

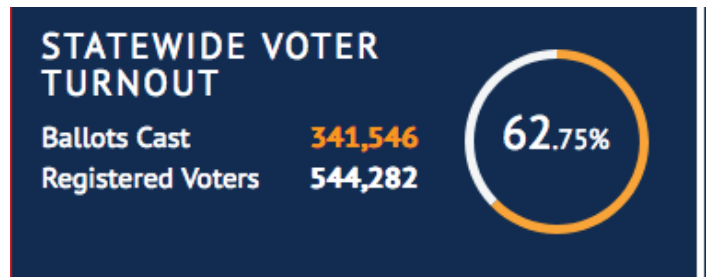
# Groton Daily Independent

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**Aberdeen Roncalli spoiled Groton Area's hope for a state tournament berth with a 3-0 win last night. Scores were 25-22, 25-21, 24-13**

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



Put our experienced team to work for you!

**GROTON**  
Ford

GROTONFORD.COM 605-397-2311

## Groton Area Schedule of Events

**Wednesday, November 7, 2018**

NCRC Testing Seniors at Groton Area High School  
6:00pm: FCCLA Food Drive at GHS Gymnasium

**Thursday, November 8, 2018**

5:30pm: Financial Aid Information Night at Groton Area High School

## Lazy Farmer's 4-H Meeting

The Lazy Farmers 4-H Club met on November 5th at 5:30pm at the Northern Electric Meeting Room at Bath. Journey Zieroth led the Pledge of Allegiance and Lane Krueger led the 4-H Pledge. Journey Zieroth and Faith Flihs were hostesses. The Club discussed the Recognition banquet that was held on Nov. 4th. The Club will also be in charge of decorating the 4-H Christmas tree at the Brown County Court House this year. All monetary donations for that will be directed to "The Journey Home" and Northeast Mental Health in Aberdeen. Members are encouraged to collect monies to donate, and a box will be set up at the court house for always needed paper products, paper, envelopes as well as infant diapers. Anyone wanting to donate may contact any 4-H member. No talks or demonstrations were given. The next meeting will be a Christmas party hosted by Kade Stange at 4:00 on December 9th.

Respectfully, Faith Flihs reporter

## Governor's Statement on Gubernatorial Election Results

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard today issued the following statement in response to South Dakota's gubernatorial election results:

"I congratulate Kristi Noem and Larry Rhoden on tonight's election victory. Kristi has been an excellent member of Congress and I know she will be a great governor. Over the coming weeks, my administration will do everything we can to help the Governor-elect and her team prepare to take office on January 5."

## Governor's Statement on United States Congressional Election Results

PIERRE, S.D. – Gov. Dennis Daugaard today issued the following statement in response to the United States congressional election results:

"I congratulate Dusty Johnson on his election to the U.S. House of Representatives. I was proud to have Dusty as my chief of staff, and I will be very proud to have him as my representative in Washington."

## **The No. 5 Wolves set the school wins record advancing to the NSIC Tournament semifinals**

Aberdeen, S.D. – The No. 5 Northern State University volleyball team advanced to the semifinal round of the NSIC Conference Tournament with a 3-2 victory over Minnesota State on Tuesday evening. The Wolves improved to 26-3 on the year, breaking the single season school record for wins.

The Wolves fell in the first set 25-22, before bouncing back with 25-18 and 25-16 victories in sets two and three. Minnesota State rallied back in the fourth with a 26-24 victory, however Northern sealed the match victory, taking the fifth set 15-10.

Northern hit a match high .219 in the win, notching 62 kills, 59 assists, 82 digs, seven aces, and a season high 17 blocks. They forced 30 hitting errors by the Mavericks, and held them to an attack percentage below .300 for four of the five sets.

Hailey Busch led three Wolves in double figures with 16 kills, followed by Laura Snyder and Morgan Baufield with 14 and 12 respectively. Sally Gaul and Jenna Reiff each added seven kills, while Ashley Rozell recorded four and Regan Dennis notched two.

Baufield hit a team best .407 in the win with just one attack error, with Reiff close behind at .375. Rozell paced the Wolves offense with 54 total assists, averaging 10.80 per set. She also added a team high 15 digs, as well as five blocks.

Reiff led three Wolves with career best at the net, notching a team leading ten blocks. Also landing on the career best list were Busch and Baufield with seven and six blocks apiece.

Jaiden Langlie also recorded a team high 15 digs in the win, while Lexi Boesl and Alyssa Deobler each tallied 13. Busch rounded out the Wolves in double figures with 12 digs, while Baufield, Reiff, and Gaul each recorded four.

Northern will face the winner of the Southwest Minnesota State and Wayne State game in Duluth on Friday. Game time is set for 5 p.m. from Romano Gymnasium.

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## COUNTY COMMISSIONER AT LARGE - BROWN

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

VOTE CENTERS FULLY: 13 / 13 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 13

EXPORT 

MIKE WIESE Republican	 18%	6,816
DOUG FJELDHEIM Republican	 19%	7,039
LARRY H LOVRIEN Republican	 12%	4,680
DENNIS FEICKERT Democratic	 18%	6,920
TOM FISCHBACH Democratic	 18%	6,718
MICHAEL E NEHLS Democratic	 14%	5,283

TOTAL VOTES **37,456**





**Doug Fjeldheim, Mike Wiese and Dennis Feickert won the three positions for Brown County Commissioner in a very tight race.**

## UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

GEORGE D. HENDRICKSON Libertarian	 1%	4,912
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DUSTIN "DUSTY" JOHNSON Republican	 60%	202,673
TIM BJORKMAN Democratic	 36%	121,002
RON WIECZOREK Independent	 2%	7,322




TOTAL VOTES **335,909**

## GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

KURT EVANS AND RICHARD SHELATZ Libertarian	 1%	4,844
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KRISTI NOEM AND LARRY RHODEN Republican	 51%	172,894
BILLIE SUTTON AND MICHELLE LAVALLEE Democratic	 48%	161,416

TOTAL VOTES **339,154**

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## SECRETARY OF STATE

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

✓ **STEVE BARNETT**  
Republican  65% 211,039

ALEXANDRA FREDERICK  
Democratic  35% 112,777

TOTAL VOTES 323,816

## ATTORNEY GENERAL

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

✓ **JASON RAVNSBORG**  
Republican  55% 179,049

RANDY SEILER  
Democratic  45% 145,526

TOTAL VOTES 324,575

## STATE AUDITOR

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

✓ **RICH SATTGAST**  
Republican  64% 202,031

TOM COOL  
Democratic  36% 113,599

TOTAL VOTES 315,630

## STATE TREASURER

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

✓ **JOSH HAEDER**  
Republican  62% 194,998

AARON MATSON  
Democratic  38% 117,729

TOTAL VOTES 312,727

# Groton Daily Independent

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## COMMISSIONER OF SCHOOL AND PUBLIC LANDS

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

RYAN BRUNNER  
Republican  62% 193,412

WOODY HOUSER  
Democratic  38% 116,739

TOTAL VOTES **310,151**

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONER

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

KRISTIE FIEGEN  
Republican  65% 206,410

WAYNE FREDERICK  
Democratic  35% 108,897


TOTAL VOTES **315,307**

## STATE SENATOR - DISTRICT 02

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

VOTE CENTERS FULLY: 41 / 41 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 41

EXPORT 

BROCK L. GREENFIELD  
Republican  60% 1,908

PAUL REGISTER  
Democratic  40% 1,254

TOTAL VOTES **3,162**

## STATE SENATOR - DISTRICT 03

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

VOTE CENTERS FULLY: 13 / 13 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 13

EXPORT 

AL NOVSTRUP  
Republican  58% 5,333

CORY ALLEN HEIDELBERGER  
Democratic  42% 3,785

TOTAL VOTES **9,118**

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## STATE REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 01

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

VOTE CENTERS FULLY: 48 / 48 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 48

EXPORT 





TAMARA ST JOHN Republican		39%	877
H. PAUL DENNERT Democratic		37%	838
STEVEN D. MCCLEEREY Democratic		25%	561
<b>TOTAL VOTES</b>			<b>2,276</b>

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 02

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

VOTE CENTERS FULLY: 41 / 41 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 41

EXPORT 





KALEB W. WEIS Republican		26%	1,549
LANA J. GREENFIELD Republican		28%	1,643
JENAE HANSEN Democratic		24%	1,392
MIKE MCHUGH Democratic		22%	1,314
<b>TOTAL VOTES</b>			<b>5,898</b>

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE - DISTRICT 03

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

VOTE CENTERS FULLY: 13 / 13 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 13

EXPORT 

CARL E PERRY Republican		29%	4,891
DREW DENNERT Republican		32%	5,551
BROOKS BRISCOE Democratic		21%	3,562
JUSTIN ROEMMICK Democratic		18%	3,111
<b>TOTAL VOTES</b>			<b>17,115</b>

# Broton Daily Independent

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## COUNTY AUDITOR - BROWN

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

VOTE CENTERS FULLY: 13 / 13 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 13

EXPORT 

CATHY MCNICKLE  
Republican  54% 7,405

LYNN HEUPEL  
Democratic  46% 6,330

TOTAL VOTES **13,735**

SUPREME COURT RETENTION : SHALL JUSTICE JANINE M. KERN REPRESENTING THE FIRST SUPREME COURT DISTRICT, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES JANUARY 1, 2019, BE RETAINED IN OFFICE?

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

✓ YES  83% 243,358

NO  17% 49,531

TOTAL VOTES **292,889**

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT W: AN INITIATED AMENDMENT TO THE SOUTH DAKOTA CONSTITUTION CHANGING CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND LOBBYING LAWS, CREATING A GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD, AND CHANGING CERTAIN INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PROVISIONS.

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

YES  45% 142,737

✓ NO  55% 174,045

TOTAL VOTES **316,782**

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT X: AN AMENDMENT TO THE SOUTH DAKOTA CONSTITUTION INCREASING THE NUMBER OF VOTES NEEDED TO APPROVE A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

YES  46% 140,692

✓ NO  54% 167,332

TOTAL VOTES **308,024**



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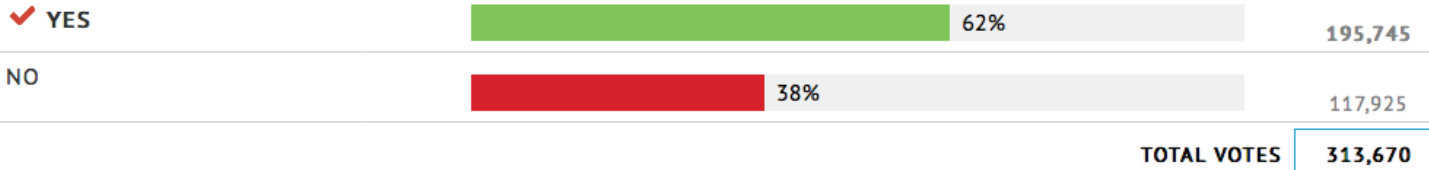
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CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT Z: AN AMENDMENT TO THE SOUTH DAKOTA CONSTITUTION ESTABLISHING THAT A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT MAY EMBRACE ONLY ONE SUBJECT, AND REQUIRING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO BE PRESENTED AND VOTED ON SEPARATELY.

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

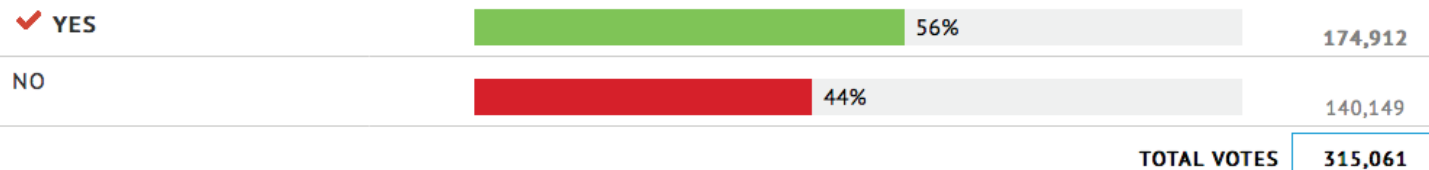


INITIATED MEASURE 24: AN INITIATED MEASURE PROHIBITING CONTRIBUTIONS TO BALLOT QUESTION COMMITTEES BY NON-RESIDENTS, OUT-OF-STATE POLITICAL COMMITTEES, AND ENTITIES THAT ARE NOT FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 

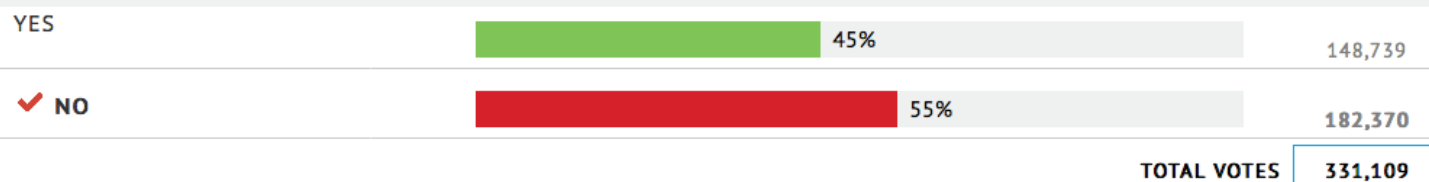


INITIATED MEASURE 25: AN INITIATED MEASURE INCREASING THE STATE TOBACCO TAX AND CREATING A POSTSECONDARY TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FUND FOR THE PURPOSES OF LOWERING STUDENT TUITION AND PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO THE STATE POSTSECONDARY TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

FOLLOW THIS CONTEST

PRECINCTS FULLY: 698 / 698 | PARTIALLY: 0 / 698

EXPORT 



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## Today in Weather History

November 7, 1986: A major winter storm dumped 10 to 25 inches of snow over most of North Dakota. The snow combined with winds of 30 to 50 mph, and gusts to 70 mph, creating blizzard conditions. Snow began over southern and eastern North Dakota on the morning of the 7th, and by late afternoon, had spread over the entire state. The snowfall was heavy at times and continued through the night of the 7th. In the southeast quarter, the snow alternated with rain, freezing rain, and sleet. By daybreak on the 8th, snow and blowing snow were occurring statewide. By late morning, the storm had intensified into a blizzard over almost all of North Dakota. The blizzard ended over extreme western North Dakota by late afternoon of the 8th and over the rest of the state that night. The most substantial snowfall occurred over south central and east central North Dakota. The highest wind gusts of the storm happened in the north central and northeast sections of the state. Several wind gusts to 58 mph were recorded at Grand Forks, and a gust to 55 mph occurred at the Minot Air Force Base. Wind chills dipped to 40 below over some parts of the state. The storm occurred on the opening day of deer hunting season and forced many hunters to cancel their trips. The storm stranded many motorists and delayed fire-fighting efforts which caused a few homes and buildings burn down. Snowplow activity had to be halted for many hours because of high winds and blowing snow.

November 6, 2000: Snowfall of 4 to 10 inches combined with northwest winds of 30 to 45 mph, with stronger gusts, to create blizzard conditions throughout much of the day. Numerous schools were canceled or started late. Many events were also canceled. Several accidents occurred due to the slick roads and low visibilities. Some storm total snowfall amounts include; 9.5 inches in Selby; 8 inches in Glenham and 12SSW of Harrold; 7.3 inches near Onaka; 7 inches at Faulkton; and 6 inches in Miller.

1940: The Tacoma Narrows Bridge, which opened on July 1, 1940, spanned the Puget Sound from Gig Harbor to Tacoma. At the time of the opening, the bridge was the third longest suspension bridge in the world, covering nearly 6,000 feet. Before the bridge opened, high winds would cause the bridge to move vertically, giving the nickname Galloping Gertie. On this day in 1940, winds of 40 mph caused the bridge to collapse because of the physical phenomenon known as aeroelastic flutter.

1951: At 7 AM a blinding flash, a huge ball of fire, and a terrific roar occurred over parts of Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas, caused by a disintegrating meteor. Windows were broken in and near Hinton Oklahoma by the concussion.

1951 - At 7 AM a blinding flash, a huge ball of fire, and a terrific roar occurred over parts of Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas, caused by a disintegrating meteor. Windows were broken in and near Hinton OK by the concussion. (The Weather Channel)

1986 - An early season blizzard struck the Northern Plains Region. North Dakota took the brunt of the storm with wind gusts to 70 mph, and snowfall totals ranged up to 25 inches at Devils Lake. (Storm Data)

1987 - Heavy snow fell across parts of eastern New York State overnight, with twelve inches reported at the town of Piseco, located in the Mohawk Valley. A storm in the southwestern U.S. left nine inches of snow at the Winter Park ski resort in Colorado. Smoke from forest fires reduced visibilities to less than a mile at some locations from North Carolina to Ohio and Pennsylvania. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Unseasonably warm weather continued across the state of Texas. Seven cities reported record high temperatures for the date, including Waco and Del Rio with readings of 92 degrees. McAllen was the hot spot in the nation with a high of 96 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Shortly after daybreak strong thunderstorms developed over a narrow, but almost stationary, east-west band across New Orleans, in southeastern Louisiana. As a result, heavy rains persisted over the same area until mid afternoon before tapering off, and triggered flash flooding across a five county area. Eight to twelve inch rains deluged the area between 9 AM and 6 PM, and totals for the 48 hour period ending at 7 AM on the 8th ranged up to 19.78 inches, between Lake Lexy and Lake Borgne. Approximately 6000 homes in the area reported water damage. The rainfall total for November of 19.81 inches at New Orleans was their highest total for any given month of the year. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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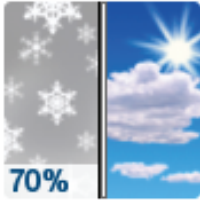
Today

Tonight

Thursday

Thursday  
Night

Friday



Snow Likely  
then Mostly  
Sunny

Mostly Cloudy

Mostly Cloudy

Chance Snow

Mostly Sunny

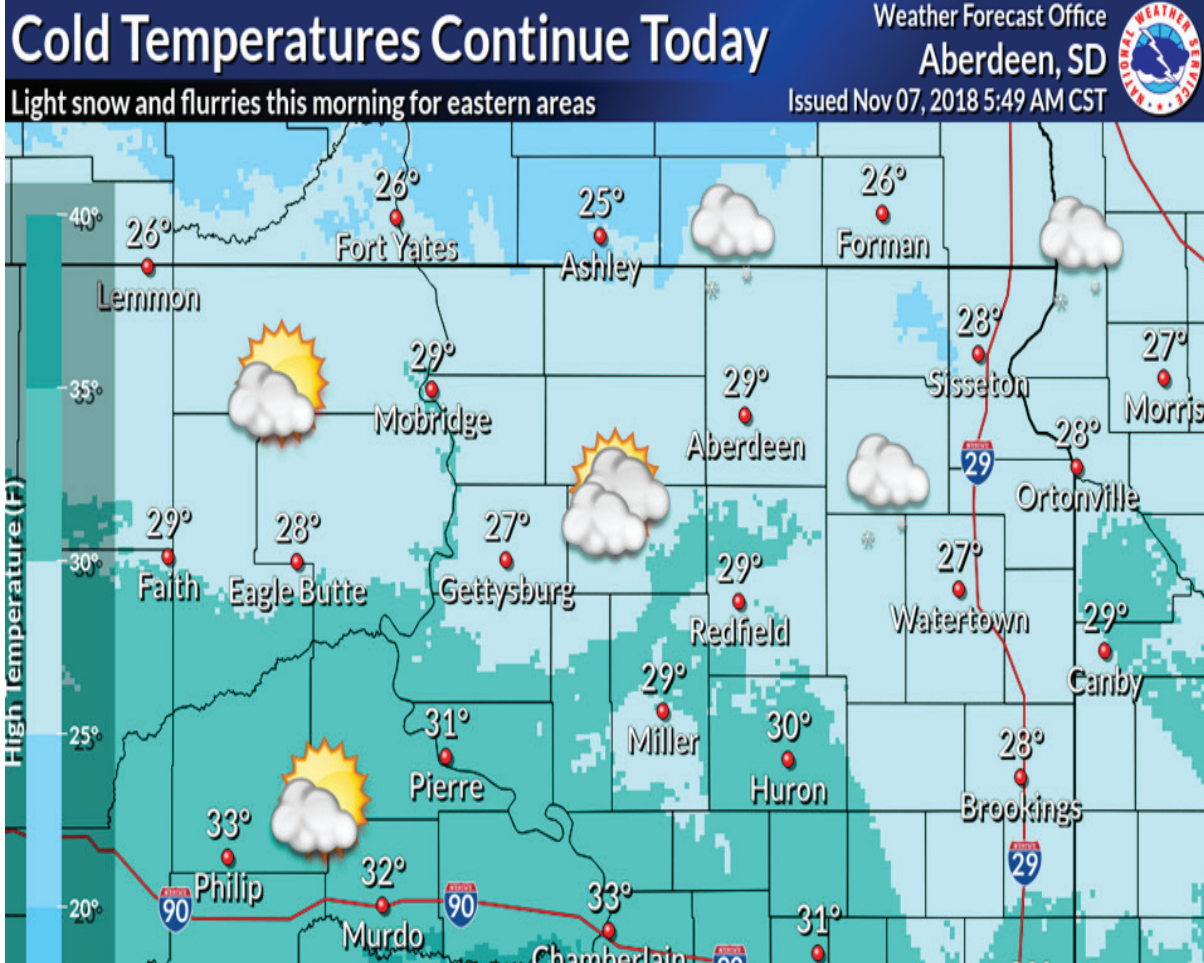
High: 29 °F

Low: 15 °F

High: 29 °F

Low: 14 °F

High: 21 °F



Surface high pressure will be building into the region today into tonight. This cold air mass will keep temperatures below normal, with highs in the upper 20s to lower 30s. Skies will remain mostly cloudy for eastern portions of the forecast area, with areas of light snow and flurries through the morning hours. Central South Dakota will begin to see sunshine today with winds becoming light by early evening.

