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

Dakota Brush

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

Get Ready for Spring With
Wash Brushes & Squeegees

397-9337

104 N. Main, Groton

Groton Area Schedule of Events

Monday, November 19, 2018

5:00pm- 7:00pm: Family Night at GHS Gymnasium
7:00pm: City Council Meeting at Groton Community Center

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

4:00pm: Basketball: Girls 7th/8th Game vs. Aberdeen Roncalli @ Groton Area High School (7th Grade 4pm 8th Grade 5pm)

November 21-23, 2018

No School - Thanksgiving Break

Monday, November 26, 2018

6:00pm: Wrestling: Boys JH Tournament v s .
Faulkton Area @ Faulkton High School

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

3:30pm: Debate at Groton Area High School (Sippel Novice)

6:00pm: Basketball: Girls 7th/8th Game vs. Clark/Willow Lake @ Clark Junior-Senior High School (7th grade 6pm 8th grade 7pm)

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Pertussis Cases Rise In South Dakota

PIERRE, S.D. – Recent reports of community increases in pertussis have the Department of Health reminding parents to make sure their kids are appropriately immunized.

Since the beginning of the year, 90 cases of pertussis have been reported to the Health Department. This is the highest number reported since 2014 when the state saw 109 pertussis cases. Counties seeing the most cases include Edmunds (19), Brown (15), Minnehaha (13), and Hughes (12).

“Pertussis is a very serious illness so it is important to take precautions like ensuring you and your children are current with all recommended vaccines,” said Dr. Joshua Clayton, state epidemiologist for the department.

Pertussis is a highly contagious disease that is spread from person to person through the air by the cough of an infected person. Early symptoms resemble a common cold, including sneezing, runny nose, low-grade fever and a mild cough. Within two weeks, the cough becomes more severe and is characterized by episodes of numerous rapid coughs followed by a high-pitched whoop. Thick, clear mucus may be discharged following the cough. Coughing episodes may recur for one to two months, and are more frequent at night.

While it can affect people of any age, it is most severe in babies under 6 months old, especially in pre-term and unvaccinated infants. The elderly are also at risk. The single most effective control measure is maintaining the highest possible level of immunization in the community. The vaccine is given in a series of doses at 2, 4, 6 and 15 months of age and at 4–6 years of age. Because immunity wanes over time, a booster dose is recommended for adolescents, 11-12 years of age, and for adults.

Treatment with antibiotics can shorten the contagious period. People who have been in contact with an infected person should see their clinician for evaluation and to receive antibiotics if they have symptoms of pertussis or are at high risk of developing pertussis. People at high risk of developing pertussis following exposure to a pertussis case include household contacts, infants, pregnant women in their third trimester, and persons with pre-existing health conditions.

People not having symptoms and not at high risk of developing pertussis should monitor themselves for respiratory symptoms for 21 days. To prevent the spread of disease, people with pertussis or their symptomatic contacts may be isolated at home. More information about pertussis and its control can be found on the department’s website at <http://doh.sd.gov/diseases/infectious/diseasefacts/Pertussis.aspx>.



**Thursday,
Nov. 29
5:30 p.m.
to 6:30 p.m.**

Groton Care & Rehab
1106 N 2nd St, Groton

Free Will Donation

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Wolves hand Hardrockers their second loss of the season

Sioux Falls, S.D. – The Northern State University men's basketball team completed the weekend sweep on Saturday afternoon, defeating South Dakota Mines 75-67 from the East-West Challenge. The Wolves improve to 3-1 on the year heading into their final non-conference weekend of the season.

Northern led for a majority of the contest, with just one lead change early in the first half. The Wolves shot a game high 51.9 percent from the floor and 50.0 percent from the 3-point line. They sunk ten from beyond the arc, and out-rebounded the Hardrockers 30-27. NSU combined for 17 assists, seven blocks, and two steals in the win.

The Wolves tallied 30 points in the paint, 25 points off the bench, 12 points off turnovers, ten second chance points, and two fast break scores. They played excellent 3-point defense, holding Mines to just 3-of-10 from beyond the arc.

