead off the ninth, and Yuli Gurriel curled a three-run shot into the front row beyond the Pesky Pole to give the defending World Series champions their fifth straight postseason victory.

Game 2 of the best-of-seven series is Sunday night, with Boston left-hander David Price trying to end his postseason skid against Astros righty Gerrit Cole. Cora has expressed confidence in Price, a Cy Young Award winner who is 0-9 in 10 postseason starts, and the 108-win Red Sox will need him to be better than Sale was in the opener.

"We'll see tomorrow," Boston catcher Sandy Leon said.

In a rematch of last year's Division Series opener, when the Astros hit back-to-back homers in the first inning and pounded Sale for seven runs in all, Verlander improved to 13-2 in the AL playoffs. Houston only got one hit off of Sale, but he loaded the bases with two outs in the second on two walks and a hit batter before reigning World Series MVP George Springer singled in two runs past the glove of third baseman Eduardo Nunez, who slipped as he stretched for the ball.

"Anytime you get two quick outs then you load up the bases and give them two runs, that's not what you're looking for this time of year," Sale said. "I just went out there and lost it for a little bit. I felt like I was battling myself for a little bit. I was trying to limit the damage and get out there as quick as we can."

The Red Sox went down in order in the second, third and fourth innings before awakening the shivering, sold-out Fenway crowd in the fifth with Steve Pearce's single — just their second hit in the game — and

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two walks. Verlander walked a third batter in a row, forcing in a run.

Mookie Betts hit a hard grounder, and third baseman Alex Bregman threw home for the force and the second out. With Jackie Bradley Jr. dancing on third base, Verlander put a 1-2 curveball in the dirt and past catcher Martin Maldonado, allowing the runners to advance and tying the game 2-2.

Andrew Benintendi worked the count full before looking at a 3-2 pitch that appeared to catch the edge of the zone for the third out.

"You can look at it two ways," Red Sox right fielder Mookie Betts said. "They pitched their way out of it, but we didn't hit our way into it."

Benintendi was less philosophical. He slammed down his helmet and bat down and jawed with plate umpire James Hoyer before Red Sox coaches ran in to get between them.

Cora continued the argument and was ejected; he handed over his lineup card to bench coach Ron Roenicke and headed down the tunnel.

"I guess Verlander executed his pitch, and he called it a strike," Cora said. "Andrew didn't agree. I didn't agree. It's a big pitch right there. It's ball four, bases loaded. ... Most likely Verlander comes out of the game."

"But you can't argue balls and strikes," he said. "And I did."

Houston took advantage of another hit batter in the sixth — this one by reliever Joe Kelly — and Nunez's fielding error on Gurriel's grounder to take a 3-2 lead. Reddick and Gurriel homered off Brandon Workman.

Verlander was charged with two runs and four walks while striking out six. He has allowed only nine hits in his past four postseason starts, matching Don Larsen (1955-57) as the only pitchers to allow nine hits over a span of four-postseason starts, according to STATS.

"The tying run scoring was a little disappointing," Verlander said. "But once that happens, then you've got to reset and not relinquish the lead."

SALE'S STRUGGLES

Sale, who took the mound without long sleeves on the chilly night, left after the fourth inning — his only 1-2-3 inning of the game — having thrown 86 pitches. Sale gave up two runs, one hit, four walks and a hit batter, and his average fastball velocity of 92 mph was down 3 mph from the Division Series.

"I still like our chances," he said. "We've got D.P. on the mound and we got a bunch of guys in here that are fired up over tonight. We're not gonna hang our heads in the locker room. We're not gonna give up. This is the time when we kick in gear and start fighting."

WEST HIT

Boston catcher Christian Vazquez hit second-base umpire Joe West on his right shoulder with a throw when Jake Marisnick stole second in the eighth.

UP NEXT

Price, 16-7 in this year's regular season, has two postseason wins in relief in his career. Cora insisted that he had faith in Price, and he told the 2012 AL Cy Young winner as much after the Red Sox eliminated the Yankees in the previous round.

"Alex told me before we even got off the field that night" that he would get another start, Price said before the game. "So for him to tell me before we even took our jerseys off to put on our postseason shirts that we get when we win, that was special."

Cole was 15-5 with a 2.88 ERA in the regular season.

More AP MLB: <https://apnews.com/tag/MLB> and https://twitter.com/AP_Sports

Newspaper says Turkey has audio of Saudi writer's slaying

By ZEYNEP BILGINSOY and JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — Turkish officials have an audio recording of the alleged killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi from the Apple Watch he wore when he walked into the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul over a week ago, a pro-government Turkish newspaper reported Saturday.

The new claim published by the Sabah newspaper, through which Turkish security officials have leaked

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much information about the case, puts more pressure on Saudi Arabia to explain what happened to Khashoggi.

Also Saturday, Ankara's top diplomat reiterated a call to Saudi Arabia to open up its consulate, from where Khashoggi disappeared, for Turkish authorities to search.

The writer, who has written critically about Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, vanished after he walked into the consulate on Oct. 2. The kingdom has maintained the allegations against it are "baseless," though an official early on Saturday — on Khashoggi's 60th birthday — acknowledged for the first time that some believe the writer was killed by the kingdom.

The disappearance has put pressure on President Donald Trump, who has enjoyed close relations with the Saudis since entering office.

On Saturday, Trump expressed concern about Khashoggi's fate and about the lack of answers, so many days after the journalist disappeared.

"Our first hope was that he was not killed but maybe that's not looking too good from what we hear but there's a lot to learn, there really is," Trump said at the White House while welcoming back American pastor Andrew Brunson, freed after nearly two years of detention in Turkey. He later said he anticipated speaking to the Saudi ruler Saturday or Sunday.

Turkish authorities recovered the audio from Khashoggi's iPhone and his iCloud account, the newspaper said. The journalist had given his phones to his fiancée before entering the consulate.

The newspaper also alleged Saudi officials tried to delete the recordings first by incorrectly guessing Khashoggi's PIN on the watch, then later using the journalist's finger. However, Apple Watches do not have a fingerprint ID unlock function like iPhones. The newspaper did not address that in its report.

An Apple Watch can record audio and can sync that later with an iPhone over a Bluetooth connection if it is close by. The newspaper's account did not elaborate on how the Apple Watch synced that information to both the phone and Khashoggi's iCloud account.

Turkish officials have not answered queries from The Associated Press about Khashoggi's Apple Watch.

Turkish officials say they believe a 15-member Saudi "assassination squad" killed Khashoggi at the consulate. They've also alleged that they have video of the slaying, but not explained how they have it.

Turkey may be trying to protect its intelligence sources through leaking this way, analysts say.

But Carrie Cordero, a senior fellow at the Washington-based Center for a New American Security who formerly worked on intelligence matters for the U.S. government, wrote recently that "the Turkish government may need to reveal sources it does not want to reveal if the Saudi Arabian government continues to deny involvement despite evidence Turkey has in its possession."

Saudi Arabia has said it had nothing to do with Khashoggi's disappearance, without explaining or offering evidence of how the writer left the consulate and disappeared into Istanbul with his fiancée waiting outside.

A Saudi-owned satellite news channel has begun referring to the 15-man team as "tourists," without providing evidence to support the claim. It echoes how Russia has described the men who allegedly carried out the Novichok nerve agent poisonings in Salisbury, England, in March.

Early on Saturday, the state-run Saudi Press Agency published a statement from Saudi Interior Minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Saud again denying the kingdom's involvement. This time, however, it acknowledged for the first time that Saudi Arabia was accused of killing Khashoggi.

"What has been circulating in terms of supposed orders to kill Jamal (Khashoggi) are outright lies and baseless allegations against the Kingdom's government, which is committed to its principles, rules and traditions and is in compliance with international laws and conventions," Prince Abdulaziz said.

Omer Celik, a spokesman for Erdogan's ruling Justice and Development Party, said that Khashoggi's disappearance will be "investigated strongly." A delegation from Saudi Arabia arrived in Turkey on Friday as part of a joint investigation into the writer's disappearance.

"Such an act is an attack on all the values of the democratic world. It's an act that will never be forgiven or covered up," he said. "This is not an act that Turkey would ever consider legitimate. If there are people who committed this, it will have heavy consequences."

However, Turkey's Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said Saudi Arabia had not yet cooperated with

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Turkey on the search for Khashoggi. He said Turkish "prosecutors and technical friends must enter" the consulate "and Saudi Arabia must cooperate with us on this."