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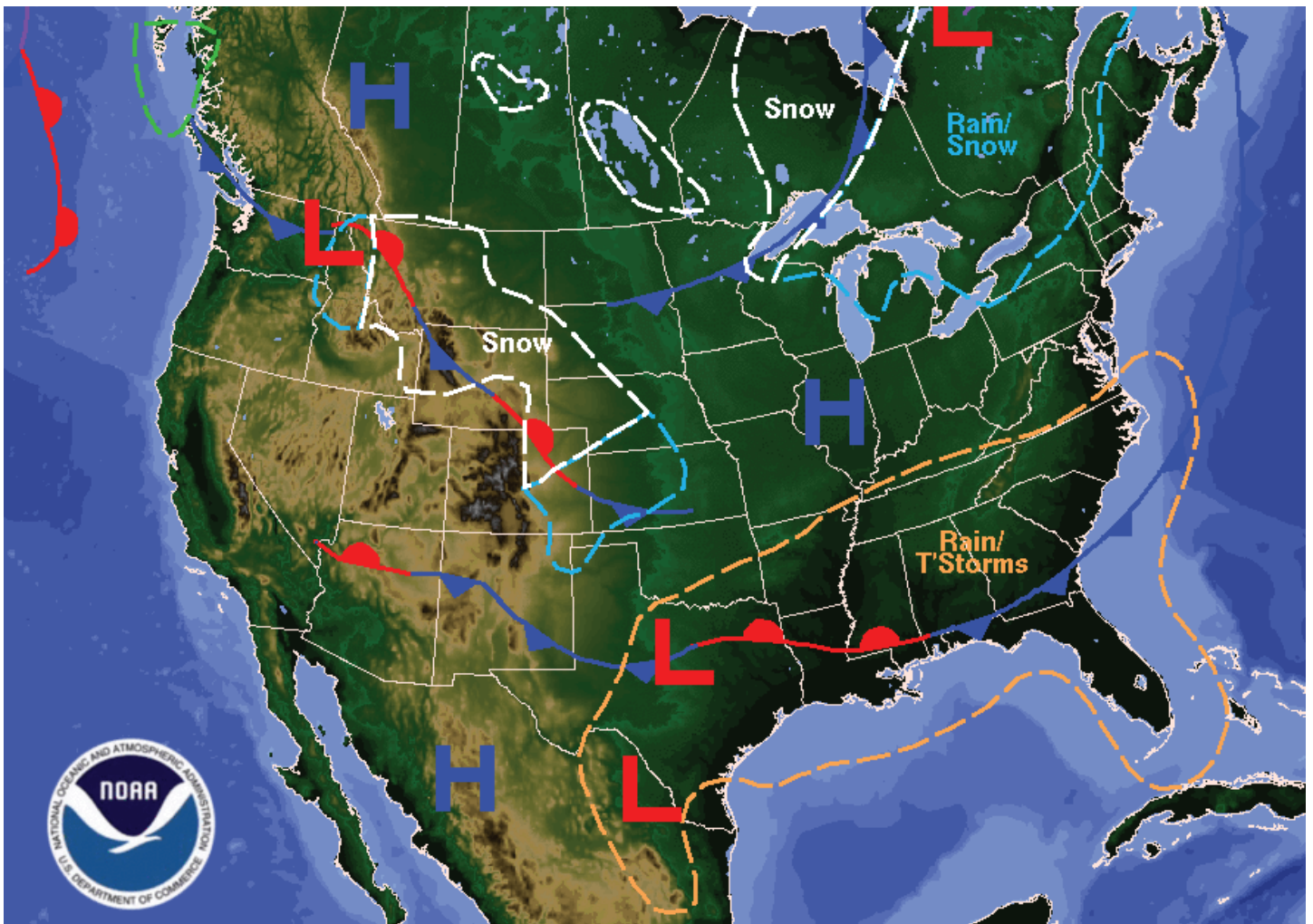
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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 34 °F at 12:00 AM**  
**Low Outside Temp: 24 °F at 10:04 PM**  
**High Gust: 27 mph at 8:43 PM**  
**Precip: 0.00 Dusting of snow on the ground**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 75° in 1909**  
**Record Low: -9 in 1991**  
**Average High: 45°F**  
**Average Low: 23°F**  
**Average Precip in Nov.: 0.18**  
**Precip to date in Nov.: 0.76**  
**Average Precip to date: 20.65**  
**Precip Year to Date: 15.81**  
**Sunset Tonight: 5:13 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:23 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Nov 07, 2018, issued 4:56 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

**Rain**  
**Rain and T'Storms**  
**Rain and Snow**  
**Snow**

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

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## GOD WORKS

Do you know what U.N. stands for? he asked.

The United Nations, I replied quickly and confidently.

Not at all, was his reply. It stands for Unsettled Nations, he informed me.

Then he continued, Does the Lord care about the condition of the nations of the world? And, if He does care, why doesn't He intervene and make things better?

Yes, He cares, I answered. But we need to see how God has intervened in the past by studying His Word so we can understand what He is doing today.

One nation above all others seems to be the center of God's attention: Israel. Psalm 105:24 describes what we might call an explosion of people. The Lord made His people very fruitful. He made them too numerous for their foes. We have often heard that there is strength in numbers. Here we see this in action. As the Israelites grew in numbers, they grew in strength, and they were able to overcome their adversaries.

This strength in numbers made the Exodus possible. The historian continues by revealing another fact to us: those whose hearts He turned to hate His people, and to conspire against His servants, were led by Moses, His servant, and Aaron, His chosen one, to lead them into the land that God had prepared for them. Ultimately, it was the persecution that led them to the Promised Land.

Is God involved in the affairs of nations? Indeed He is. Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord! We may not see it now, but we will see it when the time is right.

Prayer: May we look to You, Lord, as the only One who can save our nation. May our leaders seek Your guidance. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 105:24, 25 The Lord made His people very fruitful. He made them too numerous for their foes.

## 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

### Voters want simpler amendments, end to out-of-state money

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota approved ballot questions Tuesday to stop out-of-state money flooding citizens' initiative campaigns and to simplify future changes to the state constitution.

Meanwhile, the state's voters rejected a pair of other measures to dramatically reshape the state's ballot question system. They also tossed aside a tobacco tax hike that sparked major opposition spending from the tobacco industry.

Republican Dusty Johnson was elected South Dakota's next U.S. representative, not to mention Republicans keeping control of every statewide office.

Here's a look at races of interest beyond the governor's race won by Republican Kristi Noem:

#### BALLOT QUESTION CHANGES

South Dakota, the first state to let citizens propose and pass laws way back in 1898, handed a win to those frustrated over money from outside the state's borders influencing voter measures. Citizens also backed the Legislature's plan to require constitutional amendments to stick to a single subject.

They were a pair of victories for House Speaker Mark Mickelson, who spearheaded both proposals after the 2016 election season brought 10 questions and millions of dollars from out-of-state groups.

Republican Dick Kelly, a 77-year-old former state lawmaker and local government official, voted for the outside funding ban, saying South Dakota has become a testing ground for people with a lot of money.

"I don't think there should be that much influence by outside corporations or individuals with an agenda to come in and influence how we live in South Dakota," Kelly said. "We don't live the same way they live in California or New York, and I don't want to live that way. I want to live our way."

Despite anger among some over lawmakers' repeal of a 2016 voter-approved ethics measure, voters panned a citizen-backed constitutional amendment that would have prevented the Legislature from changing initiatives — or the ballot question system — without a public vote. The amendment would have imposed stricter lobbying and campaign finance rules and created a new government ethics watchdog.

Voters also decided to leave the current simple majority threshold required for constitutional amendments as is, rather than raise it to 55 percent.

#### TOBACCO TAX FOR TECH SCHOOLS

Smokers won't be paying to make state technical schools more affordable. Voters dispatched a ballot question to increase taxes on different tobacco products after the tobacco industry dumped millions into the state to oppose it.

Proceeds would have gone to lowering tuition and fees, offering scholarships and providing financial support for the state's four technical institutes. South Dakota hasn't raised its tobacco tax since 2006.

Andy Middleden, a registered Democrat from Sioux Falls, cast an absentee vote Monday against it because he said he didn't believe the revenues raised would go where politicians said they would.

#### U.S. HOUSE

Republican Dusty Johnson beat Democrat Tim Bjorkman to succeed Rep. Noem as the state's lone representative. Johnson was the favorite throughout the race. The former public utilities commissioner and past gubernatorial chief of staff ran an energetic and well-funded campaign as a traditional conservative. He said his top priority in Washington is getting a farm bill done.

"We feel great," Johnson said. "This was a job interview and tonight the people of South Dakota have hired us. I'm not going to disappoint them."

Bjorkman said he gave South Dakotans an issue-based campaign free of rancor and harsh rhetoric that's all too common in politics.

#### ATTORNEY GENERAL

Republican lawyer and Army Reserve officer Jason Ravensborg will be the latest in a long line of Republi-

cans to be the state's chief lawyer and law enforcement officer. He overcame former U.S. Attorney Randy Seiler, who touted his prosecutorial experience.

Ravnsborg, a partner at a Yankton law firm, campaigned as the candidate favored by the law enforcement community. He's proposed expanding programs allowing lower-level prisoners to work and establishing a meth-specific prison and mental health facility in the central or western part of the state.

The high-profile office takes on the state's top legal cases and has served as a frequent springboard for gubernatorial hopefuls.

#### OTHER STATEWIDE OFFICES & LEGISLATURE

Voters also favored Republicans for a slew of other statewide offices, choosing Steve Barnett as secretary of state; Kristie Fiegen as public utilities commissioner; Rich Sattgast as state auditor; Josh Haeder as state treasurer; and Ryan Brunner as school and public lands commissioner. All 105 seats of the Legislature — 70 in the House and 35 in the Senate — were also on the ballot.

For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/APPolitics>

## Kristi Noem's win makes her 1st female South Dakota governor

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Republican Rep. Kristi Noem called it "pretty humbling" to be elected South Dakota's first female governor after stopping a surprisingly strong challenge Tuesday from Democrat Billie Sutton that put his party close to an office they haven't held for decades.

But Noem didn't make the milestone a big deal during her campaign, instead playing up her farming and ranching background and congressional achievements — including passing the GOP's federal tax cuts — to win the historic victory. Meanwhile, Sutton sought voters across parties, casting himself as a moderate with pro-gun and anti-abortion views to push Noem until the end.

"I feel relieved," Noem told The Associated Press early Wednesday. "We worked hard and shared my vision for the state, and I'm just very grateful that the people of South Dakota put their trust in me to be their next governor."

A four-term congresswoman, Noem will trade Washington for tiny Pierre once she's sworn into office in 2019. She replaces Republican Gov. Dennis Daugaard, who couldn't run again because of term limits.

Sutton's campaign gave Democrats rare hope. His compelling life story — former rodeo cowboy who turned to politics after a paralyzing injury — brought him added interest.

A self-described "pro-life and pro-Second Amendment" moderate, Sutton portrayed himself as an anti-corruption crusader who would buck the status quo after financial misconduct scandals that grabbed South Dakota headlines.

Noem reminded voters that Sutton is a Democrat and tied him to 2016 Democratic presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders. She also asserted — over Sutton's denials — that he backed a state income tax for South Dakota, one of seven states without it.

Noem said her experience helped her win, and now her priorities are focusing on education, filling workforce needs and dealing with public safety issues. Her lieutenant governor, state Rep. Larry Rhoden, told voters in one TV ad that Noem's life experiences have prepared her to be an extremely effective governor.

She has promised to protect state residents from tax increases and more government regulations, improve state transparency and fight federal government intrusion.

Ramona Rupp, a Republican from Sioux Falls, said she supported Noem based on the congresswoman's experience and because she seems like a hard worker. The 64-year-old retiree said she hopes Noem keeps her promise not to raise taxes.

"I just feel it's time to get more females involved, too," said Rupp, noting, though, that her vote is based on the best candidate, not on gender. "There's always room for change, and, you know, she's proven herself over and over."

Noem, who has roots in ranching and farming, brought major strengths to the race: a nearly 100,000-voter



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GOP advantage, experience running statewide campaigns and support from the state's dominant political party and its top officials. She also significantly outraised and outspent Sutton.

Noem started the favorite and ended the winner. An October poll showed the race as neck-and-neck, but Noem had gained ground in a survey released just days before the election. She claimed the momentum and encouraged people to vote.

Sutton said he wished Noem well after her victory and encouraged her to reach across the aisle to find common ground. He said his team "fought a heck of a fight," but they were always underdogs. Sutton said he hopes Noem focuses on government transparency, overhauling campaign finance rules and tamping down the cost of higher education.

Noem's transparency plan includes having state and local government board meetings livestreamed, creating a property tax toolkit that would allow taxpayers to see where their money goes and supporting a reporter shield law.

For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/APPolitics>

## Tuesday's Scores By The Associated Press

### Volleyball

#### Class A

##### State Qualifier

Aberdeen Roncalli def. Groton Area, 25-22, 25-21, 24-13

Elk Point-Jefferson def. Dell Rapids, 25-11, 25-12, 25-16

McCook Central/Montrose def. Dakota Valley, 25-13, 25-21, 29-27

Miller def. Chamberlain, 25-6, 25-4, 25-8

Parker def. Madison, 25-17, 25-17, 25-16

Sioux Falls Christian def. Hamlin, 25-10, 25-13, 25-9

St. Thomas More def. Rapid City Christian, 25-22, 27-29, 25-16, 22-25, 15-13

Winner def. Pine Ridge, 25-9, 25-7, 25-9

#### Class B

##### State Qualifier

Burke def. Philip, 17-25, 25-17, 25-19, 25-17

Chester def. Sully Buttes, 25-15, 25-14, 25-20

Ethan def. Arlington, 25-22, 27-25, 25-11

Faith def. Bridgewater-Emery, 25-23, 23-25, 20-25, 25-17, 17-15

Faulkton def. Deubrook, 25-16, 25-19, 25-22

Kimball/White Lake def. Kadoka Area, 25-19, 25-23, 23-25, 17-25, 15-6

Northwestern def. Harding County, 25-13, 25-14, 25-9

Warner def. Freeman, 25-6, 25-13, 25-12

## Voters block out-of-state money on ballot questions

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota approved ballot questions Tuesday to stop out-of-state money flooding citizens' initiative campaigns and to simplify future changes to the state constitution.

Meanwhile, the state's voters rejected a pair of other measures to dramatically reshape the state's ballot question system. They also tossed aside a tobacco tax hike that sparked major opposition spending from the tobacco industry.

Republican Dusty Johnson was elected South Dakota's next U.S. representative, not to mention Repub-

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licans keeping control of every statewide office.

Here's a look at races of interest beyond the governor's race won by Republican Kristi Noem:

## BALLOT QUESTION CHANGES

South Dakota, the first state to let citizens propose and pass laws way back in 1898, handed a win to those frustrated over money from outside the state's borders influencing voter measures. Citizens also backed the Legislature's plan to require constitutional amendments to stick to a single subject.

They were a pair of victories for House Speaker Mark Mickelson, who spearheaded both proposals after the 2016 election season brought 10 questions and millions of dollars from out-of-state groups.

Republican Dick Kelly, a 77-year-old former state lawmaker and local government official, voted for the outside funding ban, saying South Dakota has become a testing ground for people with a lot of money.

"I don't think there should be that much influence by outside corporations or individuals with an agenda to come in and influence how we live in South Dakota," Kelly said. "We don't live the same way they live in California or New York, and I don't want to live that way. I want to live our way."

Despite anger among some over lawmakers' repeal of a 2016 voter-approved ethics measure, voters panned a citizen-backed constitutional amendment that would have prevented the Legislature from changing initiatives — or the ballot question system — without a public vote. The amendment would have imposed stricter lobbying and campaign finance rules and created a new government ethics watchdog.

Voters also decided to leave the current simple majority threshold required for constitutional amendments as is, rather than raise it to 55 percent.

## TOBACCO TAX FOR TECH SCHOOLS

Smokers won't be paying to make state technical schools more affordable. Voters dispatched a ballot question to increase taxes on different tobacco products after the tobacco industry dumped millions into the state to oppose it.

Proceeds would have gone to lowering tuition and fees, offering scholarships and providing financial support for the state's four technical institutes. South Dakota hasn't raised its tobacco tax since 2006.

Andy Midden, a registered Democrat from Sioux Falls, cast an absentee vote Monday against it because he said he didn't believe the revenues raised would go where politicians said they would.

## U.S. HOUSE

Republican Dusty Johnson beat Democrat Tim Bjorkman to succeed Rep. Noem as the state's lone representative. Johnson was the favorite throughout the race. The former public utilities commissioner and past gubernatorial chief of staff ran an energetic and well-funded campaign as a traditional conservative. He said his top priority in Washington is getting a farm bill done.

"We feel great," Johnson said. "This was a job interview and tonight the people of South Dakota have hired us. I'm not going to disappoint them."

Bjorkman said he gave South Dakotans an issue-based campaign free of rancor and harsh rhetoric that's all too common in politics.

## ATTORNEY GENERAL

Republican lawyer and Army Reserve officer Jason Ravnsborg will be the latest in a long line of Republicans to be the state's chief lawyer and law enforcement officer. He overcame former U.S. Attorney Randy Seiler, who touted his prosecutorial experience.

Ravnsborg, a partner at a Yankton law firm, campaigned as the candidate favored by the law enforcement community. He's proposed expanding programs allowing lower-level prisoners to work and establishing a meth-specific prison and mental health facility in the central or western part of the state.

The high-profile office takes on the state's top legal cases and has served as a frequent springboard for gubernatorial hopefuls.

## OTHER STATEWIDE OFFICES & LEGISLATURE

Voters also favored Republicans for a slew of other statewide offices, choosing Steve Barnett as secretary of state; Kristie Fiegen as public utilities commissioner; Rich Sattgast as state auditor; Josh Haeder as state treasurer; and Ryan Brunner as school and public lands commissioner. All 105 seats of the Legislature — 70 in the House and 35 in the Senate — were also on the ballot.

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## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Mega Millions

28-34-37-56-69, Mega Ball: 12, Megaplier: 2

(twenty-eight, thirty-four, thirty-seven, fifty-six, sixty-nine; Mega Ball: twelve; Megaplier: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$70 million

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$71 million

## South Dakota State wins nation-best 21st straight home game

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — David Jenkins made four 3-pointers and scored 31 points, Mike Daum had 20 points and 13 rebounds and defending Summit League champion South Dakota State beat Grand Canyon 79-74 on Tuesday night to extend the nation's longest active home winning streak to 21 straight games.

Jenkins, the 2017-18 Summit League freshman of the year, was 8 of 16 from the field and 11 of 15 at the free-throw line. Daum, the two-time Summit League player of the year, finished sixth in the nation in points at 23.9 and 14th in rebounds at 10.3 last year. He has a chance to become the ninth player in Division I history to reach 3,000 career points as he entered the season with 2,232.

South Dakota State has reached the NCAA Tournament the past three seasons, and five of the last seven. The Jackrabbits went 28-7 last year and challenged Ohio State in the first round of the tournament.

Trey Drechsel and Carlos Johnson each scored 17 points for Grand Canyon. Sophomore center Alessandro Lever, picked as the Western Athletic Conference's preseason player of the year, scored nine points.