Gabe King led the team with a season high 17 points, knocking down 6-of-9 from the field, 3-of-6 from the 3-point line, and 2-of-2 from the foul line. The junior also added two rebounds, one assist, and one block. Ian Smith followed with ten points of his own, while leading the team for the third straight game with eight assists.

Parker Fox also tallied ten points, and led the team off the bench. The redshirt freshman notched a game best three blocks, and went 5-of-9 from the floor with four rebounds. Bo Fries and Andrew Kallman each tallied eight points in the win, as Fries led the team at the rim with eight rebounds.

Justin Decker rounded out the NSU starting five with seven points and a team second best six rebounds. He was followed by Jordan Belka and Roko Dominovic with six and four points respectively. Mason Stark and Cole Dahl combined for the final five team points for the Wolves.

The Northern State Wolves return to action next Friday and Saturday as they host the inaugural Dacotah Bank Thanksgiving Classic. The Wolves will face off against Truman State at 7 p.m. on Friday and Chadron State at 6 p.m. on Saturday. Sioux Falls will face Truman and Chadron, prior to the Northern games each day at 5 and 4 p.m. from Wachs Arena.

State Volleyball Final Results

Rapid City Stevens, Sioux Falls Christian, and Warner won state volleyball championships on Saturday. Here are the full results from all of the placement matches.

Class AA

Championship: Rapid City Stevens defeated Sioux Falls Washington 3-0 (25-22, 25-18, 25-22)

3rd Place: Watertown defeated Sioux Falls O'Gorman 3-1 (25-23, 27-25, 20-25, 25-20)

5th Place: Mitchell defeated Brookings 3-2 (25-20, 17-25, 20-25, 25-19, 15-13)

7th Place: Sioux Falls Roosevelt defeated Huron 3-0 (25-18, 25-23, 25-19)

Class A

Championship: Sioux Falls Christian defeated Miller 3-0 (25-17, 25-14, 25-12)

3rd Place: McCook Central/Montrose defeated Elk Point-Jefferson 3-1 (17-25, 25-14, 25-19, 25-19)

5th Place: Parker defeated Winner 3-2 (25-22, 24-26, 25-19, 25-27, 15-10)

7th Place: Aberdeen Roncalli defeated Rapid City Christian 3-0 (25-17, 25-23, 31-29)

Class B

Championship: Warner defeated Northwestern 3-1 (15-25, 25-21, 25-18, 25-12)

3rd Place: Faith defeated Chester Area 3-1 (25-22, 24-26, 25-19, 25-18)

5th Place: Burke defeated Faulkton Area 3-0 (25-15, 25-22, 25-20)

7th Place: Ethan defeated Kimball/White Lake 3-0 (26-24, 25-18, 25-23)

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Three Wolves take home top honors from Finn Grinaker Open

Moorhead, Minn. – The Northern State University wrestling team put together a day filled with podium finishes from the Finn Grinaker Open hosted by Concordia Moorhead. Three Wolves took home top honors, while another three finished in the top-3 in the Gold Division. All four wrestlers competing in the Maroon Division tallied top-4 places as well.

Bryan Burnett and Caden Moore powered through the 149-pound weight class. Burnett took third overall, with wins over Caleb Haskell of Chadron State (8-2) and Tanner Crissler of Minot State (8-2) after falling in a toughly contested sudden victory match to Samuel Gilseth of NDSU. Moore went a perfect 3-0 on the day, taking the 149-pound crown. The freshman notched major decision wins over Caleb Haskell (11-3) and Tanner Crissler (14-4) in his first two matches of the day. He then defeated Gilseth in the championship round with a score of 10-6.

Walker Carr and Billy Holtan took second and third at 157-pounds, wrestling a combined ten matches. Holtan went 3-2 on the day with wins over Alexander Skaare of Concordia Moorhead (fall 1:56), Jacob Otuafi of Chadron State (2-0), and Max Miller of Minot State (fall 3:08). Carr cruised into the championship match with wins over Skaare (16-0), Otuafi (7-4), teammate Holtan (4-3), and Miller (fall 1:04). The redshirt sophomore ultimately fell to Colin Ayers of Augustana in an 8-3 decision.