Earlier in the week, Saudi Arabia had said it would open the consulate for a search but that is yet to happen. Cavusoglu said Turkey would share information with Saudi Arabia in the "joint working group" but stressed the Turkish investigation would continue separately.

Trump also said Saturday that "we would be punishing ourselves" by canceling arms sales to Saudi Arabia. The sale is a "tremendous order for our companies," he said, and if the kingdom doesn't buy its weaponry from the United States, they will buy it from Russia or China. Trump said that he would meet with Khashoggi's family.

Separately, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo spoke to Khashoggi's fiancée, Hatice Cengiz, who had accompanied him to the Saudi consulate. The State Department released no details of the conversation.

In an interview Friday with the AP, Cengiz said Khashoggi was not nervous when he entered the consulate to obtain paperwork required for their marriage.

"He said, 'See you later my darling,' and went in," she told the AP.

In written responses to questions by the AP, Cengiz said Turkish authorities had not told her about any recordings and Khashoggi was officially "still missing."

She said investigators were examining his cellphones, which he had left with her.

On Saturday, Cengiz tweeted about a surprise party she had planned for Khashoggi's birthday, "invited all his close friends to a restaurant on the #TheBosporus to celebrate his birthday but," she said, adding the hashtags "WhereIsJamal" and "mydreamwaskilled."

Global business leaders also are reassessing their ties with Saudi Arabia, stoking pressure on the Gulf kingdom to explain what happened to Khashoggi.

Khashoggi, who was considered close to the Saudi royal family, had become a critic of the current government and Prince Mohammed, the 33-year-old heir apparent who has shown little tolerance for criticism.

As a contributor to the Post, Khashoggi has written extensively about Saudi Arabia, including criticism of its war in Yemen, its recent diplomatic spat with Canada and its arrest of women's rights activists after the lifting of a ban on women driving.

Those policies are all seen as initiatives of the crown prince, who has also presided over a roundup of activists and businessmen.

Gambrell reported from Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Associated Press writers Zeke Miller and Darlene Superville in Washington and Suzan Fraser in Ankara contributed to this report.

In Kentucky, Trump rallies voters while praising McConnell

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

RICHMOND, Ky. (AP) — President Donald Trump heaped praise on Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, crediting the veteran Kentucky lawmaker's political toughness and acumen during the ugly battle that concluded with Brett Kavanaugh becoming a Supreme Court justice.

"He's Kentucky tough," Trump declared Saturday night.

Kavanaugh took his seat on the high court this week after overcoming allegations of sexual misconduct dating to his high school and college years. He forcefully denied the charges, and Trump and McConnell firmly backed Kavanaugh as part of their combined quest to populate the judiciary with conservative judges. Kavanaugh could tilt the political balance of the high court in the conservative direction for generations.

"We stuck with him all the way because we knew the facts," Trump said, speaking of himself and McConnell, Kentucky's senior U.S. senator.

"There's nobody tougher. There's nobody smarter. He refused to cave to the radical Democrats' shameful campaign of personal and political destruction," Trump said at a political rally at Eastern Kentucky University before he called McConnell to the mic.

"He stared down the angry left-wing mob. He never blinked and he never looked back and he got us a

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man who will be one of our great, great Supreme Court justices," Trump said.

McConnell returned the compliment and told the president to continue nominating judges and "we'll keep confirming them."

Democrats fiercely and vocally opposed Kavanaugh, opposition that hardened after Christine Blasey Ford accused him of sexually assaulting her when they were in high school. Other women accused him of other sexually inappropriate behavior.

Protesters swarmed Senate office buildings and hundreds were arrested in a futile attempt to intimidate a handful of holdout senators into voting against confirming Kavanaugh. Trump has taken to referring to Democrats who opposed Kavanaugh as an angry "mob."

The president flew to Kentucky to campaign for three-term Republican Rep. Andy Barr, who is facing a strong challenge from Democrat Amy McGrath, a retired Marine fighter pilot, in one of the country's most-watched House races.

Democrats are focusing on the seat in their drive to regain control of the House. Former Vice President Joe Biden became the highest-profile Democrat to campaign for McGrath when he came to Kentucky on Friday night.

Trump told the rally that a vote for Barr "could make the difference between unbelievable continued success" or failure, and pleaded with his supporters to vote on Nov. 6 to send more Republicans to Congress.

"The only reason to vote Democrat is if you're tired of winning," he said. "I need you to get your friends, get your family, get your neighbors, get your co-workers and get out and vote for Andy Barr," Trump said.

The president sounded familiar themes during the hour-plus rally, touting the economy's performance, a new trade agreement with Canada and Mexico, and his plan for a new military branch devoted to outer space, among a host of other issues that led the crowd to cheer him.

He again panned journalists as the "fake news media" and suggested he could live without their attention. "I'd like to walk into a place one night and not have any of these guys," Trump said.

With just over three weeks before Election Day, Saturday's rally was part of an aggressive fall campaign push by Trump to energize Republicans and encourage them to help keep his legislative agenda moving forward by voting to keep the GOP in control of both houses of Congress.

In fact, even before Trump left the stage on Saturday night, his campaign announced a three-state Western swing through Missoula, Montana; Mesa, Arizona; and Elko, Nevada, next Thursday through Saturday.

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

Tester goes on the attack in Montana US Senate race debate

By MATT VOLZ, Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — U.S. Sen. Jon Tester went on the attack Saturday against Republican candidate Matt Rosendale as the Montana Democrat fights to keep his seat in a tightening Senate race.

Tester is one of 10 Senate Democrats seeking re-election in states won by President Donald Trump in 2016.

He got personal during Saturday's debate in Bozeman by contrasting his own Montana roots with Rosendale: "Somebody who was born in Maryland, made millions of dollars developing property, bought a ranch in Montana, claims to be a rancher but has no cows," Tester said.

Rosendale, the state auditor and insurance commissioner whose campaign has gotten a boost from repeated visits from Trump, responded by accusing the incumbent of selling out Montana for the interests of Senate Democratic leaders.

"This is what happens when you spend too much time in the federal government," Rosendale said. "He's been there for 12 years, and he thinks that he can determine what is best for you and what is best for your family. And I don't think so."

Rosendale, 58, has closely aligned his campaign with Trump, who won Montana in 2016 by a wide margin. Besides pledging allegiance to the president's agenda, Rosendale also has hammered Tester for voting

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against Trump Supreme Court nominees Brett Kavanaugh and Neil Gorsuch.

Tester, 62, has walked a line in trying to rally the Democratic base without alienating the Trump supporters he'll need to win re-election. He has run ads demonstrating that he can work with the Trump administration by working on veterans' legislation and other bills that the president has signed.

Trump appears to have put Tester in his crosshairs after the Montana Democrat helped sink the confirmation of the president's first nominee to run the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Ronny Jackson. Trump vowed then that Tester would pay at the polls, and he and his surrogates have since visited Montana six times in support of Rosendale.

On Saturday, the Trump campaign announced the president would be holding his third rally in Montana in support of Rosendale on Thursday.

The debate was the second meeting between Tester and Rosendale, and it illustrated how chippy the campaign has become.

The sharpest exchange between the two men came when they were questioned about television ads that illustrate the negative tone that has come to dominate the campaign: Tester accusing Rosendale of being "all hat, no cattle," and Rosendale saying Tester "invented the media circus."

That prompted both candidates to make broadside attacks on the other. Rosendale accused Tester of being the deciding vote in passing the Affordable Care Act, of not backing Trump or the president's tax cuts and of supporting sanctuary cities and open-border policies.

Tester accused Rosendale of wanting to sell off public lands, kick people with pre-existing conditions off health care, privatize public schools and add dark money to the political system.

Each accusation contained some truth, but didn't tell the whole story.

Tester was one of 60 people in the 100-member Senate to vote to pass the Affordable Care Act in 2010, and the bill needed 60 votes to avoid a Republican filibuster. Tester says he is for securing the southern U.S. border with a combination of a wall, technology and manpower, and that the \$2 trillion added to the national debt was too high a price for Trump's tax cuts.

Rosendale once supported selling land owned by the federal government, but he no longer does. He said he supports a full range of health insurance options, including short-term insurance plans that don't cover pre-existing conditions, and that education decisions should be made at the local level.

The third candidate in Saturday's debate, Libertarian Rick Breckenridge, lamented the negativity. He said nobody has ever seen a negative ad by a Libertarian.