Twice in the last four seasons, Grand Canyon has opened the season on the road against the nation's top-ranked team.

## No. 19 Marquette women ease past South Dakota State 91-52

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Natisha Hiedeman made five 3-pointers and scored 21 points, reigning Big East player of the year Allazia Blockton scored 15 of her 19 points in the second half and No. 19 Marquette beat South Dakota State 91-52 on Tuesday in a season opener.

Marquette returned all five starters from last season's team that reached the second round of the NCAA Tournament — its latest exit since 2011.

Hiedeman hit 4 of 7 3-pointers in the first half and Isabelle Spingola made all three of hers to help Marquette build a 44-25 halftime lead. The Golden Eagles were 10 of 19 from distance in the half, making 7 of 8 in the second quarter, and finished with 13 makes.

South Dakota State is picked to win the Summit League after a 26-7 season a year ago, falling to Big East opponent Villanova in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Macy Miller, who was named the league's preseason player of the year, finished with seven points on 2-of-10 shooting.

## Democrats seize House control, but Trump's GOP holds Senate

By STEVE PEOPLES and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats seized the House majority from President Donald Trump's Republican

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Party on Tuesday in a suburban revolt that threatened what's left of the president's governing agenda. But the GOP gained ground in the Senate and preserved key governorships, beating back a "blue wave" that never fully materialized.

The mixed verdict in the first nationwide election of Trump's young presidency underscored the limits of his hardline immigration rhetoric in America's evolving political landscape, where college-educated voters in the nation's suburbs rejected his warnings of a migrant "invasion."

Blue-collar voters and rural America embraced his aggressive talk and stances. The new Democratic House majority will end the Republican Party's dominance in Washington for the final two years of Trump's first term with major questions looming about health care, immigration and government spending.

But the Democrats' edge in the House is narrow. With 218 seats needed for a majority, Democrats have won 219 and the Republicans 193, with winners undetermined in 23 races.

Trump was expected to address the results at a post-election news conference scheduled for midday Wednesday.

The president's party will maintain control of the executive and judicial branches of the government, in addition to the Senate, but Democrats suddenly have a foothold that gives them subpoena power to probe deep into Trump's personal and professional missteps — and his long-withheld tax returns.

"Tomorrow will be a new day in America," declared House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, who would be in line to become the next House speaker.

It could have been a much bigger night for Democrats, who suffered stinging losses in Ohio and in Florida, where Trump-backed Republican Ron DeSantis ended Democrat Andrew Gillum's bid to become the state's first African-American governor.

The 2018 elections also exposed an extraordinary political realignment in an electorate defined by race, gender, and education that could shape U.S. politics for years to come.

The GOP's successes were fueled by a coalition that's decidedly older, whiter, more male and less likely to have college degrees. Democrats relied more upon women, people of color, young people and college graduates.

Record diversity on the ballot may have helped drive turnout.

Women won at least 85 seats in the House, a record. The House was also getting its first two Muslim women, Massachusetts elected its first black congresswoman, and Tennessee got its first female senator.

Three candidates had hoped to become their states' first African-American governors, although just one — Georgia Democrat Stacey Abrams — was still in the running.

Overall, women voted considerably more in favor of congressional Democratic candidates — with fewer than 4 in 10 voting for Republicans, according to VoteCast, a nationwide survey of more than 115,000 voters and about 20,000 nonvoters — conducted for The Associated Press by NORC at the University of Chicago.

In suburban areas where key House races were decided, female voters skewed significantly toward Democrats by a nearly 10-point margin.

Democrats celebrated a handful of victories in their "blue wall" Midwestern states, electing or re-electing governors in Michigan, Pennsylvania, Minnesota and in Wisconsin, where Scott Walker was defeated by state education chief Tony Evers.

The road to a House majority ran through two dozen suburban districts Hillary Clinton won in 2016. Democrats flipped seats in suburban districts outside of Washington, Philadelphia, Miami, Chicago and Denver. Democrats also reclaimed a handful of blue-collar districts carried by both former President Barack Obama and Trump.

The results were more mixed deeper into Trump country.

In Kansas, Democrat Sharice Davids beat a GOP incumbent to become the first gay Native American woman elected to the House. But in Kentucky, one of the top Democratic recruits, retired Marine fighter pilot Amy McGrath, lost her bid to oust to three-term Rep. Andy Barr.

Trump sought to take credit for retaining the GOP's Senate majority, even as the party's foothold in the House was slipping.

"Tremendous success tonight. Thank you to all!" Trump tweeted.

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History was working against the president in both the House and the Senate: The president's party has traditionally suffered deep losses in his first midterm election, and 2002 was the only midterm election in the past three decades when the party holding the White House gained Senate seats.

Democrats' dreams of the Senate majority, always unlikely, were shattered after losses in top Senate battlegrounds: Indiana, Missouri, Tennessee, North Dakota and Texas.

Some hurt worse than others.

In Texas, Sen Ted Cruz staved off a tough challenge from Democrat Beto O'Rourke, whose record-smashing fundraising and celebrity have set off buzz he could be a credible 2020 White House contender.

Trump encouraged voters to view the 2018 midterms as a referendum on his leadership, pointing proudly to the surging economy at his recent rallies.

Nearly 40 percent of voters cast their ballots to express opposition to the president, according to AP VoteCast, the national survey of the electorate, while one-in-four said they voted to express support for Trump.

Overall, 6 in 10 voters said the country was headed in the wrong direction, but roughly that same number described the national economy as excellent or good. Twenty-five percent described health care and immigration as the most important issues in the election.

Nearly two-thirds said Trump was a reason for their vote.

The president bet big on a xenophobic closing message, warning of an immigrant "invasion" that promised to spread violent crime and drugs across the nation. Several television networks, including the president's favorite Fox News Channel, yanked a Trump campaign advertisement off the air on the eve of the election, determining that its portrayal of a murderous immigrant went too far.

One of Trump's most vocal defenders on immigration, Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach, lost his bid for governor.

Kobach had built a national profile as an advocate of tough immigration policies and strict voter photo ID laws. He served as vice chairman of Trump's now-defunct commission on voter fraud.

The president found partial success despite his current job approval, set at 40 percent by Gallup, the lowest at this point of any first-term president in the modern era. Both Barack Obama's and Bill Clinton's numbers were 5 points higher, and both suffered major midterm losses of 63 and 54 House seats respectively.

Meanwhile, the close of the 2018 midterm season marked the unofficial opening of the next presidential contest.

Several ambitious Democrats easily won re-election, including presidential prospects Bernie Sanders of Vermont, Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and Kirsten Gillibrand of New York. A handful of others played outsized roles in their parties' midterm campaigns, though not as candidates, and were reluctant to telegraph their 2020 intentions before the 2018 fight was decided. They included New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker, California Sen. Kamala Harris, former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and former Vice President Joe Biden.

Said Warren: "This resistance began with women and it is being led by women tonight."

Associated Press writers Eric Tucker and Zeke Miller in Washington, Kantele Franko in Westerville, Ohio and Michael Kunzelman in Silver Spring, Maryland, contributed to this report.

This story has been corrected to show former New York City mayor reference to Michael Bloomberg, not Tom Steyer.

For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/APPolitics>

## Trump upbeat despite House loss, will hold news conference

By CATHERINE LUCEY and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the loss of the Republican majority in the House, President Donald Trump

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is facing the prospect of endless House investigations, stymied policy efforts and fresh questions about the resilience of his unorthodox political coalition.

Still, he celebrated GOP success hanging on to the Senate and distanced himself from any blame.

"Tremendous success tonight. Thank you to all!" Trump tweeted late Tuesday after staying quiet for much of election night. Early Wednesday, Trump added: "Now we can all get back to work and get things done!"

Trump was expected to further address the results at a White House news conference later Wednesday.

On Tuesday, Trump called House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi, a conversation that her office said included congratulations and a nod to her pitch for bipartisanship.

That call did not stop him from getting his digs in at Pelosi in a Wednesday tweet: "Those that worked with me in this incredible Midterm Election, embracing certain policies and principles, did very well. Those that did not, say goodbye! Yesterday was such a very Big Win, and all under the pressure of a Nasty and Hostile Media!"

Widely viewed as a referendum on Trump's presidency, Tuesday's results offered a split decision that revealed deep tensions in the American electorate — distances that could easily widen during two years of divided control. Trump's aggressive campaign blitz, which paid off in some key victories, suggests he is likely to continue leaning into the fray.

Control of the House gives Democrats the ability to launch investigations into the president and stifle his agenda. But White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders minimized the magnitude of Democratic gains.

"Maybe you get a ripple, but I certainly don't think that there's a blue wave," she told reporters, pointing to several early Republican wins.

As for Republicans retaining control of the Senate, she called it "a huge moment and victory for the president."

White House aides called on Democrats to work with Republicans in the next Congress.

Said White House counselor Kellyanne Conway, "I don't know that there will be much of an appetite for Democrat lawmakers to spend all of their time, or most of their time or even a fraction of their time investigating, instigating, trying to impeach and subpoena people."

In addition to his conversation with Pelosi, Trump called Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, Republican House Speaker Paul Ryan and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, as well as a number of candidates he backed during the race, the White House said.

Trump had aggressively campaigned in the closing days of the race, his focus on boosting Republicans in states that he carried in 2016. In the three races he targeted in the final day, Trump's picks all won Tuesday night, with Republican Mike Braun defeating Democratic Sen. Joe Donnelly in Indiana, Republican Josh Hawley defeating Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill in Missouri and Republican Attorney General Mike DeWine defeating Democrat Richard Cordray in the race for Ohio governor.

The White House for days has been stressing the historical headwinds it faced: In the last three decades, 2002 was the only midterm election when the party holding the White House gained Senate seats. And only twice in the past eight decades has the president's party picked up House seats in the midterms.

Trump spent election night watching returns with family and friends at the White House, his shadow looming large over the results.

Nearly 40 percent of voters cast their ballots to express opposition to the president, according to AP VoteCast, a national survey of the electorate, while about 25 percent said they voted to express support for Trump.

Anticipating the possibility of keeping the Senate but losing the House, aides in recent days had laid out the political reality to Trump, who could face an onslaught of Democratic-run investigations. In turn, Trump began trying out defensive arguments ahead of Election Day, noting that midterm losses are typical for the party in the White House, pointing out a high number of GOP retirements and stressing that he had kept his focus on the Senate.

Aides set up televisions in the White House residence for Trump, first lady Melania Trump and their guests to watch election results come in, with the sets tuned to different cable news channels. Among those

expected were Trump's adult children, White House aides, Republican officials and presidential friends.

The election served as a referendum of sorts on Trump's racially charged appeals and the strength of the coalition that powered him to the White House — a group he will need again in just two years.

Overall, more voters disapproved of Trump's job performance than approved — a finding that is largely consistent with recent polling. Voters scored Trump positively on the economy and for standing up "for what he believes in." But the president received negative marks from voters on temperament and trustworthiness.

Still, about one-third of voters said Trump was not a factor in their votes.

Trump's scorched-earth campaigning came to define the 2018 campaign. In the final days, he sought to motivate supporters with the battle over the confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh.

Returning to his immigration-heavy 2016 playbook, Trump went on to unleash his full fury on a caravan of migrants slowly making their way to the southern border. His take-no-prisoners approach troubled many Republicans seeking to appeal to moderate voters in suburban House districts, but Trump prioritized base voters in the deep-red states that could determine the fate of the Senate.

AP writer Deb Riechmann contributed to this report.

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## Despite House loss, Trump still sees midterms success

By CATHERINE LUCEY and JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Resigned to the loss of one-party control over Washington in Tuesday's elections, President Donald Trump stared down the prospect of endless House investigations, stymied policy efforts and fresh questions about the resilience of his unorthodox political coalition. He celebrated GOP success hanging on to the Senate and distanced himself from any blame.

Trump stayed quiet for much of election night as Republicans maintained their hold on the Senate and Democrats captured control of the House — a shift all but certain to redefine his presidency. Late in the evening, he offered a brief tweet that simply read: "Tremendous success tonight. Thank you to all!"

Early Wednesday, Trump declared on Twitter: "Now we can all get back to work and get things done!" The president was expected to further address the results and his role in the outcome at a White House news conference later Wednesday.

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AP writer Deb Riechmann contributed to this report.

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## AP Analysis: Trump is the fault line of widening divide

By JULIE PACE, AP Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON (AP) — A polarized nation is now more deeply divided.

In a single flurry of elections Tuesday, Democrats took control of the House of Representatives. Republicans held their grip on the Senate. And the breach that divides Americans — urban from rural, white from black, conservative from liberal — stretched ever wider.

The midterm results highlight a political sorting in America that has accelerated during Donald Trump's presidency. Race, class and geography separate the parties as much as ideology, with the president as the dividing line.

Democrats surged to their new House majority by picking up seats in more affluent and highly educated suburban districts. Voters in the suburbs skewed toward Democrats by a nearly 10-percentage-point margin, according to AP VoteCast, the national survey of the electorate.

College-educated women, in particular, helped carry Democratic candidates, motivated in part by a deep opposition to Trump's nationalist agenda and racially charged rhetoric.

"This gender gap has been increasing cycle after cycle," said Stephanie Schriock, the president of Emily's List, a group backing Democratic female candidates. "Particularly under this Trump administration, that's going to continue moving forward."

But the Democratic gains were limited to the House. The Senate landscape told a different story, of a segment of the country that looked far different.

Republicans increased their Senate majority with support from the same coalition of voters that propelled Trump to the presidency two years ago: whites without college degrees — particularly men — in more conservative, rural states. GOP candidates defeated Democratic incumbents in North Dakota, Indiana and Missouri.

The GOP victories appeared to reinforce the politics behind Trump's closing message — a mix of dark, inaccurate warning about an "invasion" of immigrants streaming across the U.S. border. The fear, it seems, does motivate Republicans. And few can summon that anxiety like Trump.

"He is absolutely the only Republican who could generate the kind of enthusiasm in the base that was necessary to compete in a really difficult midterm," said Josh Holmes, a longtime political adviser to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

With each party taking control of one chamber of Congress, and another presidential election fast approaching, these divisions will be a defining feature of American politics through 2020. Each party now has a template for success in the Trump era and will spend the next two years trying to replicate it.

The midterm results hold some long-term promise for Democrats, a party that was banished to the political hinterlands in 2016.

Some Democratic-leaning states that flipped for Trump two years ago — Michigan, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania — swung back to the left Tuesday, electing Democrats in key Senate and governors' races. That suggests Trump's victories in the Midwestern battlegrounds could have been an anomaly, not a permanent realignment.

The president can take solace, however, in the fact that Republicans were victorious in Ohio and Florida, two of the most important political battlegrounds. In Florida, Trump acolyte Ron DeSantis defeated Democrat Andrew Gillum, the young, black mayor of Tallahassee who had appeared poised to become a national party star.

Demographics remain a looming problem for Republicans in a nation that continues to grow more diverse. Unless the GOP can boost its appeal with minorities, as well as younger Americans, the party may simply run out of voters to carry its candidates to victory.

But what's good for the Republican Party long-term is not necessarily Trump's focus.

The president spent little time during this election year trying to win over his critics or bring highly educated voters back into the Republican fold. He doubled down on the issues that helped him win in 2016, particularly hardline immigration policies.

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But those same political maneuvers cost Republicans in the House, where the fight for control played out in moderate, suburban districts Trump lost in 2016. A strong economy and a pro-business tax plan that Republicans believed would appeal to the wealthier, better educated voters in these areas were overshadowed by the president's vitriol.

Trump now faces a choice as he plunges into his own re-election campaign. He can moderate his policies and his tactics and try to appeal to those voters who abandoned the GOP this year. Or he may conclude that the same coalition of voters that carried him to the White House two years ago will show up in large enough numbers when his name is on the ballot.

AP polling reporter Hannah Fingerhut contributed to this report.

Editor's Note: Julie Pace has covered the White House and politics for the AP since 2007. Follow her at <http://twitter.com/jpaceDC>

## Democrats retake the House, setting up divided government

By LISA MASCARO, AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democrats took back the House with a surge of fresh new candidates and an outpouring of voter enthusiasm Tuesday, breaking the GOP's monopoly on power in Washington and setting the stage for a multitude of investigations of President Donald Trump that could engulf his administration over the next two years.

Ending eight years of Republican control that began with the tea party revolt of 2010, Democrats picked off more than two dozen GOP-held districts in suburbs across the nation on the way to securing the 218 seats needed for a majority.

As of early Wednesday, Democrats had won 219 races and the Republicans 193, with winners undetermined in 23 races. Democrats lead in nine of those, Republicans in 14. The final count is likely to leave Democrats with a narrow majority that could be difficult to manage and preserve.

Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, who is seeking to reclaim the gavel as House speaker, called it a "new day in America."

She saluted "those dynamic, diverse and incredible candidates who have taken back the House for the American people."

With the Republicans keeping control of the Senate, the outcome in the House could mean gridlock for Trump's agenda on Capitol Hill — or, conversely, it could open a new era of deal-making.

As the majority party, the Democrats will chair important committees and will have expansive powers to investigate the president, his business dealings and the inner workings of his administration, including whether anyone from the Trump campaign colluded with the Russians to influence the 2016 presidential election.

They will have authority to request Trump's tax returns and subpoena power to obtain documents, emails and testimony.

However, any attempt to impeach Trump is likely to run headlong into resistance in the GOP-controlled Senate.

Pelosi, meanwhile, is likely to face a challenge for the speakership from newer or younger members later this month. And the Democrats could see a struggle inside the party over how aggressively to confront the Trump administration.

During the campaign, Pelosi urged candidates to focus on lowering health care costs and creating jobs with infrastructure investment, and she tamped down calls for impeachment.

The campaign unfolded against a backdrop of ugly rhetoric and angry debates on immigration, health care and the role of Congress in overseeing the president.

In locking down a majority, Democratic candidates flipped seats in several suburban districts outside Washington, Philadelphia, Miami, Chicago, Denver and Dallas that were considered prime targets for turn-

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over because they were won by Hillary Clinton in 2016. The Democrats made only slight inroads in Trump country, where they tried to win back white working-class voters.

Midterm elections are typically difficult for the party in power, but the GOP's hold on power was further weakened by an unusually large number of retirements as well as infighting between conservatives and centrists over their allegiance to Trump.

The Democrats, in turn, benefited from extraordinary voter enthusiasm, robust fundraising and unusually fresh candidates. More women than ever were running, along with veterans and minorities, many of them motivated by revulsion over Trump.

As the returns came in, voters were on track to send at least 99 women to the House, shattering the record of 84 now. Perhaps the biggest new political star among them is New York's 29-year-old Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a liberal firebrand from the Bronx.

Also among them are the first two Native American women elected to the House — Democrats Sharice Davids of Kansas and Deb Haaland of New Mexico — and the first two Muslim-American women, Rhasida Tlaib of Michigan and Minnesota's Ilhan Omar.

The Republican side of the aisle elected mostly white men.

In trying to stem Republican losses, Trump made only passing reference to his \$1.5 trillion tax cut — the GOP Congress' signature achievement — and instead barnstormed through mostly white regions of the country, interjecting dark and foreboding warnings. He predicted an "invasion" from the migrant caravan making its way toward the U.S. and decried the "radical" agenda of speaker-in-waiting Pelosi.

On Tuesday night, he called to congratulate Pelosi and acknowledged her plea for bipartisanship, the leader's spokesman said.

Health care and immigration were high on voters' minds as they cast ballots, according to a survey of the American electorate by The Associated Press. AP VoteCast also showed a majority of voters considered Trump a factor in their votes.

In the Miami area, former Clinton administration Cabinet member Donna Shalala won an open seat, while GOP Rep. Carlos Curbelo lost his bid for a third term in a nearby district.

In the suburbs outside the nation's capital, Virginia Rep. Barbara Comstock — among the most endangered GOP incumbents, branded Barbara "Trumpstock" by Democrats — lost to Jennifer Wexton, a prosecutor and state legislator.

And outside Richmond, Virginia, one-time tea party favorite Rep. Dave Brat lost to Democrat Abigail Spanberger, a former CIA operative motivated to run for office after the GOP vote to gut the Affordable Care Act. Like other Democrats across the country, Spanberger emphasized protecting people with pre-existing conditions from being denied coverage or charged more by insurers.

Pennsylvania was particularly daunting for Republicans after court-imposed redistricting and a rash of retirements put several seats in play. Democratic favorite Conor Lamb, who stunned Washington by winning a special election in the state, beat Republican Rep. Keith Rothfus in a new district. At least three other red districts flipped to blue.