Kaden Campbell recorded the second title for the Wolves at 184-pounds. The senior opened his day with a 16-0 technical fall win over Matthew Rabe of Minot State. He then rolled into the championship match with a victory by fall over Riley Vanik of St. Cloud State (2:39) and 12-8 win by decision over Tyree Overton of St. Cloud State. Campbell pinned Todd Pottinger of NDSU at 1:56 in the match.

Diego Gallegos finished in fifth at 197-pounds, going 3-2 on the day. He recorded decision victories over Bryce Kallenbach of Concordia Moorhead (4-1) and Jacob Arends of Concordia Moorhead (8-2) in the fifth place match. He also added a win by fall over Andrew Helfrich of Minot State in the quarterfinal round of the tournament.

Harrison Townsend earned the Wolves third title of the afternoon at 285-pounds. He opened the day with a 3-0 decision win over Matt Naig of Augustana, and went on to defeat Manny Garcia in a 7-3 decision in the following round. Townsend faced off against Brady Reigstad of St. Cloud State in the championship match, coming away with the 2-1 decision win.

Nathan Rodriguez, Tanner Wiese, Jake Flakus, and Caleb Lefferdink competed in the Maroon Division for the Wolves taking second, third, third, and fourth respectively.

Rodriguez went 3-1 in the day with a decision win over Joe Taylor of Chadron State (14-9) in the opening match. He then defeated Jeffrey Phillips of Chadron State by fall at 1:02, and Lincoln Stormer of Minot State by medical forfeit.

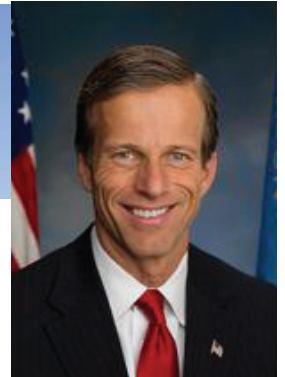
After falling in his first match of the day, Wiese went 3-1 to end the day. He recorded back-to-back-to-back wins by fall over Thomas Scheett of NCTC (4:33), Kodiak French of Chadron State (3:35), and Stosh Sitkowski of Minot State (1:32).

Flakus also dropped his first match of the day, but bounced back for three straight wins. He defeated Tucker Allison of Chadron State by fall (1:22), Jakob Dormaar of Saskatchewan in an 18-3 technical fall, and Richard Dralu of NCTC by fall at 2:35.

Lefferdink rounded out competition for NSU with a 2-2 record from the open. The freshman defeated Liam Graham of Saskatchewan by fall at 2:24 and Noah Carter of Concordia Moorhead by tie breaker (4-3).

The Wolves return to action following the Thanksgiving Holiday. They will open the NSIC slate versus MSU Moorhead at 7 p.m. on Friday, November 30, and then compete from the Dragon Open on Saturday, December 1.

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



Forever Thankful

There's a lot of truth to the old saying that the days are long, but the years are short. It seems like just yesterday we were celebrating the last holiday season and time spent with family and friends. For me, as we approach this Thanksgiving – and, yes, Christmas is right the corner – it's a good reminder that the list of things I'm thankful for gets longer each and every year, which is a blessing to be sure.

I've said it before, but I've always considered myself to be a lottery winner in that I was born in the greatest country on earth and that I've been able to raise my family in the land of the free and home of the brave. Family is everything to me, and the one Kimberley and I have built over the years has continued to grow. "Dad" will always be a title I'm proud of, but the joy of being a grandparent is hard to fully explain unless you are one yourself. If you are, you know exactly what I mean.

Speaking of grandparents, my dad Harold, who is now a great grandfather (several times over), will turn 99 years old this year. I'm grateful for the opportunity to be able to spend time with him and create new memories. My dad has seen a lot over the years, including during his days as a fighter pilot in World War II. A veteran himself, he still shows his support for fellow freedom fighters whenever he can, which is something I've always admired about him.