"These are ideological accelerants that they use to activate their base," Breckenridge said. "The angrier they can get them, the more fired up that they think their base can get."

Florida insurers to weather effects of Michael, analysts say

By TERRY SPENCER, Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — Florida's disjointed property insurance system that relies almost exclusively on small and midsize companies will take a multibillion dollar loss from Hurricane Michael, but has sufficient reserves and backups that providers should be able to pay claims without problems, analysts say.

Major national players like State Farm, Allstate and Liberty Mutual write few if any homeowners policies in Florida because of the high risk of hurricane losses, leaving the market to smaller companies and the state-created insurer of last resort, Citizens Property.

Boston-based Karen Clark & Company, which models catastrophes, estimates Florida private insurers will pay \$6 billion in claims for wind and storm surge damage to residential, commercial and industrial properties and vehicles. The estimate doesn't include losses covered by the National Flood Insurance Program, which has about 60,000 policies in the hardest-hit Florida counties. The program had no immediate estimate on its losses.

Analysts say that, despite their smaller size, Florida insurers should be able to cover their Michael losses through re-insurance - policies insurance companies purchase from global companies like Lloyd's of Lon-

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don to cover catastrophic losses. Most of the state's damage from Wednesday's Category 4 storm is in the sparsely populated Panhandle, lessening the financial blow.

Florida insurers "are built to be able to withstand these types of storms that are expected to happen every 10 to 15 years," according to Brian C. Schneider, a senior director at the analytics firm Fitch Ratings. The company said the reinsurance programs performed well after Hurricane Irma last year, which caused about \$50 billion in damages in Florida.

But, Schneider said, the industry believes many Florida insurers would not survive if a major storm made a direct hit on Miami, Tampa or another major city. The re-insurance company Swiss Re estimated last year that a Category 5 storm hitting Miami could potentially cost the industry almost \$200 billion. The state has about \$17 billion in a fund to help private companies pay hurricane claims if they run into trouble.

Major insurance companies fled Florida's homeowners market after 1992's Category 5 Hurricane Andrew hit south of Miami, destroying much of the city of Homestead and causing \$45 billion in damages, adjusted for inflation. After the companies fled, many property owners could only get policies from Citizens Property and its predecessor, peaking at about 1.5 million policies in 2012.

The state, wanting to reduce its exposure, for most of the last 20 years has been enticing smaller, niche companies into the market but required them to obtain re-insurance. The industry was also helped by a 12-year gap between hurricanes hitting the state from 2005 to last year. Their revenue is helped as Florida has the most expensive homeowners insurance in the nation, according to the Insurance Information Institute, with homeowners paying an average annual cost of just under \$2,000 in 2015, the latest year available.

The push worked as Citizens' footprint has shrunk by 72 percent, but remains the state's second-largest property insurer with about 420,000 policies - most of them in South Florida, far from Michael's damage zone. Spokesman Michael Peltier said the company estimates it will receive about 12,000 claims from Michael, but hasn't calculated an expected loss yet. Because its policies are in the highest-risk areas of the state, its average policy costs nearly \$2,600 annually with a range from about \$3,600 in Miami and the Florida Keys to about \$1,700 in Taylor County, not far from where Michael hit.

The state's largest property insurer, Universal Property & Casualty Co., writes almost 600,000 policies. It did not return calls seeking comment.

Turner homers as Dodgers beat Brewers 4-3 in NLCS Game 2

By JAY COHEN, AP Sports Writer

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Justin Turner and the Los Angeles Dodgers know all about performing in the post-season.

Backed into a tough spot Saturday, the red-headed slugger delivered once again.

Shut down for most of the afternoon, Los Angeles staged another late rally and Turner hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning to lift the Dodgers over the Milwaukee Brewers for a 4-3 victory that evened the NL Championship Series at a game apiece.

The high-powered Dodgers had two measly singles off Wade Miley before breaking through against one of baseball's best bullpens. After forcing the Brewers to use six relievers in Milwaukee's 6-5 victory Friday night, the NL West champions put that extended look to good use in Game 2, especially against faltering All-Star Jeremy Jeffress.

"As long as we have outs left, we know we're in the game," Turner said.

Milwaukee wasted a terrific performance by Miley in its first loss in three weeks, ending a 12-game winning streak that produced free burgers for its fans as part of a promotion by a local restaurant chain. Orlando Arcia and Travis Shaw homered, and Lorenzo Cain robbed David Freese of a two-run drive with a leaping grab over the wall in center .

Miley pitched 5 2/3 scoreless innings in his second career playoff start and had two hits in his first multi-hit game since 2014.

"We were in really good shape with the effort that Wade gave us," Brewers manager Craig Counsell

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said. "He pitched beautifully."

The best-of-seven series moves to Dodger Stadium for Game 3 on Monday night. Walker Buehler pitches for Los Angeles and Jhoulys Chacin gets the ball for Milwaukee.

Miley handed a 2-0 lead over to his bullpen and Shaw tacked on a solo drive in the sixth, delighting a yellow towel-waving crowd of 43,905 at Miller Park. But that was the last run for the Brewers, and the Dodgers finished off their rally this time around after nearly taking Game 1.

Cody Bellinger got Los Angeles on the board with an RBI single in the seventh, chasing Corbin Burnes and stopping an 0-for-15 slide in the playoffs that landed him on the bench at the start of the game. Austin Barnes forced in another run with a bases-loaded walk off Jeffress, but the right-hander escaped when pinch-hitter Yasmani Grandal bounced into a double play.

The Dodgers went right back to work in the eighth. Chris Taylor reached on a leadoff single before Turner hit a long drive to left off Jeffress, admiring the ball with his bat pointed toward the sky before rounding the bases and participating in several different celebrations with his giddy teammates on his way to the dugout.

Turner bounced back after striking out a career-worst four times in Game 1.

"It felt good," Turner said. "I knew it was a homer, and it's cool to run around the bases and see all your teammates going crazy, jumping up and down waiting for you."

Jeffress also struggled in Game 1, allowing two hits while only recording one out. He was charged with two runs and six hits in 3 1/3 innings in three appearances in the Division Series against Colorado, including a blown save in the opener.

"It's intense baseball games, man," Jeffress said. "They're going to be like this for the rest of the post-season. We're going to battle, they're going to battle. Just be ready."

Los Angeles has scored eight runs against Milwaukee's bullpen, all in the seventh inning or later.

"The more you face the relievers, the easier it's going to get," Bellinger said.

It was Turner's seventh career playoff homer. He was co-MVP of the NLCS last year with Taylor when Los Angeles made it to the World Series for the first time since 1988.

The Dodgers are making their sixth straight appearance in the playoffs while the upstart Brewers are in the postseason for the first time since 2011. That advantage in experience seemed to pay off — especially when Turner came up with the big blow.

"He personifies everything that I believe in as a baseball player, as a professional. ... He's the glue for our club," manager Dave Roberts said.

Save for Yasiel Puig snapping his bat over his leg after striking out swinging with the bases loaded in the seventh, Los Angeles stayed steady as Milwaukee tried to hold on. Pedro Baez got four outs for the win, and Kenley Jansen worked the ninth for the save. Jansen broke NL MVP-favorite Christian Yelich's bat for a groundout with a runner on second for the final out.

REMEMBER WHEN

Former major league slugger Prince Fielder threw out a ceremonial first pitch. Fielder said Counsell helped him a lot when they played together in Milwaukee.

"There was one time I was thinking about bunting and he told me if I bunt, he'll punch me in the face," a chuckling Fielder said.

UP NEXT

Chacin had his worst start of the season at Los Angeles on Aug. 2, allowing nine runs, eight earned, and five hits in 4 1/3 innings in a 21-5 loss. The veteran right-hander is 5-5 with a 4.96 ERA in 12 career starts at Dodger Stadium. Buehler is making his second career start against Milwaukee. The rookie right-hander tossed seven innings of five-hit ball in a 1-0 loss to the visiting Brewers on July 31.

Jay Cohen can be reached at <http://www.twitter.com/jcohenap>

More AP MLB: <https://apnews.com/tag/MLB> and https://twitter.com/AP_Sports

Trump praises McConnell's role in battle over Kavanaugh

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE, Associated Press

RICHMOND, Ky. (AP) — President Donald Trump heaped praise Saturday on Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, crediting the veteran Kentucky lawmaker's political toughness and acumen during the ugly battle that concluded with Brett Kavanaugh becoming a Supreme Court justice.

"He's Kentucky tough," Trump declared.

