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Thursday, October 25, 2018

All State Chorus and Orchestra at the Rapid City Civic Center

Football: Boys Varsity Playoffs 2nd Round

Friday, October 26, 2018

All State Chorus and Orchestra at the Rapid City Civic Center

Saturday, October 27, 2018

ACT Test (Cancelled) Groton Area High School (This testing center has been closed for this test by ACT due to low registration numbers. Students will be notified by ACT of their new testing center assignment.)

All State Chorus and Orchestra at the Rapid City Civic Center

Oral Interp (Pumpkinstakes) at Watertown High School

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



"From minor scratches to a complete rebuild . . . we can do it all!"

NOW OPEN

Flarris
Auto Body AB DN

225 Brown County Hwy 19 South
Aberdeen: 605/725-4900

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Region 1	Seed Points	W-L
Groton Area	43.448	20-9
Aberdeen Roncalli	43.375	18-6
Redfield/Doland	43.040	19-6
Milbank	40.643	14-14
Webster Area	38.444	9-18
Sisseton	37.929	9-19
Tiospa Zina	36.227	4-18

Groton propelled to number one

As the volleyball results were coming in, Groton Area moved from number two to number one in the region. If nothing else changes, the Groton Area volleyball team will have a first round bye in the regional competition.

Action is to start Oct. 31 and as it sets right now, Tiospa Zina will travel to Aberdeen Roncalli. Roncalli fell to second overnight behind Groton Area. Sisseton will go to Redfield/Doland and Webster Area will travel to Milbank.

The second round will be played Nov. 1 and Groton Area will play the winner of the Redfield/Doland-Tiospa Zina game in Groton.

Five Wolves score in double figures in exhibition victory over Waldorf

Aberdeen, S.D. – The Northern State University men’s basketball team downed Waldorf University 103-66 in exhibition play on Tuesday evening. The Wolves tallied 47 points in the first half, and added another 56 in the second.

Northern shot 57.6 percent from the floor, 69.6 percent from the arch, and 76.0 percent from the foul line in the win. They out-rebounded the Warriors 34-to-29 and forced 11 turnovers while only giving up six. NSU added a game high 19 assists and three steals.

As a team they, tallied 56 points off the bench, 30 points in the paint, 24 second chance points, and 17 points off turnovers. The Wolves combined for 16 made buckets from the 3-point line, including nine in the second half. They held the largest lead of the game, 40 points, with 1:09 left to play in regulation.

A total of 14 Wolves entered the game for NSU, led by sophomore Andrew Kallman with 15 points. The Chaska native shot 5-of-7 from the field, with all five made field goals coming from beyond the arc. Justin Decker and Cole Dahl followed with 12 points apiece, while Bo Fries and Roko Dominovic rounded out the double-digit scorers with 11 and ten points respectively.

Fries also went perfect from the 3-points line, knocking down all three attempts. Gabe King added nine points, followed by Parker Fox and Jordan Belka with eight points each. Mason Stark tallied five points, while Lincoln Jordre recorded four in just five minutes of action. Ethan Kranhold, Justin Balcome, and Gus Reede combined for the final team points in the win, each hitting a long-range bucket.

Dahl led the team with seven rebounds, including three offensive boards, followed by Fox with six boards of his own. Dominovic dished out a team leading six assists, while Kallman, Fries, Dahl, and Fox each recorded two apiece. Balcome led the team defensively with two blocks, while Fries, King, and Fox each tallied a steal.

The Wolves officially kick-off the 2018-19 season at the Hall of Fame Classic with two games versus Northwest Missouri State and Queens. Northern will also be showcased at the annual winter media day next Tuesday, October 30 at 11 a.m. in the Royal Order of the Gyps Team Room.

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GHS Class of 1978

The GHS Class of 1978 celebrated its class reunion over the homecoming week. The class sported one of the largest classes in GHS with 85 students. Classmates as far as Georgia, Texas, Colorado, New Mexico, Montana and Wisconsin attended. (Courtesy Photo)





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

Paid for by Fjeldheim for County Commission

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.

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Today in Weather History

October 24, 1989: A storm in the western U.S. produced up to three feet of snow in the mountains around Lake Tahoe, with 21 inches reported at Donner Summit. Thunderstorms in northern California produced 3.36 inches of rain at Redding to establish a 24 hour record for October, and bring their rainfall total for the month to a record 5.11 inches. Chiefly "Indian Summer" type weather prevailed across the rest of the nation. Fifteen cities in the north central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date as readings soared into the 70s and 80s. Record highs included 74 degrees at International Falls, Minnesota and 86 degrees at Yankton, South Dakota. Record highs also occurred across parts of central and northeast South Dakota. The record highs were 80 degrees at Mobridge and Sisseton, 83 degrees at Aberdeen, and 84 degrees at Pierre.

1785 - A four day rain swelled the Merrimack River in New Hampshire and Massachusetts to the greatest height of record causing extensive damage to bridges and mills. (David Ludlum)

1878: The Gale of 1878 was an intense Category 2 hurricane that was active between October 18 and October 25. It caused extensive damage from Cuba to New England. Believed to be the strongest storm to hit the Washington - Baltimore region since hurricane records began in 1851.

1878 - A hurricane produced widespread damage across North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. At Philadelphia PA, the hurricane was the worst of record. (David Ludlum)

1937 - A snow squall in Buffalo NY tied up traffic in six inches of slush. (David Ludlum)

1947 - The Bar Harbor holocaust occurred in Maine when forest fires consumed homes and a medical research institute. The fires claimed 17 lives, and caused thirty million dollars damage. (David Ludlum)

1951 - Sacramento, CA, reported a barometric pressure of 29.42 inches, to establish a record for October. (The Weather Channel)

1969 - Unseasonably cold air gripped the northeastern U.S. Lows of 10 degrees at Concord, NH, and 6 degrees at Albany NY established October records. (The Weather Channel)

1987 - Snow fell across northeast Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin overnight, with five inches reported at Poplar Lake MN and Gunflint Trail MN. Thunderstorm rains caused flash flooding in south central Arizona, with street flooding reported around Las Vegas NV. Strong northwesterly winds gusting to 50 mph downed some trees and power lines in western Pennsylvania and the northern panhandle of West Virginia. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Strong winds circulating around a deep low pressure centered produced snow squalls in the Great Lakes Region, with six inches reported at Ironwood MI. Wind gusts to 80 mph were reported at State College PA. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1989 - A storm in the western U.S. produced up to three feet of snow in the mountains around Lake Tahoe, with 21 inches reported at Donner Summit. Thunderstorms in northern California produced 3.36 inches of rain at Redding to establish a 24 hour record for October, and bring their rainfall total for the month to a record 5.11 inches. Chiefly "Indian Summer" type weather prevailed across the rest of the nation. Fifteen cities in the north central U.S. reported record high temperatures for the date as readings soared into the 70s and 80s. Record highs included 74 degrees at International Falls MN, and 86 degrees at Yankton SD. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

2005 - Hurricane Wilma reached the U.S. coastline near Everglades City in Florida with maximum sustained winds near 120 mph. The hurricane accelerated across south Florida and the Miami/Fort Lauderdale area, exiting the coast later the same day. There were 10 fatalities in Florida, and nearly 6 million people lost power, the most widespread power outage in Florida history. Preliminary estimates of insured losses in Florida were over \$6 billion, while uninsured losses were over \$12 billion.

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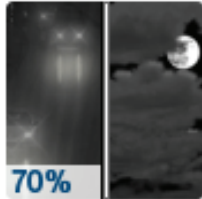
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Today



Mostly Cloudy
then
Scattered
Showers and
Breezy

Tonight



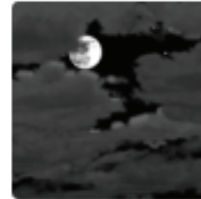
Rain Likely
then Mostly
Cloudy

Thursday



Mostly Cloudy

Thursday
Night



Mostly Cloudy

Friday



Partly Sunny

Mostly Cloudy with Scattered Showers (Mainly Aftn/Overnight)

Mild, Highs 54° East – 70° West River
Breezy Through the Day ⇄



Published on: 10/24/2018 at 3:29AM

A system will move into the area this afternoon, and linger through tonight. Scattered showers are expected, but temperatures should also be relatively mild. Showers may last into Thursday over the eastern Dakotas, and western Minnesota.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 54 °F at 5:04 PM

Low Outside Temp: 24 °F at 7:39 AM

High Gust: 12 mph at 8:47 PM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 83° in 1989

Record Low: 6° in 1917

Average High: 54°F

Average Low: 30°F

Average Precip in Oct.: 1.61

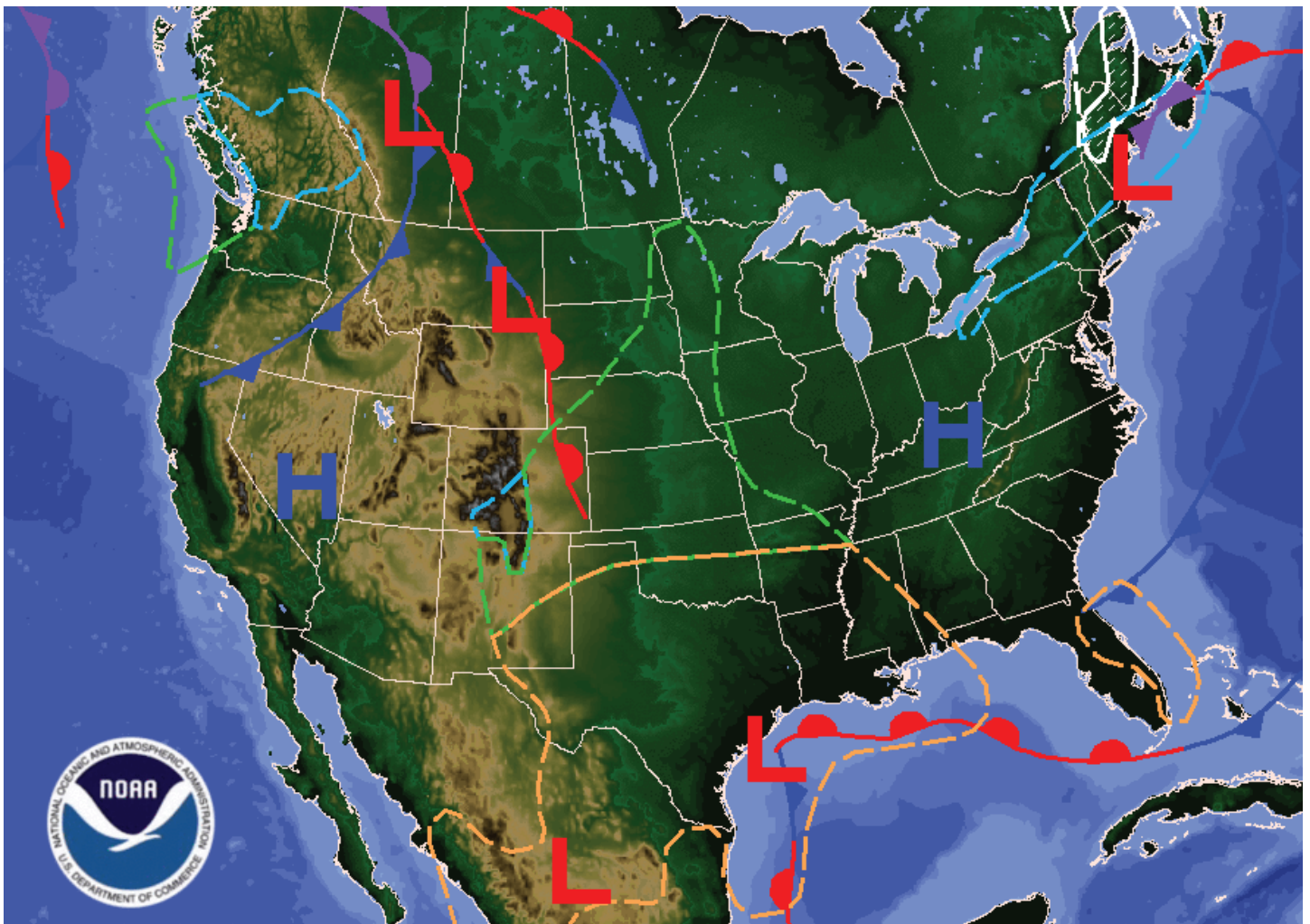
Precip to date in Oct.: 1.42

Average Precip to date: 20.09

Precip Year to Date: 15.03

Sunset Tonight: 6:33 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:03 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Oct 24, 2018, issued 4:45 AM EDT
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Mcreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain	Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Rain and T'Storms	Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Rain and Snow	Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Snow	Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)

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GUIDED BY GOD

The oldest map ever discovered was drawn on a clay tablet in 2300 B.C. It pictures a mountain-lined valley in Babylonia.

A thousand years later, in 1300 B.C., the Egyptians began making maps. The Greeks, however, were the first to make accurate maps. Then, the Romans used those maps to conquer nations and countries and collect taxes.

The Muslims were the next mapmakers. But they made maps for a different purpose. Their faith demands that they face their holy city when they pray. They needed to know the location of Mecca so they could face and bow in that direction when they prayed.

The people of Europe began their map-making in the Middle Ages. They made their maps by reading the Bible.

But no nation or people made maps of the world until the 1400's A.D.

Today, no one would begin a journey without a map or GPS. Yet, we are forever moving into the unknown and need detailed guidance and directions.

A Psalmist once prayed, Lead me, O Lord, in Your righteousness...make straight Your way before me.

Our Lord knows our end from the very beginning. He is all-wise, never-failing, ever-present and constantly waiting to protect us from harms way. He can be our travel consultant on lifes journey and will personally counsel us on the safest and most satisfying paths.

With God above us, the Savior beside us and the Holy Spirit within us, we will end our journey with Him.

Prayer: Thank You, Heavenly Father, for the plan You have established for each of us. May we follow it willingly. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 5:8 Lead me, O Lord, in Your righteousness...make straight Your way before me.

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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

News from the Associated Press

Convicted killer sentenced to 45 years for fatal stabbing

STURGIS, S.D. (AP) — A Montana woman has been sentenced to 45 years in prison for a fatal stabbing in Meade County last year.

Thirty-eight-year-old Stormy Marsh was convicted of first-degree manslaughter for stabbing Phyllis Mastin in her home in Summerset in August of 2017. Authorities say the 49-year-old woman had been stabbed dozens of times.

KOTA-TV reports Marsh's attorney, Randal Connelly, argued for a sentence of less than 30 years, claiming Marsh was mentally ill. The judge imposed a 60-year sentence, but suspended 15 of those years Tuesday.

Information from: KOTA-TV, <http://www.kotatv.com>

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

05-28-62-65-70, Mega Ball: 5, Megaplier: 3

(five, twenty-eight, sixty-two, sixty-five, seventy; Mega Ball: five; Megaplier: three)

Estimated jackpot: \$1.60 Billion

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$620 million

Noem, Sutton spar over income tax claim in governor debate

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Republican Kristi Noem repeatedly sought to banish Democratic challenger Billie Sutton's moderate image Tuesday during their first South Dakota governor's race debate, even as Sutton rebuffed claims that he supports an income tax in the heavily conservative state.

Noem, a four-term congresswoman favored to become the state's first female governor, repeated her campaign's claim during the KELO-TV debate that Sutton backs a state income tax and tied him to Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

Sutton, a self-described "pro-life and pro-Second Amendment" moderate, called the tax claim "unequivocally not true." A state senator and former professional rodeo cowboy paralyzed in a 2007 rodeo accident, Sutton would be the first Democrat to hold the office in decades.

His campaign got a boost in the past week with endorsements including the backing of the state's largest newspaper, the Sioux Falls Argus Leader. But Noem is significantly out-raising and out-spending Sutton in the race.