It would be hard to be thankful for anything we enjoy in this country if it wasn't for the selfless sacrifice that our military men and women make on a daily basis, particularly around the holiday season. It's impossible for those of us who've never served to fully understand what this kind of sacrifice truly means, because as most of us are sitting around the dinner table during the holidays, many members of the military are defending freedom on the opposite side of the globe.

Because of their sacrifice, I'm thankful to live in a place where, among many other things, I can freely express my faith in God, the guiding light that keeps me focused in life. I lean on the Lord's wisdom and guidance in my personal and professional life, and His strength helps me every single day.

Faith, freedom, and family: The constants in my life for which I'm eternally grateful.

I'd be remiss if I didn't also thank the people of South Dakota for having put their faith in me to serve them in the U.S. Senate. South Dakotans are my top advisors – the people who I count on to provide me with honest and straightforward advice that helps me be the best senator I can be for them and the state.

I'm also grateful to my colleagues in the Senate. They, too, offered me their faith by electing me to serve as majority whip for the next Congress, which begins in January. This new role will put me in a stronger position to give South Dakota's issues the national attention they deserve, because when I have a seat at the leadership table, South Dakota has a seat at the leadership table.

As I mentioned, there's a lot we can be thankful for this year and in the years to come. There's no time like the present to reflect on it, so from my family to yours, I hope the blessings of the holiday season are upon you and your family now and in the weeks and months ahead.

3 Reasons To Avoid – Or Delay – Knee-Replacement Surgery

Hitting your 50s or 60s can bring several life changes, and increasingly those include artificial joints. For much of the aging U.S. population, knees in particular are wearing out.

More than 600,000 knee replacements are performed annually in the U.S., according to The Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery. That number is expected to swell to 3 million by the year 2030, the publication's study reported, partly because people are working longer and obesity is on the rise.

But while knee replacements are becoming a popular elective surgery, some studies estimate 20 percent or more of recipients aren't pleased with the result. Medical experts question whether replacement surgery is being done too soon – or whether some people need a new knee at all.

"Surgery should only be done as a last resort," says Dr. Victor Romano (www.romanomd.com), an orthopedist and author of *Finding The Source: Maximizing Your Results – With and Without Orthopaedic Surgery*. "A knee replacement can be life-changing, but they can also be painful, wear down prematurely and become infected.

"If you have debilitating pain and difficulty walking because of degenerative arthritis, surgery may be your best option no matter your age. Otherwise, there are sound reasons to avoid a knee replacement, or at least to postpone it until a more appropriate time."

Romano says there are three main reasons to avoid or put off knee replacement surgery:

Plastic debris. A total knee replacement consists of metal moving on plastic. The plastic wears down over time, and that can be a pain – physically and financially – to patients who may have to get the prosthesis replaced once, twice or more. "The plastic debris accumulates in the knee joint," Romano says. "The more active you are, the heavier you are, the more debris. The white cells, which attack foreign invaders, start attacking the surrounding bone. When it's time to replace the plastic joint, we also have to replace the bone – and that's a significant and unpleasant surgery."

A prosthesis doesn't last 30 years. This is a key reason why Romano thinks younger replacement candidates should wait as long as possible. "A total joint replacement in a 70-year-old patient will typically last 15 years," Romano says. "With the average life expectancy being 85, chances are this would be the only knee replacement that patient would need. But for a 40-year-old who's more active, it may only last 10 years. And remember, recovery is challenging. So it's better to wait for technology to catch up. As it does, the better the knee replacements will be."

Other remedies may work. Many people experiencing chronic knee pain are overweight or obese. "A healthy diet and exercise program can bring the weight down and take pressure off the knees," Romano says. "Also, a hinged knee brace, supplements that aid in repairing worn cartilage, and injections such as cortisone or hyaluronic acid could reduce pain and restore quality of life."

"There are ways to at least buy time," Romano says. "And there are patients who were told they needed a knee replacement, but with conservative therapy options, happily discovered otherwise and returned to their favorite activities without pain."