Kavanaugh took his seat on the high court this week after overcoming allegations of sexual misconduct dating to his high school and college years. He forcefully denied the charges, and Trump and McConnell firmly backed Kavanaugh as part of their combined quest to populate the judiciary with conservative judges. Kavanaugh could tilt the political balance of the high court in the conservative direction for generations.

"We stuck with him all the way because we knew the facts," Trump said, speaking of himself and McConnell, Kentucky's senior U.S. senator.

"There's nobody tougher. There's nobody smarter. He refused to cave to the radical Democrats' shameful campaign of personal and political destruction," Trump said at a political rally at Eastern Kentucky University before he called McConnell to the mic.

"He stared down the angry left-wing mob. He never blinked and he never looked back and he got us a man who will be one of our great, great Supreme Court justices," Trump said.

McConnell returned the compliment and told the president to continue nominating judges and "we'll keep confirming them."

Democrats fiercely and vocally opposed Kavanaugh, opposition that hardened after Christine Blasey Ford accused him of sexually assaulting her when they were in high school. Other women accused him of other sexually inappropriate behavior.

Protesters swarmed Senate office buildings and hundreds were arrested in a futile attempt to intimidate a handful of holdout senators into voting against confirming Kavanaugh. Trump has taken to referring to Democrats who opposed Kavanaugh as an angry "mob."

The president flew to Kentucky to campaign for three-term Republican Rep. Andy Barr, who is facing a strong challenge from Democrat Amy McGrath, a retired Marine fighter pilot, in one of the country's most-watched House races.

Democrats are focusing on the seat in their drive to regain control of the House. Former Vice President Joe Biden became the highest-profile Democrat to campaign for McGrath when he came to Kentucky on Friday night.

Trump told the rally that a vote for Barr "could make the difference between unbelievable continued success" or failure, and pleaded with his supporters to vote on Nov. 6 to send more Republicans to Congress.

"The only reason to vote Democrat is if you're tired of winning," he said. "I need you to get your friends, get your family, get your neighbors, get your co-workers and get out and vote for Andy Barr," Trump said.

The president sounded familiar themes during the hour-plus rally, touting the economy's performance, a new trade agreement with Canada and Mexico, and his plan for a new military branch devoted to outer space, among a host of other issues that led the crowd to cheer him.

He again panned journalists as the "fake news media" and suggested he could live without their attention.

"I'd like to walk into a place one night and not have any of these guys," Trump said.

With just over three weeks before Election Day, Saturday's rally was part of an aggressive fall campaign push by Trump to energize Republicans and encourage them to help keep his legislative agenda moving forward by voting to keep the GOP in control of both houses of Congress.

In fact, even before Trump left the stage on Saturday night, his campaign announced a three-state Western swing through Missoula, Montana; Mesa, Arizona; and Elko, Nevada, next Thursday through Saturday.

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Searches intensify after body is found in Michael's wake

By **RUSS BYNUM** and **BRENDAN FARRINGTON**, Associated Press

MEXICO BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Rescuers intensified efforts Saturday to find survivors who might be trapped amid the ruins of a small Florida Panhandle community nearly obliterated by Hurricane Michael, where one body has already been recovered, tempers are flaring, and power could be out for weeks.

Crews with dogs went door-to-door in Mexico Beach, pushing aside debris to get inside badly damaged structures in a second wave of searches following what they described as an initial, "hasty" search of the area. About 1,700 search and rescue personnel have checked 25,000 homes, Florida Gov. Rick Scott said.

Authorities say there is little doubt the death toll will rise from the storm, which made landfall Wednesday as a Category 4 hurricane with 155 mph winds (249 kph) and heavy storm surge. The tally of lives lost across the South stood at 15, including the victim found in the rubble of Mexico Beach, where about 1,000 people live.

"Everything is time consuming," said Capt. Ignatius Carroll, of the South Florida Urban Search and Rescue task force. "You don't want to put a rush on a thorough rescue."

More roads were passable along the storm-ravaged coast as crews cleared downed trees and power lines, but traffic lights remained out and long lines heightened tensions at one of the area's few open gas stations.

"I want you to get back in your vehicle and stop!" one woman shouted at a man accosting her as she tried to squeeze her car between two idling vehicles at a Panama City service station running two fuel pumps on a generator.

"You're an idiot!" the man shouted back.

About 4,000 members of Florida's national guard have been called up to deal with the storm, including 500 added on Saturday. Nearly 2,000 law-enforcement officials have been sent into the Panhandle.

Schools will stay closed indefinitely, a hospital halted operations and sent 200 patients to hospitals elsewhere in Florida and in Alabama, and more than 253,000 customers in the Panhandle remain without power.

"Everybody just needs to help each other right now," Scott said after meeting with emergency responders in the Panama City area.

"You feel sorry for people," Scott said. "They might have lost their house. They worry about their kids getting into school. You know, people don't sit and have a whole bunch of extra money in the bank just waiting for a disaster."

Some residents were packing up and getting as far away as they could.

Jeff and Katrina Pearsey, with a ruined rental home in the Panama City area and no indication of when they could again earn a living, said they were heading to Bangor, Maine, where Katrina once worked as a nurse. Several trees came down on their property, including one that smashed through the roof.

"We're getting our stuff and we're going," said Jeff Pearsey, 48. "We're probably done with Panama City."

Michael was one of the most powerful hurricanes to ever make landfall in the U.S. While most residents fled ahead of the storm's arrival, others stayed to face the hurricane. Some barely escaped with their lives as homes were pushed off their foundations and whole neighborhoods became submerged.

Hector Morales, a 57-year-old restaurant cook, never even thought of evacuating. His mobile home wasn't on the beach but when it suddenly began floating during the hurricane, he jumped out and swam to a fishing boat and clambered aboard.

"I lost everything," Morales said. "But I made it."

How many others were not so fortunate was still not clear. By one count, state officials said, 285 people in Mexico Beach defied mandatory evacuation orders and stayed behind. It's unclear how many people stayed behind in nearby communities.

One who did, Albert Blackwell, was preparing on Saturday to cover holes in the roof of his apartment and take a chain saw to trees that fell and broke his windows just outside Panama City.

"I'm the idiot that rode it out here in this place," said Blackwell, 65, sweat dripping from his face. He doesn't plan to leave; he wants to protect his home from looters.

Emergency officials said they've received thousands of calls asking about missing people, but with cell-

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phone service out across a wide area, they found it impossible to know who among those unaccounted for were safe but just unable to dial out to friends or family.

Federal Emergency Management Agency chief Brock Long said he expected the death toll to rise. Searchers were trying to determine if the person found dead in Mexico Beach had been alone or was part of a family.

Authorities have set up distribution centers to dole out food and water to victims. They've also set up a triage tent to treat residents stepping on nails and cutting themselves on debris.

President Donald Trump announced plans to visit Florida and hard-hit Georgia early next week but didn't say what day he would arrive. On Saturday he approved federal disaster aid relief for four Alabama counties affected by the storm.

"We are with you!" he tweeted.

Contributors in Florida include Associated Press writers Russ Bynum in Mexico Beach, Brendan Farrington in Panama City, Gary Fineout in Tallahassee

For the latest on Hurricane Michael, visit <https://www.apnews.com/tag/Hurricanes>

Pope defrocks 2 Chilean bishops accused of sex abuse

By NICOLE WINFIELD and COLLEEN BARRY, Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis on Saturday defrocked two more Chilean bishops accused of sexually abusing minors, and to show greater transparency about how he's responding to the church's global sex abuse crisis, he publicly explained why they were removed.

The Vatican's unusually detailed statement announcing the laicization of retired Archbishop Francisco Jose Cox Huneus and retired Bishop Marco Antonio Ordenes Fernandez signaled a new degree of transparency following past missteps by Francis that showed he had grossly underestimated the gravity of the abuse scandal.

The statement said the two were defrocked for abusing minors with evidence so overwhelming that a canonical trial was unnecessary. The Vatican said the decision cannot be appealed.

Cox, 87 and suffering from dementia, is a member of the Schoenstatt religious order and had served as a bishop in Chillan, Chile before becoming the No. 2 official at the Vatican's Pontifical Council for the Family, a high-profile position during St. John Paul II's papacy.

He returned to Chile and became bishop in La Serena until he left in 1997 under unclear circumstances, but took on administrative jobs in Rome and at the Latin American bishops' conference in Colombia.