In Kentucky, the heart of Trump country, one of the top Democratic recruits, retired Marine fighter pilot Amy McGrath, lost her bid to oust to three-term Rep. Andy Barr in the Lexington-area district.

Republicans had expected the GOP tax plan would be the cornerstone of their election agenda this year, but it became a potential liability in key states along the East and West coasts where residents could face higher tax bills because of limits on property and sales tax deductions.

The tax law was particularly problematic for Republicans in high-tax New Jersey, where at least three GOP-held seats flipped. The winners included Democrat Mikie Sherrill, a former Navy pilot and federal prosecutor who ran for a suburban Newark seat.

The GOP campaign committee distanced itself from eight-term Rep. Steve King of Iowa after he was accused of racism and anti-Semitism, but he won anyway.

In California, four GOP seats in the one-time Republican stronghold of Orange County were in play, along with three other seats to the north beyond Los Angeles and into the Central Valley.

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"We always knew these races are going to be close," said Rep. Katherine Clark of Massachusetts, co-chair of House Democrats' recruitment efforts. "It's just a very robust class of candidates that really reflects who we are as a country."

For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/APPolitics> . Follow on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/lisamascaro> and at [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Politics](https://twitter.com/AP_Politics) .

## 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

### 1. VOTERS ISSUE MIXED VERDICT ON TRUMP PRESIDENCY

Democrats seize the House majority from the Republican Party in a suburban revolt, but the GOP gains ground in the Senate and preserved key governorships.

### 2. WHAT THIS ELECTION MAY SIGNIFY

A polarized nation is now more deeply divided — urban from rural, white from black, conservative from liberal, an AP analysis finds.

### 3. 'A NEW DAY IN AMERICA'

Those are the words of Nancy Pelosi, who is poised to reclaim her role as House speaker after Democrats retook the chamber.

### 4. WHERE HOUSE VICTORY COULD ECHO

From Moscow to Beijing to Riyadh, Democrats are now able to launch new investigations into Trump's international business empire and his global political dealings.

### 5. STATE BALLOT INITIATIVES PROVIDE INTRIGUE

Massachusetts voters reaffirm a 2016 law extending nondiscrimination protections to transgender people and Michigan becomes the first Midwest state to legalize recreational marijuana for adults.

### 6. GIRL SCOUTS SUE BOY SCOUTS

The youth organization files a trademark infringement lawsuit against the Boy Scouts of America for dropping the word "boy" from its flagship program in an effort to attract girls.

### 7. BOEING ISSUES SAFETY BULLETIN AFTER LION AIR CRASH

The airplane manufacturer reiterates guidelines on how pilots should respond to erroneous data from a sensor following a deadly crash in Indonesia.

### 8. POMPEO MEETING WITH NORTH KOREAN ENVOY DELAYED

The development throws stalemated diplomacy over Pyongyang's nuclear weapons into further uncertainty.

### 9. GUAM'S CATHOLIC CHURCH WILL FILE FOR BANKRUPTCY

The move will allow the archdiocese to avoid trial in dozens of lawsuits alleging child sexual abuse by priests and move toward settlements.

### 10. DUKE WINS BIG IN OPENER

RJ Barrett scores 33 points and Zion Williamson adds 28 in an explosive debut by the Blue Devils' touted freshmen, as fourth-ranked Duke beats No. 2 Kentucky 118-84.

## Massachusetts backs transgender rights; Michigan OKs pot use

By DAVID CRARY, AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — In the first statewide referendum on transgender rights, Massachusetts voters on Tuesday beat back a repeal attempt and reaffirmed a 2016 law extending nondiscrimination protections to transgender people, including their use of public bathrooms and locker rooms.

Voters in 37 states considered an array of intriguing ballot measures Tuesday.

Michigan voters made their state the first in the Midwest to legalize recreational marijuana by passing a ballot measure that will allow people 21 or older to buy and use the drug. A similar measure was defeated

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in North Dakota, meaning there are now 10 states that allow recreational use of pot. Missouri became the 31st state to approve the medical use of marijuana, while Utah was considering that step.

"Western and northeastern states have led the way on legalizing marijuana, but the victory in Michigan powerfully demonstrates the national reach of this movement," said Maria McFarland Sanchez-Moreno, executive director of the Drug Policy Alliance, who questioned how long the federal government could resist the legalization wave.

The outcome in Massachusetts was a huge relief to LGBT-rights activists, who feared that a vote to repeal the 2016 law would prompt a wave of similar efforts to roll back protections in other states. Already, some protections at the federal level are under threat from President Donald Trump's administration.

"When transgender rights are being threatened nationally, we absolutely must preserve the rights we have secured at the state level," said Carol Rose, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts.

Civil-rights activists also scored a major victory in Florida, where voters approved a ballot measure that will enable more than 1 million ex-felons to regain their voting rights. That could alter the future election landscape in the nation's most populous swing state.

Floridians also approved a measure aimed at phasing out greyhound racing in the state, the last stronghold of the sport in the U.S.

In all, 155 statewide initiatives were on the ballot across the country. Most were drafted by state legislatures, but 64 resulted from citizen-initiated campaigns, including many of the most eye-catching proposals.

A minimum wage increase was approved in two states. An Arkansas measure will raise the wage from \$8.50 an hour to \$11 by 2021; Missouri's will gradually raise the \$7.85 minimum wage to \$12 an hour.

Proposals to change the redistricting process so it's potentially less partisan were approved in Missouri, Colorado and Michigan. A similar proposal was on the ballot in Utah.

Medicaid expansion was another multistate topic, on the ballot because Republican-led legislatures refused to take advantage of expanded coverage offered under President Barack Obama's health care law. Nebraska and Idaho voters approved measures to expand Medicaid health coverage to tens of thousands of low-income residents; a similar measure was on the ballot in Utah, while a Montana measure would raise tobacco taxes to extend an existing expansion.

A number of initiatives dealt with criminal justice or victims' rights.

In Ohio, voters defeated an ambitious proposal to make drug possession a misdemeanor in an effort to reduce the state prison population and divert any savings to drug treatment.

With the vote in Florida, most felons will automatically have their voting rights restored when they complete their sentences or go on probation. The amendment exempts those convicted of sex offenses and murder.

Supporters said the state's current system was too onerous. It required felons to wait at least five years after completing their sentence before they could file a request with the governor and Cabinet. About 1.5 million people are affected. Nearly all states allow felons to vote after completing their sentences.

Howard Simon, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union's Florida affiliate, said the result would remove "an ugly stain" from the state constitution.

"For too long, Florida has been an extreme outlier — our state's lifetime voting ban was the single most powerful voter suppression tactic in the country," he said.

The greyhound measure will ban betting on greyhound races starting in 2021. The sport remains active in five other states, but may be too small-scale to survive.

Proponents said racing is inherently cruel, pointing to the average of two deaths weekly from illness or injury among Florida's 8,000 racing dogs.

While liberal-leaning groups succeeded in getting some of their favored policy proposals on the ballot in Republican-controlled states, the partisan pattern was reversed in a few states.

In Democratic-leaning Oregon, conservatives unsuccessfully targeted two policies. Voters there upheld a law allowing use of state money to pay for low-income women to have abortions, and also reaffirmed

a “sanctuary state” law forbidding law enforcement agencies from using state resources or personnel to arrest people whose only crime is being in the U.S. illegally.

Climate change was an issue in Arizona, where voters defeated a measure that would have required 50 percent of electricity to come from renewable sources by 2030. Colorado voters rejected a measure that could have sharply reduced oil and gas drilling, including the method known as fracking, by requiring new oil and gas wells to be farther from occupied buildings than allowed under current law.

Follow David Crary at <https://twitter.com/CraryAP>

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## Abrams, Kemp await more ballots in Georgia governor’s race

By **BILL BARROW** and **BEN NADLER**, Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Georgia’s hotly contested and potentially historic governor’s race may not be over yet, with Democrat Stacey Abrams and Republican Brian Kemp awaiting the final accounting of absentee and provisional ballots.

With reported votes approaching 3.8 million, Kemp was just shy of 51 percent, but Abrams and her campaign said there were enough ballots outstanding, particularly absentee ballots in heavily Democratic metro Atlanta counties, to bring the Republican below the majority threshold required for victory.

“We believe our chance for a stronger Georgia is just within reach, but we cannot seize it until all voices are heard,” Abrams told excited supporters who remained at a downtown Atlanta hotel into the early hours of Wednesday. “I promise you tonight we’re going to make sure that every vote is counted,” Abrams added.

As the clock neared 3 a.m., Kemp took his turn on a hotel stage in his hometown of Athens and expressed confidence that a final result — whenever it comes — will go his way.

“There are votes left to count, but we have a very strong lead,” Kemp said. “And folks, make no mistake, the math is on our side to win this election.”

If Kemp and Abrams were to finish below 50 percent, they would meet in a Dec. 4 runoff. That would mean four more weeks of bitter, race-laden campaigning in a contest both have described as a “battle for the soul of our state.”

With most of the rest of nation finishing its midterm campaigns, that would also focus a white-hot spotlight on a race that already has drawn massive investments of time, money and star power — from President Donald Trump and former President Barack Obama to media icon Oprah Winfrey — with Abrams trying to make history as the first black woman to lead a U.S. state and Kemp trying to keep GOP-run Georgia from sliding into presidential battleground status ahead of 2020.

Kemp mentioned Trump’s backing in his remarks early Wednesday, but said having his supporters in front of him was more important. “Over the last 21 months, we’ve chopped a lot of wood,” he said.

The prospects of a razor-thin result and potential runoff come after weeks of wrangling over a Georgia election system that Kemp runs in his post as secretary of state, leaving open the possibility that Abrams supporters may not accept a loss. Kemp has steadfastly defended his job performance and refused calls to step aside — the latest coming in an Election Day lawsuit.

The Protect Democracy nonprofit announced that it filed a lawsuit Tuesday seeking to keep Kemp from being involved in counting votes, certifying results or any runoff or recount. The lawsuit says that Kemp presiding over an election in which he is a candidate “violates a basic notion of fairness.” Secretary of State’s office spokeswoman Candice Broce called the lawsuit a “twelfth-hour stunt.”

Abrams has called Kemp “an architect of suppression,” and voting rights activists expressed concerns throughout Tuesday amid widespread reports of technical malfunctions and long lines at polling stations across the state. Some said they waited three hours to cast ballots, and watched dozens of voters abandon lines in frustration.

The elections chief wasn’t immune to the difficulties: When Kemp went to cast his ballot, he had an issue

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with his voter card, but it was fixed quickly. He walked by reporters and said, "Take Two."

Abrams, a 44-year-old Atlanta attorney, former state minority leader and moonlighting romance novelist, already has made history as the first black woman to be nominated for governor by either major party. She'd also be the first woman or nonwhite governor in Georgia history.

Kemp, a 54-year-old businessman and veteran secretary of state, is vying to maintain the GOP's hold in a state where Republicans have won every governor's race since 2002, though by increasingly narrow margins amid a growing and diversifying electorate.

Ballot access and election integrity flared up in the final weekend after a private citizen alerted the Georgia Democratic Party and a private attorney of vulnerability in the online voter database Kemp oversees. The attorney alerted the FBI and Kemp's office, and then Kemp announced, without providing any evidence, that he was launching an investigation into Georgia Democrats for "possible cybercrimes."

Kemp pushed back Monday against concerns that his call for an investigation is politically motivated. Abrams would have none of that, declaring Kemp a "bald-faced liar" intent on deflecting attention from security problems with his system.

The contest has been so intense that early voting approached the overall number of ballots cast in the governor's race four years ago.

"I've never seen a time where the state of Georgia had more at stake than we do in this contest," Kemp told supporters at one campaign stop.

In the closing days, Kemp basked in Trump's glow, pulling out of a debate to attend a Sunday rally that drew thousands of boisterous Republicans to central Georgia to see Trump deplane from Air Force One.

Abrams, meanwhile, argued that the contest should be about more than identity politics.

"I don't want anyone to vote for me because I'm black," she told supporters in Savannah on Monday. "And no one on the ballot needs a vote because we're women. And I don't even want you to vote for us just because we're Democrats. You need to vote for us because we're better."

On policy, the principal dividing lines are health care (Abrams wants to expand Medicaid insurance; Kemp wants to maintain Georgia's refusal); education (Kemp supports private school vouchers; Abrams opposes them); and criminal justice (Kemp is a law-and-order conservative; Abrams focuses on rehabilitating non-violent offenders and criticizes cash bail as unfair to poorer defendants).

The Georgia outcome also is among the most closely watched of any midterm contest because of Abrams' aggressive strategy to attract new voters — particularly nonwhites and younger Georgians — with an unabashedly liberal message, rather than focusing on older voters within the traditional midterm electorate.

The excruciatingly close outcome partly validates Abrams' strategy, but Kemp also expand the Republican advantage across rural and small-town Georgia.

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Associated Press writers Kate Brumback and Jeff Martin in Atlanta contributed to this report.

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Follow Barrow and Nadler on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/BillBarrowAP> and <https://twitter.com/benjaminrnadler> .

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## **GOP keeps Senate control for 2 more years, triumph for Trump**

**By ALAN FRAM, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Republicans retained Senate control Tuesday after ousting Democratic incumbents in Indiana, North Dakota and Missouri, delivering a victory to President Donald Trump by preserving the chamber as a showplace for his conservative priorities for two more years.

To seal the win, the GOP drew backing from hard-right voters in rural, deep-red states, where Trump's nativist, racially tinged rhetoric and insult-laden discourse were as stirring for some conservatives as they were infuriating to liberals elsewhere.

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"Donald Trump went out and worked his tail off," Sen. Cory Gardner, R-Colo., who heads the Senate GOP's campaign committee, said in an interview. He cited Trump rallies that drew thousands in crucial states during the campaign's closing weeks and added, "The president was THE factor."

The significance of the Republican victory in the Senate, which the party has dominated for the past four years, was magnified because Democrats wrested House control from the GOP. That's a sure-fire formula for two years of legislative gridlock and positioning for the 2020 presidential and congressional elections.

Nevada Sen. Dean Heller, the only GOP incumbent seeking re-election in a state Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton won in 2016, became the only Republican senator to lose. First-term Democratic Rep. Jacky Rosen ousted him, attacking him for backing last year's Republican effort to repeal President Barack Obama's health care law.

Republicans retained Senate seats in the South, Midwest and West and ensured at least a 51-49 majority, equal to their current margin. With three races unresolved early Wednesday, Republicans stood a chance of expanding their majority with wins possible in Florida, Arizona and Montana.

They paved their path to victory by defeating Democrats Joe Donnelly of Indiana, Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota and Missouri's Claire McCaskill. They kept competitive seats in Texas, where Sen. Ted Cruz fended off Rep. Beto O'Rourke, the well-financed liberal darling, and Tennessee, where Rep. Marsha Blackburn prevailed.

Trump called Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., "to congratulate him on the historic Senate gains," White House spokeswoman Sarah Sanders said. It was just the second midterm election in over three decades when the party holding the White House gained seats.

The Republican Senate win was especially significant because that chamber confirms nominations, including for Supreme Court justices and federal judges, a top GOP priority.

The GOP agenda includes tax and spending cuts, trade, immigration restrictions and curbs on Obama's health care law. Short of compromises, perhaps on infrastructure, its initiatives will go nowhere in the House.

Even passing many bills will be difficult for the Senate. The GOP will fall short of the 60 votes needed to break Democratic filibusters, procedural delays that kill legislation.

Though Republicans entered the night commanding the Senate only narrowly, a crucial piece of math worked for them: Democrats and their two independent allies defended 26 seats, Republicans just nine.

"Senate Democrats faced the most difficult political map in 60 years," said Sen. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md., chairman of Senate Democrats' political arm. He lauded his party for winning at least half the 10 seats they were defending in states Trump carried and preventing Republicans from capturing a filibuster-proof majority.

Blackburn, a conservative and ardent Trump backer, defeated former Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen, 74. Bredesen had promised a bipartisan approach if elected.

Heitkamp lost to GOP Rep. Kevin Cramer, whom Trump persuaded to seek the Senate seat. McCaskill was denied a third term by Josh Hawley, 38, Missouri's hard-right attorney general, who called McCaskill too liberal for the state.

Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin was re-elected in West Virginia, which Trump captured by 42 percentage points. Democratic incumbents prevailed in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin, which Trump carried narrowly.

Tuesday's midterms were among the most bitter in years, with Trump stoking conservatives' fears of caravans of immigrants traversing Mexico and inaccurately painting Democrats as broadly striving to bring socialism to the U.S. He acknowledged the contest would be a referendum on his presidency.

Democrats hoped their supporters' would surge to the polls. Fueling their intensity were Trump's anti-immigration stances, his efforts to dismantle health care protections enacted under Obama and the #MeToo movement's fury over sexual harassment.

"Ever since President Trump has been in office, it has just been not the country that I am used to or that I thought I would be in," said Sarah Roth, 22, a Democratic voter from Minnetonka, Minnesota. "And so this really was my opportunity to help this country in changing who is making the decisions."

AP VoteCast, a national survey of the electorate conducted by The Associated Press, highlighted Trump's



impact. Nearly 4 in 10 said they were casting ballots to express opposition to him, while just 1 in 4 said their vote was an expression of support.

"I believe he values immigration, but he wants to make sure we're safe," said Tina Newby of Wetland, Michigan, a GOP voter. "I like the fact that he is not a politician, and I forgive some of the socially incorrect or politically incorrect things that he says."

Vermont independent Sen. Bernie Sanders and Democrats Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, Kirsten Gillibrand of New York and Minnesota's Amy Klobuchar were easily re-elected. All three and Sherrod Brown, a pro-labor senator victorious in Ohio, are considered potential 2020 Democratic presidential contenders.

Democrat Sen. Bob Menendez won a third Senate term in New Jersey, despite a federal bribery indictment that prosecutors dropped this year after a mistrial. Also victorious was Republican Mitt Romney, the vanquished 2012 GOP presidential candidate, who grabbed an open Utah seat.

AP VoteCast is a nationwide survey of more than 120,000 voters and nonvoters conducted for the AP by NORC at the University of Chicago.

AP reporters Jeff Baenen in Minnetonka, Minnesota, and John Flesher in Traverse City, Michigan, contributed.

## Democratic House victory could echo from Moscow to Riyadh

By **TIM SULLIVAN, Associated Press**

NEW DELHI (AP) — The Democratic victory in the U.S. House of Representatives could echo from Moscow to Beijing to Riyadh, with empowered Democrats now able to launch new investigations into President Donald Trump's international business empire and his political dealings with the rest of the world.

Overtaking control of the House in Tuesday's midterm elections has given the Democrats a powerful weapon to wield against Trump: the subpoena. The Democratic leaders of many House committees will have subpoena powers enabling them to obtain documents, emails and testimony.

The White House would likely fight many such requests in court, but the subpoenas' reach could extend far beyond Washington.

That means Democrats could look into such issues as the 18 trademarks that China has granted in recent months to companies linked to Trump and his daughter Ivanka and whether they reflect conflicts of interest. China says it handles all trademark applications equally, but House committees could probe whether Beijing can exploit the Trump family's substantial intellectual property holdings in China for political or diplomatic advantage.

On Wednesday, China said it didn't want to comment directly on the election results.

"It's their domestic affair. I don't want to comment on that, otherwise I will run the risk of being accused of interfering in their midterm election," foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying told reporters.

"Regardless of the result ... we believe the two governments and the two peoples all want to maintain the sound and steady development of bilateral relations because we believe it is in the best interests of the international community," Hua said.

For Moscow, the Democratic victory means a probable reopening of the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election. The Republican-led Intelligence Committee closed its probe into Russian meddling, saying it had found no evidence of collusion between Russia and the Trump campaign. Democrats, though, have long said the Republicans ignored a string of key facts and witnesses.

Russian President Vladimir Putin denies any involvement in Trump's election victory, but he may quietly favor renewed investigations, seeing them as a way to sow chaos and division in America's bitterly divided political arena. What he would not favor, though, would be investigations or sanctions that damage the well-connected Russian oligarchs believed to have helped fund the meddling efforts.

After the election results, the head of the foreign affairs committee in the upper house of the Russian parliament said the Democratic win in the House would raise the pressure on Trump.

Konstantin Kosachev said in televised comments that Trump will face "unpleasant challenges — emotional

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at a minimum and political at a maximum.”

He said Trump would likely face strong Democratic resistance to any of his reforms, but added that the Republicans’ continued control of the Senate saved Trump from a “real catastrophe with a looming threat of impeachment.”