About Dr. Victor Romano

Dr. Victor Romano (www.romanomd.com) is an orthopedic surgeon in Oak Park, Ill., and the author of *Finding The Source: Maximizing Your Results – With and Without Orthopaedic Surgery*. He is board-certified in orthopedics and sports medicine with over 25 years of experience in the field. He graduated cum laude from the University of Notre Dame and completed medical school at the University of Loyola-Chicago.

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Thankful for the Opportunity to Work for South Dakota in the Senate

This Thanksgiving, I would like to share with all South Dakotans my gratitude for the opportunity to work for you in the United States Senate. It is a privilege that I will never take for granted. I continue to work every day to make decisions that will improve the lives of everyone in South Dakota. Jean and I send our warmest wishes to you this holiday season.

Thanksgiving is a good time to look back on the year and thank the Lord for the blessings that we have received. This year, we welcomed our 10th grandchild, Maverick Michael Rounds, born to my son John and his wife Ashlee. Our kids and grandkids are our greatest gifts and we're so thankful for the time we get to spend with them.

I truly believe the pilgrims intended the first Thanksgiving to be a celebration of the harvest, and most importantly to thank the good Lord for the blessings he gave them in the new world. It is compelling they shared this first Thanksgiving with the Native Americans who had welcomed them.

None of us would be able to enjoy the freedom to celebrate this holiday if not for the service of our military members. We are incredibly thankful to them for the sacrifices they make to protect our way of life in the United States. We are also thankful to their families and friends who support them. Parents, spouses and children of military men and women make great sacrifices too. We pray for those who may not be able to spend the holiday season with their loved ones. We also pray for our first responders who put their lives in danger to protect their neighbors and communities.

We are thankful for our farmers and ranchers who work tirelessly to put food on the tables of families all across the country. South Dakota's farmers and ranchers are some of the hardest working people I know. With trade instability and farm income down, I continue calling for the administration to quickly finalize trade deals that benefit our producers. I also continue calling for a strong farm bill that will provide more stability for the ag industry.

This year for Thanksgiving, we look forward to hosting around 40 of our family members. We'll have two or three turkeys, depending on how many show up, but one is never enough to feed our whole crew. Of course we'll have all the trimmings like potatoes, gravy, dressing and my two favorites—homemade cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie with lots of whipped cream! We also try to fit in some time for pheasant hunting on Thanksgiving Day—one of the many traditions we look forward to each year.

One national tradition that South Dakota has a special role in this year is the president's pardoning of a Thanksgiving turkey. Each year, two live turkeys are sent to Washington, D.C., where they will be pardoned by the president. This year's turkeys come from the Riverside Colony near Huron. After they are pardoned they will be transported to Virginia Tech to live out the rest of their days at Gobbler's Rest.

I hope you enjoy spending time with your loved ones, partaking in your own Thanksgiving traditions this year, whatever they may be. The people of South Dakota are what make our state the best place in the world, and I am grateful for the opportunity to work for you in the Senate. Happy Thanksgiving!

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What's going on in state government this week

Gov. Dennis Daugaard's Public Commitments; Public Meetings:

Tuesday, November 20, 9:45 a.m. CDT, Sioux Falls – Gov. Dennis Daugaard will attend and speak at the Discovery District Groundbreaking ceremony in Sioux Falls.

Monday, November 19, 9 a.m. CDT, Sioux Falls – The South Dakota Board of Education Standards will meet at the Instructional Planning Center, 201 E. 38th St. A proposed agenda that includes a call-in number and access code is posted at <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=32>. The meeting will also be livestreamed at <http://sd.net>.