In 2002, the Vatican office for bishops asked the Schoenstatt Fathers to take him in one of its houses, apparently because of abuse allegations. He has been living in Germany since then but last year a new, formal accusation was received by the Vatican about an alleged case of abuse that happened in Germany in 2004.

The Schoenstatt Fathers said Saturday the Vatican had asked that Cox remain in their custody. The order said it would cooperate with the justice system, given that victims in Chile have made criminal complaints against him.

"We receive this news with much shame for the damage caused to the victims," the community said. "We show solidarity with them and their profound suffering. Today more than ever, we deplore every act of abuse that offends the dignity of people."

Given the favor that Cox enjoyed by John Paul's inner circle, his fall is yet another stain on John Paul's legacy. It also calls into question the senior Schoenstatt cardinal in Chile, Cardinal Javier Errazuriz, an adviser to Francis who has long been accused of covering up for abusers.

Ordenes Fernandez, 53, for his part, was made bishop of Iquique, in northern Chile, in 2006 at the young age of 42. He retired six years later allegedly for health reasons. But subsequently allegations of abuse were leveled against him.

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Previously, the Vatican has rarely, if ever, announced laicizations of individual priests and only issued a single-line statement if a bishop had resigned, without further explanation.

Before Francis' papacy began in 2013, it was Vatican practice to reveal if resignations were retirements due to age, or for some other 'grave' reason that made them unfit for office. But Francis early on removed even that minimum amount of information.

Advocates for abuse survivors have long complained about the Vatican's secrecy in handling such abuse cases, and the lack of transparency when it arrived at judgments.

Vatican spokesman Greg Burke said Saturday's more detailed statement suggested a new trend in the way the Vatican will announce the results of investigations of bishops accused of abuse. A similarly detailed statement was issued when Francis defrocked Chile's most notorious abuser, the Rev. Fernando Karadima, several weeks ago.

Francis has been under fire for his handling of abuse cases for years, but the issue now is threatening his credibility and his legacy. The church's abuse scandal has exploded anew in the U.S., Chile, Germany and elsewhere, and decisions made early in Francis' papacy made it appear that he did not grasp the gravity of the trauma done to abuse victims.

In May, all active bishops in Chile offered to resign over their collective mishandling of the abuse scandal. So far, Francis has accepted the resignations of seven.

Francis discussed the issue during his Vatican audience Saturday with Chilean President Sebastian Pinera Echenique, who also met with the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Pietro Parolin.

The Vatican said both meetings discussed "the painful scourge of abuse of minors, reiterating the effort of all in collaboration to combat and prevent the perpetration of such crimes and their concealment."

Chilean survivors of abuse applauded the defrockings, saying the two bishops had used their power to abuse children and gotten away with it.

A group of lay Catholics from Cox's old diocese in La Serena said they hoped he would be extradited to face justice in Chile, saying he had abused children as young as five.

"We want to let it be known that the Schoenstatt order has in its hands a criminal, a predator," who should be "judged and punished like any other delinquent," said Juan Rojas, a spokesman for the John XXIII lay group of La Serena.

Chilean abuse victim Juan Carlos Cruz, who has long denounced the abuse cover-up orchestrated by the highest echelons of the Chilean church, said the "circle was getting tighter" around Errazuriz, the retired archbishop of Santiago who is a member of Cox's order.

Francis is under pressure to distance himself from Errazuriz, who remains a member of his kitchen cabinet of nine cardinal advisers.

Associated Press writer Nicole Winfield reported this story at the Vatican and AP writer Colleen Barry reported from Milan. AP journalist Patricia Luna in Santiago, Chile, contributed to this report.

Jim Taylor, fierce fullback for mighty Packers, dies at 83

By GENARO C. ARMAS, AP Sports Writer

Jim Taylor, the ferocious Hall of Fame fullback who embodied the Green Bay Packers' unstoppable ground game during the Vince Lombardi era and helped the team win four NFL titles and the first Super Bowl, died Saturday. He was 83.

He died unexpectedly at a hospital in his hometown of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the team said.

Taylor played on the great Packer teams and was the league's MVP in 1962. He scored the first rushing touchdown in Super Bowl history.

"He was a gritty, classic player on the Lombardi teams and a key figure of those great championship runs," Packers President Mark Murphy said of the player who left his mark on "multiple generations of Packers fans."

Taylor was voted into the Hall in 1976. David Baker, president of the Hall, lauded Taylor for not only per-

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sonifying Lombardi's "run to daylight" philosophy but for living his life as he played game, with "passion, determination and love for all he did."

Taylor spent 10 seasons in the NFL after being drafted in the second round out of LSU in 1958. He joined a backfield that featured Paul Hornung and began to thrive when Lombardi took over in 1959.

Lombardi devised the Packers' "Sweep," which featured pulling guards Jerry Kramer and Fuzzy Thurston clearing the path for Taylor or Hornung running around the end. The 6-foot, 216-pound Taylor best fulfilled the play's punishing effectiveness, a workhorse always charging forward, dragging would-be tacklers along.

"He taught me lots of character, and virtues, and principles," Taylor said of Lombardi, with whom he occasionally feuded, in a 2001 interview with the Pro Football Hall of Fame. "He established a caliber of football that he felt like would be championship."

In 1960, Taylor ran for 1,101 yards, topping Tony Canadeo's franchise mark of 1,052 yards in 1949. It was just the beginning. He Taylor ran for five straight 1,000-yard seasons from 1960-64 and led the Packers seven consecutive times in rushing.

In 1961, Taylor ran for 1,307 yards and scored an NFL-best 15 touchdowns as the Packers rolled to a 37-0 victory over the Giants in Green Bay for Lombardi's first title.

The next year would be Taylor's finest. He ran for 1,474 yards and 19 TDs in 14 games, and scored the only touchdown in the Packers' 16-7 victory over the New York Giants for the second of his four titles.

Taylor said that season, when Green Bay finished 13-1 in the regular season, stood out for him.

"Being voted the MVP of the league in 1962 is something that I look back and cherish," Taylor said. "I felt like I accomplished and achieved my goal."

The 1962 title game pitted the Packers and the Giants, this time in New York, and was played in 40 mph winds and 13-degree temperatures at Yankee Stadium.

Taylor was at his toughest, picking up 85 yards on 31 carries against the vaunted Giants defense featuring linebacker Sam Huff. Taylor sustained a gash to his elbow that required seven stitches at halftime and cut his tongue during the game.

"If Taylor went up to get a program, Huff was supposed to hit him. Wherever Taylor went, Huff went with him," Kramer told The Associated Press in 2008. "I remember sitting next to Jimmy on the way home and he had his topcoat on. He never took it off. He had it over his shoulder and the guy was shivering almost all the way home. He just got the hell beat out of him that day."

That game was one of several that helped launch pro football into the television era, and Taylor's contributions to the Packers endured.

Taylor, also a member of the 1965 title team, finished his Packers career after the 1966 season as the franchise's all-time leading rusher and held single-season marks for yards and TDs. He also scored the Super Bowl's first rushing touchdown when the Packers defeated the Kansas City Chiefs 35-10 in the inaugural championship game between the NFL and AFL.

But his yardage tailed off sharply in 1966 and he was openly resentful of the high salaries paid to newcomers Donny Anderson and Jim Grabowski. Taylor played his final season with the expansion New Orleans Saints.

His 1,474-yard mark from 1962 stood for 41 years until Ahman Green broke it in 2003. Green went on to break the franchise's all-time rushing mark in 2009.

In college, Taylor stayed home to attend LSU, where he lettered in the 1956 and 1957 seasons. He was a first-team All-American during his second season, when he also became teammates with Billy Cannon, who died last May. Taylor led Southeastern Conference in scoring with 59 points in 1956.

"With the ball under his arm, Jimmy Taylor is the finest player I have ever seen," then-LSU coach Paul Dietzel said.

Taylor retired to Baton Rouge and remained close to the LSU football program. He was inducted in the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in 1974.

He was a familiar presence at LSU football and basketball games. Athletic director Joe Alleva called Taylor the "ultimate LSU guy" who "bled purple and gold as well as Green Bay green and gold."

Taylor was often compared to his contemporary, Cleveland's Jim Brown, but Lombardi had different views on two of the most punishing running backs in the league at the time.

"Jim Brown will give you that leg (to tackle) and then take it away from you," Lombardi said. "Jim Taylor will give it to you and then ram it through your chest."

AP Sports Writer Brett Martel in Baton Rouge contributed to this report.