Then there’s Saudi Arabia, and the relationship between Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and Trump’s son-in-law, Jared Kushner. The ties between the two men, who are said to communicate frequently, could come under increased scrutiny by Democrats.

The U.S. and Saudi Arabia have long been key allies, and Trump made the country his first stop abroad as president.

But the crown prince has lost supporters in Congress since the killing of Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi, a Washington Post columnist and a critic of Prince Mohammed, inside the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2. Prince Mohammed is widely suspected of at least having knowledge of the killing, which was allegedly carried out by agents close to him.

The fallout for Saudi Arabia could be immense, with Democrats possibly trying to block major arms sales to Saudi Arabia and curtail U.S. support for Saudi Arabia’s war in Yemen, which the prince launched as defense minister in 2015. The U.S. assists the Saudi-led coalition with in-air refueling and intelligence on targets, and supplies the kingdom with fighter jets and bombs used in the war. The conflict has become widely unpopular with some members of Congress and has created the world’s largest humanitarian catastrophe, according to aid agencies.

But more investigations, Republicans note, could also blow back against the Democrats. Many Trump supporters already believe investigations into him have gone too far, and a string of new subpoenas could end up alienating voters.

That’s what happened in the 1998 midterms, when Republican impeachment proceedings against then President Bill Clinton ended up energizing the Democrats, allowing them to take additional House seats.

Plenty of people in Washington remember the lessons of 1998.

“I don’t know that there will be much of an appetite” for members of Congress to spend their time “investigating, instigating, trying to impeach and subpoena people,” White House counselor Kellyanne Conway told reporters late Tuesday night.

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Associated Press reporters Aya Batrawy in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Chris Bodeen in Beijing, Vladimir Isachenkov in Moscow and Dustin Weaver in Washington, DC, contributed to this report.

## Democrats gain governors’ seats, but GOP holds some states

By DAVID A. LIEB, Associated Press

Democrats tried Tuesday to fight their way back to power in state capitols across the country by reclaiming governor’s seats in several key states, marking significant steps in their nationwide strategy to reverse years of Republican gains in state capitols.

Still, their victories in Illinois, Michigan, Nevada and Wisconsin, were balanced by Republicans holding on to one of the top prizes, Florida, and the governor’s offices in Ohio and Arizona. All three states will figure prominently in the presidential map in two years.

The nation’s other closely watched governor’s race, in Georgia, remained too close to call Tuesday night.

Democrats’ toppling of Republican Scott Walker in Wisconsin completed a sweep for the party in the upper Midwest. Walker was a top target of Democrats and a polarizing figure in his state, sweeping into office during the tea party wave of 2010 and gaining national attention by leading a rollback of union rights that led to protests inside the state Capitol. He survived a recall attempt before falling short in a bid for the Republican presidential nomination.

The win by Democrat Tony Evers gives his party a chance to undo some of Walker’s accomplishments, including a strict voter ID law and the law that effectively ended collective bargaining for public workers.

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Likewise, Democrats hope their victories signal a resurgence for their party in America's heartland, where President Donald Trump romped in 2016.

"I think the message is a simple one. A candidate with a moderate tone but progressive in thinking can win in the heartland," former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack, a Democrat, said. "Winning the governorships is huge in beginning the process of changing the direction of our politics."

In Michigan, Democrat Gretchen Whitmer defeated Republican Bill Schuette, upending years of Republican control in the state. The former legislative leader will become the second female governor in a state where Democrats heavily targeted other statewide and legislative offices.

Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner in Illinois lost his bid for a second term to Democrat J.B. Pritzker. The billionaire appears to have capitalized not only on Rauner's lack of popularity but broader dissatisfaction with President Donald Trump. In Kansas, Democratic state lawmaker Laura Kelly defeated Republican Secretary of State Kris Kobach, a close ally of Trump.

New Mexico also tipped into the Democratic column, as did Maine, where Democratic Attorney General Janet Mills won the race to succeed combative Republican Gov. Paul LePage, who was term-limited after eight years in office.

Democrats Andrew Cuomo in New York and Tom Wolf in Pennsylvania easily won re-election, as did two Republicans in Democratic-leaning states — Larry Hogan in Maryland and Charlie Baker in Massachusetts.

In Iowa, Republican Gov. Kim Reynolds broke the Democrats' run of Midwest success by being elected to a full term. Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, a former Republican presidential candidate and Trump ally, was seeking a third term in a race that remained too close to call.

In all, voters were choosing 36 governors and 6,089 state legislators in general and special elections that have attracted record amounts of spending from national Democratic and Republican groups.

Republicans are in control more often than not in state capitols across the country, but Democrats were trying to pull a little closer in Tuesday's elections.

The political parties are trying not only to win now, but also to put themselves in strong position for the elections two years from now that will determine which party will have the upper hand in redrawing congressional and state legislative districts.

Voters in Colorado, Michigan and Missouri approved ballot measures Tuesday overhauling the redistricting process in ways that are intended to reduce the likelihood of partisan gerrymandering by either major party. A redistricting ballot measure also was on the ballot in Utah.

Republicans entered Tuesday's election with a sizable advantage, controlling two-thirds of the 99 state legislative chambers and 33 governors' offices. The GOP held a trifecta of power in 25 states, compared with just eight for Democrats.

Democrats likely will gain full control in Illinois and New Mexico by winning the governor's races. The Democratic victories in Kansas and Michigan will break up Republican trifectas.

Republicans were largely on defense but also were angling for gains in a few traditionally Democratic states, such as Connecticut.

The governor's races have extra emphasis in 28 states where the winners will serve four-year terms with the potential power to approve or reject district boundaries drawn for Congress or state legislatures.

The Democratic Governors Association had focused on nine swing states — Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Michigan, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin — where it believes the governorships could be pivotal in congressional redistricting.

As of mid-October, the Democratic Governors Association and its affiliated entities had raised \$122 million during the past two years — a record outdone only by the Republican Governors Association's new high mark of at least \$156 million.

The Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee and Republican State Leadership Committee, which focus on state races, also set record fundraising targets. The National Democratic Redistricting Committee, led by former Obama administration Attorney General Eric Holder, has pumped additional money into state races viewed as critical in future redistricting decisions.

Although most state lawmakers responsible for redistricting will be elected in 2020, voters on Tuesday

were electing more than 800 state lawmakers in about two dozen states to four-year terms where they could play a role in approving new congressional or state legislative districts.

Associated Press writer Thomas Beaumont contributed to this report.

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## How Trump's energy, excesses drove GOP's erratic campaign

By **JULIE PACE, LISA MASCARO and ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Paul Ryan had to know it was coming.

The minute the House speaker shot down President Donald Trump's latest campaign-season gambit on immigration — an assertion that he could rewrite citizenship rights with the stroke of a pen — Ryan had to be braced for Trump's counterpunch. True to form, the next day, less than a week before Election Day, the hit came in a tweet. The Republican president publicly declared that the Republican speaker "knows nothing about!" birthright citizenship.

Ryan picked up the phone and called the president to tell him he'd gone too far.

Indeed, Trump had been on a tear. Instead of closing out the midterm campaigns hailing congressional Republicans' signature accomplishment — a massive tax cut — Trump was railing against a migrant caravan still hundreds of miles from the U.S. border. The migrants were a national security threat, he said. He was sending more than 5,000 troops to the border.

Enough about immigration, Ryan told him.

The extraordinary call, which has not previously been reported, barely made a ripple in Trump's White House. The president had no intention of following the soon-to-be-retired speaker's advice. Later that day, Trump would declare he might even send 15,000 troops. By the next day, he claimed he'd told the military that if migrants try to throw rocks, the troops should act as though the rocks are "rifles."

Ryan would call Trump again days later to no avail. His failed effort to refocus Trump was illustrative of Republicans' back-to-back struggles that had run, mostly in the background, for months. At first, the struggle was to get Trump to pay attention to the election. Then it became an effort to curb his excesses when he finally did.

Interviews by The Associated Press with Democratic, Republican and White House insiders make clear that Trump — with his drumbeat of provocations and his invective about the migrant-caravan-loving "Democrat mob," "Pocahontas," "evil" on the other side and "low IQ" — put people in both parties on the spot. Take him on? Avert your eyes? Excuse him? Embrace the blunt, crowd-pleasing talk? Responses differed, even in the same party. But one election truism, voiced by a White House official, came to the fore: Contented voters tend not to vote. Angry, fearful ones do.

In a campaign of raw passions, intersecting with a slaughter in a Pittsburgh synagogue and mail bombs targeting some of the Democratic subjects of Trump's wrath, there was little room for contentment in the election that would flip control of the House to Democrats while preserving Republican control of the Senate.

This account of the midterm campaign is based on interviews with more than 25 campaign operatives, party officials and White House aides, most of whom spoke to the AP about blunders, high points and turning points on condition their words not be used until control of Congress had been decided. Some spoke on condition of anonymity to describe operations they were unauthorized to speak about publicly.

### WHERE'S THE PRESIDENT?

For Republicans, a sense the sky was falling formed early this year when Democrat Conor Lamb took a House seat in solid Republican territory from the GOP with a victory in March over Rick Saccone. The contest left a bitter aftertaste for Republicans who saw their party struggle to find new and appealing

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candidates to step in for a wave of retirees. Meanwhile, Democrats fielded a diverse lineup of contenders, some with potential star power like Lamb, an ex-Marine who won again Tuesday night.

"If you're casting a movie about a congressman, Conor Lamb could play the role," said Corry Bliss, who runs a super PAC aligned with Ryan. "And we have to spend three months banging our heads against the wall trying to get someone elected who I think was physically allergic to raising money and doing work."

Even after the Pennsylvania harbinger, House Republicans found it difficult to get Trump's interest.

The House majority leader, Kevin McCarthy, raced to strike deals with jittery lawmakers, trying to persuade them not to retire. He worked to recruit the best candidates with sometimes disappointing results.

Trump was largely uninterested, frustrating House Republicans. In August, McCarthy tried to engage Trump, organizing a conference call with the president, GOP House campaign chairman Steve Stivers and Republican Troy Balderson, who was running in a special election in Ohio. The president got off the call and enthusiastically tweeted his support for Stivers — the wrong man.

Over time, the majority leader helped drive home the stakes of losing the House with a what's-in-it-for-Trump checklist, a party official said. The most obvious would be the difficulty of passing Trump's agenda with a split Congress. As well, the House has powers of investigation, and Democrats planned to use them against a president who already feels dogged by "witch hunts."

## WHERE'S THE MONEY?

Cash was another issue.

In June, top Republicans gathered at a luxury mountainside resort in Park City, Utah, for Mitt Romney's annual political retreat. Among the speakers was Michael Bloomberg, the former Republican-turned-independent mayor of New York, a fixture at gatherings of wealthy political influencers.

Something about Bloomberg's 40-minute speech felt different this time. As guests exited, several commented to the AP that Bloomberg sounded like he was giving a Democratic presidential stump speech.

"Two or three weeks later, I walked out of my quarterly board meeting, and there it was on my phone: Bloomberg announces he's spending \$100 million to help Democrats take back the House," Bliss said. "It all made sense."

Bloomberg's influx of cash caught Republicans off guard and opened a fundraising deficit that the GOP couldn't come close to making up.

"It was a real game changer," Bliss said. "It would have been manageable without that."

Some GOP officials had complaints about how money was spent by the National Republican Congressional Committee's independent expenditure arm.

For example, money continued to be poured into Rep. Barbara Comstock's suburban Virginia district long after party leaders deemed the race a lost cause. Democrat Jennifer Wexton defeated her Tuesday.

In Florida's 26th district, the outside group locked in TV airtime for the fall in July when rates were cheaper. In September, the group canceled the buy — only to rebook it one day later at a far higher rate. Democrats narrowly prevailed there Tuesday.

By Labor Day, Charlie Kelly, executive director of House Majority PAC, the outside group supporting Democrats, had already secured more than \$40 million for TV ads to run after the holiday, twice the usual amount.

His Republican counterparts at the Congressional Leadership Fund had already burned through as much cash just propping up the unpopular GOP tax plan and efforts at a repeal of President Barack Obama's health care law. That was on top of huge sums Republicans spent salvaging GOP seats in special elections.

## HOUSE DEMS ON TRACK

Democrats had far less trouble keeping members and allies on course with their message to voters.

The script was set early. In February, the House Majority PAC asked Republican voters in suburban swing districts to journal, for three days, about their priorities. People wrote about their views on open-ended questions: What do Democrats stand for? Republicans?

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What voters scribbled in their online notebooks, and said in focus groups later about the president, showed Democrats the importance of clearing out the noise of the Trump administration and focusing on the kitchen table issues. Perhaps the partisan divide wasn't so wide after all.

"That to me was sort of an eye-opening moment," said Charlie Kelly, the executive director. "My goodness, we can win these places."

Almost every time Trump interjected a new topic — Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh, the migrant caravans — the top House Democrat, Nancy Pelosi, would urge colleagues to stay focused on lower health care costs, better jobs by rebuilding infrastructure, spending more on education and cleaning up government.

"Our candidates are sticking with that message no matter what he does or says," Pelosi said during a Tucson, Arizona-area swing through a GOP open seat that Republicans all but abandoned weeks earlier.

They also went looking for new Democratic voters — particularly in Florida.

The resettlement of Puerto Ricans fleeing to Florida after Hurricane Maria in 2017 was a key opportunity. Estimates of the number who came to Florida fluctuated. Many did not have permanent addresses where campaign staff and volunteers could find them to encourage them to register to vote.

But they did have cellphones.

People on the Democratic National Committee's technology team, led by former Uber executive Raffi Krikorian, wondered if they could use those cellphone numbers to track which people from the island were now living in Florida. The Democratic group had already spent \$1 million to add 100 million cellphone numbers to its voter database.

This time, the DNC bought voter information from commercial aggregators that tracked what cellphone towers certain numbers were pinging off. They focused on Puerto Rican cellphone numbers that pinged off towers in Florida for 30 days or more — a timeline that DNC officials believed showed that a person had relocated to the state.

The search resulted in 300,000 numbers in Florida alone, as well as thousands more in other states. The DNC started texting messages to those numbers encouraging people to register to vote and back Democratic candidates.

## HERE'S THE PRESIDENT

By midsummer, top Republican operatives were bracing for the prospect of losing up to 60 seats in the House, far more than the 23 the Democrats needed to take control. There was even talk of Democrats taking the Senate, although those races were largely in conservative-leaning states.

On the House side, Trump's volatility was hurting Republicans in the polls, particularly with independents and women. His cozy appearance alongside Russian President Vladimir Putin in Helsinki, Finland, didn't help matters, and his administration's child separation policy at the U.S.-Mexico border exponentially deepened the damage.

One GOP operative described the summer trend as getting worse by the day.

By Labor Day, many Republicans were so outwardly worried that the House was lost that they were already dissecting how it all went wrong and assigning blame. Democrats were widening the battleground, polling in many districts looked dismal for the GOP and Trump didn't seem to care.

Then Kavanaugh took his seat in the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing room.

The Supreme Court nominee's wrought, explosive defense of the sexual allegations against him did more than clear the way for his confirmation. It gave Republicans a rallying cry against the "mob" — the emerging buzzword that summed up Democratic opposition to Kavanaugh, to the GOP-held Congress and to Trump's agenda.

Republicans needed anger on their side, said a party official, and suddenly had it.

Many Republicans believed the #MeToo movement had gone too far and a good man's reputation had been smeared.

Trump, now in full campaign mode, rolled into his hotel late the night of the Kavanaugh hearing for a House Republican fundraiser. His tardiness hardly mattered. He regaled donors and GOP lawmakers with

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stories as if it were their own private Trump rally. The event brought in \$15 million for House campaign committees.

Fundraising went through the roof. The Sunday after the Thursday, Sept. 27, hearing was the largest online fundraising day in the Republican National Committee's history. Small-dollar donations soared 418 percent in the days afterward. A single text message, which usually brings in about \$10,000, brought in seven times that amount on a Saturday.

## THE KAVANAUGH EFFECT

On Oct. 4, Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, a moderate in conservative North Dakota, sat in a secure room at the U.S. Capitol, peering through black-framed glasses at the FBI report about Kavanaugh.

She looked up from the table and said quietly to fellow Democratic senators in the room: "I can't do this" — meaning she could not vote to confirm the man who'd been accused of sexual assault.

There was a heavy tone of reservation in her voice. One colleague said that it was painful for her and that she knew she was committing political suicide.

Heitkamp would not recover. Republican Kevin Cramer defeated her Tuesday.

North Dakota wasn't an outlier. Working-class voters, particularly men, had the same reaction to the Kavanaugh allegation.

In the days after his accuser, Christine Blasey Ford, testified on Capitol Hill, the chairwoman of the Wisconsin Democratic Party called the DNC with an urgent warning: The confirmation fight appeared to be galvanizing white men in rural parts of Wisconsin — the same voters who helped tilt the state toward Trump in the 2016 election.

Chairwoman Martha Lanning told DNC officials that her team had been monitoring Republican pages on Facebook and other social media sites and was suddenly seeing more engagement from men than earlier in the year, according to one Democratic official.

Democrats' hopes of pulling off a wave powerful enough to give them Senate control faded fast.

Privately, Democratic officials were more conservative than they were letting on about their prospects in Texas in the Senate race between Republican Sen. Ted Cruz and Democratic Rep. Beto O'Rourke. Although O'Rourke was raising eye-popping amounts of money and drawing national attention, his campaign wasn't doing some basic things, like polling. He lost Tuesday.

By mid-October, Democrats had largely given up on Heitkamp. If the state weren't so inexpensive, campaign groups probably would have pulled out weeks before, according to one Democratic official. But with the low cost of television time and other campaign infrastructure, Democratic campaign committees decided it was better to keep spending a bit of money there than to be seen abandoning an incumbent senator.

Among Democrats' most vulnerable Senate candidates was Bill Nelson, the 76-year-old former astronaut who had held his seat since 2001. The biggest boost for Nelson came when Florida Democrats nominated Andrew Gillum — the young black mayor of Tallahassee — as their candidate for governor.

Gillum instantly energized Florida Democrats, giving Nelson a boost in the process. According to one Democratic official, the party probably would have written the Senate seat off if it hadn't been for Gillum's primary victory. Gillum lost Tuesday; Nelson's race was too close to call.

## THE MIGRANTS

Kavanaugh was sworn in a month before Election Day. House Republicans knew they could neither sustain the momentum nor keep the president focused for that long.

Trump quickly found his closing message.

The president sent out his first tweet about the caravan on Oct. 16. At a Montana rally two days later, he declared the election was about "jobs versus mobs."

"This will be an election of Kavanaugh, the caravan, law and order, and common sense," Trump said.

A White House official said the rhetoric reflected the understanding that contented voters aren't engaged voters. Fear drives turnout, the official said.

The president, acknowledging his tax cut was failing to drive voters, pledged a second one would come.

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Then that idea seemed to vanish. Trump conceded economic talk was less interesting and garnered less buzz than his immigration threats.

Over the following three weeks, Trump, his administration and his campaign deployed ever more dire warnings about the consequences of Democratic control of Congress. The president stoked fears about illegal immigration and predicted economic collapse if Democrats won.

Trump's fierce words about the migrants — as reflected in his suggestion that they'd be shot by U.S. authorities if they threw rocks — were enough to make some Republicans wish the election were two weeks earlier, in what they perceived as the Kavanaugh bump.

It stopped the moment, a GOP operative said.

Independent-minded voters who thought Democrats went overboard in assailing Kavanaugh were now viewing Trump as having gone over the top.

It may not have helped Democrats, but it made some voters disengage, the operative said.

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Associated Press writers Cal Woodward, Jill Colvin, Catherine Lucey, Jonathan Lemire and Steve Peoples in Washington and Thomas Beaumont in Des Moines, Iowa, contributed to this report.

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For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/APPolitics>

## Takeaways: A split decision for Trump, Democrats

By **KEN THOMAS, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats didn't catch a blue wave. But they managed the next best thing: Divided government in the Trump era.

House Democrats won back the majority for the first time since the 2010 elections. Helped by President Donald Trump, Republicans captured Senate seats in Indiana, Missouri and North Dakota to maintain a narrow advantage.

In the Great Lakes region, Democrats secured governors' offices in Michigan, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, complicating the president's re-election campaign in an area that propelled him to victory in 2016. But Trump helped Republicans claim governors' seats in Ohio and in Florida, where his hand-picked choice, Ron DeSantis, edged Andrew Gillum in the state's high-profile governors' race.

Tuesday's midterm elections offered something for everyone. Democrats will control the House, but Trump will point to GOP success in the Senate as proof that he defied the odds and avoided the type of midterm wipeout that afflicted his predecessor, former President Barack Obama.