Here are the debate takeaways:

POLITICAL JABS

Noem took aim at Sutton's trustworthiness during the debate, saying his background and votes in the Legislature are different than his rhetoric in the governor's race.

"If Billie believed everything that he said in this campaign, he'd be a Republican, but he's not. He's a Democrat," Noem said.

Sutton labeled Noem part of the status quo and said voters can't trust her to clean up state government because she's broken campaign promises. Sutton took aim at Noem for getting significant campaign

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contributions from "out-of-state special interests."

In her pre-general election campaign finance report, Noem reported raising nearly \$975,000 from out-of-state or federal political action committees, compared to \$23,500 for Sutton.

TAXES

Noem frequently invoked her campaign's allegation that Sutton supports a state income tax, a claim that Sutton denied during the debate. It's a delicate subject in deeply conservative South Dakota, which is one of only seven states without such a tax. An Associated Press Fact Check of the allegation found it mostly false.

But Noem said Sutton floated it as an idea for revenue during a state education task force and has been hoping South Dakota gets an income tax.

"I do not support a state income tax, though, unequivocally," Sutton said. "You're hearing it here."

GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

While the candidates sparred over trustworthiness, both emphasized their government transparency plans in the wake of major financial misconduct scandals that grabbed South Dakota headlines. (Neither one was involved.)

Noem dove into the specifics of her proposal, which includes enacting a reporter shield law, limiting the state's ability to negotiate confidential settlements unless necessary to protect a victim's privacy and curtailing executive sessions at meetings.

"The taxpayers need to trust their state government again," Noem said.

Sutton turned to his legislative record that includes legislation to make government documents such as emails, correspondence and calendars public records under South Dakota law. He also called for increasing the retention time for fiscal records.

"I've led the charge on this issue to clean up state government," Sutton said. "It's the establishment that has been fighting me on this, and Congresswoman Noem is part of the status quo and part of the establishment."

BATHROOM BILL

Noem and Sutton diverged over a 2016 bill vetoed by Republican Gov. Dennis Daugaard that would have required transgender students to use bathrooms and locker rooms that match their gender at birth. Sutton opposed the measure, which brought national attention to South Dakota, and said during the debate that the state is "better than that."

Noem said she would have signed the bill and then kept working on it. Noem said she doesn't believe in discrimination, but thinks "boys should use boy bathrooms, girls should use girl bathrooms."

Tuesday's Scores By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Aberdeen Central def. Harrisburg, 22-25, 25-18, 25-23, 25-16
Aberdeen Christian def. Edmunds Central, 25-20, 25-21, 24-26, 25-23
Avon def. Bon Homme, 25-12, 25-20, 25-10
Bridgewater-Emery def. Centerville, 25-19, 25-5, 25-16
Brookings def. Pierre, 25-15, 25-14, 18-25, 25-21
Burke def. Lyman, 25-16, 25-13, 25-16
Chester def. Arlington, 25-19, 25-20, 25-15
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte def. Lemmon, 25-17, 25-17, 26-28, 25-23
Corsica/Stickney def. Colome, 25-11, 25-23, 25-11
Dell Rapids def. Elkton-Lake Benton, 25-13, 25-15, 25-19
Deubrook def. Baltic, 25-17, 17-25, 25-11, 25-21
Elk Point-Jefferson def. Vermillion, 25-19, 25-15, 25-11

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Faith def. Newell, 25-9, 25-9, 25-7
Faulkton def. Wolsey-Wessington, 25-11, 25-12, 25-8
Florence/Henry def. Iroquois, 25-11, 25-13, 25-21
Freeman def. Alcester-Hudson, 25-22, 23-25, 25-18, 25-21
Garretson def. Colman-Egan, 22-25, 29-27, 25-23, 19-25, 15-9
Hankinson, N.D. def. Waubay/Summit, 25-16, 25-20, 25-10
Irene-Wakonda def. Howard, 25-17, 25-23, 20-25, 22-25, 15-10
Lennox def. Canton, 26-28, 25-17, 23-25, 25-17, 15-5
Leola/Frederick def. Potter County, 25-15, 25-21, 18-25, 19-25, 15-13
Lower Brule def. Sunshine Bible Academy, 22-25, 25-20, 23-25, 25-20, 15-11
Marty Indian def. Omaha Nation, Neb., 23-25, 25-16, 25-15, 25-22
Milbank Area def. Tiospa Zina Tribal, 25-11, 25-23, 25-16
Miller def. Highmore-Harrold, 25-10, 25-19, 25-18
Mitchell def. Huron, 25-22, 25-11, 25-21
Northwestern def. Eureka/Bowdle, 25-6, 25-10, 25-4
Parker def. West Central, 25-11, 25-14, 25-16
Pine Ridge def. St. Francis Indian, 25-14, 25-20, 25-19
Platte-Geddes def. Ethan, 21-25, 25-23, 25-22, 25-18
Rapid City Central def. Spearfish, 25-15, 23-25, 25-16, 26-24
Rapid City Stevens def. Sturgis, 25-12, 25-13, 25-9
Redfield/Doland def. Webster, 25-9, 25-17, 25-15
Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Sioux Falls Washington, 25-17, 19-25, 25-19, 19-25, 15-13
Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Sioux Falls Lincoln, 25-14, 25-20, 21-25, 25-15
Sisseton def. Britton-Hecla, 25-20, 22-25, 25-13, 25-23
Takini def. Wakpala, 25-17, 26-24, 25-17
Tea Area def. Yankton, 25-23, 26-24, 17-25, 25-20
Todd County def. Crow Creek, 25-15, 25-14, 25-12
Warner def. Langford, 25-17, 25-13, 25-12
Watertown def. Brandon Valley, 25-18, 25-11, 25-17
Waverly-South Shore def. Great Plains Lutheran, 23-25, 25-18, 25-13, 25-20
Mitchell Christian Triangular
Freeman Academy/Marion def. Mitchell Christian, 25-14, 22-25, 17-25, 25-15, 15-8
James Valley Christian def. Mitchell Christian, 26-28, 25-18, 25-18, 21-25, 17-15
James Valley Christian def. Freeman Academy/Marion, 25-14, 15-25, 25-12, 25-12

Tobacco industry gives \$6.5M to oppose South Dakota tax hike

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The tobacco industry contributed roughly \$6.5 million to oppose a ballot question that would increase South Dakota tobacco taxes to make state technical schools more affordable, according to state campaign finance reports.

The campaign filings show the lobbying arms of the companies that make Marlboro and Camel cigarettes are funding the opposition campaign, South Dakotans Against Higher Taxes. Altria Client Services contributed nearly \$6.2 million in cash, loans and donated goods or services to the group through Oct. 18, amounting to almost all of its donations.

Altria is the parent company of Philip Morris USA. RAI Services Company, the lobbying arm of R.J. Reynolds' parent company, has given more than \$275,000 in cash and donated goods or services to the opposition group.

Voters on Nov. 6 will decide on Initiated Measure 25, which would increase taxes on different tobacco products including a \$1 hike per 20-cigarette pack. South Dakota's cigarette tax is \$1.53 per pack, accord-

ing to the Tax Foundation, an independent tax policy nonprofit.

The roughly \$6.5 million in contributions from Altria Client Services and RAI Services Company dwarfs by millions of dollars in combined total fundraising the Democratic and Republican candidates for South Dakota governor reported in their pre-general election filings.

South Dakotans Against Higher Taxes didn't receive any contributions from individual donors. The group spent about \$4.3 million — roughly \$3.1 million on advertising — and ended the finance period with nearly \$1.7 million in the bank.

Chairman Steve Westra said in a statement that the group has brought together a diverse coalition who oppose the initiative and is mounting an aggressive campaign to "educate voters on why they should reject this flawed measure."

"South Dakota consumers will pay \$35 million more in taxes every year under IM-25, but the measure includes no taxpayer protections to ensure funds are spent how South Dakota voters are promised and not diverted to the General Fund or other projects," Westra said.

The state Legislative Research Council in an August fiscal document estimated the measure would raise revenues by a lower amount: about \$25 million. The document estimates about \$5 million of the increased revenues would go to the general fund, while \$20 million would go to the technical institutes.

Republican House Speaker Mark Mickelson, the ballot question's sponsor, said in a statement that the opponents' campaign is about the sale of cigarettes — not about school funding, reducing technical school tuition or workforce development. Supporters' finance report wasn't yet available Tuesday evening for review.

A report last year to a legislative panel found that South Dakota's tech institutes charge the highest average resident fees and tuition regionally. The ballot measure would create a fund to lower the tuition and fees, offer scholarships and provide financial support for the state's four technical institutes.

State voters last approved a tobacco tax hike in 2006 with nearly 61 percent support. Voters in neighboring North Dakota in 2016 rejected a ballot question that would have raised the state's 44-cent cigarette tax to \$2.20.

Program for tribes to access crime databases expanding

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) — A federal program for Native American tribes to access national crime information databases is expanding.

The number of participants in the Tribal Access Program is expected to rise from 47 to 72 by the end of 2019.

The tribes can use the databases to do background checks, and see outstanding warrants and domestic violence protection orders.

The U.S. Justice Department and the Department of the Interior said Monday the expansion will help solve crimes and make communities safer.

The Justice Department provides funding for either kiosks that can process prints, take mug shots and submit records or for computer software.

Three of the 25 tribes that are part of the expansion are in Arizona. Others are in California, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming.

Lawsuit filed over highway shutdown during pipeline protest

By **BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Two members of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe and a reservation priest are suing over a five-month shutdown of a North Dakota highway during protests against the Dakota Access oil pipeline, saying the closure violated their and others' constitutional rights.

The lawsuit filed Friday in U.S. District Court seeks unspecified monetary damages from the state, Morton County and TigerSwan, a North Carolina-based company that oversaw private security for the Texas-based pipeline developer, Energy Transfer Partners. It also asks the judge to implement stricter rules for road closures in such instances and seeks class-action status, meaning it would apply to all affected people if

granted.

Protests against the pipeline that moves North Dakota oil to Illinois drew thousands of people to southern North Dakota during construction in 2016 and 2017. ETP maintains that the pipeline, which began operating in June 2017, is safe, but opponents fear it will harm the environment. They camped just north of the Standing Rock reservation and many clashed with police, resulting in 761 arrests during a six-month span.

State officials blocked off a stretch of state Highway 1806 just north of the camps in October 2016 after a bridge was damaged by fires during one clash. The bridge was deemed structurally sound in January 2017, but authorities didn't reopen it for two more months, after initial repairs were completed and the protest camps were shut down.

The highway is the main route between the reservation and Bismarck, the nearest large city. Plaintiffs allege that the shutdown was targeted directly at them and did not apply to pipeline workers.

"Defendants intentionally made travel to and from the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation and the camps near the Cannonball River as unnecessarily unpleasant and dangerous as possible so as to deter (pipeline opponents), with whom they disagree, from lawfully pursuing their constitutional rights to travel, assemble, pray and express their viewpoints," plaintiffs' attorney Noah Smith-Drelich said in court documents.

Officials with the state attorney general's office and the governor's office said they hadn't yet been served with the lawsuit and weren't aware of it. Morton County declined to comment through its spokeswoman, citing the open case.

TigerSwan spokesman Wesley Fricks said the lawsuit's claims that the company helped enforce the highway closure are "baseless" because "only the state and local authorities have the authority to close a road."

"We further note the fact that Highway 1806 was first closed by the protesters themselves when they illegally constructed a blockade across the road," he said.

The three plaintiffs are reservation businesswoman Cissy Thunderhawk, pipeline opponent Waste'Win Young and the Rev. John Floberg, priest at St. James' Episcopal Church in Cannon Ball. They're suing Morton County, its sheriff, the state's governor and the governor at the time of the shutdown, and the heads of the state Transportation Department and the Highway Patrol.

Follow Blake Nicholson on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NicholsonBlake>

New Mexico man sentenced in Dakota Access pipeline protest

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The fourth of seven people charged with federal crimes stemming from protests against the Dakota Access oil pipeline in North Dakota has been sentenced to a year and four months in prison.

Twenty-two-year-old Dion Ortiz, who is from the San Felipe Pueblo reservation in New Mexico, was indicted with several others in February 2017 for a fire set on a country road bridge in October 2016.

The Bismarck Tribune reports that Ortiz reached a deal with prosecutors under which he pleaded guilty to civil disorder and the government dropped a more serious charge of using fire to commit a federal felony.

Ortiz was given credit for time served and could be released from prison in April.

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

Sisseton man pleads not guilty to sexually abusing child

SISSETON, S.D. (AP) — A Sisseton man has pleaded not guilty to sexually abusing a child younger than 12.

Twenty-nine-year-old Joel Max is charged with three counts of sexual abuse and one count of aggravated abuse of a child. Aberdeen American News says his federal trial is set for Dec. 18.

Court records say the charges accuse Max of abusing of a child between September 2016 and June 2018 in Roberts County. Each of the sexual abuse charges carries a maximum penalty of life in prison and a mandatory minimum of five years in prison. A fine of as much as \$250,000 could also be imposed

on each count.

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

Kyle man gets 1 ½ years for assaulting federal officer

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Kyle man has been sentenced to 1 1/2 years in federal prison for assaulting a federal officer.

The U.S. attorney's office says 20-year-old Ramone McBride was convicted of choking and hitting a federal officer on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in September 2017, and also using the officer's own stun gun on him.

McBride will be on supervised release for two years following his prison term.

Whitewood man pleads not guilty to trafficking deer

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Whitewood man has pleaded not guilty in federal court to illegally trafficking deer.

Fifty-seven-year-old Everett MacKaben Jr. is accused of violating the Lacey Act, a federal law targeting wildlife and plant trafficking.

He's accused of violating state and Oglala Sioux laws that deal with hunting without a license or in violation of a license. The Rapid City Journal reports that allegedly breaking those state and tribal misdemeanor laws became a federal felony when he allegedly sold more than \$350 worth of deer between October 2013 and December 2017.

He could face up to five years in prison if convicted.

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

Winning \$1.6B Mega Millions ticket sold in South Carolina

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Lottery officials say someone has won the record \$1.6 billion Mega Millions jackpot.

Mega Millions officials said a ticket purchased in South Carolina matches all six numbers in Tuesday night's drawing. The massive jackpot is the world's largest ever lottery grand prize.

And it's possible that the world will never know the winner.

South Carolina is one of eight states — along with Delaware, Georgia, Kansas, Maryland, North Dakota, Ohio and Texas — where winners can remain anonymous.

The \$1.6 billion prize reflects the annuity option, paid over 29 years. However, nearly all winners take the cash option, which for Tuesday's drawing was an estimated \$913 million.

The winning numbers were 5, 28, 62, 65, 70 and Mega Ball 5. No details on where the winning ticket was sold were immediately available. But the lucky player overcame miserable odds: The chance of matching all six numbers and winning the top prize is 1 in 302.5 million.

Mega Millions is played in 44 states as well as Washington, D.C., and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

It will likely be days or even weeks before a winner steps forward to claim the prize.

Lottery officials and financial managers encourage people to take time to map out a strategy for investing their hundreds of millions of dollars, and winners must deal with security concerns befitting someone who suddenly is immensely wealthy. Depending on the state, winners have from 180 days to a year to claim their prize.

The Mega Millions jackpot grew so large because it had been nearly three months since a player had matched all six numbers and won the top prize. The last time that happened was July 24, when 11 co-workers from California won a \$543 million prize.

Although Tuesday's jackpot was extraordinarily large, it's no fluke. It reflects a trend toward ever-growing lottery prizes due to changes in the game that worsened the odds with hopes that bigger jackpots would

result in better sales.