Battles over safe Ebola burials complicate work in Congo

By AL-HADJI KUDRA MALIRO and CARA ANNA, Associated Press

BENI, Congo (AP) — A runaway hearse carrying an Ebola victim has become the latest example of sometimes violent community resistance complicating efforts to contain a Congo outbreak — and causing a worrying new rise in cases.

The deadly virus' appearance for the first time in the far northeast has sparked fear. Suspected contacts of infected people have tried to slip away. Residents have assaulted health teams. The rate of new Ebola cases has more than doubled since the start of this month, experts say.

Safe burials are particularly sensitive as some outraged family members reject the intervention of health workers in the deeply personal moment, even as they put their own lives at risk.

On Wednesday, a wary peace was negotiated over the body of an Ebola victim, one of 95 deaths among 172 confirmed cases so far, Congo's health ministry said. Her family demanded that an acquaintance drive the hearse, while they agreed to wear protective gear to carry the casket. A police vehicle would follow.

On the way to the cemetery, however, the hearse peeled away "at full speed," the ministry said. A violent confrontation followed with local youth once the hearse was found at the family's own burial plot elsewhere. The procession eventually reached the cemetery by day's end.

The next day, with a better understanding of what was at stake, several family members appeared voluntarily at a hospital for Ebola vaccinations, the ministry said.

"They swore no one had manipulated the corpse," it added. Ebola spreads via bodily fluids of those infected, including the dead.

The Beni community where the confrontation occurred is at the center of Ebola containment efforts. To the alarm of the World Health Organization and others, it is also where community resistance has been the most persistent — and where many of the new cases are found.

Chronic mistrust after years of rebel attacks is part of the "toxic mix" in Beni, WHO's emergencies chief, Peter Salama, said in a Twitter post.

So far, the Ebola work in Beni has been suspended twice since the outbreak was declared on Aug. 1. A "dead city" of mourning in response to a rebel attack caused the first. Wednesday's violence caused the second. With each pause, crucial efforts to track thousands of possible Ebola contacts can slide, risking further infections.

Defending themselves, Beni residents have pointed out the shock of having one of the world's most notorious diseases appear along with strangers in biohazard suits who tell them how to say goodbye to loved ones killed by the virus.

"Until now we didn't know enough about Ebola and we felt marginalized when Red Cross agents came in and took the corpse and buried it without family members playing a role," Beni resident Patrick Kyana, who said a friend lost his father to the virus, told The Associated Press. "It's very difficult. Imagine that your son dies and someone refuses to let you assist in his burial. In Africa we respect death greatly."

Until recently many people in Beni didn't believe that Ebola existed, thinking it was a government plot to further delay presidential elections, Kizito Hangi, president of Beni's civil society, told the AP.

Now the population has started to catch on and cooperate, Hangi said. "The problem was that the health workers all came from outside, but local specialists have been included to persuade and inform people in local languages."

The head of emergency Ebola operations with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Cres-

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cent Societies, Jamie LeSueur, acknowledged the problem. In early October two Red Cross volunteers were severely injured in an attack during safe burials in the community of Butemo. Another volunteer was injured in September by people throwing stones.

"It raised a lot of questions for all of us. Where is the violence coming from?" he said. They have stepped up efforts to collaborate with communities and be clearer about messaging while working within cultural norms as best as possible.

"Of course there are limitations," LeSueur said. "Some people like to view the corpse as it is buried but with Ebola it is difficult to open up the body bag." In the emotionally charged environment where families have lost loved ones, a misstep could quickly raise tensions.

While Congo's government is acting to give more protection to its own safe burial teams in Beni, LeSueur noted that the "militarization" of similar efforts in the far deadlier Ebola outbreak in West Africa a few years ago led some residents to hide or not report deaths from the virus.

"I don't think that will be the case in this event" but everyone remembers that lesson, he said.

With its position of neutrality the Red Cross doesn't use armed guards in any case, LeSueur added. "Community acceptance, that's our security."

Anna reported from Johannesburg.

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#MeToo inspires wave of old misconduct reports to colleges

By COLLIN BINKLEY, Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — For 35 years, Ruth D'Eredita tried to dismiss her former professor's behavior — the way he touched her, groped her and kissed her. But last year, as dozens of women came forward to share similar encounters with powerful men, she started to see her memories differently.

"It made me look at that incident and say, no, it was wrong," said D'Eredita, a 1984 graduate of Mount Holyoke College, a women's school in Massachusetts. "I went there with a heart full of passion, eager for scholarship, just to throw myself into it, and this man looked at me as a potential sexual partner."

She's now among a wave of women inspired by the #MeToo movement to report past sexual misconduct to their colleges, breaking sometimes decades of silence in an attempt to acknowledge the wrongdoing, close old wounds and, in some cases, seek justice.

The reports from deep in the past have also raised big questions about how to investigate such cases and how to usher them through newer discipline systems built upon updated ideas about right and wrong.

In many ways, schools say, they face the same frustrations that arose in last month's Senate hearing over Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, who was accused of sexually assaulting another teenager in the mid-1980s. Memories fade. No one agrees. Witnesses stay quiet.

But unlike the Senate or the White House, which have broad investigative powers, colleges are left to tease out the truth with legal authority that does not extend beyond their campuses.

"We don't have subpoena power. We don't have the same kind of reach or authority that courts would have," said Rob Kent, interim chief of the Title IX office at Michigan State University.

Colleges from New England to the West Coast say they've seen an uptick in "historical" complaints over the past year, a shift they credit to the national reckoning sparked by #MeToo. Cases that were never reported in the past are coming to light as much as 50 years later.

In the first half of 2018, for example, Michigan State University received 22 complaints from two decades ago or longer, according to public records obtained by The Associated Press. In the previous five years combined, there were just nine cases that old.

Most cases involve women who say they were harassed or assaulted by male professors, advisers or others who worked on campus.

"People feel they've got a voice," said Saunie Schuster, a lawyer who advises colleges across the country

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and co-founded the Association of Title IX Administrators. "I think it's a trend we're going to see for the coming few years."

The uptick has prompted some schools to rethink policies that placed time limits on investigations. Rutgers University dropped a two-year limit this month, saying it will now look into all sexual misconduct complaints.

At Mount Holyoke, D'Eredita's case is among at least three that have emerged from the 1980s. In a letter to the school in October 2017, she described how a professor drove her to an art museum for an academic outing, but then began forcefully kissing and groping her in the car and later in an empty museum gallery.

The professor, who still works at the college, denied the accusation. The school hired an outside firm to investigate but ultimately concluded there was not enough evidence to prove her account.

She said she views the final decision as "wrong but understandable."

"I know what he did to me. I know where he did it. I have been reliving it," said D'Eredita, who now lives in Vienna, Virginia.

Mount Holyoke officials declined to comment on the case but said they are crafting a new policy on historical complaints and have hired the school's first full-time Title IX coordinator, among other changes.

D'Eredita's case illustrates the bind that some colleges are in: They encourage victims to come forward but struggle to verify their claims. Often it comes down to deciding which side is more credible, based on whatever scant evidence may exist.

Even deciding whether to investigate can be a challenge. Many alleged offenders have retired or taken new jobs, placing them outside the school's reach. And while federal rules now require schools to take action if a "hostile environment" exists, they are not obligated to explore older cases that pose no threat.

As a result, some schools pass by older complaints to focus on newer ones.

Kellie Brennan, Title IX coordinator at Ohio State University, said her office takes complaints as they come in and tries to determine if they need to be addressed. "The older they are, the less likely that is," she said.

Additionally, many schools weigh alleged misconduct against rules that were in force at the time, not those in effect now. The issue often arises in cases dealing with relationships between faculty and students, which many schools allowed until the past decade.

"What constitutes harassment might be much different now than what it was in 1980, but the reporting that we're getting is based on standards of conduct that apply today," said Kent, at Michigan State. If officials find the offense wouldn't violate rules at the time, he added, "a lot of times it stops right there."

Investigations can also carry a hefty cost. Ohio State has paid an outside firm \$1.4 million for an ongoing inquiry into a former team doctor accused of sexual misconduct against scores of athletes dating back to the 1970s.

And even when schools verify misconduct, if the offender has been hired elsewhere, many opt not to notify the new employer for fear of a defamation suit. Only recently have some started drafting policies requiring such disclosure, including the University of Wisconsin.