Yet Trump's administration will now face intense scrutiny from House Democrats and a slew of subpoenas and document requests of his Cabinet — not to mention a renewed push for the president's tax returns. And as special counsel Robert Mueller presses forward with the Russia investigation, the most liberal members of the Democratic caucus are expected to sound the alarm for the president's impeachment.

Some takeaways from Tuesday's election:

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### POLITICAL POLARIZATION

Democrats posted gains in House seats representing the nation's suburbs, with many college-educated women turned off by Trump's first two years. Republicans strengthened their grip on the country's rural and exurban areas, helping them defeat red-state Senate Democrats. The results could lead to more standoffs in Congress — there's already the possibility of a partial federal government shutdown in December over spending for Trump's signature border wall. And the outcome will produce fewer moderate lawmakers who can straddle the divide. West Virginia Sen. Joe Manchin, a centrist Democrat, won re-election, but he will be the exception, not the norm.

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### STAR DESTROYER

Trump allies dealt major blows to three of the Democrats' breakout stars of the 2018 cycle. Democrat



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Beto O'Rourke lost to Sen. Ted Cruz in Texas. Gillum lost his bid to become Florida's first black governor to DeSantis, whose public support from Trump propelled the former congressman to the top of the primary field. And Stacey Abrams' campaign to become Georgia's governor — and the nation's first-ever black female governor — was trailing early Wednesday against Brian Kemp, who was also helped along by a critical Trump endorsement. Abrams declined to concede the race, pointing to votes that still needed to be counted and suggesting a likely runoff.

## 2020 IMPLICATIONS

Trump has taunted the potential 2020 Democratic field as lacking any talent or the ability to give him a serious challenge. He will soon find out. Three potential candidates, Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Kirsten Gillibrand, all won re-election to the Senate. Former Vice President Joe Biden and Sens. Kamala Harris of California and Cory Booker of New Jersey were among the most sought-after surrogates during the fall campaign. O'Rourke's star power and massive fundraising haul generated chatter as a possible 2020 candidate — win or lose — but he said in the final days he wouldn't run in 2020. Despite Trump's dismissive approach, he will enter his re-election as an incumbent who lost the popular vote in 2016 and staring down key states — Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin — now under Democratic control.

## REBUILDING THE BLUE WALL?

After Trump won several Midwest states that had long been in the Democratic column, the party had hoped to rebuild its Midwest "blue wall." Democrats made some progress, but just like the nature of the election, it was a split decision. Democrats picked up the governors' offices in Michigan and Wisconsin and kept control in Pennsylvania. But Republicans won the governors' races in Iowa and Ohio, giving Trump allies in two key presidential swing states. Remember, no Republican candidate for the presidency has ever won the election without winning Ohio.

## WOMEN RULE

After Hillary Clinton's defeat, more women than ever before won major-party primaries for governor, the Senate and the House this year. Tuesday's election produced a record number of women in the House and opened the door for women to hold state offices around the country. Democratic women like Abigail Spanberger of Virginia, Cindy Axne of Iowa and Haley Stevens of Michigan helped the party flip Republican-held seats in the House. Republican Marsha Blackburn won an open Senate seat in Tennessee and the Midwest elected two female governors: Kim Reynolds of Iowa, a Republican who won a full term after succeeding Terry Branstad, Trump's ambassador to China, and Laura Kelly of Kansas, a Democrat who defeated Republican Kris Kobach. Women voted considerably more in favor of their congressional Democratic candidate — with fewer than 4 in 10 voting for the Republican, according to VoteCast, a nationwide survey conducted for The Associated Press by NORC at the University of Chicago.

## TRUMP THE CLOSER

Trump has long prided himself on the ability of his massive rallies to generate voter turnout and enthusiasm — and it paid off for him in the final days. The president staged rallies in five states — Georgia, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana and Missouri — on the final two days of the campaign, helping his cause. In Georgia, Kemp was leading Abrams in the governor's race but no winner had been declared. Tennessee Rep. Marsha Blackburn won an open Senate seat. Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine, a former senator, won the race for governor. In Indiana, businessman Mike Braun ousted Democratic Sen. Joe Donnelly. And Josh Hawley prevailed over Missouri Sen. Claire McCaskill, giving Republicans another Senate pickup.

## FOR HISTORY

The night served as witness to a number of history-making breakthroughs — steps that will help make

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Congress younger and more diverse. In New York, 29-year-old Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez became the youngest woman elected to Congress. Democrats Ilhan Omar of Minnesota and Rashida Tlaib of Michigan will be the first Muslim women to serve in Congress. Kristi Noem will become the first woman from South Dakota to serve as her state's governor. The House will have two Native American women for the first time: New Mexico's Deb Haaland and Kansas' Sharice Davids, who will also become her state's first openly LGBT candidate to hold major office. And regardless of who wins in Arizona's competitive Senate race, the state will elect its first woman to serve in the chamber.

## AP voter poll shows focus on Trump, immigration, health care

By MARY CLARE JALONICK, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Health care, immigration and President Donald Trump were high on voters' minds as they cast ballots in the midterm elections, according to a wide-ranging survey of the electorate conducted by The Associated Press.

AP's VoteCast survey of more than 115,000 voters paints a portrait of an enthusiastic yet deeply divided electorate. Women voted considerably more in favor of Democrats.

Democrats were poised to seize the House and put a check on Trump in the first nationwide election of his presidency. Republicans retained control of the Senate.

Here are some takeaways from VoteCast:

### HEALTH CARE AND IMMIGRATION

Health care was at the forefront of many voters' minds: 26 percent named it as the most important issue facing the country. Immigration was not far behind, with 23 percent naming it as the most important issue.

Nearly 4 in 10 of those who voted for a Democratic House candidate named health care as the most important issue facing the nation, while about as many Republican voters considered immigration to be the top issue.

Others considered the economy (19 percent), gun policy (8 percent) and the environment (7 percent) to be the top issue.

### IS IT ALL ABOUT TRUMP?

Nearly two-thirds of voters said Trump was a reason for their vote, while about a third said he was not. Nearly 4 in 10 voters said they cast their ballots to express opposition to the president, while a quarter of voters said they voted to express support for Trump.

### WOMEN VOTERS

Women voted considerably more in favor of their congressional Democratic candidate: 55 percent voted for the Democrat, compared with 41 percent voting for the Republican. Men were more narrowly divided in their vote.

Women ages 18 to 29 voted strongly Democratic, with 63 percent of those voters favoring the Democratic candidate.

White women were narrowly divided in their views: 50 percent of white women voted for the Republican, while 46 percent voted for the Democrat. Among non-white women, 78 percent voted for the Democrat.

### ENTHUSIASM

A large majority of voters were enthusiastic heading to the polls, with nearly 9 in 10 reporting that they were extremely or very interested in the midterm election.

### NONVOTERS

Nationally, 70 percent of registered voters who chose not to vote in the midterm election were younger than 45. A wide share of those who did not vote — around 8 in 10 — did not have a college degree. About as many nonvoters were Democrats (32 percent) as Republicans (32 percent).

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## THE ECONOMY

Voters have a positive view of the state of the national economy — about two-thirds said the condition of the economy is excellent or good, compared with a third who said it's not good or poor.

## WRONG DIRECTION

A majority of voters overall said the country is headed in the wrong direction. Nearly 6 in 10 voters said it is headed in the wrong direction, while around 4 in 10 said it's on the right track.

## HEALTH CARE

A quarter of voters said the Affordable Care Act, often called "Obamacare," should be repealed entirely. About another quarter said parts of the law should be repealed. Around a third of voters said it should be expanded, and about 1 in 10 preferred it be left as it is.

About 6 in 10 voters said it should be the responsibility of the federal government to make sure that all Americans have health care coverage.

## SUPREME COURT

About three-quarters of voters said the debate over Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh's nomination was very or somewhat important to their vote. Those who said it was very important to their vote were more likely to support the Democratic candidate. The GOP-led Senate confirmed Kavanaugh after a California professor accused him of sexual assault when both were in high school. Kavanaugh denied the allegations.

Roughly half of voters approve of Trump's handling of Supreme Court nominations.

## RUSSIAN COLLUSION

The country is almost evenly divided on whether Trump's campaign coordinated with the Russian government during the 2016 presidential election. Democrats overwhelmingly said there was collusion, and Republicans overwhelmingly said there was not.

## #METOO

Roughly three-quarters of voters were very or somewhat concerned about women not being believed when they make allegations of sexual misconduct. About the same share said they were very or somewhat concerned about men not being given the opportunity to defend themselves against allegations of sexual misconduct.

## COMMUNITY TYPE

In suburban areas, where key House races will be decided, voters skewed toward Democrats by 6 percentage points. Urbanites voted roughly 2 to 1 in favor of Democrats, and small-town and rural voters cast votes for Republicans by a significant, though smaller, margin.

## TRUMP APPROVAL

The survey found that 45 percent of voters approve of Trump's job performance — a finding that is largely consistent with recent polling. More voters gave Trump a positive rating on his handling of the economy (54 percent), and around half approve of the president on border security.

Nearly half of Americans said Trump is a strong leader and has brought needed change to the government. About 7 in 10 voters said Trump stands up for what he believes in.

Still, only about a third said Trump has the right temperament to serve as president. Around the same share see him as honest and trustworthy.

AP VoteCast is a survey of the American electorate conducted in all 50 states by NORC at the University of Chicago for The Associated Press and Fox News. The survey of 116,789 voters and 22,137 nonvoters was conducted Oct. 29 to Nov. 6, concluding as polls close on Election Day. It combines interviews in English and Spanish with a random sample of registered voters drawn from state voter files; with self-identified registered voters conducted using NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population; and with self-identified registered voters selected from nonprobability online panels. Participants selected from state voter files were contacted by phone and mail, and had the opportunity to take the survey by phone or online. The margin of sampling error for voters is estimated to be plus or minus 0.5 percentage points. All surveys are subject to multiple sources of error, including sampling, question wording and order, and nonresponse. Find more details about AP VoteCast's methodology at <http://www.ap.org/votecast>.

## Cruz fends off O'Rourke in Texas Senate race

By WILL WEISSERT, Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Sen. Ted Cruz fended off a spirited underdog challenge from Democrat Beto O'Rourke to win re-election on Tuesday in a Texas race that once seemed like a cakewalk but needed a late boost from President Donald Trump to help push the incumbent over the top.

Cruz began as the prohibitive favorite after his surprisingly successful 2016 presidential run, but he suddenly found himself in a tough contest against O'Rourke, a little-known El Paso congressman and one-time punk rocker who became a national political sensation and shattered fundraising records despite shunning donations from outside political groups and pollster advice.

Cruz turned back O'Rourke with the help of Trump, his bitter rival in 2016. Trump took the unexpected step of traveling to reliably Republican Texas during crunch time, staging a Houston rally to energize his base for Cruz just two weeks before Election Day. The president praised the senator as "beautiful" and smart, a far cry from two years ago when he repeatedly mocked Cruz as "Lyin' Ted," made fun of his wife's appearance and suggested that Cruz's Cuban-born father had a hand in the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

With the win, Cruz kept alive his hopes of mounting a second presidential run once Trump leaves the White House.

In his victory speech, Cruz said his win affirmed that he won the "battle of ideas" against O'Rourke over issues like low taxes, reduced regulation and jobs.

"All the money in the world wasn't a match for the good people of Texas," he said, while also acknowledging that millions of people across the state were inspired by O'Rourke's campaign.

O'Rourke grabbed glowing national headlines by visiting all 254 Texas counties and often drawing large crowds — even in fiercely conservative areas other Democrats had long since written off. He raked in donations from across the country and even set a new record for Senate campaign fundraising by collecting more than \$38 million in the three-month period from July through September alone. All told, he raised a whopping amount — more than \$70 million.

O'Rourke even got an unexpected boost from Beyonce as the Houston native posted pictures of herself wearing a Beto baseball cap on Instagram mere hours before the polls closed.

It wasn't enough. Thousands of supporters who attended O'Rourke's election party at a minor-league stadium in his native El Paso chanted "Beto, Beto, Beto," but the crowd got more anxious as word spread that their candidate wasn't going to prevail. Election returns that played briefly on the stadium scoreboard were pulled quickly and replaced with a local rock band on stage.

O'Rourke, his voice hoarse from the grind of the campaign, told supporters that the campaign would "lead to something far greater than today." He took a subtle jab at Trump's vow to build a border wall and at one point uttered an expletive that was captured on live television.

"I'm as inspired, I'm as hopeful as I've ever been and tonight's loss does nothing to diminish how I feel about Texas or this country" O'Rourke said.

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Cruz had the support of outside groups but was still being outraised 3-to-1 by the end of the race — a discrepancy he dismissed by saying the “hard left” was energized by outrage at Trump and “Texas will not be bought.”

For months, Cruz refused to entertain the notion that he’d lose, saying there are more Republicans in Texas than Democrats, so all he had to do to win was avoid conservative complacency. He also said O’Rourke’s support for impeaching Trump, relaxing federal immigration policy, decriminalizing marijuana and implementing universal health care were too liberal for even many of the state’s moderate Democrats and independents.

Still, the race laid bare that many Texas conservatives never forgave Cruz for clashing with Trump at the end of the 2016 presidential primary and for refusing to endorse him at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland — a move many saw as putting personal ambitions over party. That’s despite Cruz being one of the fiercest supporters of the president and the policies of the Republican-controlled Congress since then, despite getting to the Senate in 2012 as a tea party insurgent intent on enraging establishment leaders from both parties.

Cruz, 47, made no secret about wanting to run for president again once Trump leaves office. And though he was tested by O’Rourke, avoiding what would have been a monumental upset means that remains a possibility. O’Rourke himself had been mentioned as a possible 2020 White House contender — but that was dependent on him staying within striking distance of Cruz.

O’Rourke’s defeat also dashed Democrats’ decades-long hopes of a booming Texas Hispanic population flipping the country’s largest red state blue, potentially transforming the national electoral maps and all-but blocking a Republican path to the presidency. Cruz has for years warned that a Democratic Texas would mean his party would never again win the White House.

A Texas Democrat hasn’t won any of the nearly 30 statewide offices since 1994, the country’s longest losing streak.

For AP’s complete coverage of the U.S. midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/APPolitics>

## Broken machines to threats of violence among voting problems

By The Associated Press

Voting machine glitches, long lines and misinformation were among the problems that voters faced at the polls on Tuesday.

The cause of the problems ran the gamut from human error to threatened violence to technological errors to Mother Nature as storms pummeled several states in the South.

The issues added more chaos to a bitterly fought election that will decide who controls the Senate, House and hundreds of down-ticket races.

Here’s what you should know about Election Day voting issues:

### LONG LINES, 911 CALL

Long lines and malfunctioning machines marred voting in some precincts across the U.S. Some voters reported waiting up to three hours to vote, with some of the biggest problems in Georgia and New York.

In South Carolina, a woman said she called 911 after waiting outside her polling place for 45 minutes to get help because she’s disabled.

Not even Georgia’s state election boss was immune from voting problems.

Secretary of State Brian Kemp, who is also the state’s Republican gubernatorial candidate, had an issue with his voter card when he went to cast his ballot, but it was fixed quickly. He walked by reporters and said: “Take 2.”

In South Carolina, Sandy Hanebrink told the Anderson Independent-Mail she couldn’t make it inside her polling place because she can’t walk on the gravel or grass where vehicles have to park. Hanebrink said she tried to flag down poll workers and call Anderson County’s election hotline before dialing 911. Poll

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workers went out after she made her call.

In Florida and California, some voters assigned to polling stations inside gated communities complained that it took them up to an hour to get their cars past security gates.

Elections clerk Rosemarie Reed told WTVJ-TV she was furious to see the long lines in Deerfield Beach, California, and called voting inside a gated community voter suppression. However, Deerfield Beach Commissioner Bernie Parness, who lives inside the gated community, said it was a needed safety measure and minor inconvenience.

Ruth Houston waited about half an hour to get to her polling place at Point Dume Club, 3 miles (4.8 kilometers) from her home in Malibu, California.

"Voters had to stop at a security gate to be allowed into the gated neighborhood where our polling place was located," she said in an email to The Associated Press. "A poll worker told neighborhood managers they needed to open the gate so voters could drive in without talking to security, but management refused claiming opening the gate would be against their policy."

## RACISM AND UNREST

Voting was mostly peaceful across the country on Tuesday, but there were a few reported problems, including heated confrontations between poll workers and voters.

In Texas, a white poll worker was accused of bumping a black voter during an argument at a polling site and suggesting that the voter could better understand her if she'd worn "my blackface makeup."

The Houston Chronicle reported the dispute began over a discrepancy with the voter's address. The confrontation escalated, and witnesses confirmed to the newspaper that the worker said, "Maybe if I'd worn my blackface makeup today you could comprehend what I'm saying to you."

The election judge at the site separated the two. The poll worker was cited for misdemeanor assault.

In Pennsylvania, a man was accused of threatening to shoot poll workers who told him he wasn't registered to vote.

Melanie Ostrander, Washington County assistant elections director, said 48-year-old Christopher Thomas Queen, of Claysville, went to a polling place in South Franklin Township on Tuesday morning and became irate when he was told he wasn't registered.

Ostrander said the man "told the poll workers he was going to go get a gun and come back and shoot them." He was charged with terroristic threats and disorderly conduct. Court documents don't list an attorney for him.

## WEATHER WOES

Severe weather and humidity were to blame for voting issues in a handful of states.

In North Carolina, officials said high humidity prevented ballots in some precincts from being able to be fed through tabulators in some precincts in Wake and Forsyth counties. Officials said such ballots are stored securely in emergency bins and would be tabulated as soon as possible.

In New York City, a co-chairman of the state election board, Douglas Kellner, said scanners were breaking down at a higher-than-usual rate because it was using a two-page ballot and the weather was damp.

In Tennessee, severe storms that knocked down trees and power lines forced voters in some places to use paper ballots instead of electronic voting machines. Tennessee Coordinator of Elections Mark Goins said the polling places that had electricity knocked out were operating on generators and had emergency ballots ready. He said the paper ballots would be counted Tuesday.

## VOTERS MISDIRECTED

Election watchers say some voters are reporting being directed to wrong polling places by third-party election help websites such as TurboVote.

Sophia Hall, an attorney who was working at an election protection command center in Boston on Tuesday, says they received several such reports in Massachusetts and are aware of reports in other states.

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Hall says they've also received reports of people being told they aren't registered when they arrive at the polls even though they thought their registration had been confirmed by a third-party site.

TurboVote is a tool created by Democracy Works that helps people register and sends voters email and text reminders about registration deadlines, upcoming elections and where to vote. TurboVote doesn't actually register voters but facilitates registration with state election offices.

Brandon Naylor, a spokesman for Democracy Works, says TurboVote gets its polling location information directly from the states, but sometimes the locations change at the last minute. He also says people sometimes mistakenly believe they are registered but didn't complete all the steps to complete their registration with the state.

## FORECLOSURE ON POLLING PLACE

A polling station in Arizona failed to open on Tuesday for an unusual reason: The building it was in was foreclosed on overnight.

County Recorder Adrian Fontes said poll workers were trying to set up in the parking lot of the Golf Academy of America, which had been foreclosed on overnight Tuesday.

The owners of the Chandler property locked the doors, taking election officials by surprise. Fontes had said reopening the site would have required a court order.

The polling station was relocated and reopened four hours late.

## MACHINES MALFUNCTIONING

Forty-one states were using computerized voting machines that are more than a decade old. Forty-three states were using machines that are no longer manufactured, making them more difficult to service when they break down, according to New York University's Brennan Center for Justice. Yet Congress has repeatedly balked at appropriating the more than \$1 billion needed to upgrade to more reliable systems.

By Tuesday afternoon, the nonpartisan Election Protection hotline had received about 17,500 calls from voters experiencing problems at their polling places. Kristen Clarke, president of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, which helps run the hotline, said that was on par with the number of calls received during a presidential election and noted the hotline had received about 10,400 calls by the same time in 2014.

Clarke ran through a list of voting problems, which largely were connected to malfunctioning voting machines reported in Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Virginia.

"Unfortunately, in this cycle we have seen sign evidence that we have important work to do to ensure that jurisdictions across the country are using the best voting equipment that is available and machines that don't malfunction," Clarke said. "We should not tolerate this kind of outcome in 2018."

## MEDIA KEPT AWAY

Media outlets were barred from taking photos or video Tuesday at a polling place in Kansas that has been at the center of controversy for weeks, and an embattled Republican congressman banned Iowa's largest newspaper from covering his election night events.