Officials with the Powerball game were the first to make that move in October 2015 when changing the odds of winning the jackpot from 1 in 175 million to 1 in 292.2 million. Mega Millions followed suit in October 2017, resulting in the odds worsening from 1 in 259 million to 1 in 302.5 million.

While most attention has been on the Mega Millions game, Powerball also has been soaring. The estimated prize for Powerball's annuity option in Wednesday night's drawing is \$620 million, with a cash prize of \$354.3 million.

For the AP's complete coverage of the lottery: <https://apnews.com/Lottery>

Saudi prince joins pantheon of incendiary Arab rulers' sons

By TAMER FAKAHANY, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — They rose to positions of unbridled power because of their bloodline, and those who fell, sometimes in a grisly manner, did so because of what they had done in the family name.

A toxic mix of nepotism and abuses rained mercilessly on the population and kleptocracy has defined several sons of the Arab world's most infamous tyrants.

The killing of Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi in Istanbul by agents believed to be close to the kingdom's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has cast him into this ruthless and pitiless pantheon.

Before global outrage caught him by apparent surprise, the brash Prince Mohammed was already heavily questioned in many quarters for the bloody and catastrophic war he has prosecuted in Yemen, his imprisonment and shakedown of other Saudi princes at home, and his interference in Lebanese politics by way of effectively abducting its prime minister.

Notoriety in their own right in each case was cultivated, but when the time came to settle accounts, like Icarus in Greek mythology they had flown too close to the sun, believing in their own omnipotence, having burned legions on the way.

Prince Mohammed seems less likely, at least for now, to meet such an end as long as his father remains on the throne and the Al Saud succession is not derailed.

The dynamic of brutal and avaricious offspring is not unique to the Middle East: the world's best-known autocratic family is the Kim dynasty in North Korea — one that does not look like collapsing any time soon after 70 years. In Africa, Congo still reels from the baton of power being passed on from Laurent Kabila to his son Joseph, 10 days after he was assassinated in 2001.

But it is the lives and brutal actions of the sons of several Middle East dictators over the decades that have made their own bloody and corrupt marks on their nations and well beyond. They have been seared into the collective memory in the first two decades of the 21st century.

Jeremi Suri, a professor of history and public affairs at the University of Texas at Austin, said hereditary succession is not unique to authoritarian states, but they are more likely to be flagrantly violent in the Middle East. That's because intense regional competition and declining prospects at home have driven leaders to paranoia and the international community has shown a propensity to look the other way.

"They are hyper-violent ..., using extreme force to prop up their power for fear of a coming deluge," he said.

Here's a look at the once, and still, feared scions from Iraq, Syria, Libya and Egypt.

UDAY AND QUSAY HUSSEIN

On the eve of the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003, then-President George W. Bush gave Saddam Hussein and his sons 48 hours to leave the country. They didn't. Uday and Qusay Hussein were killed four months later while on the run in a fierce firefight in Mosul. Their bloated and bloodied corpses were broadcast around the world to confirm their demise. Their father was captured alive, then hanged three years later. Before the fall, Uday was feared and reviled for his violent, maniacal and unbalanced tendencies. Tales of his cruelty were legend in a nation where the family ruled by cult of personality, repression, torture

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and execution. Uday beat a favored bodyguard of Saddam's to death, was accused of multiple rapes, and barely survived an assassination attempt that left him with a limp. The quieter Qusay was thought to be Saddam's preference to succeed him.

THE ASSAD SONS

Bashar al-Assad, an eye doctor educated in the West, was never his father Hafez' choice to take over from him to preserve the Alawite sect's iron control of Syria. The eldest son, Bassel, had been groomed for the role, rising in the military and praised by the Baath party. But he died in a car crash in 1994. When Assad the father died in 2000 after ruling for 29 years, it was Bashar who took over. Pre-civil war, it was thought in the West that he could be a useful ally in the region. That all changed after the brutal crackdown on Arab Spring protests accelerated into a ruinous civil war that claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands of Syrians, displaced millions internally, with millions more fleeing overseas, and laid waste to the country's infrastructure. Assad, as far as the West and some Arab states were concerned, was the chief culprit for the carnage wrought. He was on the cusp of defeat and a probable demise not dissimilar to Saddam's family. But Russian military support turned the tide in his favor. Now, with the civil war in its final phases, Assad's rule seems set to continue.

SEIF AL-ISLAM (GADHAFI)

Moammar Gadhafi's rule spanned more than three decades. The Libyan chapter of the Arab uprisings sweeping the region in 2011 spiraled into civil war with atrocities committed both by Gadhafi's forces and popular opposition forces. His son and onetime heir apparent, Seif al-Islam, had faced charges of crimes against humanity for his role in trying to put down the uprising. Western forces intervened on the rebels' side, with punishing air strikes that proved a major catalyst to Gadhafi's fall. In gruesome images many around the globe saw almost in real-time, Gadhafi was captured in his native Sirte by rebels from Misrata. They humiliated him in his death throes. When his son was captured he was shown with fingers missing, purportedly from an airstrike. Seif al-Islam was pardoned by the Libyan parliament and released in June of this year. He has not been seen in public since then. But a return to power in some form in a chaotically and violently divided nation cannot be ruled out.

THE MUBARAK SONS

With Hosni Mubarak's blessing, his sons Gamal and Alaa plundered Egypt's coffers during their father's decades-long rule. Gamal was the one-time next in line but wasn't thought of as a serious individual outside his father's most inner circle. The brothers along with their father were first detained two months after a popular uprising forced the senior Mubarak to step down in February 2011 after 29 years in power. The trio was later sentenced to three years each for embezzling funds meant for maintenance of presidential palaces. The sons were released in 2015 for time served, while their father was freed last year. The Mubarak brothers have since their release frequently appeared in public, receiving a relatively warm welcome, but drawing the displeasure of powerful backers of President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi.

Associated Press writer Philip Issa in Baghdad contributed to this report.

Utah university slay suspect was sex offender, records show

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST and BRADY McCOMBS, Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A University of Utah student-athlete who was fatally shot on campus by her former boyfriend had broken off the relationship after learning he was a sex offender, authorities said Tuesday.

Investigators had been working to build a case against 37-year-old Melvin Rowland after a police complaint was filed against him by 21-year-old Lauren McCluskey, a senior from Pullman, Washington, university police chief Dale Brophy said.

McCluskey was found shot in a car Monday night near on-campus student housing. Rowland killed himself

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hours later at a church when police tracked him down after linking him to the killing through a description, clothing and evidence at the scene, authorities said.

Brophy wouldn't disclose details from her report. Her mother, Jill McCluskey, said her daughter had filed a harassment complaint after breaking up with Rowland.

They had dated for about a month, but McCluskey ended the relationship on Oct. 9 when she learned he had lied about his age, name and criminal history, Jill McCluskey said in a statement. It wasn't clear how the two met.

Jill McCluskey said she had been talking on the phone with her daughter as she returned from a night class and heard her yell, "No, no, no!" A few minutes later, a woman picked up the phone and said all of Lauren McCluskey's belongings were on the ground.

"I thought she might have been in a car accident," Jill McCluskey said. "That was the last I heard from her."

Rowland spent nearly a decade in prison after pleading guilty to trying to lure an underage girl online and attempted sex abuse charges, according to court records.

He was charged with two separate crimes in September 2003, said Paul Amann, the prosecutor on the case.

Rowland had been caught in an online sex crimes sting when a police officer posed as a 13-year-old girl. After he was charged, a woman came forward to report he had sexually assaulted her after a separate online meeting a few days earlier.

"He was just out of control. He had no self-control," Amann said Tuesday.

Rowland pleaded guilty to enticing a minor over the internet and attempted forcible sex abuse in an agreement with prosecutors, records show. His defense attorney did not immediately return a call Tuesday seeking comment.

Rowland was released from prison in 2012 after serving eight years and was twice sent back from half-way houses after violating parole, Utah prison spokeswoman Kaitlin Felsted said. He was most recently paroled in April and was living on his own.

Rowland was prohibited from owning a gun on parole and it was unclear how he obtained one.

Initial reports of the shooting sparked panic on the Salt Lake City campus. University officials ordered students to stay in place for about three hours as they searched for the gunman.

University of Utah student Jonas Woychick said he was playing pool when he got a message about an on-campus shooter. He and eight other students waited in a bathroom for two hours until they learned it was safe.

"I didn't know if this shooter was going for other people, or if he was just targeting one person," said Woychick, who is from Boise, Idaho.

Lauren McCluskey competed in track, majored in communication and was excited about graduating next spring, said her mother, a professor at Washington State University, adding that her daughter was a Washington state high jump champion in high school and loved to sing.

University President Ruth Watkins said classes were canceled Tuesday and a vigil would be held Wednesday night.

"As a campus community, we share grief over this tragic loss of life," Watkins said in a statement.

Athletics Director Mark Harlan said counselors and psychologists were available to support McCluskey's teammates, coaches and friends. He said she was a proud Ute and an outstanding student-athlete.

"This isn't right," Harlan said. "I don't really have any words. My heart goes out to her family. ... When something like this happens, it defies any logic, any reason."

Associated Press writer Paul Davenport contributed to this report from Phoenix.

10 Things to Know for Today

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By The Associated Press

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

1. WHAT TURKISH LEADER IS SAYING

Recep Tayyip Erdogan says his country is determined not to allow all those responsible for the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi escape justice.

2. WHO JOINS PANTHEON OF INCENDIARY ARAB RULERS' SONS

The killing of Khashoggi by agents believed to be close to Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman cast him into a ruthless and pitiless group of the sons of the region's most infamous tyrants.

3. THERE'S A WINNER!

Lottery officials say one winning ticket has been sold in South Carolina for the record \$1.6 billion Mega Millions jackpot.

4. MIGRANTS STILL 1,000 MILES FROM GOAL

A caravan of Central Americans pause to honor a fellow traveler who died on the road, to rest weary feet and to nurse illnesses and injuries.

5. BLUE WAVE MOMENTUM TAKING A HIT

Republican enthusiasm is surging across GOP strongholds, and leading Democrats now fear the battle for the House majority will be decided by just a handful of seats.

6. WILLA WEAKENS OVER MEXICO

Forecasters say the once Category 3 hurricane is now a tropical storm but torrential rains will continue in the west-central parts of the country.

7. SYRIA FREES JAPANESE JOURNALIST

Jumpei Yasuda, kidnapped in 2015 by al-Qaida's branch in Syria and held by several groups since then, appears to be in good health, Japanese officials say.

8. WALL STREET SKEPTICAL OF TESLA'S PROFIT VOW

The electric car and solar panel maker delivered more than 80,000 vehicles over the summer, and Elon Musk told employees that it was close to profitability.

9. AMERICA'S BEST-LOVED NOVEL IS ...

"To Kill a Mockingbird," a coming-of-age story about racism and injustice, overpowers wizards and time travelers, readers nationwide say.

10. GAME 1 TO RED SOX

Andrew Benintendi, J.D. Martinez and Boston come out swinging in the World Series opener, beating the Dodgers 8-4.

Turkey keeps pressure on as Saudi prince to address forum

By AYA BATRAWY and SUZAN FRASER, Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Turkey's president kept up pressure on Saudi Arabia on Wednesday as the kingdom's powerful crown prince was to address an international investment summit in Riyadh, his first such comments since the killing earlier this month of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul.

Prince Mohammed bin Salman's anticipated remarks alongside other Arab leaders at the Future Investment Initiative summit in Riyadh come as the event, which was created by the royal, has been overshadowed by Khashoggi's slaying and the international outrage over it.

International business leaders, officials and others have pulled out of the summit, and the event's first day saw several speakers acknowledge the killing of the Saudi writer whose columns criticized the prince's campaign of arrests and governance.

Turkish officials say Khashoggi was killed Oct. 2 by a 15-man Saudi hit squad that included a member of Prince Mohammed's entourage on overseas trips. Saudi Arabia has suggested, without offering evidence, that the team went rogue. However, no major decision in the kingdom is made without the approval of the ruling Al Saud family.

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Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan kept up his pressure Wednesday.

"We are determined not to allow the murder to be covered up and for those responsible — from the person who gave the order to those who executed it — not to escape justice," he said in the capital, Ankara.

President Donald Trump, meanwhile, continued to criticize the kingdom over Khashoggi's killing.

"The cover-up was horrible. The execution was horrible," Trump told journalists on Tuesday night at the White House. "But there should have never been an execution or a cover-up because it should have never happened."

Trump later was asked about Prince Mohammed in an Oval Office interview with The Wall Street Journal.

"Well, the prince is running things over there more so at this stage. He's running things and so if anybody were going to be, it would be him," Trump told the newspaper.

Shortly after Trump's remarks, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced that the United States was revoking the visas of some Saudi officials implicated in Khashoggi's death.

The visa revocations are the Trump administration's first punitive measures against the Saudis, who are seen as key allies in U.S. efforts to isolate Iran, since Khashoggi disappeared. Trump meanwhile has been criticizing Saudi Arabia and OPEC over high oil prices, calling for a production increase to drop gasoline prices ahead of America's midterm elections.

The foreign ministers of the G7 group of nations said Saudi Arabia should conduct a credible investigation, "in full collaboration with the Turkish authorities."

On Tuesday, the first day of the summit in Riyadh, the crown prince sat alongside King Abdullah II of Jordan during an afternoon session. Prince Mohammed also looked at some promotional booths outside the main hall as an excited crowd of mostly young Saudi men recorded the encounter on their phones.

At one summit session, Saudi Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih described Khashoggi's slaying as "abhorrent."

"As we all know, these are difficult days for us in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia," he said. "Nobody in the kingdom can justify it or explain it. From the leadership on down, we're very upset of what has happened."

The presence of Jordan's king, as well as Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan, likely comes as an acknowledgment of the amount of financial support the kingdom offers the two nations. Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri, who many believe was forced by Prince Mohammed to resign from his position during a visit to the kingdom last year, will also speak Wednesday at the conference. Hariri's appearance was scheduled together with that of Prince Mohammed and Bahrain's crown prince.

Pakistan said Saudi Arabia will provide a \$6 billion package of loans and deferred payments in an effort to resuscitate Islamabad's flagging economy, struggling under the weight of a whopping \$18 billion deficit. That deal came on the sidelines of the conference Tuesday. Pakistan also is seeking a loan from the International Monetary Fund.

On Tuesday, coinciding with the start of the conference, Erdogan gave a speech to parliament, largely confirming reports and leaks from anonymous officials in past days. Erdogan said 15 Saudi officials arrived in Istanbul shortly before Khashoggi's death and that a man, apparently dressed in the writer's clothes, acted as a possible decoy by walking out of the consulate on the day of the disappearance.

Turkish investigators have inspected a car belonging to the consulate and found three suitcases, a laptop computer and clothes inside, state television TRT reported. Authorities discovered the car at an underground garage on Monday.

In Riyadh on Tuesday, King Salman and Prince Mohammed received Khashoggi's son, Salah, and his brother, Sahel, at the Yamama Palace, where the royals expressed their condolences.

A friend of the Khashoggi family told The Associated Press that Salah has been under a travel ban since last year. The individual spoke on condition of anonymity, fearing reprisal.

Manal Al-Sharif, a Saudi women's rights activist and a friend of Khashoggi, said he "was really assassinated for being outspoken."

"This is a new level the Saudi government is reaching," she said Wednesday, adding that people inside the kingdom "are so afraid to speak up."

Al-Sharif, who was jailed in Saudi Arabia after getting behind a wheel before the kingdom's ban on women

driving was lifted this year, spoke in Denmark where she was promoting her book "Daring to Drive: A Saudi Woman's Awakening."

Fraser reported from Ankara, Turkey. Associated Press writers Jon Gambrell in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Zazar Khan in Islamabad and Jan M. Olsen in Copenhagen, Denmark, contributed to this report.