Campus officials from across the country gathered to discuss such matters on Thursday at a conference for Title IX administrators. Michael Dunn, who helped lead a panel on the topic, encouraged officials to ask victims what they hope to gain from reporting. Some want an investigation, he said, but some just want their stories to be heard.

"We need to be really thoughtful and sensitive to what's motivating someone to come forward now," Dunn, who is Title IX director at St. Mary's College of Maryland, said in an interview. "What are the steps that they're looking for, and what are the steps the college needs to take?"

D'Eredita said she was looking for justice, but that's not all. By coming forward, she hoped to make sure that what happened to her does not happen to young women today. And if it does, she says, she hopes they speak up.

Follow Collin Binkley on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/cbinkley> .

As sea ice melts, some say walrus need better protection

By DAN JOLING, Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Given a choice between giving birth on land or sea ice, Pacific walrus mothers most often choose ice.

Likewise, they prefer sea ice for molting, mating, nursing and resting between dives for food. Trouble is, as the century progresses, there's going to be far less ice around.

How well walrus cope with less sea ice is at the heart of a legal fight over whether walrus should be listed as a threatened species, giving them an added protection against human encroachments.

The federal government in 2008 listed polar bears as a threatened species because of diminished sea ice brought on by climate warming. That year the Center for Biological Diversity petitioned to do the same for walrus.

However, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concluded in October 2017 that walrus are adapting and no one has proven that they "need" sea ice.

"It is unknown whether Pacific walrus can give birth, conduct their nursing during immediate post-natal care period, or complete courtship on land," said Justice Department lawyers in defending the decision.

A federal judge in Alaska will hear the center's lawsuit challenging the government's decision not to list the walrus as threatened. There is no court date set for the lawsuit.

Pacific walrus males grow to 12 feet (3.7 meters) long and up to 4,000 pounds (1,815 kilograms) — more than an average midsize sedan. Females reach half that weight. Walrus dive and use sensitive whiskers to find clams and snails in dim light on the sea floor.

Historically hunted for ivory tusks, meat and blubber, walrus since 1972 have been shielded by the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Only Alaska Native subsistence hunters may legally kill them.

An Endangered Species Act listing would require the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to designate critical habitat for walrus and plan for their recovery. Federal agencies, before issuing permits for development such as offshore drilling, would be required to ensure walrus and their habitat would not be jeopardized.

Inaccessibility protected walrus for decades, but a rapid decline in summer sea ice has made them vulnerable.

In the Chukchi Sea between Alaska and Russia, where Pacific walrus females and juveniles spend their summer, ice could be absent during that season by 2060 or sooner, according to the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Since 1981, an area more than double the size of Texas — 610,000 square miles (1.58 million square kilometers) — has become unavailable to Arctic marine mammals by summer's end, according to the National Snow and Ice Data Center.

By late August, as sea ice recedes beyond the shallow continental shelf, female walrus and their calves face a choice: Stay on ice over water too deep to reach the ocean floor for feeding — or come ashore for rest periods, where the smallest animals can be crushed in stampedes triggered by a hunter, airplane or bear.

More open water already has meant more ship traffic. Walrus also could find more humans in their habitat with a reversal of U.S. policy on Arctic offshore drilling. Former President Barack Obama permanently withdrew most Arctic waters from lease sales, but President Donald Trump in April 2017 announced he was reversing Obama, a decision being challenged in court. The administration's proposed five-year offshore leasing plan includes sales in the Chukchi Sea.

Designating walrus as threatened would mean oil exploration companies would have to consult with federal wildlife officials to make sure drill rigs don't endanger the animals. However, Trump's Interior and Commerce departments in July proposed administrative changes to the species law that would end automatic protections for threatened plants and animals and set limits on designating habitat as crucial to recovery.

Walrus are notoriously difficult to count — and population estimates range widely. A preliminary one in 2017 put the number at 283,213, with the caveat that it could be as low as 93,000 or as high as 478,975.

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The array of stresses and uncertainty about the walrus' future are enough evidence for listing them as threatened, the Center for Biological Diversity argues.

In the last decade, walrus that gathered on shores have suffered hundreds of stampede deaths, and the loss of ice floes has pushed them away from feeding areas, said Shaye Wolf, climate science director for the nonprofit conservation group.

"They're not adapting. They're suffering," Wolf said.

Scientists advising the Fish and Wildlife Service say the answer is not so clear cut, and much is unknown about how sea ice loss will affect walrus.

Chad Jay of the U.S. Geological Survey said it's unknown, for example, why female walrus give birth on ice instead of land.

"One of the thoughts is that ... there's more protection for the young from predators," he said. "They're offshore, and it's a cleaner environment, too, for giving birth. But those are hypotheses that are difficult to prove."

A nursing walrus needs to consume more than 7,800 clams per day, according to a federal assessment. And summer is the usual time for animals to fatten up.

When ice melted in alarming quantities, forcing females and their calves to shore in herds as large as 40,000, government scientists in 2008 tagged and tracked walrus to see how the changes affected their feeding.

They learned that females, forced to rest on beaches instead of ice, were still visiting their favorite feeding areas. However, the longer swims drew down fat reserves critical for lactating.

The walrus should be fine, the study concluded, if they can replace calories with additional feeding in winter, but whether that's happening is unknown.

Undernourished females produce smaller offspring less likely to survive. The declining size of polar bear cubs in the southern Beaufort Sea was a factor in the decision to list them as threatened.

Endangered species law does not require perfect science to demonstrate adverse effects, Wolf said. When there's uncertainty, she said, the benefit of the doubt goes to the species.

There have been previous geological time periods when walrus experienced a lack of sea ice, said Jay.

"Maybe they can get through that sort of an environment. Maybe they can't," he said. "No one really knows."

Bloomberg's New Hampshire event fuels White House bid talk

By PAUL STEINHAUSER, Associated Press

NASHUA, N.H. (AP) — A quick stop by former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg on Saturday in the state that holds the first primary in the race for the White House is sparking more speculation about a possible White House bid by the billionaire media company founder and gun safety advocate.

Bloomberg was the main attraction at the get-out-the-vote rally for six candidates running for New Hampshire's state House of Representatives. The event was organized by Moms Demand Action, an arm of Bloomberg's Everytown for Gun Safety organization set up after the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings.

Bloomberg's trip came just days after he re-registered as a Democrat after years as a Republican and an independent. Asked by The Associated Press if he has any timetable for deciding on a presidential bid, he said "right now I'm focused on November 6, plain and simple."

But he added that after the midterm elections, "we'll see what happens down the road."

Speaking in front of dozens of Moms Demand Action activists, many of them wearing the group's red T-shirts, Bloomberg told the crowd "together, Moms Demand and Everytown have landed some big punches against the NRA. We haven't knocked them out yet, not by a longshot, but we've got them on the ropes. And while we're getting stronger and stronger every day, they're getting weaker."

He also thanked gun safety activists in New Hampshire for helping to defeat earlier this year in the Statehouse "two bad bills that would have forced colleges to allow guns on campus and punish cities and

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towns for enacting strong guns laws. You did that. You did stop them.”

Bloomberg, who’s spent millions of his own money this year to help elect Democrats in the midterms, said “we’ve got to send a message to elected officials. Vote for commonsense gun laws or we will throw you out.”

Prior to the event at Nashua City Hall, Bloomberg met with the city’s longtime major, Jim Donchess, who’s a member of Bloomberg’s Mayors Against Illegal Guns group. He also met with Manchester Mayor Joyce Craig, a supporter of tighter gun restrictions, and the six state legislative candidates who were endorsed by Moms Demand Action.

While November’s election and the issue of guns were the focus of Bloomberg’s visit to the Granite State, the trip fueled speculation that the 76-year-old former three-term New York City mayor is serious about a 2020 presidential run. Bloomberg mulled, but decided against White House runs in 2008 and 2016.

Asked if the party he left nearly two decades ago has become increasingly liberal, he said “I don’t know that it’s moved further left. I think that’s conventional wisdom by some people.”

Instead, Bloomberg argued that “there are an awful lot of other people who say if you talk to Democrats, they’re much more centrist than people understand.”

Donchess told The Associated Press that if Bloomberg ultimately decides on running for the Democratic presidential nomination, he may fare well in New Hampshire thanks to his advocacy on gun safety.

Authenticity now the attribute craved by national Democrats

By KEN THOMAS, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Beto O’Rourke’s response to a question during a Houston town hall meeting this past summer lasted only four minutes. But for some Democrats it said everything. It was authentic.