In the only polling place in Dodge City, Kansas, which is outside city limits and more than a mile (1.6 kilometers) from the nearest bus stop, reporters were allowed into the Expo Center polling place with notebooks only, the Topeka Capital-Journal reported. Ford County Clerk Debbie Cox said letting the media take pictures and video would be too disruptive.

Attorney Bradley Schlozman, representing Cox, said Kansas law allows the election board to control procedures at polling sites.

Max Kautsch, an attorney for the Capital-Journal and the Kansas Press Association, said that law needs to be balanced with rights under the First Amendment. He noted Ford County has allowed photographs in previous elections.

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In Iowa, Republican Rep. Steve King decided to ban the Des Moines Register from his election night events in Sioux City.

The Register reported it requested credentials to cover the event but King's son, Jeff King, responded Tuesday with an email saying, "We are not granting credentials to the Des Moines Register or any other leftist propaganda media outlet with no concern for reporting the truth."

King has faced criticism from Republican officials and lost funding from business groups after he tweeted support for a white nationalist candidate in Toronto and praised a nationalist party in Austria with Nazi ties. King said media reports have been inaccurate and unfair.

## MISINFORMATION

A sign discouraging college students from voting was spotted at polling place in Rexburg, Idaho, on Tuesday morning.

Kristine Anderson, of Rexburg, spotted the sign, which told students they "should not be registering and voting in your college locale simply because you failed to register and vote at your true domicile."

Anderson reported the sign to American Civil Liberties Union-Idaho, which tweeted: "We've spoken with the Madison County Clerk and they're headed to the precinct to investigate these signs." Anderson said the area is home to a large contingent of college students at Brigham Young University-Idaho.

College students have dual residency and a choice of where they want to vote. They can register back at home or on campus but not in both places.

## AP VoteCast: Trump a dominant force on voters' minds

By ZEKE MILLER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump was a dominant force in the 2018 midterm elections as attitudes toward the polarizing leader influenced the decisions of nearly two-thirds of voters.

Thirty eight percent of voters cast their ballots to express opposition to the president, according to AP VoteCast, a national survey of the electorate, while 26 percent said they voted to express support for Trump.

While Trump was not on the ballot, his controversial administration animated voters on both sides of the aisle, with 2018 likely to set turnout records for a midterm election. Democrats have been activated in opposition to Trump since the moment of his election, while in recent weeks Trump has driven Republicans to the polls by trying to cast the race as a referendum on his administration.

The outcome of Tuesday's races was mixed: Democratic control of the House stands to alter the course of the Trump presidency, while Republican victories in key Senate and gubernatorial races pointed to the enduring strength of the Trump coalition.

The snapshot of who voted and why comes from VoteCast, a nationwide survey of more than 115,000 voters and about 22,000 nonvoters conducted for The Associated Press by NORC at the University of Chicago.

Heading into Election Day, Democrats pinned their hopes of retaking the House, and ultimately the White House, on women and minority voters, particularly in suburban districts. Republicans looked to retain their majorities by preserving support among the bloc of voters who propelled Trump to the White House in 2016.

There were reasons for both sides to be emboldened by Tuesday's results.

According to VoteCast, women voted considerably more in favor of their congressional Democratic candidate: About 6 in 10 voted for the Democrat, compared with 4 in 10 for the Republican. Men, by contrast, were more evenly divided in their vote.

Urbanites voted almost 2 to 1 in favor of Democrats, and small-town and rural voters cast votes for Republicans by a significant, but smaller margin.

In suburban areas, where key House races were being decided, voters skewed significantly toward Democrats by a nearly 10-point margin.

Non-white voters cast ballots for Democrats by a roughly 3-to-1 margin.

Democrats needed to gain a net of at least 23 seats in the House and two seats in the Senate to win



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majorities in the respective chambers. They were on track to secure the first, but it was Republicans who won the night for the statewide seats.

Ahead of the election, both parties claimed the emotionally charged debate over the confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh would motivate their supporters to turn out. Kavanaugh faced multiple allegations of sexual misconduct from his youth that he denied.

According to VoteCast, half of voters said the tumultuous process was very important to their vote and they broke for the Democratic House candidate. Still, an overwhelming majority of voters in both parties said the Kavanaugh debate was at least somewhat important to their vote.

And in North Dakota, where Republicans picked up a seat that helped them hold onto control of the Senate, voters concerned about Kavanaugh broke strongly toward the GOP.

Both parties' closing messages appeared to have animated their respective bases, according to VoteCast, with health care and immigration each described as the most important issues in the election by about 25 percent of voters. Of those who listed health care as the most important issue facing the nation, about 3 in 4 voted for the Democratic candidate. About the same percentage of voters who described immigration as the most important issue cast ballots for the Republican.

Opposition to Trump proved to be more a motivating factor for Democrats than support for the president a factor for Republicans. Still, Republican voters tended to be overwhelmingly supportive of the president.

More voters disapproved of Trump's job performance than approved — a finding that is largely consistent with recent polling.

Voters scored Trump positively on the economy and for standing up "for what he believes in." But the president received negative marks from voters on temperament and trustworthiness.

Still, about one-third of voters said Trump was not a factor in their votes.

With the final days of the 2018 campaign interrupted by a spate of politically motivated attempted bombings and a massacre at a synagogue in Pittsburgh, about 2 in 10 Democratic and Republican voters think their own party's way of talking about politics is leading to an increase in violence.

VoteCast debuted Tuesday, replacing the in-person exit poll as a source of detailed information about the American electorate. Developed with NORC at the University of Chicago, it combines a random sample survey of registered voters and a massive poll conducted via opt-in online panels. The resulting research has the accuracy of random sampling and the depth provided by an online poll that interviews tens of thousands.

VoteCast results cannot be reliably compared to the results of previous exit polls, as the two surveys use different methodologies to poll the electorate. Differences between the two may be the result of differences in survey methods, rather than real changes in opinions or makeup of the electorate over time.

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AP VoteCast is a survey of the American electorate conducted in all 50 states by NORC at the University of Chicago for The Associated Press and Fox News. The survey of 115,936 voters and 22,016 nonvoters was conducted Oct. 29 to Nov. 6, concluding as polls close on Election Day. It combines interviews in English and Spanish with a random sample of registered voters drawn from state voter files; with self-identified registered voters conducted using NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population; and with self-identified registered voters selected from nonprobability online panels. Participants selected from state voter files were contacted by phone and mail, and had the opportunity to take the survey by phone or online. The margin of sampling error for voters is estimated to be plus or minus 0.5 percentage points. All surveys are subject to multiple sources of error, including sampling, question wording and order, and nonresponse. Find more details about AP VoteCast's methodology at <http://www.ap.org/votecast>.

## O'Rourke drops f-bomb on live TV during concession to Cruz

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Rep. Beto O'Rourke didn't go quietly to defeat.

Thanking his campaign supporters for their spirited challenge to Sen. Ted Cruz, he said on live television

Tuesday: "All of you, showing the country how you do this. I'm so f---ing proud of you guys."

The Texas Democrat has been known to drop f-bombs in public throughout the fierce campaign. But this time, he was broadcast on MSNBC, prompting anchor Brian Williams to apologize as the network cut away from the speech.

Cruz held off the Democratic rising star to win re-election. O'Rourke attracted a national following, shattered fundraising records and picked up several celebrity endorsements, including Beyonce posting pictures of herself Tuesday on Instagram wearing a Beto baseball cap.

## **GOP's DeSantis defeats Gillum in Florida governor's race**

**By BRENDAN FARRINGTON and GARY FINEOUT, Associated Press**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Former Republican U.S. Rep. Ron DeSantis was elected Florida governor Tuesday, riding the support of President Donald Trump to narrow victory in the battleground state.

DeSantis, 40, was considered an underdog before Trump tweeted his support for DeSantis in December, a month before he got into the race. Trump campaigned to help push DeSantis to a primary victory in August and came to Florida two more times to propel him past Democratic Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum in the final days of the election.

The win maintained the grip Republicans have had on the governor's office since Jeb Bush was sworn in in 1999, and DeSantis will have a chance to return the favor for Trump in 2020, when Florida figures to play a pivotal role in the presidential election.

During his victory speech, DeSantis noted the national attention focused on the race, saying the "political and media classes" had been eager to write his political obituary.

"On Election Day, it's the voice of the people that roars," DeSantis told supporters at his election party and called it "the one day the elites don't call the shots ... and they don't set the agenda."

He also thanked Trump for standing by him "when it wasn't necessarily the smart thing."

Gillum, who was trying to become the state's first black governor, told a crowd gathered on the campus of Florida A&M University, "I sincerely regret I couldn't bring it home for you."

But Gillum, who is just 39, vowed to remain involved in politics.

"I can guarantee you this: I'm not going anywhere," Gillum said. "We're going to fight; we're going to keep fighting."

After his concession speech, supporters hugged one another. Many cried.

Gillum trailed by about 1 percentage point and fewer than 80,000 votes when he conceded.

"In four years, he'll be able to run again," said Cindy Martin, 50, of Pensacola. "Maybe 80,000 people will wake up and say, 'OK, we didn't vote the last time.'"

Florida A&M student Jalen McClees said that regardless of the result, Gillum made him proud.

"The polls might say the opposite, but Andrew Gillum really won. He set the tone for us as African-Americans to do certain things," said McClees, 18. "He inspired a lot of people, and he made a movement."

DeSantis stumbled out of the gate after winning the Aug. 28 primary, telling Fox News that voters shouldn't "monkey this up" by electing Gillum, who was Florida's first black nominee for governor. Despite implications that DeSantis was racially insensitive — an idea he angrily disputed during a debate — he was able to win the state that Trump carried in 2016.

DeSantis ran as a political outsider despite serving three terms in Congress and running for U.S. Senate in 2016 before dropping out of the race when Republican Sen. Marco Rubio decided to run for re-election. The race was the third office he's sought in two years: his re-election, Senate and governor.

DeSantis is a former Navy officer who graduated from Yale University, where he was the school's baseball captain, before getting his law degree at Harvard University.

He gained name recognition during the primary with more than 100 appearances on Fox News, usually to defend the president, but didn't lay out a clear agenda on what he'd do if elected until after the primary.

DeSantis ran a largely negative campaign, calling Gillum a socialist and saying he oversaw one of the most corrupt and crime-ridden cities in the state. Trump joined in, tweeting similar messages. The corrup-

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tion allegation stemmed from a continuing FBI investigation into City Hall that Gillum has said he is not a target of and is cooperating with; the charge that Tallahassee had the state's highest crime rate was false.

DeSantis also criticized Gillum for signing a pledge for the civil rights group Dream Defenders. The pledge was a promise not to take money from private prisons or the National Rifle Association, but the group is also critical of the justice system, saying police and prisons are racist.

Gillum portrayed DeSantis as racially divisive, repeatedly pointing out his "monkey this up" comment and noting that a major DeSantis contributor called former President Barack Obama the N-word on Twitter and DeSantis refused to return his money. Gillum even spelled out the slur during a debate.

"I'm not calling Mr. DeSantis a racist. I'm simply saying the racists believe he's a racist," Gillum said.

DeSantis tried to connect with working-class families by pointing out in campaign ads that his first job paid \$6 an hour and that he later traded in his work boots for military boots, highlighting his service in Iraq. DeSantis also spent time at the Navy base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Although DeSantis heavily emphasized his support of Trump before the primary, he scrubbed his campaign website of most Trump references and toned down his association with the president through most of the general election. That changed in the final week, when Trump helped drive out Republican supporters.

DeSantis on Tuesday night pledged to keep Florida's taxes low and protect its environment by standing up for clean water, stopping red tide and restoring the Everglades.

"I believe you have to turn a page on a campaign," DeSantis said, shortly before red and white confetti exploded at his election party.

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Associated Press writer Jennifer Kay in Miami Beach contributed to this report.

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For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. midterm elections: <http://apne.ws/APPolitics>

## Developing young QBs in NFL a tricky balancing act

By DENNIS WASZAK Jr., AP Pro Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Start them right away? Ease 'em in? Have them sit a whole season?

When it comes to developing young quarterbacks in the NFL, it all depends on who you talk to.

Some teams think it's best to throw rookie QBs into the fire to learn on the job. Others prefer to gradually work them into the offense. Some say it's more beneficial to have them grab a cap and clipboard and take it all in from the sideline.

"I think every position is the same," Jets offensive coordinator Jeremy Bates said. "If someone can't handle it mentally, then you don't want to put them on the field, because naturally they'll play slower and be thinking instead of reacting."

Sam Darnold clearly passed that test for New York, and the No. 3 overall pick in April was under center to start the season.

"If a player shows the athletic ability, the talent and has the mental capacity to handle a gameplan and go into a game and be successful," Bates said, "then he's ready to play."

That doesn't mean things have necessarily gone smoothly for the former USC star.

Darnold's 14 interceptions lead the league and have contributed to the Jets' 3-6 start. So have his 55.0 percent completion rate and 68.3 quarterback rating, which also rank among the worst in the league.

Still, some point to these early struggles as crucial building blocks for the future.

"I'm going to continue to learn," Darnold said Sunday after a 13-6 loss at Miami in which he threw four INTs. "There's always lessons to be learned."

Of the 32 quarterbacks currently listed as starters for their teams, 12 were under center in Week 1 of their first season.

On the flipside, some veteran superstar QBs waited a while before they got their chances.

Aaron Rodgers was stuck behind Brett Favre in Green Bay before finally starting in his fourth season. Philip Rivers didn't start with the Chargers until his third year, when Drew Brees went to New Orleans.

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Even Brees didn't get his first NFL start until his second season.

Tom Brady, Eli Manning, Ben Roethlisberger and Alex Smith weren't Day 1 starters, either.

"In an ideal world, it gets to be like Drew, who had a chance to watch a little, or Tom Brady and Aaron," said former quarterback Rich Gannon, the 2002 NFL MVP and now an analyst for CBS Sports and SiriusXM NFL Radio.

Patrick Mahomes sat behind Smith in Kansas City until Week 17 as a rookie last year, and now is a leading MVP candidate as one of the NFL's top gunslingers with a league-leading 29 TD passes for the 8-1 Chiefs.

"We knew that Patrick was very talented, but any time that an NFL team goes with a young quarterback, usually it's a very challenging endeavor," Chiefs owner Clark Hunt said. "Sometimes it takes time, several years, but as we've seen, Andy (Reid) had Patrick ready to go Week 1."

Gannon thinks the Chiefs provide the perfect blueprint.

"Mahomes had a chance to watch a master of his domain for a year," he said. "Alex Smith knew that system inside and out, has great huddle command and leadership skills. Maybe he doesn't throw it like Mahomes does, but this is a guy who was willing to share and help him for that year, and we're seeing the fruits of it now.

"That's the best situation you can have."

Again, that depends on who you ask.

In the past three drafts, 11 quarterbacks were taken in the first round — including Darnold, Cleveland's Baker Mayfield, Buffalo's Josh Allen, Arizona's Josh Rosen and Baltimore's Lamar Jackson this year.

Jackson is the only one to not yet start at least one game. Baltimore has Joe Flacco leading the huddle, but Jackson has still been used in the offense and is the Ravens' second-leading rusher.

The Browns wanted to have Mayfield, the No. 1 overall pick this year, sit and learn behind Tyrod Taylor. But like most plans in Cleveland, it backfired.

Taylor got hurt in Week 3 and Mayfield was thrust into the lineup, helping the Browns rally to beat the Jets in a nationally televised game and end a 19-game winless streak. Mayfield has shown poise and promise, but lacks playmakers and is dealing with a coaching change after Hue Jackson was fired.

In Buffalo, the Bills weren't anticipating Allen starting in the second week. They were taking what coach Sean McDermott called a "calculated" approach. But after AJ McCarron was traded before the season opener and Nathan Peterman bombed in Week 1, McDermott was left with no choice but to turn to Allen.

The rookie has been dealing with a sprained right elbow, and is uncertain to play Sunday against the Jets.

"When you draft a quarterback like we did, there's a part of it where you have to say, 'Hey, he's going to play either A, B, or C — early, middle, or late or next year.'" McDermott said. "You have to be OK with all of that."

The initial plan in Arizona was to have Rosen learn behind Sam Bradford. All that changed when the veteran was ineffective and benched in favor of the No. 10 overall pick.

Rosen took his lumps with some turnover-filled performances. Then, Mike McCoy was fired as the Cardinals' offensive coordinator and Bradford was later cut — leaving the job to Rosen.

"His demeanor allows him to have success," new offensive coordinator Byron Leftwich said. "Quarterbacking in this league is hard and when things go bad, this kid tends to be fine."

But, some say too many adverse situations could end up having long-term deleterious effects on a young player.

"When you put them in before they're ready, they also get hurt: Josh Allen, Josh Rosen," Gannon said. "The speed of the game is way too fast for them. ... Or they have a bad experience, like what wound up happening with (the Jets') Mark Sanchez and Geno Smith, or going back to Ryan Leaf (with the Chargers). They play right away before they are physically or mentally ready or maturity-level ready. They get benched and booed and maybe run out of town, the coach gets fired, and then the next thing, they're on their third or fourth team. They think he will be a savior and he's not ready to play.

"How is that being responsible from a coach and ownership standpoint? It's doing a tremendous disservice."

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Tampa Bay's Jameis Winston and Tennessee's Marcus Mariota started right away after being the top two picks in 2015, but the jury's still out on both.

For those who preach patience, 25 of the 32 current QBs started a game at some point in their rookie season. And, several held on to the job from there.

Quarterbacks such as the Rams' Jared Goff (No. 1 in 2016) and the Bears' Mitchell Trubisky (No. 2 in 2017) started and struggled as rookies, but benefited from changes in coaching staffs and philosophies and took leaps in their second seasons.

So, who's right?

Well, all of the above.

"There's certainly valuable experience when you stand and watch," McDermott said. "But we all know there's no substitute for the experience when you're actually behind the wheel. There's a lot of value to that."

AP Pro Football Writer Barry Wilner and AP Sports Writers Bob Baum, David Ginsburg, Dave Skretta, John Wawrow and Tom Withers contributed.

More AP NFL: <https://apnews.com/NFL> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_NFL](https://twitter.com/AP_NFL)

## Amazon considers New York, Virginia amid reports of HQ split

By JOSEPH PISANI, DAVID KLEPPER and ALAN SUDERMAN, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — After a yearlong search for a second home, Amazon is now reportedly looking to build offices in two cities instead of one, a surprise move that could still have a major impact on the communities it ultimately selects.

New York's Long Island City as well as Crystal City in northern Virginia have emerged as the front runners, according to sources familiar with the talks with Amazon.

Selecting those areas would bring more jobs to places that already have plenty. Jed Kolko, the chief economist at job site Indeed, said that choosing New York and the D.C. area would "be a much less radical move than many imagined" and another example of "rich places getting richer."

The company had originally promised to bring 50,000 new high-paying jobs to one location, which founder and CEO Jeff Bezos said would be "a full equal" to its Seattle home base. Amazon may now split those jobs equally between two locations, The Wall Street Journal reported, with each getting 25,000.

That would beg the question of whether the new locations would be headquarters at all. Kolko said a headquarters is "where the decision makers are," but it's unclear where Amazon's executives — such as Bezos — would spend much of their time. If Amazon decides to split the 50,000 workers in two places, each of those offices would be smaller than Seattle's, which has more than 40,000 employees.

Virginia officials and some state lawmakers were recently briefed by the head of the state's economic development office that Amazon was considering splitting up its second headquarters, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Officials in Virginia believe there's a strong likelihood Amazon will pick Crystal City as one of its sites, but the company has not said anything definitive, according to the person, who was not authorized to speak on the record.

"They're a real secretive company," the person said.

One of the other areas the online retail giant is considering is Long Island City, according to a source familiar with the talks. Across the East River from midtown Manhattan, Long Island City is a longtime industrial and transportation hub that has become a fast-growing neighborhood of riverfront high-rises and redeveloped warehouses, with an enduring industrial foothold and burgeoning arts and tech scenes.

Amazon has been tight-lipped about the process and declined to comment on the latest news. There's been intense competition to win over the company, with some throwing around billions of dollars in tax incentives. Amazon kicked off its hunt for a second headquarters in September 2017, initially receiving

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238 proposals before narrowing the list to 20 in January.

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo met two weeks ago with Amazon officials in his New York City offices, according to the source, who was not authorized to discuss the negotiations and spoke on condition of anonymity. Cuomo offered to travel to Amazon's Seattle hometown to continue talks, the source said.

On Tuesday, Cuomo told reporters that Amazon is looking at Long Island City, but didn't say if it was a finalist. He said winning over Amazon would give an economic boost to the entire state, and joked that he was willing to change his name to "Amazon Cuomo" to lure the company.