Willa weakens to tropical storm, torrential rain to continue

By MARCO UGARTE, Associated Press

MAZATLAN, Mexico (AP) — The U.S. National Hurricane Center said Wednesday that Hurricane Willa has weakened to a tropical storm but torrential rains will continue in west-central Mexico.

The meteorologists said that Willa was moving toward the northeast at speeds near 20 mph (32 kph), movement expected to continue during the next 12 hours. The Hurricane Center added that the government of Mexico has discontinued all coastal tropical cyclone warnings for the country.

"Continued rapid weakening is forecast during the next 12 hours, and Willa is expected to dissipate by this afternoon," the Hurricane Center said.

Willa began losing power overnight after roaring over a stretch of beach towns, fishing villages and farms on the Pacific coast of Mexico's Sinaloa state as a Category 3 storm.

Damage assessments were scanty during the night because of darkness and poor communications, but federal officials said power had been knocked out in some spots and there were early reports of flimsy structures with tin roofs sustaining damage.

Before hitting the mainland near Isla del Bosque with 120 mph (195 kph) winds Tuesday night, Willa swept over an offshore penal colony about 60 miles (100 kilometers) out in the Pacific. Authorities declined to comment on precautions that were taken at the prison, citing security concerns, but said the safety of inmates was a priority.

The U.S. National Hurricane Center said the storm's forward movement had sped up to 17 mph (28 kph) late Tuesday and it was expected to rapidly weaken. It warned, however, that the storm could still cause heavy rains in portions of Jalisco, Nayarit and Sinaloa states, with flash flooding and landslides possible in mountainous areas.

Willa came ashore about 50 miles (80 kilometers) southeast of Mazatlan, a resort city that is home to high-rise hotels and about 500,000 people, including many U.S. and Canadian expatriates.

Although hotels, restaurants and stores were boarded over, people ventured onto Mazatlan's coastal boulevard to watch a spectacular sunset as the hurricane obscured the sky to the south.

Alberto Hernandez, a hotel worker in the town of Teacapan, close to where the storm made landfall, expressed confidence before it hit that the building would hold up. He and his son, who also works at the hotel, stayed on the job, though the rest of his family had left the area.

"We've had rain all day. There is nobody in the streets. Everything is closed," Hernandez said. "But not everyone wanted to leave, even though authorities made it clear that he who stays does so at his own peril."

Torrential rains began in the afternoon, and emergency officials said they had evacuated more than 4,250 people in coastal towns and set up 58 shelters ahead of the dangerous storm. Schools were ordered closed.

As Willa neared, the beach in Mazatlan almost disappeared, with waves slamming against the coastal boulevard under looming black clouds. A few surfers enjoyed the big waves while the streets onshore were nearly deserted except for workers boarding up windows at hotels, shops and homes.

Some families took shelter at the Mazatlan convention center, spreading out blankets along the walls to wait out the storm.

"The house we're living in is not well built," said Sergio Ernesto Meri Franco, who rents a studio apartment.

Bob Swanson, a Canadian who spends two to six months of the year in his house in the Cerritos neighborhood near the shore in Mazatlan, said he filled his washing machine with water, topped up his home fuel tank and gassed up his car in case he needed to head into the mountains for safety.

"I'm kind of waiting with bated breath," he said over the phone, adding that he was sitting on his porch

and smoking a cigarette.

Associated Press writer Isabella Cota in Mexico City contributed to this report.

Red Sox beat Dodgers 8-4 at Fenway in World Series opener

By BEN WALKER, AP Baseball Writer

BOSTON (AP) — The Fenway Funhouse proved too tricky, too cold and just too much for the beach boys. Andrew Benintendi, J.D. Martinez and the Boston Red Sox came out swinging in the World Series opener, seizing every advantage in their quirky ballpark to beat the Los Angeles Dodgers 8-4 on a chilly, windy Tuesday night.

Benintendi had four hits, Martinez drove in two early runs and pinch-hitter Eduardo Nunez golfed a three-run homer to seal it. The 108-win Red Sox got a solid effort from their bullpen after an expected duel between aces Chris Sale and Clayton Kershaw never developed.

From the get-go, old Fenway Park caused all sorts of problems for the Dodgers.

Mookie Betts led off for the Red Sox with a popup that twisted first baseman David Freese as he tried to navigate the tight foul space near the stands and gauge the gusts. Lost, he overran the ball and it dropped behind him.

"You never really know," Benintendi said. "The flag will be blowing one way, and the wind is actually blowing the other. You have to be on your toes pretty much."

Given a second chance, Betts lined a single that set up a two-run first inning.

"It was important for us to score first and kind of put some pressure on them," he said.

In the seventh, newly inserted left fielder Joc Pederson looked hesitant as he chased Benintendi's soft fly, rushing toward the seats that jut out down the line. The ball ticked off his glove for a ground-rule double, and soon Nunez connected off Alex Wood to break open a 5-4 game.

"We didn't play the defense that we typically do. I thought we left some outs out there," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. "And it didn't make Clayton's job any easier."

The crowd and cold temperatures were no picnic for Los Angeles, either.

The oddly angled ballpark became an echo chamber even before the first pitch. Chants of "Beat LA!" began early, Kershaw got heckled with a sing-song serenade and Dodgers villain Manny Machado heard loud boos all evening.

Only one person wearing Dodger blue drew a cheer: Roberts, saluted in pregame introductions for the daring steal that turned the tide in Boston's 2004 playoff comeback against the Yankees.

"I think we had the advantage tonight with the weather and stuff. We've been playing through it," Red Sox pitcher Nathan Eovaldi said.

It was 53 degrees at first pitch and it dropped into the mid-40s by the end. That was the coldest game for Los Angeles this season and quite a contrast from last year's World Series, when it was a record 103 degrees for the opener at Dodger Stadium against Houston.

"We won Game 1 last year and lost the Series, so maybe we'll try it out this way. See if we can win one," Kershaw said.

Game 2 is Wednesday night, when it's supposed to be even colder. David Price, fresh from beating Houston in the ALCS clincher, starts against Hyun-Jin Ryu.

Both teams rely heavily on analytics, and it showed: With each manager searching for the most beneficial matchup, the clubs combined to use 12 pitchers and six pinch-hitters.

Benintendi scored three times for Boston, trying for its fourth championship in 15 seasons.

Matt Kemp homered and Justin Turner had three hits for the Dodgers, aiming for their first crown since 1988. Machado drove in three runs, and his RBI grounder in the fifth inning made it 3-all.

Boston retook the lead in the bottom half when Xander Bogaerts hustled to beat out a potential inning-ending double play — Dodgers reliever Ryan Madson seemed to celebrate a little too early.

Rafael Devers followed with an RBI single, making it 5-3 and giving himself an early birthday present.

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He turned 22 at midnight, three minutes before the game ended.

Martinez, who led the majors with 130 RBIs, gave the crowd a scare when his foot slipped rounding second base on a run-scoring double in the third. He fell hard, but soon got up.

Steve Pearce, ruled safe at first on a replay review, scored from there on Martinez's double. The ball hit a metal garage-type grate on the far center-field wall and took a weird carom, giving Pearce extra time to score.

A garage-style grate, used for groundskeeping vehicles and such. What other park has that in play?

A day before this opener, Kershaw and most of the Dodgers pooh-pooed the prospect that Fenway would cause them trouble. Most of them had never played at the oldest ballpark in the majors, built in 1912, but said they were sure they'd be OK.

It didn't quite turn out that way in their first trip to Fenway since 2010.

Besides, clubs coming to Beantown have other things to worry about.

"I think the biggest challenge for a team coming in here is you're playing the Boston Red Sox," Eovaldi said Monday.

The only other time the Dodgers and Red Sox met in the World Series was 1916, when Babe Ruth helped pitch Boston to the championship. Those games were at Braves Field, the bigger home park of the city's National League franchise.

Kershaw and Sale each started out wearing short sleeves, but neither warmed to the possibility of the marquee matchup. In similar outings, both were pulled before getting an out in the fifth.

Kershaw took the loss in his first appearance at Fenway, tagged for five runs on seven hits and three walks. The three-time NL Cy Young Award winner fell to 9-9 in the postseason, his October results falling short of his brilliant regular-season resume.

"All the way around it wasn't a good night," Kershaw said.

Sale threw 91 pitches in his first outing since the ALCS opener. He was hospitalized last week for an unspecified stomach illness.

Matt Barnes, the first of six Boston relievers, got the win. Eovaldi pitched the eighth and Craig Kimbrel worked the ninth as the Red Sox bullpen held the Dodgers to one run on three hits in five innings.

Boston manager Alex Cora won in his first try guiding a club in the Series. This also marked the first World Series game between teams led by minority managers.

YAY FOR YAZ

Red Sox great Carl Yastrzemski bounced the ceremonial first pitch, and decided that just wouldn't do. So he called for another ball, and the 79-year-old Hall of Famer threw a strike to injured Boston star Dustin Pedroia.

FIRST UP

The Red Sox have won Game 1 in six straight World Series, dating to 1975 vs. the Big Red Machine. ... Boston is 8-0 this postseason when scoring first. ... The team that wins the opener has won 62 percent of the championships.

UP NEXT

Price had been 0-9 in 11 postseason starts before pitching six scoreless innings to help close out the Astros in Game 5. Ryu was 1-1 with a 3.40 ERA in three playoff starts this year.

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

'Mockingbird' chosen as America's best-loved novel in vote

By LYNN ELBER, AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "To Kill a Mockingbird," a coming-of-age story about racism and injustice, overpowered wizards and time travelers to be voted America's best-loved novel by readers nationwide.

The 1960 book by Harper Lee emerged as No. 1 in PBS' "The Great American Read" survey, whose results were announced Tuesday on the show's finale. More than 4 million votes were cast in the six-month-long

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contest that put 100 titles to the test. Books that were published as a series counted as a single entry.

The other top-five finishers in order of votes were Diana Gabaldon's "Outlander" series about a time-spanning love; J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" boy wizard tales; Jane Austen's romance "Pride and Prejudice"; and J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Lord of the Rings" fantasy saga.

Turns out the contest was a "Mockingbird" runaway.

"The novel started out at No. 1 on the first day of the vote, and it never wavered," series host Meredith Vieira said.

Joining her to sing the book's praises was writer Aaron Sorkin, whose adaptation of "Mockingbird" starts Broadway previews next month, and cast members. Sorkin ("The West Wing," "The Social Network") said reading Lee's novel was his first brush with "astonishing writing."

"There is soul-crushing injustice in this book that still exists," he said. "And at the center, morality, decency and what it is to be a person strikes us."

LaTanya Richardson Jackson, who portrays Calpurnia in the play, marveled at Lee's achievement.

"I was most impressed that a woman wrote that way" during that era, the actress said, and that Lee was so "deeply involved on the right side of right."

Lee's slender, Pulitzer Prize-winning novel proved enduring enough to overcome the popularity of hefty epics adapted as blockbuster movie franchises (the Potter and Tolkien works) or for TV ("Outlander"). Even "Pride and Prejudice," the 200-year-old inspiration for numerous TV and movie versions and with an army of "Janeites" devoted to Austen and her work, couldn't best Lee's novel.

Debbie Ford of Orion, Illinois, an "Outlander" fan whose love of the books was showcased on an episode of "The Great American Read," expressed disappointment they didn't win. But she delighted in the attention they — and the joy of reading — received.

"I believe this PBS series has reminded some of us again that reading is important, and it has exposed us to books that we may not ordinarily pick up. And that's such a good thing!" Ford said in an email Tuesday, adding a friendly plug: "So please go read a book that you have not read before — especially if you haven't yet discovered 'Outlander!'"

"To Kill a Mockingbird" has sold more than 40 million copies worldwide and remains a fixture on school reading lists. The 1962 screen adaptation won three Oscars, including a best-actor trophy for Gregory Peck's portrayal of heroic Atticus Finch.

Set in the 1930s South, the book centers on attorney Finch and his young children, daughter Scout and son Jem. When Finch defends an African-American man falsely accused of assaulting a white woman, the trial and its repercussions open Scout's eyes to the world around her, good and bad.

Lee's second published novel, "Go Set a Watchman," was written in the 1950s before "Mockingbird" but is essentially a sequel. After being put aside by the author, it was rediscovered and released in 2015. Lee died the next year at age 89.

Besides the TV series, "The Great American Read" initiative included a 50,000-member online book club and video content across PBS platforms, Facebook and YouTube that drew more than 5 million views.

The 100-book list voted on by readers was based on an initial survey of about 7,000 Americans, with an advisory panel of experts organizing the list. Books had to have been published in English but not written in the language, and one book or series per author was allowed. Bookworms could vote once daily for their favorite work.

Online:

<https://www.pbs.org/the-great-american-read/home>

Lynn Elber can be reached at lelber@ap.org and on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/lynnelber>.

Shifting Saudi account of writer's death confirms key parts

By MATTHEW LEE, AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Facing global outrage over the killing of Jamal Khashoggi, Saudi officials are now acknowledging that the journalist was targeted inside the kingdom's consulate in Turkey and a body double was on hand to aid in a cover-up — the latest twist in the kingdom's evolving efforts to explain Khashoggi's death.

This new version of events — which was described to The Associated Press by two Saudi officials — comes three weeks after the kingdom said Khashoggi left the consulate on his own and insisted Turkish claims he was killed by an assassination squad were unfounded.

Now Saudi officials tell the AP they did in fact send a team to Turkey that included a forensics expert and a member whose job was to dress in the 59-year-old writer's clothes and pretend to be him — though they still insist that his death was an accident.

This account attempts to distance Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman from the killing, even though officials linked to the 33-year-old ruler have been implicated. But the fact that the Saudis are acknowledging some aspects of the account provided by Turkish authorities suggests that the kingdom is feeling intense global pressure, including from President Donald Trump and members of Congress, some of whom have called for cutting off arms shipments and imposing sanctions.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity, citing the sensitivity of the matter and the ongoing investigation into Khashoggi's death.

There was no way to corroborate the Saudi account, which paints the suspects as rogue operators. It also contradicts many observers who believe the complex scheme that led to Khashoggi's death could not have occurred without the knowledge of the crown prince, who controls all major levers of power in the kingdom with the blessing of his father, King Salman.

"It would have likely had the approval of the Saudi government," said Robert Jordan, a former U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia during President George W. Bush's administration.

Pro-government media in Turkey have reported that a Saudi hit squad of 15 people traveled to Turkey to kill Khashoggi, who wrote columns critical of the crown prince's rule while living in self-imposed exile in the U.S. The team left the country hours later in private jets, Turkish media reports said.

Khashoggi was in Turkey for a scheduled visit to obtain documents for his upcoming marriage to a Turkish woman.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan called Tuesday for the 18 suspects detained in Saudi Arabia by authorities there to be tried in Turkish courts and rejected the idea that the men acted on their own. "To blame such an incident on a handful of security and intelligence members would not satisfy us or the international community," Erdogan said in a speech to ruling party lawmakers in parliament.

The Saudi officials who spoke to the AP acknowledged that the kingdom sent a team to Turkey, but said the men were acting on a directive issued by King Salman's predecessor, King Abdullah, to bring Saudi dissidents abroad back to the kingdom — ostensibly to take part in a "national dialogue" over the country's future.

They acknowledged the plan allowed for removing Khashoggi from the consulate and questioning him at a "safe house."

Asked why such a team would include a forensics expert and a body double, the Saudi officials said had the safe house option been used, the plan was for the forensic expert to wipe clean evidence that Khashoggi had been at the consulate and for the body double to leave the facility to give the false impression that Khashoggi had left on his own.