In an exchange that quickly went viral, the Democrat congressman and Senate hopeful was asked whether he found NFL players who knelt during the national anthem to be disrespectful. A passionate O’Rourke told the room of Texans, not necessarily a sympathetic crowd, that he could “think of nothing more American than to peacefully stand up, or take a knee, for your rights.”

Clips of his answer were viewed millions of times online, generating buzz in O’Rourke’s uphill battle against Republican Sen. Ted Cruz.

For national Democrats, it was the type of moment that epitomized a common buzzword in Democratic circles — “authenticity” — and the push to present candidates in a more open, unvarnished manner offering a window to their values.

One of the widely accepted lessons from Democrat Hillary Clinton’s loss in 2016 to Republican Donald Trump was that voters gravitate toward candidates they perceive as real, even if flawed. They’re drawn to politicians willing to deliver unexpected candor.

“I don’t think politicians give voters enough credit for the fact that people want to know who you are, what you stand for and what your values are,” said Karen Finney, a Democratic strategist. “Even if they disagree with you, if they think you’re coming from a principled position, they can respect that.”

In an effort to deliver that authenticity this election season, the party has tried to assemble a group of candidates with nontraditional backgrounds. They’ve recruited veterans, women and politicians with diverse histories. They’ve encouraged them to talk openly about their lives in ads and to make casual, unscripted social media posts.

There’s no hiding that some of this effort borrows from the man Democrats are hungry to beat.

Trump’s fans often say they admired his candor and willingness to defy political conventions. Another model is Bernie Sanders’ campaign against Clinton for the nomination, which was marked by the Vermont senator’s unwillingness to play the part of a slick, poll-driven candidate as he railed against income inequality. Clinton was often described as too careful, rehearsed and robotic.

The push also coincides as the #MeToo movement has demanded greater accountability, and social media allows a candidate such as O’Rourke to draw thousands of Twitter views of his speeches from behind the wheel of his pickup truck.

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His campaign announced a record \$38.1 million raised during the past three months.

Democrats who may consider a White House run in 2020 are watching closely. They've become more accessible in the months before the formal start of that campaign.

Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren has released a decade worth of tax returns, held frequent town hall meetings and started engaging with journalists for Senate hallway interviews after shunning them in the past.

In one notable move, Warren cooperated with an exhaustive Boston Globe investigation during the summer. The paper found that the senator's career as a law professor was not helped by her assertions that she has a Native American heritage.

Other senators who are potential 2020 contenders, including Kamala Harris of California, Cory Booker of New Jersey and Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, displayed a visceral reaction to the Supreme Court nomination of Brett Kavanaugh and tried to delay the proceedings during the then-judge's first appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Harris later staged a walk out before a key vote as senators considered allegations of sexual assault made against Kavanaugh.

"We are at a point in this country where there is greater distrust of politics and political institutions than at any point in modern history," said Jesse Ferguson, a Democratic strategist and veteran of presidential and congressional campaigns. "If you can't show what you're doing and why you're doing it, nobody will believe you will actually do it."

In less contentious settings, potential candidates such as Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper are pointing to their unusual backgrounds to vouch for their everyman appeal. Hickenlooper notes that he was laid off from his job as a geologist during the 1980s, a period that led him to open a Denver brew pub. He later became the city's mayor.

"I was out of work for almost two years and you see a different person in the mirror," Hickenlooper said at a recent Brookings Institution event alongside Gov. John Kasich, R-Ohio, as he pointed to the need for skills development.

The emphasis on authenticity has been a hallmark of a number of Democratic candidates this year who are pledging to challenge status-quo politics.

Kentucky congressional candidate Amy McGrath, for example, has drawn nearly 1.9 million views on YouTube for an ad that describes her path to becoming a combat pilot in the Marines and her pledge to protect health care.

The South Dakota's race for governor features Billie Sutton, a state senator and former rodeo star who was paralyzed from the waist down more than a decade ago after he was thrown from his horse at a North Dakota rodeo. Sutton, an underdog against Rep. Kristi Noem, a Republican backed by Trump, says the injuries were a turning point in his decision to enter public service.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Oct. 14, the 287th day of 2018. There are 78 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 14, 1960, the idea of a Peace Corps was suggested by Democratic presidential candidate John F. Kennedy to an audience of students at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

On this date:

In 1586, Mary, Queen of Scots, went on trial in England, accused of committing treason against Queen Elizabeth I. (Mary was beheaded in February 1587.)

In 1912, Theodore Roosevelt, campaigning for the presidency, was shot in the chest in Milwaukee. Despite the wound, he went ahead with a scheduled speech.

In 1926, "Winnie-the-Pooh" by A.A. Milne was first published by Methuen & Co. of London.

In 1933, Nazi Germany announced it was withdrawing from the League of Nations.

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In 1939, a German U-boat torpedoed and sank the HMS Royal Oak, a British battleship anchored at Scapa Flow in Scotland's Orkney Islands; 833 of the more than 1,200 men aboard were killed.

In 1947, U.S. Air Force Capt. Charles E. ("Chuck") Yeager (YAY'-gur) became the first test pilot to break the sound barrier as he flew the experimental Bell XS-1 (later X-1) rocket plane over Muroc Dry Lake in California.

In 1964, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was named winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 1968, the first successful live telecast from a manned U.S. spacecraft was transmitted from Apollo 7.

In 1977, singer Bing Crosby died outside Madrid, Spain, at age 74.

In 1987, a 58-hour drama began in Midland, Texas, as 18-month-old Jessica McClure slid 22 feet down a narrow abandoned well at a private day care center; she was rescued on Oct. 16.

In 2001, as U.S. jets opened a second week of raids in Afghanistan, President George W. Bush sternly rejected a Taliban offer to discuss handing over Osama bin Laden to a third country.

In 2007, the reality TV show "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" premiered on E! Entertainment Television.

Ten years ago: Big banks started falling in line behind a revised bailout plan that was fast becoming more of a buy-in; the Bush administration announced it would fork over as much as \$250 billion in exchange for partial ownership. A grand jury in Orlando, Fla. returned charges of first-degree murder, aggravated child abuse and aggravated manslaughter against Casey Anthony in the death of her 2-year-old daughter, Caylee. (She was acquitted in July 2011.) Syria formally recognized Lebanon for the first time by establishing diplomatic relations with its neighbor. Canada's Conservative Party won in national elections but fell short of a parliamentary majority.

Five years ago: Americans Eugene Fama and Lars Peter Hansen of the University of Chicago and Robert Shiller of Yale University were named recipients of the Nobel prize in economics. The Los Angeles Dodgers won their first game of the NL championship series, beating the St. Louis Cardinals 3-0 in Game 3.

One year ago: A truck bombing in Somalia's capital killed more than 500 people in one of the world's deadliest attacks in years; officials blamed the attack on the extremist group al-Shabab and said it was meant to target Mogadishu's international airport, but the bomb detonated in a crowded street after soldiers opened fire. The board of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences revoked the membership of movie mogul Harvey Weinstein, after published reports about sexual harassment and rape allegations against Weinstein. The death toll from wildfires burning in northern California reached 40; they were the deadliest group of simultaneous blazes in the state's history.

Today's Birthdays: Classical pianist Gary Graffman is 90. Movie director Carroll Ballard is 81. Former White House counsel John W. Dean III is 80. Country singer Melba Montgomery is 81. Fashion designer Ralph Lauren is 79. Singer Sir Cliff Richard is 78. Singer-musician Justin Hayward (The Moody Blues) is 72. Actor Greg Evigan is 65. TV personality Arleen Sorokin is 63. World Golf Hall of Famer Beth Daniel is 62. Singer-musician Thomas Dolby is 60. Actress Lori Petty is 55. Former New York Yankees manager Joe Girardi is 54. Actor Steve Coogan is 53. Singer Karyn White is 53. Actor Edward Kerr is 52. Actor Jon Seda is 48. Country musician Doug Virden is 48. Country singer Natalie Maines (The Dixie Chicks) is 44. Actress-singer Shaznay Lewis (All Saints) is 43. Singer Usher is 40. TV personality Stacy Keibler is 39. Actor Ben Wishaw is 38. Actor Jordan Brower is 37. Director Benh Zeitlin is 36. Actress Skyler Shaye is 32. Actor-comedian Jay Pharoah is 31. Actor Max Thieriot is 30.

Thought for Today: "Almost anybody can learn to think or believe or know, but not a single human being can be taught to feel." — E.E. Cummings, American poet (born this date in 1894, died 1962).