An estimated 135,000 or more people live in Long Island City and neighboring Sunnyside and Woodside, and the median household makes about \$63,500 a year, a bit higher than the citywide median, according to New York University's Furman Center housing and urban policy think tank. About 40 percent of people over 25 in the Long Island City area have a bachelor's or higher degree, slightly above the citywide rate, the Furman Center's data shows.

The New York Times reported Monday that Amazon is finalizing deals to locate to Long Island City and the Crystal City section of Arlington, Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. The Wall Street Journal, which first reported on the possible plan to split the headquarters between two cities, said Dallas is also still a contender. Both newspapers cited unnamed people familiar with the decision-making process.

A spokesman for the Dallas Regional Chamber declined to comment.

Long Island City and Crystal City would meet Amazon's requirements for a new locale: Both are near metropolitan areas with more than a million people, have nearby international airports, direct access to mass transit and have room for the company to expand.

Other locations that were on Amazon's list of 20 either declined to comment or said they haven't heard from the online retailer.

Jay Ash, the economic development chief in Massachusetts, said Tuesday that he's had "no recent contact" with Amazon about a headquarters in Boston, but his office is still talking with the company about other opportunities. Earlier this year, Amazon unveiled plans for an office expansion in Boston's Seaport District, promising 2,000 new technology jobs by 2021 in fields including machine learning and robotics.

Amazon has said it could spend more than \$5 billion on the new headquarters over the next 17 years, about matching the size of its current home in Seattle, which has 33 buildings and 23 restaurants.

The company already employs more than 600,000 worldwide. That's expected to increase as it builds more warehouses across the country to keep up with online orders. Amazon recently announced that it would pay all its workers at least \$15 an hour, but the employees at its second headquarters will be paid a lot more — an average of more than \$100,000 a year.

Earlier this month, Bezos said during an on-stage interview in New York that the final decision will come down to intuition.

"You immerse yourself in that data, but then you make that decision with your heart," he said.

Klepper reported from Albany, New York, and Suderman reported from Richmond, Virginia. AP Technology Writer Matt O'Brien in Providence, Rhode Island, and Terry Wallace in Dallas and Jennifer Peltz in New York also contributed to this report.

## Closed bank, mothballed planes: Iran mocks US sanctions list

By **NASSER KARIMI** and **JON GAMBRELL**, Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — The "largest-ever" U.S. sanctions list targeting Iran drew mockery from Iranian officials on Tuesday for including mothballed Boeing 747s, a bank that closed years earlier and a sunken oil tanker that exploded off China months ago.

However, the new list of sanctions, which also aims to cut Iran's vital oil industry off from international sales, also included for the first time its state airline and its atomic energy commission, further highlighting the maximalist approach of President Donald Trump's administration.

Trump pulled America out of the 2015 nuclear deal Iran struck with world powers in May. United Nations

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monitors say Iran still abides by the deal, in which it agreed to limit its uranium enrichment in return for the lifting of international sanctions.

The U.S. Treasury Department imposed penalties on more than 700 Iranian and Iranian-linked individuals, entities, aircraft and vessels in the new sanctions. Among those are 50 Iranian banks and subsidiaries, and more than 200 people and ships.

However, scattered among the list are surprising entries, like the crude oil tanker Sanchi. That vessel collided with a bulk freighter and caught fire off China's east coast in January, killing all 32 sailors aboard.

Another entry was Iran's Tat Bank, which closed in 2012.

Foreign Minister Mohammed Javad Zarif took to Twitter to mock some of the targets of the sanctions, describing it as a "desperate" psychological ploy.

"The U.S. designated a bank that was closed 6 years ago, and a ship that sank . in a widely televised saga," he wrote, ending the tweet with "(hashtag)USisIsolated."

But for the first time, the United States targeted Iran Air. It also sanctioned the state carrier's mothballed fleet of Boeing 747s, which were manufactured in the 1970s.

It also appeared that the U.S., in another first, was directly sanctioning the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, the government agency that oversees Iran's nuclear program. Prior sanctions targeted specific subsidiaries of the organization.

Eshaq Jahangiri, President Hassan Rouhani's senior vice president, also criticized the sanctions.

"Americans think their list is more effective if it is longer," Jahangiri said, according to the state-run IRNA news agency. He said he had discussed the list with other officials, with many saying it was "less than what we expected."

Still, Jahangiri warned that "Americans intend to damage economy of the country" through psychological warfare.

Zarif later issued an online video criticizing America's "indiscriminate assault" on his country.

"The U.S. administration appears to believe that imposing illegal draconian sanctions on Iran will bring about such pain to our nation that it will force us to submit to its will, no matter how absurd, unlawful or fundamentally flawed its demands are."

Zarif urged America to re-examine its "catastrophes" in the Mideast, including its support for Saudi Arabia and Israel.

Iran is already in the grip of an economic crisis. Its national currency, the rial, now trades at 150,000 to one U.S. dollar; a year ago, it was about 40,500. The economic chaos sparked mass anti-government protests at the end of last year, resulting in nearly 5,000 reported arrests and at least 25 people being killed.

Sporadic smaller demonstrations still reportedly erupt from time to time.

The new sanctions particularly hurt Iran's vital oil industry, which provides a crucial source of hard currency. U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the sanctions already had cost Iran the sale of over 1 million barrels of crude oil a day.

Analysts feared in the run-up to the sanctions that global oil prices could spike on tight supply and increasing demand. However, the Trump administration allowed some of its allies — Greece, India, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Turkey — as well as rival China to continue to purchase Iranian oil as long as they work to reduce imports to zero. The price of benchmark Brent crude has dropped from over \$80 a barrel in recent days.

During a visit to Madrid on Tuesday, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said the U.S. decision to re-impose sanctions on Iran was "not legitimate" and that the rest of the parties to the 2015 nuclear deal abandoned by Washington are working to make economic cooperation with Tehran possible.

Lavrov's remarks were Russia's first reaction to Washington's new list of sanctions against Iran. The Russian diplomat said the sanctions go against international law and practices, and that the U.S. "policies of issuing an ultimatum and making unilateral moves are unacceptable these days."

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Associated Press writer Aritz Parra in Madrid contributed to this report.

## Eat your heart out at the Pizza Museum

By GARY GERARD HAMILTON, Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — There is now a museum for pizza lovers everywhere that's popped-up in arguably America's pizza capital, New York City.

The Museum of Pizza is dedicated to all things cheese and sauce, but there's more to it than meets the tongue.

"It's often that the simplest ideas are the best. And we wanted to use pizza's ubiquitous appeal to get people through the door and looking at art and hearing about history in a different format," said Alexandra Serio, Chief Content Officer at Nameless Network, the group that baked the Museum of Pizza idea.

"Our approach to this Museum of Pizza is a fine art approach, so we went out to multiple artists contemporary in many mediums, and asked them for their interpretation of pizza," said Serio. "And what we got back is\_it ranges the gambit, let's just say that. That's an understatement."

Located on the street level of Brooklyn's William Vale hotel, the museum is an expansive, one-floor space that houses a wide variety of art, from giant photographs to sculptures to large installations that engulf visitors. And the pop-up museum, also known as "MoPi," has already drawn a lot of interest\_more than 6,000 people came through the doors when they opened this month.

Another instantly recognizable attribute of the space is the bright colors that are weaved throughout the exhibits\_perfect for taking social media-ready pictures.

"Honestly, I thought it would be like more of a museum like at the beginning, with the pizza boxes and it kinda tells you when it was developed and stuff like that," said Nene Raye, visiting from New Jersey. "Then I was kinda hoping they had something artsy in it because I love taking pictures. So this is a mashup of everything\_so you get a little bit of education and then some fun, which I love."

Serio said selfie-friendly exhibits are becoming a priority for museums as they try to get younger legs to walk through their doors.

"It's a kind of paradigm shift with museums," she said. "You'll see, I think in the next few years because of museums like the Museum of Ice Cream, and multiple pop-ups of this ilk, museums kind of courting a younger audience and seeing how they can make their exhibitions more tactile, touch and photography friendly."

Lydia Melendez, a self-described "pizza aficionado," bought her tickets in April. For her, this experience was worth the wait.

"I thought it was going to be kinda boring, like I'm going to walk in and there's just going to be a book about pizza and how to make it. But this is definitely one for the books."

While pizza may be the hook that draws those interested to the museum, the focus of MoPi is to expose visitors to the fine art world\_even if the education is fed one slice at a time.

"The Museum of Pizza's target demographic isn't necessarily the same type of people that are making a quarterly trips to the MoMA or the Frick collection or the LACMA (Los Angeles County Museum of Art)", said Serio. "We're really putting fine art in a place that's easily accessible for a wide range of people."

The pop-up museum, which costs \$35 for adults but is free for kids under 5 and seniors, closes Nov. 18.

## Fox News doesn't condone Hannity appearance with Trump

By DAVID BAUDER, AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Fox News said Tuesday that it has addressed the "unfortunate distraction" of Sean Hannity and Jeanine Pirro speaking at President Trump's campaign rally in Missouri the night before, and that it doesn't condone such behavior.

The network did not say what, if any, discipline that the two network personalities would face.

Meanwhile, Hannity tweeted on Tuesday that he was being "100 percent truthful" earlier on Monday when he tweeted that "I will not be on stage campaigning with the president."

"When the POTUS invited me on stage to give a few remarks last night, I was surprised, yet honored



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by the president's request," Hannity tweeted. "This was NOT planned."

Hannity, who told the audience at Trump's rally that "all these people in the back are fake news," also tweeted Tuesday that he was not referring to any of his Fox News colleagues. Fox reporter Kristin Fisher, who tweeted a copy of Fox's statement on Tuesday, was covering the rally.

It's considered standard for employees of news organizations not to engage in political campaign activities so their outlets do not appear unfair; some journalists go so far as to not vote at all for this reason. Fox News resisted Monday when the Trump campaign had advertised to its followers that Hannity would appear as a "special guest" at the Missouri rally, saying Hannity was only there to cover the event.

Hannity, cable news' most popular personality and a vocal Trump defender, has twice been publicly rebuked by Fox for campaign activity. Hannity was made to cancel a 2010 appearance in Cincinnati when it was revealed he was participating in a fundraiser for the Tea Party. When he was featured in a 2016 Trump campaign video, Fox told him to never do it again.

Since then, Fox opinion personalities have doubled down on their support of Trump. Already No. 1 in the cable news ratings, Fox has had a strong fall with the campaign and hearings for Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh, with Hannity leading the way.

Critics have claimed that Fox News Channel is less of a news organization than an arm of the Trump campaign, and Monday's rally gave them fresh ammunition. In the past, Hannity has said that he's a talk show host, not a journalist. But in an interview with The New York Times a year ago, he said he was a journalist, more specifically an advocacy or opinion journalist.

Hannity broadcast his show from the site of the rally Monday, where he exhorted viewers to vote Republican and echoed a Trump campaign theme seen on banners: "Promises made, promises kept." He spoke briefly on camera with Trump at the end of the show.

When it was done, White House Communications director Bill Shine, a former Fox News Channel executive, high-fived Hannity, according to the White House pool report.

Trump called Hannity to the stage after praising Fox, saying, "they're very special, they've done an incredible job for us. They've been with us from the beginning." Hannity hugged Trump and, after lobbing his crowd-pleasing insult at the media, recited economic statistics. Pirro, a former New York state attorney general who has a weekend show on Fox, spoke after him.

Their speeches weren't televised on Fox News, but were seen on C-SPAN.

Hannity's appearance meant either Fox lied Monday about its collaboration with the Trump campaign, or that it has no control over Hannity, said Angelo Carusone, president of the liberal think tank Media Matters for America, which has unsuccessfully called for an advertiser boycott of Hannity's show in the past.

"Fox's admitted lack of control is only reinforced by the absence of sanction here," Carusone said. "Anyone doing business with Fox News should worry about the network's inability to enforce even the most bare minimum standards."

It's not clear, however, whether Hannity was sanctioned or not. Fox has not addressed the question publicly.

Some surprised journalists at other news organizations didn't hesitate to make their feelings known on social media. "The White House-Fox News nexus has rarely been as evident as tonight in Cape Girardeau," said Philip Rucker, White House bureau chief at The Washington Post, on Twitter.

White House reporter Maggie Haberman of The New York Times tweeted: "Still can't get over Hannity denying he would be on stage the whole day, getting brought up by Trump, and then pointing to actual news reporters and calling them fake."

Alisyn Camerota, a former Fox News anchor who now hosts a morning show on CNN, said executives at Fox "know vaguely" that they're not supposed to have one of their hosts endorse a candidate or party, but that Hannity can't help himself.

"They're having a schizophrenic moment over there trying to figure out what their role is going to be with the Trump presidency," Camerota said on CNN.

White House correspondent Jonathan Lemire contributed to this report.

## 6 arrested in suspected plot to attack French leader Macron

By THOMAS ADAMSON, Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — French security agents arrested six people Tuesday on suspicion of plotting to attack French President Emmanuel Macron, according to a French judicial official.

Prosecutors have opened a preliminary investigation of alleged criminal terrorist association, the judicial official said.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the allegations, said intelligence agents detained the six suspects in three scattered regions: one in the Alps, another in Brittany and four near the Belgian border in Moselle.

The plan to target the French president appeared to be vague and unfinished, but violent, the official said. Authorities said the six were between the ages of 22 and 62 and included one woman.

Interior Minister Christophe Castaner told reporters they are believed to be far-right activists. Authorities feared "concrete threats" from the group, Castaner said.

French presidents have been targeted several times over the decades. In 2002, a far-right sympathizer tried to attack President Jacques Chirac on the Champs-Élysées Avenue in Paris during Bastille Day celebrations.

Macron was in the northeastern French city of Verdun on Tuesday as part of centenary commemorations for the end of World War I.

The alleged plot was uncovered days before U.S. President Donald Trump and dozens of other world leaders are due in France for weekend observances marking the signing 100 years ago of the Nov. 11 armistice that ended World War I.

This story has been corrected to show prosecutors have opened a preliminary investigation of criminal terrorist association and suspects have not been given preliminary terror charges.

## Asian markets rise pending US midterm election results

By YURI KAGEYAMA, AP Business Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Asian shares were mostly higher Wednesday as investors awaited results from the U.S. midterm elections, which could have an impact on the global economy and trade.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 added 1.3 percent in morning trading to 22,428.20. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 edged 0.1 percent higher to 5,881.40. South Korea's Kospi gained 0.5 percent at 2,100.47. Hong Kong's Hang Seng jumped 0.6 percent to 26,284.13, while the Shanghai Composite fell 0.1 percent to 2,656.56.

WALL STREET AFTER HOURS: U.S. futures were higher, with the contract for the Dow up 0.3 percent at 25,721.00 and that for the S&P 500 adding 0.2 percent to 2,764.30.

ELECTION WATCH: The results of the midterm elections in the U.S. are expected during the Asian day. The outcome will determine control of the House of Representatives and Senate. In addition, 36 governorships are being contested along with other state and local positions. The vote could affect U.S. trade, economic and security policies.

WALL STREET: The S&P 500 index rose 17.14 points, or 0.6 percent, to 2,755.45. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 173.31 points, or 0.7 percent, to 25,635.01. The Nasdaq composite picked up 47.11 points, or 0.6 percent, to 7,375.96. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks added 8.59 points, or 0.6 percent, to 1,556.10.

THE QUOTE: "The real question is whether the outcome of the mid-terms will in any way diminish Trump's influence on the Congress, and whether his executive reach on global trade and other multilateral engagements will be reined in," Mizuho Bank said in a commentary. "Unless Democrats usurp with a sweeping victory, this appears unlikely," it said.

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**ENERGY:** Oil prices have slipped after the U.S. said it would allow a group of allies to continue buying oil from Iran as long as they continued to try to reduce their imports from that nation. The U.S. reinstated sanctions on Iran this month. Benchmark U.S. crude oil fell 31 cents to \$61.90 in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. It fell 1.4 percent to \$62.21 a barrel in New York Tuesday. Brent crude dipped 9 cents to \$72.04.

**CURRENCIES:** The dollar rose up to 113.38 yen from 113.18 yen late Tuesday in Asia. The euro climbed to \$1.1441 from \$1.1427.

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## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Wednesday, Nov. 7, the 311th day of 2018. There are 54 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 7, 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt won an unprecedented fourth term in office, defeating Republican Thomas E. Dewey.

On this date:

In 1862, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln replaced replace Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan as commander of the Army of the Potomac with Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside.

In 1874, the Republican Party was symbolized as an elephant in a cartoon drawn by Thomas Nast in Harper's Weekly.

In 1916, Republican Jeannette Rankin of Montana became the first woman elected to Congress, winning a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

In 1917, Russia's Bolshevik Revolution took place as forces led by Vladimir Ilyich Lenin overthrew the provisional government of Alexander Kerensky.

In 1940, Washington state's original Tacoma Narrows Bridge, nicknamed "Galloping Gertie," collapsed into Puget Sound during a windstorm just four months after opening to traffic.

In 1962, Richard M. Nixon, having lost California's gubernatorial race, held what he called his "last press conference," telling reporters, "You won't have Nixon to kick around anymore."

In 1967, Carl Stokes was elected the first black mayor of a major city -- Cleveland, Ohio.

In 1972, President Richard Nixon was re-elected in a landslide over Democrat George McGovern.

In 1973, Congress overrode President Richard Nixon's veto of the War Powers Act, which limits a chief executive's power to wage war without congressional approval.

In 1980, actor Steve McQueen died in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico, at age 50.

In 1991, basketball star Magic Johnson announced that he had tested positive for HIV, and was retiring. (Despite his HIV status, Johnson has been able to sustain himself with medication.)

In 2001, the Bush administration targeted Osama bin Laden's multi-million-dollar financial networks, closing businesses in four states, detaining U.S. suspects and urging allies to help choke off money supplies in 40 nations.

Ten years ago: In his first news conference since being elected president, Barack Obama called on Congress to extend unemployment benefits and pass a stimulus bill. The government reported the unemployment rate had soared to 6.5 percent in October 2008, up from 6.1 percent just a month earlier. General Motors Corp. reported a \$2.5 billion loss in the third quarter while Ford Motor Co. said it had lost \$129 million. A school in Haiti collapsed, killing some 90 people. Mieczyslaw Rakowski, Poland's last communist-era party chairman and prime minister, died in Warsaw at age 81.

Five years ago: Seeking to calm a growing furor, President Barack Obama told NBC News he was "sorry"

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Americans were losing health insurance plans that he repeatedly had said they could keep under his health care law, but he stopped short of apologizing for making those promises in the first place. The Food and Drug Administration announced it was requiring the food industry to phase out artery-clogging trans fats. Shares of Twitter went on sale to the public for the first time; by the closing bell, the social network was valued at \$31 billion. A Russian spacecraft carrying the Olympic torch and three astronauts docked with the International Space Station ahead of the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi.

One year ago: Democrats Ralph Northam in Virginia and Phil Murphy in New Jersey were the winners in their states' gubernatorial elections. Voters in Maine approved a measure allowing them to join 31 other states in expanding Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. President Donald Trump arrived in South Korea, saying efforts to curb the North's nuclear weapons program would be "front and center" of his two-day visit. Former star baseball pitcher Roy Halladay died when the small private plane he was flying crashed into the Gulf of Mexico; the 40-year-old was an eight-time All-Star for the Blue Jays and Phillies. Twitter said it was ending its 140-character limit on tweets, and allowing nearly everyone 280 characters to get their message across.

Today's Birthdays: Former U.S. Sen. Rudy Boschwitz, R-Minn., is 88. Actor Barry Newman is 80. Singer Johnny Rivers is 76. Former supermodel Jean Shrimpton is 76. Singer-songwriter Joni Mitchell is 75. Former CIA Director David Petraeus is 66. Jazz singer Rene Marie is 63. Actor Christopher Knight (TV: "The Brady Bunch") is 61. Rock musician Tommy Thayer (KISS) is 58. Actress Julie Pinson is 51. Rock musician Greg Tribbett (Mudvayne) is 50. Actress Michelle Clunie is 49. Actor Christopher Daniel Barnes is 46. Actors Jeremy and Jason London are 46. Actress Yunjin Kim is 45. Actor Adam DeVine is 35. Rock musician Zach Myers (Shinedown) is 35. Actor Lucas Neff is 33. Rapper Tinie (TY'-nee) Tempah is 30. Rock singer Lorde is 22.

Thought for Today: "Remember always that you not only have the right to be an individual, you have an obligation to be one." — Eleanor Roosevelt (born 1884, died on this date in 1962).