Instead, the two officials said, the operation with Khashoggi turned violent. They said that the team included a former Khashoggi colleague who advised him to return to the kingdom. When that failed, the writer, by their account, asked if he was going to be kidnapped. Told he was going to be taken to a safe house, they say he started to yell for help. That's when an unidentified person on the team applied a chokehold, which the officials said was intended only to keep Khashoggi quiet but ended up killing him

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instead.

The officials said the nine members of the 15-strong team who were inside the consulate at the time then panicked and made plans with a local Turkish "collaborator" to remove the body. One official said the body was rolled up in some sort of material and taken from the consulate by the collaborator.

Neither official could account for Turkish claims that Khashoggi's body was dismembered with a bone saw inside the building.

Khashoggi vanished on Oct. 2 after entering the Saudi consulate. His fiancée, who was waiting outside the building for him, alerted authorities when he failed to come out.

At first, Saudi officials said he had left the building and they did not know his whereabouts.

Authorities in Turkey then began releasing details through the media there, showing surveillance photos of members of the team entering the country, including one member of the crown prince's entourage, and sources presenting increasingly grisly accounts of the killing. On Monday, media outlets broadcast images of a body double strolling outside the consulate in Khashoggi's clothes, a detail confirmed by Erdogan.

The Saudi officials said their initial response to Khashoggi's disappearance was based on a false report filed by the team sent to Istanbul, which maintained he had left the consulate after refusing to agree to return home.

After the Turks challenged that account and it became clear Khashoggi had not left the consulate, Saudi officials remained almost entirely silent on the matter.

It wasn't until Oct. 20 that Saudi Arabia acknowledged that Khashoggi was killed in the consulate, claiming he died as the result of a "fistfight," a claim that drew immediate skepticism from the kingdom's Western allies.

On Sunday, Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir said on Fox News that Khashoggi's killing was "a rogue operation," echoing Trump, who suggested on Oct. 15 that "rogue killers" could be responsible.

"The individuals who did this did this outside the scope of their authority," al-Jubeir said in the interview. "There obviously was a tremendous mistake made and what compounded the mistake was the attempt to try to cover up. That is unacceptable to the government."

AP FACT CHECK: Pence flubs federal statistics on terrorists

By CALVIN WOODWARD, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Mike Pence misstated federal statistics when trying to help President Donald Trump make the case that terrorists are among thousands of migrants moving through Mexico toward the U.S. border. Trump himself acknowledged he's got no proof terrorists are in the mix.

A look at their remarks:

PENCE: "In the last fiscal year, we apprehended more than 10 terrorists or suspected terrorists per day at our southern border from countries that are referred to in the lexicon as other than Mexico. That means from the Middle East region." — remarks at a Washington Post event.

THE FACTS: He misused information from the government.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection arrested an average of 10 people a day in the 2017 budget year who were trying to enter the U.S. from countries with suspected links to terrorism, according to Pence's office. That average applies to all points of entry, not just the southern border. And the primary points of entry for people coming from overseas are airports, not the two borders.

Pence's office acknowledged his mistake. Pence cited the information accurately later, at an Oval Office bill signing by Trump.

TRUMP: "I spoke with Border Patrol this morning. ... They say that over the course of the year, over the course of many years, they have intercepted good and bad people, including people from the Middle East. There's no proof of anything." — remarks at Oval Office bill signing.

THE FACTS: He is correct that no information has been made public to support his previous claim that Middle Easterners, apparent code for Islamic extremists, have infiltrated the migrant caravan to reach the

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U.S. White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders had claimed there was evidence to back up his tweet.

The migrants participating in this caravan are mostly from Honduras, where it started, as well as El Salvador and Guatemala. On the whole they are poor, carrying the belongings that fit into a knapsack and fleeing gang violence or poverty. Given the sheer number of migrants, it's possible some are criminals — as Trump has also asserted.

Some migrants clashed with Mexican police at the Mexico-Guatemala border, hurling stones and other objects as they tried to cross the international bridge. Caravan leaders said they had expelled some troublemakers from the procession, exhibiting some self-policing. Ultimately, most entered Guatemala — and later, Mexico — by illegally bypassing immigration checkpoints.

The caravan otherwise has been overwhelmingly peaceful, receiving applause and donated food from residents of the towns they pass. Mexican police have not tried again to stop them.

Guatemalan officials say they detained several Syrian citizens with false documents two years ago and deported them. No evidence was made public connecting them to the Islamic State group.

Trump now says: "There's no proof of anything. But there could very well be."

Associated Press writers Christopher Sherman in Mexico City and Jill Colvin in Washington contributed to this report.

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Wall Street skeptical of Tesla's promise to post net profit

By TOM KRISHER, AP Auto Writer

Tesla is showing some promising signs that it will make money as advertised in the third quarter, but Wall Street isn't buying it.

The electric car and solar panel maker delivered more than 80,000 vehicles from July through September, and CEO Elon Musk told employees late in the quarter that it was close to profitability.

Still, of 15 analysts who follow the company, not one expects Tesla to make money. As a group, they expect a net loss of \$173.8 million, or 95 cents per share.

"We'd be really very surprised if they posted a profit for the third quarter," said Garrett Nelson, an analyst for CFRA Research. "This is a company that lost over \$3 per share each of the last two quarters. To go from that to all-of-a-sudden profitable would take a dramatic improvement."

There also were warning signs from the company about reduced profit margins in China due to import tariffs charged by that country in response to U.S. tariffs, Nelson said.

Tesla has achieved profitability before, but only in two quarters since becoming a public company in 2010. It has never posted a full-year profit and it lost \$717 million in the second quarter and burned through more than \$739 million in cash.

In a cheerleading email to employees as the third quarter closed in September, Musk wrote that Tesla was close to "proving the naysayers wrong." The company, he wrote, must execute well on Sept. 30, the quarter's final day. "If we go all out tomorrow, we will achieve an epic victory beyond all expectations. Go Tesla!" wrote Musk, who has been pledging profitability since early May.

Musk and Tesla have defied the odds before by successfully upending how electric cars are designed, produced and sold. Last quarter, Tesla nearly doubled production of its crucial Model 3 sedan just as Musk had promised, hitting 53,000. The Palo Alto, California, company delivered more than 83,000 vehicles in the quarter, over 80 percent of what it delivered in all of last year. There also were reports, however, that it was having trouble delivering Model 3s after producing them.

The company has also been plagued with one controversy after another, much of it self-inflicted as a result of Musk's erratic behavior. During the last quarter, he ran afoul of the Securities and Exchange

Commission, which filed a lawsuit alleging that he misled investors by falsely declaring on Twitter that he had lined up financing to take Tesla private. The SEC wanted to oust Musk as CEO as punishment, but in a settlement, Musk agreed to step down as chairman for three years. Musk and Tesla will each pay \$20 million to resolve the case, and he also must have someone monitor his company-related tweets.

Now all eyes are back on Tesla's financial performance. Nelson said posting a profit under national accounting standards hinges on how much money the company made per vehicle. He also said the accounting standards allow for Tesla to take some sales from the fourth quarter and put them on the books for the third quarter in order to realize more revenue. But that would make it profitability harder in the fourth quarter.

Tesla's stock soared 12.7 percent on Tuesday to \$294.14, largely because a longtime short-seller reversed course and said it would invest in Tesla for the long haul.

Citron Research, which had bet against Tesla stock for years, wrote in a note posted on its website that Tesla is destroying the competition. It produced charts showing that the mass-market Model 3 was the top-selling U.S. luxury car during the first half of the year, more than doubling its closest competitor, the Mercedes C Class. Another chart showed Tesla's Model S sedan atop the U.S. large luxury car market with an estimated 8,000 sales.

Citron wrote that Tesla is not just pulling customers from luxury automakers but also taking sales from Toyota and Honda.

"As much as you can't believe you are reading this, we can't believe we are writing this," Citron wrote.

Tesla has \$1.3 billion in debt payments coming by early next year, raising concerns from analysts that it will have to borrow cash or issue more stock. It's already \$10 billion in debt.

But Citron wrote that a strong quarter could make another capital infusion unnecessary. "Tesla will be generating more than enough cash to fund both aggressive growth plans and build cash on the balance sheet," the company wrote.

Senate slipping away as Dems fight to preserve blue wave

By **STEVE PEOPLES, THOMAS BEAUMONT and LISA MASCARO, Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — In the closing stretch of the 2018 campaign, the question is no longer the size of the Democratic wave. It's whether there will be a wave at all.

Top operatives in both political parties concede that Democrats' narrow path to the Senate majority has essentially disappeared, a casualty of surging Republican enthusiasm across GOP strongholds. At the same time, leading Democrats now fear the battle for the House majority will be decided by just a handful of seats.

"It's always been an inside straight, and it still is," Democratic pollster Paul Maslin said of Democrats' outlook in the Senate, where they need to pick up two seats while holding on to several others in Republican-leaning states to seize the majority. "If it had been a different year, with a different map, we might have had a terrific sweep. That would be a long shot."

While the trend may be troubling for Democrats, the evolving political landscape remains unsettled two weeks before Election Day, even with millions of votes already cast across 20 states.

There are signs that the Democrats' position in the expanding House battlefield may actually be improving. Yet Republican candidates locked in tight races from New York to Nevada find themselves in stronger-than-expected positions because of a bump in President Donald Trump's popularity, the aftermath of a divisive Supreme Court fight and the sudden focus on a caravan of Latin American migrants making an arduous trek toward the U.S. border.

Democrats say they never assumed it would be easy.

"It's still much closer than people think, with a surprise or two in the wings," New York's Chuck Schumer, the top Senate Democrat, told The Associated Press.

The midterm elections will decide whether Republicans maintain control of Congress for the final two years of Trump's first term. Even if Democrats lose the Senate and win the House, they could block much

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of Trump's agenda and use subpoena power to investigate his many scandals. Some in the party's far-left wing have also vowed to impeach the president, while others promise to roll back the Republican tax overhaul and expand health care coverage for all Americans.

Democrats have enjoyed an overwhelming enthusiasm advantage for much of the Trump era. They hope an explosion of early voting across states like Florida, Texas and Nevada is further proof of their enthusiasm gap.

It took voters in the Houston area less than six hours Monday to set a new opening day record for early voting during a midterm election. And in some Florida counties, two and three times as many voters cast ballots on the first day of early voting Monday compared to four years ago.

Public and private polling, however, suggests the GOP is getting more excited as Nov. 6 approaches. "Republican enthusiasm doesn't quite equal the white-hot enthusiasm of Democratic voters, but the Kavanaugh hearings got it pretty close," said GOP consultant Whit Ayres.

He also attributes the party's strong position on an unusual Senate map. Democrats are defending 26 seats of the 35 seats in play, including 10 in states that Trump carried in 2016. Ayres calls it "maybe the most Republican-leaning map of our lifetimes."

He expects the GOP to maintain the Senate majority, perhaps adding a seat or two to its current 51-49 edge. Others have begun to envision the GOP picking up as many as four or five new seats.

Democrats, meanwhile, have effectively protected their Senate candidates in states across the Midwest — Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin — that helped give Trump the presidency in 2016. They are increasingly pessimistic about picking up any seats, however.

The Tennessee Senate contest, in particular, has shifted sharply in Republican Rep. Marsha Blackburn's direction in recent weeks, while Democratic pickup opportunities in Arizona and Nevada are now considered toss-ups. In a measure of the deep uncertainty that has defined the Trump era, only one Democratic incumbent — North Dakota's Heidi Heitkamp — is seen as most in danger of losing.

After Heitkamp, Democrats facing the greatest risk of defeat are Joe Donnelly of Indiana, Claire McCaskill of Missouri, and perhaps Bill Nelson of Florida. Texas Democratic Senate candidate Beto O'Rourke has shattered fundraising records and developed a national following, but polls have consistently given Republican Sen. Ted Cruz a significant lead against him.

In the race for the House, both sides acknowledge the prospect of a wipeout-style wave is shrinking. It's not that Democrats won't be able to wrestle the House majority. But Republican lawmakers are increasingly optimistic, in part because of Trump's recent performance as the GOP's campaigner in chief.

Republicans say the often-volatile president has been surprisingly on-message during his campaign events, touting the strong economy and doubling down on the Kavanaugh fight to promote his efforts to fill courts with conservative jurists. And while Trump has been criticized by members of his own party for his handling of the case of the death of a Saudi journalist working for The Washington Post, operatives say the matter appears to be having little impact on voters.

On a conference call last week, House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., urged rank-and-file lawmakers to pony up extra cash and help for tough races. They see hopeful signs in Iowa, Florida and Kansas.

Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., emerged from the call saying it's going to be a "dogfight" to the finish. There are signs, however, that Democrats are expanding the House battlefield as Election Day approaches. Republicans in recent days have pumped new money into House districts held by Republicans in Florida, Georgia, Virginia and New York, suggesting they're on the defensive. Already, Democrats invested in nearly 80 races, including more than a dozen legitimate pickup opportunities in districts Trump carried by at least 9 points.

Democrats need a net gain of 23 seats to claim the House majority. The massive battlefield remains a problem for Republicans, who have struggled to match Democratic fundraising and face several first-time candidates not yet tainted by Washington.

Still, Dan Sena, the executive director of the House Democrats campaign arm, recently predicted Demo-

crats would win the majority by only two seats.

The Republican shift is not playing out as planned.

The GOP hoped its tax cuts would fuel their midterm message. After they proved unpopular, Republicans largely abandoned their most significant policy achievement in the Trump era in favor of a more familiar message of anger and fear.

The super PAC aligned with House Speaker Paul Ryan, which is expected to spend \$100 million before Election Day — most of it on attack ads — highlighted the shifting landscape in a memo to donors.

"The polling momentum that began with the Supreme Court confirmation hearings has continued, and the environment has continued to improve," wrote Corry Bliss, executive director of the Congressional Leadership Fund. Still, he wrote, "20 races that will decide the majority remain a coin-flip."

Beaumont reported from Des Moines, Iowa. Mascaro reported from Washington. AP writers Alan Fram and Julie Pace in Washington contributed to this report.

Asian shares mostly higher on strong Japan factory data

By ANNABELLE LIANG, Associated Press

SINGAPORE (AP) — Asian markets have bounced back from their retreat after the report of strong preliminary manufacturing data in Japan.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 index jumped 0.5 percent to 22,130.30 as a private survey suggested a recovery in manufacturing in October. The Shanghai Composite index, which closed more than 2 percent lower on Tuesday, jumped 1.5 percent to 2,634.50 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index surged 0.9 percent to 25,565.27. The Kospi in South Korea picked up 0.2 percent to 2,109.66. Australia's S&P-ASX 200 lost 0.1 percent to 5,839.10. Shares were higher across the region apart from in Thailand.

JAPAN FACTORY OUTLOOK: A rise in the preliminary, or "flash" purchasing manager's index to 53.1 in October from 52.5 the month before raised hopes that recent sluggishness in manufacturing demand may have been transient. A revival in new export orders, to 51.7, a seven-month high, was viewed as especially good news given concerns over China-U.S. trade tensions. Readings above 50 in the survey indicate expansion.

ANALYST'S VIEWPOINT: "Following a rather disappointing slew of PMI data over the third quarter, Japan's manufacturing sector looks set to start Q4 on a more upbeat note. The latest survey indicated stronger expansions in all the key barometers of macroeconomic health," Joe Hayes, economist at IHS Markit, which compiles the survey, said in a commentary.

WALL STREET: U.S. indexes fell on Tuesday following a broad-sell off on softening growth in China and fears that tariff hikes are beginning to hurt corporate earnings. The S&P 500 index suffered its fifth-straight loss, dropping 0.6 percent to 2,740.69. The Dow Jones Industrial Average shed 0.5 percent to 25,191.43 and the Nasdaq composite fell 0.4 percent to 7,437.54. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks was 0.8 percent lower at 1,526.59.

U.S. EARNINGS: Sentiment was dampened as large U.S. companies kicked off a busy earnings week with warnings of rising costs related to tariffs. Heavy equipment maker Caterpillar posted a larger profit and revenue than expected in the third quarter. But the company said Trump's taxes on imported steel were driving up production costs, causing its shares to slip 7.6 percent to \$118.98. 3M, the maker of Post-it notes and ceramic coatings, reported disappointing revenues and said it anticipates about \$100 million in extra costs next year. That sent its shares tumbling 4.4 percent. The U.S. and China are locked in a trade dispute over technology and have raised tariffs on billions of dollars of each other's goods.

ENERGY: Oil futures rose after the opening of a high-profile investment conference in Saudi Arabia, amid controversy surrounding the killing of a dissident journalist. Benchmark U.S. crude added 13 cents to \$66.56 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose 7 cents to settle at \$66.43 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, gained 30 cents to \$76.74 per barrel. In the previous session, it dropped \$3.39 to \$76.44 a barrel.

CURRENCIES: The dollar strengthened to 112.56 yen from 112.42 yen on Tuesday. The euro eased to \$1.1472 from \$1.1473.

AP Business Writer Alex Veiga contributed to this report.

US health chief says overdose deaths beginning to level off

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR and CARLA K. JOHNSON, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of U.S. drug overdose deaths has begun to level off after years of relentless increases driven by the opioid epidemic, health secretary Alex Azar said Tuesday, cautioning it's too soon to declare victory.

"We are so far from the end of the epidemic, but we are perhaps, at the end of the beginning," Azar said at a health care event sponsored by the Milken Institute think tank.

Confronting the opioid epidemic has been the rare issue uniting Republicans and Democrats in a politically divided nation. A bill providing major funding for treatment was passed under former President Barack Obama. More money followed earlier this year under President Donald Trump. And on Wednesday Trump is expected to sign bipartisan legislation passed this month that increases access to treatment, among other steps.

More than 70,000 people died of drug overdoses last year, according to preliminary numbers released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention this summer— a 10 percent increase from 2016. Health and Human Services — the department Azar heads — is playing a central role in the government's response.

In his speech Azar suggested that multi-pronged efforts to bring the epidemic under control are paying off. He ticked off statistics showing an increase in treatment with medications such as buprenorphine and naltrexone. There's solid evidence backing medication-assisted treatment, when used alongside counseling and ongoing support. He also noted much broader access to the overdose-reversing drug naloxone, and a documented decline in the number of people misusing prescription opioids as doctors take greater care in prescribing.

Azar said that toward the end of last year and through the beginning of this year, the number of deaths "has begun to plateau." Azar was not indicating that deaths are going down, but noting that they appear to be rising at a slower rate than previously seen.

Earlier this month, the CDC released figures — also preliminary — that appear to show a slowdown in overdose deaths in late 2017 and the first three months of this year. From December to March, those figures show that the pace of the increase over the previous 12 months has slowed from 10 percent to 3 percent, according to the preliminary CDC figures.

Despite the slowdown, the nation is still in the midst of the deadliest drug overdose epidemic in its history. Opioids were involved in most of the deaths, killing nearly 48,000 people last year.

While prescription opioid and heroin deaths appear to be leveling off, deaths involving fentanyl, cocaine and methamphetamines are on the rise. Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid much more powerful than heroin, used as an additive in street drugs.

Advocates for people struggling with addiction said they don't believe the crisis will be quickly or easily resolved. "Even if we are beginning to make a dent in opioid deaths, we still have a really significant problem in this country with addiction, and with the hopelessness and despair so many communities feel," said Chuck Ingoglia, senior vice president at the National Council for Behavioral Health.

In President Barack Obama's last year in office, his administration secured a commitment to expand treatment and Congress provided \$1 billion in grants to states. Trump declared the opioid epidemic a national emergency. Two major funding bills have passed under his watch. While Trump got headlines with his call for using the death penalty against major drug dealers, his administration has built on the treatment approach that Obama favored.

The Medicaid expansion in Obama's Affordable Care Act has also played a critical role, paying for low-income adults to go into treatment. A recent Associated Press analysis showed that states that expanded

Medicaid are spending their new opioid grant money from Congress more judiciously, going beyond basics like treatment for people in crisis. Trump tried to repeal the Medicaid expansion, but failed.

Advocates for treatment say that they're pleased that more and more addiction is considered a disease and not a sign of moral weakness. But they say the U.S. has a long way to go build what they call an "infrastructure of care," a system that incorporates prevention, treatment and recovery.

In an interview with The Associated Press this summer, a CDC expert said the overdose death numbers appear to be shifting for the better, but it's too soon to draw firm conclusions.

Month-to-month data show a leveling off in the number of deaths, said Bob Anderson, a senior statistician with the National Center for Health Statistics. However, those numbers are considered preliminary, since death investigations have not been completed in all cases.

"It appears at this point that we may have reached a peak and we may start to see a decline," said Anderson. "This reminds me of what we saw with HIV in the '90s."

Final numbers for 2018 won't be available until the end of next year and things could also get worse, not better.

AP Medical Writer Carla K. Johnson reported from Seattle.

On the internet:

CDC drug overdose deaths dashboard - <https://tinyurl.com/y75vu2dv>

Records: Suspect in Utah university killing was sex offender

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST and BRADY McCOMBS, Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A University of Utah student and track athlete who was shot and killed on campus by a former boyfriend had filed a police complaint against him after she learned he was a sex offender and broke off the relationship, authorities said Tuesday.

Investigators had been working to build a case after receiving the report from 21-year-old Lauren McCluskey, a senior from Pullman, Washington, university police chief Dale Brophy said. He declined to disclose further details on the report.

McCluskey was found shot in a car Monday night near on-campus student housing. Her attacker, 37-year-old Melvin Rowland, killed himself overnight at a church when police tracked him down after linking him to the killing through a description, clothing and evidence at the scene, authorities said.

The victim's mother, Jill McCluskey, said her daughter had filed a harassment complaint after breaking up with Rowland.

Lauren McCluskey had dated Rowland for about a month then ended the relationship on Oct. 9 when she learned he had lied about his age, name and criminal history, Jill McCluskey said in a statement. It wasn't clear how the two met.

Jill McCluskey said she had been talking on the phone with her daughter as she returned from a night class and heard her yell, "No, no, no!" A few minutes later, a woman picked up the phone and said all of Lauren McCluskey's belongings were on the ground.

"I thought she might have been in a car accident," Jill McCluskey said. "That was the last I heard from her."

Rowland spent nearly a decade in prison after pleading guilty to trying to lure an underage girl online and attempted sex abuse charges, according to court records.

He was charged with two separate crimes in September 2003, said Paul Amann, the prosecutor on the case.

Rowland had been caught in an online sex crimes sting when a police officer posed as a 13-year-old girl. After he was charged, a woman came forward to report he had sexually assaulted her after a separate online meeting a few days earlier.

"He was just out of control. He had no self-control," Amann said Tuesday.

Rowland pleaded guilty to enticing a minor over the internet and attempted forcible sex abuse in an

agreement with prosecutors, records show. His defense attorney did not immediately return a call Tuesday seeking comment.

Rowland was released from prison in 2012 after serving eight years and has twice been sent back from halfway houses after violating his parole, Utah prison spokeswoman Kaitlin Felsted said. He was most recently paroled in April and was living on his own.

Rowland was prohibited from owning a gun on parole and it was unclear how he obtained one.

Initial reports of the shooting sparked panic on the Salt Lake City campus. University officials ordered students to stay in place for about three hours as they searched for the gunman.

University of Utah student Jonas Woychick said he was playing pool when he got a message about an on-campus shooter. He and eight other students waited in a bathroom for two hours until they learned it was safe.

"I didn't know if this shooter was going for other people, or if he was just targeting one person," said Woychick, who is from Boise, Idaho.

Lauren McCluskey was majoring in communication and was excited to graduate next spring, said her mother, a professor at Washington State University, adding that her daughter was a Washington state high jump champion in high school and loved to sing.

University President Ruth Watkins said classes were canceled Tuesday and a vigil would be held Wednesday night.

"As a campus community, we share grief over this tragic loss of life," Watkins said in a statement.

Athletics Director Mark Harlan said counselors and psychologists were available to support McCluskey's teammates, coaches and friends. He said she was a proud Ute and an outstanding student-athlete.

"This isn't right," Harlan said. "I don't really have any words. My heart goes out to her family. ... When something like this happens, it defies any logic, any reason."

Associated Press writer Paul Davenport contributed to this report from Phoenix.

6 children dead, 12 sick in viral outbreak at rehab center

By MIKE CATALINI, Associated Press

A severe viral outbreak at a New Jersey rehabilitation center for "medically fragile children" has left six youngsters dead and 12 others sick, the state Health Department said Tuesday.

There have been 18 cases of adenovirus at the Wanaque Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation in Haskell, about 30 miles (50 kilometers) northwest of New York, the New Jersey Health Department said in a statement.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said in an email that it is providing technical assistance to the state. In the past 10 years, cases of severe illness and death from the type of infection found at the facility have been reported in the United States, said CDC spokeswoman Kate Fowlie in an email, though it's unclear how many deaths there have been.

The strain afflicting the children is usually associated with acute respiratory illness, according to the CDC, which on its website instructs health workers to report unusual clusters to state or local health departments.

The Health Department didn't release the ages of the victims or address the severity of the illness in the other dozen cases.

The six deaths happened this month, according to Health Department spokeswoman Donna Leusner.

The facility was instructed not to admit new patients until the outbreak ends, and the Health Department said the number of new cases appears to be decreasing.

Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious disease professor at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, said these kinds of fatalities are not common, but they're known to happen.

"Here I think you have this kind of nasty combination of very fragile children and this particularly aggressive virus," he said.

The strain in the New Jersey outbreak is No. 7 and is affecting "medically fragile" children with severely

compromised immune systems, according to the Health Department. It has been associated with communal living and can be more severe

A scientific paper cited by the CDC reported that a 1998 outbreak of type 7 adenovirus at a pediatric chronic-care facility in Chicago claimed the lives of eight patients. The 2001 paper said civilian outbreaks of the type 7 infection had not been frequently reported because of a lack of lab resources, and that the full impact on chronic-care facilities and hospitals is likely underestimated.

In New Jersey, a team was at the center Tuesday and Sunday and found "minor handwashing deficiencies," the Health Department said.

"The Health Department is continuing to work closely with the facility on infection control issues," the department said in a statement.

The center helps educate "medically fragile children," according to its website. Messages left with the center were not returned.

Gov. Phil Murphy said in a statement that he was "heartbroken" about the deaths and that he had been briefed by the health commissioner, Dr. Shereef Elnahal, who told him that the department is on site and trying to prevent the virus from spreading further.

"I am confident that the steps being taken by state and local officials will minimize the impact to all those who remain at the facility, including patients and employee," Murphy said.

Adenoviruses often cause mild illness, particularly in young children, but people with weakened immune systems are at risk of getting severely sick, according to the CDC.

Turkish president: Saudis must name masterminds of killing

By CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA and JON GAMBRELL, Associated Press

ISTANBUL (AP) — Saudi Arabia must identify those who ordered the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi and turn over the suspects for trial, the Turkish president said Tuesday in remarks that carefully ratcheted up pressure on a country that is a source of investment for Turkey, but also a rival for influence in the Middle East.

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan delivered a sharp rebuttal of Saudi Arabia's widely criticized account that the writer for The Washington Post died accidentally in a brawl, saying Saudi officials had planned the killing for days.

Some analysts believe Turkey is also calculating whether it can capitalize on outrage over the killing to extract political capital from the world's largest oil exporter without alienating it altogether.

Addressing ruling party lawmakers in parliament, Erdogan used the word "murder" 15 times to describe Khashoggi's death after the writer entered the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2 for paperwork related to his marriage plans.

Erdogan also cast Turkey in the role of global statesman, echoing calls for full Saudi accountability from Western allies whose relationships with the Turkish government have often been edgy in the past.

"To blame such an incident on a handful of security and intelligence members would not satisfy us or the international community," he said. Earlier, Turkey's foreign minister said it would cooperate with any international or U.N. probe into the killing, a nod to transparency that only seemed to accentuate an emerging pariah status for Saudi Arabia.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres stood by his earlier call for an independent and transparent investigation, said Farhan Haq, a deputy spokesman for the world body. Haq reiterated that Guterres can initiate a probe if key parties request it or if there is a legislative mandate from a U.N. body.

"Turkey is playing the long game. And today's speech is part of a very careful — in my opinion — escalation strategy," said Ahmet Kasim Han, an international relations analyst at Altinbas University in Istanbul.

"Turkish authorities seem to be concentrated on turning this into a multilateral issue" because they don't want "to be left alone with Saudi Arabia on all of this," he said.

Maha Yahya, director of the Carnegie Middle East Center in Beirut, speculated that Saudi Arabia could now be vulnerable to pressure, including from the U.S., to end a boycott of Turkey-backed Qatar.

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"As far as Erdogan is concerned, he will use this incident to try and get as much mileage and concessions out of it, to the advantage of Turkey, as he possibly can," Yahya said.

Erdogan focused on the investigation in his speech, saying he wants the 18 suspects detained by Saudi Arabia in the killing to face trial in Turkish courts, a demand the kingdom will probably resist. Saudi Arabia has said it will punish those involved and has described the suspects as rogue operators, even though officials linked to Saudi Arabia's assertive Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman have been implicated.

Although he didn't mention Prince Mohammed, Erdogan likely knows that the kingdom's major decisions always require the approval of those at the top of the ruling Al Saud family.

"As of now, we expect of them to openly bring to light those responsible — from the highest ranked to the lowest — and to bring them to justice," the Turkish president said.

Han, the Istanbul analyst, said Erdogan is moving cautiously, wary that Prince Mohammed might stay in control despite the scandal or could succumb to pressure over the Khashoggi killing and relinquish power. The latter outcome would benefit Turkey because the crown prince "is consciously and continuously pursuing strategies that work against Turkey," Han said.

Modern tensions between the two countries date to the Arab Spring uprisings in 2011. Turkey supported some political Islamists who rose to power, but Saudi Arabia and its ally, the United Arab Emirates, viewed the pan-Arab Sunni movement as a threat to their hereditarily ruled nations.

Another opportunity emerging from the fallout over Khashoggi's death could be an improvement in ties with the U.S. after Washington imposed sanctions on Ankara over the jailing of a U.S. pastor, said Marc Pierini, a former European Union diplomat to Turkey.

Speaking to reporters in the Oval Office, President Donald Trump said Khashoggi's killing was one of the "worst cover-ups in the history of cover-ups," and that the entire operation was badly conceived and "carried out poorly."

Shortly after Trump's remarks, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced that the U.S. was revoking the visas of some Saudi officials implicated in Khashoggi's death. The revocations are the Trump administration's first punitive measures against the Saudis, who are seen as a key allies in U.S. efforts to isolate Iran, since Khashoggi disappeared.

At an event hosted by The Washington Post, U.S. Vice President Mike Pence declined to say whether he had seen any intelligence linking the crown prince to the killing, though he noted CIA Director Gina Haspel was in Turkey, and added: "I know that when the CIA director returns, she will be briefing the president, myself and our entire team on what the Turks have assembled."

The foreign ministers of the G7 group of nations said Saudi Arabia should conduct a credible investigation, "in full collaboration with the Turkish authorities."

Confirming reports and leaks from anonymous officials in past days, Erdogan said 15 Saudi officials arrived in Istanbul shortly before Khashoggi's death and that a man, apparently dressed in the writer's clothes, acted as a possible decoy by walking out of the consulate on the day of the disappearance.

"Why did these 15 people all with links to the event gather in Istanbul on the day of the murder? We are seeking answers. Who did these people get their orders from to go there? We are seeking answers," Erdogan said. "When the murder is so clear, why were so many inconsistent statements made? Why is the body of a person who has officially been accepted as killed still not around?"

Turkish investigators, meanwhile, inspected a car belonging to the consulate and found three suitcases, a laptop computer and clothes inside, state television TRT reported. Authorities discovered the car at an underground garage on Monday.

In Riyadh on Tuesday, King Salman and Prince Mohammed received Khashoggi's son, Salah, and his brother, Sahel, at the Yamama Palace, where the royals expressed their condolences. A friend of the Khashoggi family told The Associated Press that Salah has been under a travel ban since last year. The individual spoke on condition of anonymity, fearing reprisal.

At a Cabinet meeting, King Salman again stressed those responsible for Khashoggi's slaying would be held "accountable," according to the state-run Saudi Press Agency.

Also Tuesday, the crown prince attended an investment forum alongside King Abdullah II of Jordan. Prince Mohammed sat in on an afternoon session and looked at some promotional booths outside the main hall as an excited crowd of mostly young Saudi men recorded the encounter on their phones.

Many Western executives and officials skipped the conference because of the killing.

At its opening, Saudi Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih described Khashoggi's slaying as "abhorrent."

"As we all know, these are difficult days for us in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia," he said. "Nobody in the kingdom can justify it or explain it. From the leadership on down, we're very upset of what has happened."

Gambrell reported from Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Associated Press writers Suzan Fraser, Zeynep Bilginsoy and Bram Janssen in Istanbul; Aya Batrawy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; and Deb Riechmann in Washington contributed.

US to revoke visas of Saudis implicated in killing of writer

By **MATTHEW LEE and SUSANNAH GEORGE, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Tuesday described the killing of a Saudi journalist as a botched operation and a "bad original concept" as his administration took its first, careful steps toward punishing the Saudis by moving to revoke the visas of the suspects.

Speaking to reporters at the White House, Trump said the entire operation was a fiasco.

"They had a very bad original concept," Trump said. "It was carried out poorly, and the cover-up was one of the worst cover-ups in the history of cover-ups. Somebody really messed up, and they had the worst cover-up ever."

Even in the face of ugly details of Jamal Khashoggi's slaying, Trump has resisted calls to cut off arms sales to the kingdom and has been reluctant to antagonize the Saudi rulers. Trump considers the Saudis to be vital allies in his Mideast agenda.

Members of Congress have demanded that sanctions be imposed on Saudi Arabia over the killing of Khashoggi, who lived in self-imposed exile in the U.S. and wrote critically about Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. The writer, who was a contributor to The Washington Post, vanished Oct. 2 after entering the Saudi consulate in Turkey, where he went to pick up documents for his marriage to his Turkish fiancée.

Turkish officials say that a Saudi team of 15 men tortured, killed and dismembered the writer and that Saudi officials had planned the killing for days. Saudi officials — after weeks of denials — now concede that he died, but they say it happened accidentally in a fight at the consulate.

"It was a total fiasco," Trump said. "The process was no good. The execution was no good. And the cover-up, if you want to call it that, was certainly no good."

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the move to revoke visas was just a first step.

Visa records are confidential and Pompeo was not more specific about who the revocations would affect, but the State Department later said 21 "Saudi suspects" would have visas revoked or would be declared ineligible to enter the U.S.

"These penalties will not be the last word on this matter," Pompeo told reporters at the State Department.

The administration "will continue to hold those responsible accountable. We're making very clear that the United States does not tolerate this kind of ruthless action to silence Mr. Khashoggi, a journalist, with violence," he said. "Neither the president or I am happy with this situation."

Still, Pompeo stressed the strategic importance of the U.S.-Saudi relationship.

"We continue to view as achievable the twin imperative of protecting America and holding accountable those responsible for the killing of Mr. Khashoggi," Pompeo said.

Indiana attorney general won't be charged in alleged groping

By **RICK CALLAHAN, Associated Press**

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A special prosecutor said Tuesday he will not charge Indiana Attorney General

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Curtis Hill with a crime even though he believes allegations from four women that Hill drunkenly groped them at a party in March. Attorneys for the lawmaker and legislative staffers who accuse Hill said the case isn't over because they plan to file a civil lawsuit against him.

Special prosecutor Daniel Sigler said he considered bringing misdemeanor battery charges against Hill, a Republican. But he said witnesses gave varying accounts of what happened in the crowded Indianapolis bar during a March 15 party celebrating the end of the legislative session, and it would be too difficult to prove the case.

"The setting of this lent itself to problems prosecuting," Sigler said at a news conference in Indianapolis. "It was in a bar. It was in the early morning hours. Free alcohol was being served and flowing."

Hill's private attorneys, James Voyles and Jennifer Lukemeyer, praised the prosecutor's decision not to bring criminal charges against Hill, who has repeatedly denied that he groped the women.

They said in a statement that the decision "exonerates and absolves Mr. Curtis Hill of any factual and legal criminal behavior."

Attorney Kimberly Jeselskis, who represents the four women, said a tort claim has been filed with the state of Indiana that is required before the state can be sued. She said the women intend to sue Hill, the state of Indiana and the attorney general's office and the claims they plan to pursue include assault, battery, defamation and false imprisonment.

Immediately after the prosecutor spoke, the women held a news conference in the same room with their attorneys to announce their planned civil suit. Three of the women — Democratic state Rep. Mara Candelaria Reardon; Niki DaSilva, a legislative assistant for the Indiana Senate Republican Caucus; and Gabrielle McLemore, the Indiana Senate Democrats' communications director — had previously come forward publicly.

The fourth woman, Samantha Lozano, a legislative assistant for Indiana House Democrats, said she decided Tuesday that it was time for her to join the others in publicly accusing Hill.

"This morning I decided that enough was enough," Lozano said. "Today we're taking a step forward to make sure that this does not happen again, and that these types of behaviors are not permitted in the workplace or anywhere else."

Sigler was appointed special prosecutor in July to determine whether Hill should face criminal charges. That came after a confidential legislative memo leaked to the media in July revealed the four women's allegations.

Candelaria Reardon said Hill leaned toward her, put his hand on her back, slid it down and grabbed her buttocks. The Munster lawmaker says she told Hill to "back off," but he approached again later in the night, put his hand on her back and said: "That skin. That back."

In his report on the investigation released Tuesday, Sigler said there was not sufficient evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt "that Hill's intent in the touching was rude, insolent or angry," as required for a battery conviction.

In the report, which includes interviews with 56 witnesses, Sigler noted that Hill didn't deny the touching occurred, but that he justified it as "incidental ... in the crowded bar" and "not intended to be disrespectful, sexual in nature or rude."

Sigler said prosecuting Hill would be tough because several weeks passed before the allegations were raised.

"I did believe them," he told reporters. "Nonetheless, I decided I didn't think I could meet my burden" of proof.

Hill, who was elected to a four-year term in 2016, has rejected calls from Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb and legislative leaders to resign from his post as Indiana's chief law enforcement officer.

Holcomb issued a statement saying his position calling on Hill hasn't changed despite Sigler's findings.

"The findings show a disregard of the executive branch zero tolerance harassment policy. My position has not changed," the statement said.

Separately, Indiana Inspector General Lori Torres released her own 25-page report saying eyewitnesses told investigators that Hill's behavior at the party was inappropriate, "creepy" and made many of the

women at the party uncomfortable but he didn't break any state ethics rules.

Indiana's constitution allows for a public official to be removed from office, "for crime, incapacity or negligence" either by "impeachment by the House of Representatives, to be tried by the Senate," or by a "joint resolution of the General Assembly" with two thirds voting in favor.

But there's debate whether that applies to Hill, because the attorney general — unlike the state auditor, treasurer and secretary — is not specifically listed as a "state officer" in the constitution.

The Legislature could impeach him "for any misdemeanor in office" under a different Indiana law. But that would likely require criminal charges or a conviction — a higher threshold than the "incapacity or negligence" standard in the constitution.

Legal observers have suggested that Hill could be removed from office if he is found to have violated the state court's code of professional conduct.

Hill will need to be nominated by the Republican Party at the state party convention before he can run for office again in 2020.

Associated Press writers Tom Davies and Ken Kusmer contributed to this story.

The Latest on Curtis Hill: <https://bit.ly/2R6L6qA>

'Boogeyman' Trump stokes fears in election closing arguments

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

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mob rule. A socialist takeover. Terrorists marching on the U.S. border.

As President Donald Trump embraces the role of electoral boogeyman, he's making closing arguments to midterm voters that increasingly resemble a Halloween horror story.

The candidate who won the White House in part by harnessing many Americans' anxieties is offering dire warnings about what life would look like if Democrats gain control of Congress.

Using racially charged language and sometimes questionable information, Trump argues that Democrats will plunge the country into socialism, imperil the social safety net, raise taxes and welcome millions of people pouring into the U.S. illegally.

"At stake in this election is whether we continue the extraordinary prosperity that we've all achieved, or whether we let the radical Democrat mob take a giant wrecking ball and destroy our country and our economy," Trump said at a rally in Houston on Monday night. He's warning of Democratic "mob rule" and predicting a stock market crash if Democrats retake control on Capitol Hill.

Trump's doomsday predictions come as Republicans seek to counter months of rising Democratic enthusiasm. The GOP has seen its own increase in energy since the politically charged confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh. Party leaders now believe they can increase their majority in the Senate, although control of the House remains within Democratic reach. Trump is looking to minimize any losses with a pitch that echoes his dark 2016 campaign rhetoric.

In a post-Labor Day election briefing, GOP pollster Neil Newhouse warned the White House about an enthusiasm gap between Democrats and Republicans. He suggested that the GOP emphasize to voters the potential consequences of Democratic control of Congress on issues like abolishing U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Trump has taken that message to heart in recent weeks, White House aides say.

The scare tactics run the risk of motivating Democrats or turning off moderates in the suburban races that could decide the House majority. But the White House sees the fear factor as a winning strategy.

"We want to talk about national security, border enforcement and justices. It's the themes and policy points that will drive people out," said former Trump campaign aide Sam Nunberg. "These are stark choices. We have to provide stark choices."

In a recent Associated Press interview, Trump projected confidence about the upcoming elections, declaring: "It feels to me very much like '16," referring to his presidential win.

At rallies and on Twitter in recent days, he has focused on Central American migrants making their way

to the southern U.S. border. The caravan is a "gift" to Republicans, Trump believes. He's told confidants that it is the party's best closing argument heading into the midterms, according to a Republican close to the White House who spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations.

Trump believes the images of the caravan that have become a fixture on cable news networks — and particularly Fox News, the preferred network of his most loyal supporters — are riling up the same voters who turned out for him two years ago.

He has further heated up his rhetoric by suggesting, without presenting evidence, that the Democrats are behind the caravan and claiming that Middle Easterners — an apparent allusion to terrorists — are also in the traveling mass of migrants.

Vice President Mike Pence sought to bolster Trump's claims Tuesday, saying at a Washington Post event that it "is inconceivable that there are not people of Middle Eastern descent in a crowd of more than 7,000 people advancing toward our border."

Trump later denied he was using the caravan to stoke electoral fear. "No, not at all," he said. "I'm a very nonpolitical person, and that's why I got elected president."

Trump's White House is reinforcing the president's dark view of life under Democratic leadership. On Tuesday, his Council of Economic Advisers issued a report on the costs of socialism that said the "Medicare for All" plan being promoted by some Democrats would harm economic growth.

The report highlights the severe troubles of Venezuela amid hyper-inflation and shortages of basic goods — one of the president's preferred examples for criticizing Democrats despite that oil-dependent nation's clear differences with the U.S. economy. Kevin Hassett, chairman of the council, said his team decided to craft the report this summer because "socialism is something that we're reading about in the news."

At a recent campaign stop, Trump said: "Democrats support a socialist takeover of health care that would totally obliterate Medicare."

Seeking to emphasize his "America First" approach to foreign policy, Trump went a step further than usual this week, condemning so-called globalists, and embracing the politically fraught term of "nationalist."

"You know what I am? I'm a nationalist, OK? I'm a nationalist. Nationalist. Nothing wrong. Use that word. Use that word," Trump said.

Don't expect the alarmist campaign to stop on Election Day.

Trump told the AP that his themes will be central as he looks ahead to his own battle for re-election, under the slogan "Keep America Great."

"The wrong person coming in after me sitting right at this desk can destroy it very quickly," Trump said.

AP Writers Josh Boak and Jill Colvin contributed to this report.

Rome escalator accident injures 20 Russian soccer fans

By PAOLO SANTALUCIA, Associated Press

ROME (AP) — At least 20 people were injured when an escalator in the Rome metropolitan system collapsed Tuesday night.

A video shown on Sky TG24 shows the escalator accelerating suddenly, and the people riding down on it collapsing one onto another. The dramatic footage shows people on the parallel escalator trying to pull others to safety.

The cause was not immediately known. The metropolitan station at Piazza Repubblica near the main Termini train station was closed by investigators.

"The scene that we found was people piled up at the bottom of the escalator," said Rome provincial fire chief Giampietro Boscaino. "People one on the top of the other looking for help. They had various injuries caused by the escalator that was twisted, therefore serious injuries."

The prefect's office put the number of injured at 20, mostly Russians in town for a Champion's League soccer game between CSKA Moscow and Roma. Firefighters said seven were in serious condition.

The news agency ANSA quoted Rome Mayor Virginia Raggi as saying that witnesses reported people were jumping and dancing on the escalator before the accident. ANSA also quoted city transport agency officials as saying maintenance is carried out on metro system escalators every month.

Separately, one CSKA fan was slashed with a knife during clashes between opposing fans outside the Stadio Olimpico, the ANSA news agency reported.

About 1,500 CSKA fans were attending the match.

Colleen Barry contributed from Milan.

As caravan moves north, Trump struggles with what to do

By COLLEEN LONG, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration has not settled on a plan for what to do if a migrant caravan arrives at the southern border, despite threats by President Donald Trump to declare a national emergency or rescind aid from the countries whose people are journeying north.

Top immigration officials and close Trump advisers are still evaluating the options in closed-door meetings that have gotten increasingly heated in the past week, including one that turned into a shouting match as the caravan of about 7,000 people pushes north, according to administration officials and others with knowledge of the issue. They spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak publicly on the topic.

The caravan comes on the heels of a surge in apprehensions of families at the border, which has rankled Trump but has also given him a fresh talking point to rally his base ahead of the midterm elections just two weeks away.

But the president's inner circle on immigration is grappling with the same problems that have plagued them for months, absent any law change by Congress.

Some in Trump's administration, like Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen, advocate for a diplomatic approach using relationships with Honduras, Mexico and El Salvador and the United Nations to stop the flow of migrants arriving to the U.S.

"We fully support the efforts of Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico as they seek to address this critical situation and ensure a safer and more secure region," Nielsen said in statement earlier this week that noted her department was closely monitoring the possibility of gangs or other criminals that prey on those in "irregular migration."

But others are agitating for more immediate options, including declaring a state of emergency, which would give the administration broader authority over how to manage people at the border; rescinding aid; or giving parents who arrive to the U.S. a choice between being detained months or years with their children while pursuing asylum, or releasing their children to a government shelter while a relative or guardian seeks custody.

Tensions boiled over last week, when Nielsen suggested going to the United Nations Committee on Human Rights in a meeting with White House chief of staff John Kelly. National security adviser John Bolton, a longtime critic of the U.N., exploded over the idea, the officials and people said. Nielsen responded that Bolton, not a frequent attendant of the immigration meetings, was no expert on the topic, they said.

White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders later said in a statement: "While we are passionate about solving the issue of illegal immigration, we are not angry at one another. However, we are furious at the failure of Congressional Democrats to help us address this growing crisis."

Meanwhile, administration officials sounded off Tuesday on an increase in families coming across the border, mostly from Central America. Nearly a third of all people apprehended at the U.S.-Mexico border during the budget year 2018 were families and children — about 157,248 out of 395,579 total apprehensions.

Coupled with the caravan, Trump administration officials have said it's a full-on crisis. They say loopholes in laws have allowed for a worsening border crisis where the vast majority of people coming illegally to the U.S. cannot be easily returned home.

But the administration's efforts to enforce a hard-line stance on immigration through regulation changes and executive orders have been largely thwarted by the court system and, in the case of family separations earlier this year, stymied by a global outcry that prompted Trump to scrap separations through an executive order June 20.

While such caravans have occurred semiregularly over the years, this one has become a hot topic ahead of the Nov. 6 midterm elections. The march appeared to begin as a group of about 160 who decided to band together in Honduras for protection against the gangs who prey on migrants traveling alone and snowballed as the group moved north. It now has thousands of people and is facing more than 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers), likely farther, to the end of the journey.

If they arrive, they are likely to face long lines at ports of entry. Family detention space is limited to about 3,300 beds nationally, and, under a court settlement, children can generally be held no more than 20 days, so many would likely be released.

In a letter to the Department of Homeland Security and the State Department on Tuesday, Senate Judiciary Chairman Chuck Grassley and Sen. Mike Lee suggested that the administration make a "third party" agreement with Mexico that would force any caravan members seeking asylum to do so in their country of arrival — Mexico. The Republican lawmakers said the process already works that way in Europe.

Trump tweeted: "Sadly, it looks like Mexico's Police and Military are unable to stop the Caravan heading to the Southern Border of the United States." He said he had alerted Border Patrol and the military and called for a change in laws, and said that people of Middle Eastern descent had joined the group.

He later acknowledged that his claim was only a hunch.

"They could very well be," he said. "There's no proof of anything. But there could very well be."

Asked if he was implying there were terrorists in the caravan, Trump said, "There could very well be."

Tyler Houlton, a spokesman for Homeland Security, later tweeted that the department could confirm that gang members or serious criminals are in the caravan, but he didn't provide details.

It was the latest effort to thrust immigration politics into the national conversation in the closing weeks of the congressional elections. He and his senior aides have long believed the issue — which was a centerpiece of his winning presidential campaign — is key to motivating GOP voters to turn out.

"Blame the Democrats," he wrote. "Remember the midterms."

Associated Press writer Jill Colvin contributed to this report.

Sandra Day O'Connor announces likely Alzheimer's diagnosis

By JESSICA GRESKO, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sandra Day O'Connor, the first woman on the Supreme Court, announced Tuesday in a frank and personal letter that she has been diagnosed with "the beginning stages of dementia, probably Alzheimer's disease."

The 88-year-old's letter was addressed to "Friends and fellow Americans." And it was a farewell of sorts from a woman who was not only a trailblazer for women in the law but also for much of her quarter century on the high court a key vote on issues central to American life.

O'Connor said doctors diagnosed her some time ago and that as her condition has progressed she is "no longer able to participate in public life." After her 2006 retirement from the high court O'Connor had appeared around the country championing an educational organization she founded and serving as a visiting appeals court judge, among other activities. But she stopped speaking publicly more than two years ago.

"While the final chapter of my life with dementia may be trying, nothing has diminished my gratitude and deep appreciation for the countless blessings in my life," she wrote. She added: "As a young cowgirl from the Arizona desert, I never could have imagined that one day I would become the first woman justice on the U.S. Supreme Court."

O'Connor's announcement of her diagnosis came a day after an Associated Press story in which her son Jay O'Connor said that his mother had begun to have challenges with her short term memory. The

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story noted that O'Connor had stopped making public appearances and recently turned over an office she had kept at the Supreme Court to newly retired Justice Anthony Kennedy. Jay O'Connor also said that hip issues have meant his mother now primarily uses a wheelchair and stays close to her home in Phoenix.

O'Connor wrote that since "many people have asked about my current status and activities" she wanted to be "open about these changes."

O'Connor was a state court judge before being nominated to the Supreme Court in 1981 by President Ronald Reagan, who fulfilled a campaign promise by nominating a woman to the high court. O'Connor's letter Tuesday was reminiscent of Reagan's 1994 letter announcing that he had Alzheimer's disease. He died in 2004.

During her more than two decades on the court O'Connor was often the deciding vote in important cases, providing the crucial fifth vote when the court divided 5-4. On the Supreme Court, her votes were key in cases about abortion, affirmative action and campaign finance as well as the Bush v. Gore decision effectively settling the 2000 election in George W. Bush's favor.

O'Connor grew up on a ranch on the border of Arizona and New Mexico called the "Lazy B" and went to Stanford for college and law school. Although she graduated third in her class from law school she had difficulty finding a job as a lawyer at a time when there were few women in the legal profession. Despite those early challenges, she became the first woman to lead the Arizona state senate before becoming a judge.

O'Connor was 51 when she was confirmed 99-0 to the Supreme Court. She was 75 when she announced her retirement from the court in 2005. Her decision to step down was influenced by a decline in the health of her husband, John O'Connor III, who himself had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

In 2007, O'Connor's family made public that John O'Connor had struck up a romance with a fellow Alzheimer's patient at the assisted living center where he had moved. Scott O'Connor, one of the justice's three sons, told a Phoenix television station that his mother was "thrilled" her husband was "relaxed and happy." John O'Connor died in 2009.

O'Connor's departure from the court and her replacement by Justice Samuel Alito moved the court to the right, and O'Connor wasn't always happy with the court's direction after she left.

Asked in 2009 how she felt about the court retreating from or undoing rulings she was instrumental in shaping, she responded: "What would you feel? I'd be a little bit disappointed. If you think you've been helpful, and then it's dismantled, you think, 'Oh, dear.' But life goes on. It's not always positive."

In retirement O'Connor was an enthusiastic advocate for iCivics, an organization she founded that promotes civic education in schools through free, educational online games. O'Connor wrote Tuesday that she felt strongly about working to advance civic learning and engagement "because I've seen first-hand how vital it is for all citizens to understand our Constitution and unique system of government, and participate actively in their communities."

"There is no more important work than deepening young people's engagement in our nation," she wrote.

Chief Justice John Roberts said in a statement that he was "saddened to learn" that O'Connor "faces the challenge of dementia."

"Although she has announced that she is withdrawing from public life, no illness or condition can take away the inspiration she provides for those who will follow the many paths she has blazed," Roberts wrote.

All eight other current justices and the three other retired justices also issued statements praising O'Connor. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who in 1993 became the second woman to join the court and is now one of three women justices, wrote of O'Connor that: "In her work and days, she strived mightily to make what was momentous for women in 1981, the year she was appointed to the Court, no longer extraordinary, but entirely expectable."

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

San Francisco is allowing noncitizens to vote, but few will

By OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ, Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — San Francisco has become the largest U.S. city to give people in the country illegally and other noncitizens the right to vote in a local election, but the possibility of the Trump administration learning their identities appears to have kept people away: only 35 noncitizens have registered.

It is among a handful of cities nationwide to allow people who aren't citizens to vote, which is illegal in state and federal elections. In San Francisco, they can only participate in the school board race.

Voters in 2016 approved a measure allowing parents or guardians of a child in San Francisco schools to have a say in their children's education by helping elect school board representatives regardless of their immigration status. In the same election, Donald Trump won the presidency and has since cracked down on illegal immigration and ramped up rhetoric against those living in the U.S. illegally.

"We're in an unprecedented arena of animosity toward our immigrant community, and that has really stopped people from voting," said San Francisco Supervisor Sandra Fewer, a former member of the school board and a supporter of the noncitizen voting measure.

Noncitizens must provide their address and date of birth to register. The number who had was low as of Monday, but people can still sign up and vote on Election Day.

The Chinese American Voters Education Committee has been holding voter registration campaigns on college campuses, in low-income neighborhoods, at festivals and in Chinatown. Volunteers have not registered a single noncitizen, including a green-card holder, executive director David Lee said.

"People are really fearful because the Trump administration is perceived to be very anti-immigrant," Lee said. "There is legitimate concern that their information may be turned over to the federal government and that they may end up being detained or deported."

Lee and other community groups have been inviting prospective voters to register but also warning them of the risks. The city election department also has warnings on its registration form and on flyers saying voter information would be public and could be seen by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other agencies.

San Francisco is a "sanctuary city" that otherwise limits cooperation with federal immigration officials. The city has not shied away from confronting the U.S. government on immigration, suing the Trump administration over sanctuary protections for people in the country illegally.

Those who championed the voting ordinance say it aims to give immigrants a greater voice at the school board, which approves curriculum, hires staff and manages a nearly \$900,000 annual budget.

The San Francisco School District does not keep a tally of its noncitizen parents or children but reports that 29 percent of its 54,000 students are English learners, with the majority listing Chinese or Spanish as their first language. At least 40,000 people in the city of 885,000 are in the country illegally, according to government estimates.

Harmeet Dhillon, a San Francisco attorney and committeewoman for the National Republican Committee, said allowing noncitizens to cast ballots devalues the rights of citizens.

"Voting is a sacred privilege and a sacred right of citizens. It should not be trivialized for political gain," she said.

Dhillon, who handles election law cases, said she is not surprised that only a few noncitizens have registered because voting could jeopardize their chances of attaining citizenship in the future.

"By voting people are taking a big legal risk, and for what return?" Dhillon asked.

San Francisco is not the first place with such a measure. In Maryland, where an estimated 15 percent of residents are foreign-born, at least six cities allow noncitizens to vote in local elections.

The measures have been in effect since the 1980s but not without controversy. In College Park, home to the University of Maryland, an amendment that would have allowed noncitizen voting failed last year.

One reason so many cities in Maryland have enacted noncitizen voting laws is that municipalities are allowed to enact legislation and implement it right away, unlike other states, said Ron Hayduk, an associate professor of political science at San Francisco State University who studies noncitizen voting laws.

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In Massachusetts, the cities of Amherst, Cambridge, Newton and Brookline have advanced laws to allow noncitizen voting, but they cannot implement them because they need the approval of state lawmakers, who have not acted, Hayduk said.

"Noncitizen voting is a very contentious issue, and that's in part why it's not more widespread," Hayduk said.

In San Francisco, noncitizens who opt to vote will be listed on a separate roster from citizens and will get a ballot with just the school board contest, city elections chief John Arntz said.

Norma Garcia, director of policy and advocacy for the Mission Economic Development Agency, which advocates for immigrant rights, said she hopes more noncitizens will vote if the political climate changes in the future.

"The numbers are not what anyone would have wanted them to be, but we're confident there will be increased participation once the political tide shifts," Garcia said.

Associated Press writers Brian Witte in Annapolis, Maryland, and Bob Salsberg in Boston contributed to this report.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 24, the 297th day of 2018. There are 68 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 24, 1972, Hall of Famer Jackie Robinson, who'd broken Major League Baseball's color barrier in 1947, died in Stamford, Connecticut, at age 53.

On this date:

In 1648, the Peace of Westphalia (west-FAY'-lee-uh) ended the Thirty Years War and effectively destroyed the Holy Roman Empire.

In 1861, the first transcontinental telegraph message was sent by Chief Justice Stephen J. Field of California from San Francisco to President Abraham Lincoln in Washington, D.C., over a line built by the Western Union Telegraph Co.

In 1931, the George Washington Bridge, connecting New York and New Jersey, was officially dedicated (it opened to traffic the next day).

In 1939, nylon stockings were sold publicly for the first time, in Wilmington, Delaware.

In 1940, the 40-hour work week went into effect under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

In 1945, the United Nations officially came into existence as its charter took effect.

In 1952, Republican presidential candidate Dwight D. Eisenhower declared in Detroit, "I shall go to Korea" as he promised to end the conflict. (He made the visit over a month later.)

In 1962, a naval quarantine of Cuba ordered by President John F. Kennedy went into effect during the missile crisis.

In 1980, the merchant freighter SS Poet departed Philadelphia, bound for Port Said (sah-EED'), Egypt, with a crew of 34 and a cargo of grain; it disappeared en route and has not been heard from since.

In 1989, former television evangelist Jim Bakker (BAY'-kur) was sentenced by a judge in Charlotte, N.C., to 45 years in prison for fraud and conspiracy. (The sentence was later reduced to eight years; it was further reduced to four for good behavior.)

In 2002, authorities apprehended Army veteran John Allen Muhammad and teenager Lee Boyd Malvo near Myersville, Maryland, in the Washington-area sniper attacks. (Malvo was later sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole; Muhammad was sentenced to death and executed in 2009.)

In 2005, civil rights icon Rosa Parks died in Detroit at age 92.

Ten years ago: Singer-actress Jennifer Hudson's mother and brother were found slain in their Chicago home; the body of her 7-year-old nephew was found three days later. (Hudson's estranged brother-in-law

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was convicted of the murders and sentenced to life in prison.) A Russian Soyuz capsule touched down in Kazakhstan after delivering the first two men to follow their fathers into space, a Russian and an American, to the international space station.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama made a plea for Republican cooperation on immigration, telling a White House event, "Rather than create problems, let's prove to the American people that Washington can actually solve some problems." In an apparent first, a majority-female officiating crew worked an NCAA college football game; head linesman Yvonda Lewis, line judge Tangela Mitchell, field judge Sebrina Brunson and back judge Krystle Apellaniz were part of the seven-person crew for the Division II game between Miles and Lane, which Miles won, 38-26. Former World Bank economist Augusto Odone, 80, who defied skeptical scientists to invent a treatment to try to save the life of his little boy wasting away from a neurological disease (and who was portrayed by Nick Nolte in the 1992 film "Lorenzo's Oil"), died in Aqui Terme, Italy.

One year ago: Republican Sen. Jeff Flake of Arizona announced that he would not seek re-election in 2018; he'd been critical of the path the GOP had taken under President Donald Trump. Fats Domino, the rock 'n' roll pioneer whose hits included "Blueberry Hill" and "Ain't That a Shame," died in Louisiana at the age of 89. Actor Robert Guillaume, who won Emmy awards for his portrayal of the sharp-tongued butler in the sitcoms "Soap" and "Benson," died in Los Angeles at 89. In a game that began in 103-degree heat, the Los Angeles Dodgers opened the World Series with a 3-1 victory over the Houston Astros in Los Angeles; Clayton Kershaw was the winning pitcher in his World Series debut.

Today's Birthdays: Rock musician Bill Wyman is 82. Actor F. Murray Abraham is 79. Movie director-screenwriter David S. Ward is 73. Actor Kevin Kline is 71. Former NAACP President Kweisi Mfume (kwah-EE'-see oom-FOO'-may) is 70. Country musician Billy Thomas (Terry McBride and the Ride) is 65. Actor Doug Davidson is 64. Actor B.D. Wong is 58. Actor Zahn McClarnon is 52. Singer Michael Trent (Americana duo Shovels & Rope) is 41. Rock musician Ben Gillies (Silverchair) is 39. Singer-actress Monica Arnold is 38. Actress-comedian Casey Wilson is 38. Rhythm-and-blues singer Adrienne Bailon (31w) is 35. Actor Tim Pocock is 33. R&B singer-rapper-actor Drake is 32. Actress Shenae Grimes is 29. Actress Eliza Taylor is 29. Actor Ashton Sanders (Film: "Moonlight") is 23. Olympic gold medal gymnast Kyla Ross is 22. Actor Hudson Yang is 15.

Thought for Today: "Three passions, simple but overwhelmingly strong, have governed my life: the longing for love, the search for knowledge and unbearable pity for the suffering of mankind." -- Bertrand Russell, English philosopher (1872-1970).