Monday, November 19, 10:30 a.m. CDT – The South Dakota Board of Regents Building Committee for the Raven Precision Ag Building on the campus of South Dakota State University will meet via teleconference for the purpose of approving the Facility Design Plan for the project. Contact Tracy Mercer at 605-773-3455 prior to the meeting for information about telephonic access to this meeting; public access to the teleconference is also available at the Board of Regents' office in Pierre, located at 306 E. Capitol Avenue, Suite 200. The committee's supporting documents may be found online at <https://www.sdbor.edu/the-board/committees/building-sdsu/Pages/default.aspx>

Tuesday, November 20, 9 a.m. CDT, Sioux Falls – The Soybean Research and Promotion Council will hold a meeting at 5000 S. Broadband Lane, Suite 224, in Sioux Falls. A full agenda can be found at [https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/bcuploads/2018.11.20.%20Council%20Board%20Agenda%20\(1\).pdf](https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/bcuploads/2018.11.20.%20Council%20Board%20Agenda%20(1).pdf).

Tuesday, November 20, 2 p.m. CDT – The REDI (Revolving Economic Development and Initiative) Grant Committee meeting will be on Tuesday, November 20 at 2 p.m. CDT at 711 E. Wells Ave. Please contact Cassie Stoesser, GOED Finance Director, at 605-773-GOED (4633) for more information. <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=31>.

Wednesday, November 21, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. MDT, Spearfish – The Department of Social Services' Board of Social Work Examiners will hold a teleconference board meeting at 625 Main St. and at Family Service Inc., 2210 W. Brown Place in Sioux Falls. For more information and to view the agenda please visit <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=91>.

You Might Also Be Interested To Know:

Monday, November 19 to Thursday, November 21 – The South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs Field Service Officers will be at the following County and Tribal Veterans Service Offices to assist with veteran related claims, issues, and questions.

Monday, November 19:

- 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CDT, Clark – 200 N. Commercial St. 605-280-4306
- 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. MDT, Custer – 420 N. Rushmore Rd. 605-280-4307
- 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. MDT, Dupree – 501 S. Main St. 605-280-4308

Tuesday, November 20:

- 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. MDT, Deadwood – 80 Sherman St. 605-280-4307
- 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Kennebec – 300 Main St. 605-280-4308
- 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT, Milbank – 210 E. 5th Ave. 605-360-7819
- 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CDT, Plankinton – 401 N. Main St. 605-280-4306

Wednesday, November 21:

- 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Alexandria – 720 5th Ave. 605-360-7819
- 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. MDT, Rapid City – 321 Kansas City St. #100 605-280-4307
- 10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CDT, Roscoe – 219 S. Mitchell St. 605-280-4308
- 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. CDT, Salem – 130 W. Essex Ave. 605-360-7819

Tuesday, November 20, to Wednesday, November 21 – The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation will host Job Search Assistance Programs (JSAP). JSAP is a workshop for people recovering from job loss or enhancing their job search skills. Trained instructors speak on modern-day techniques used to successfully find employment. Topics covered include resume and cover letter writing, interviewing etiquette, networking effectively, using social media and much more. JSAP will be offered at the following

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locations:

Tuesday, November 20, 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Aberdeen – At 420 S. Roosevelt St. Parties interested in attending should register by calling 605-626-2340 prior to 5 p.m. on Monday, November 19. For more information, visit www.sdjobs.org.

Tuesday, November 20, 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. CDT, Sioux Falls – At 811 E. 10th St. Registration required. For more information or to register, call 605-367-5300.

Wednesday, November 21, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Lake Andes – At 51 S. 3rd Ave. For more information, call 605-487-7607, ext. 207 or 212 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Wednesday, November 21, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. CDT, Sisseton – At 10 E. Hickory St., Suite 3. For more information, call 605-698-3964 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Tuesday, November 20, to Wednesday, November 21 – The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation will hold itinerant office hours. Both job seekers and employers interested in receiving employment and career services at no cost may visit or call during these office hours. More information on programs and services is available at www.sdjobs.org. Itinerant office hours will be held at the following locations:

Tuesday, November 20, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. CDT, Wagner – At the Bureau of Indian Affairs, 29775 Main Ave. For more information, call 605-487-7607, ext. 207 or 212 or visit www.sdjobs.org.

Wednesday, November 21, 12 – 3 p.m. CDT, Mobridge – At the Mobridge Economic Development office 205 2nd St. E., Suite 1, or call 605-380-8930 during these hours and 605-626-2340 at any other time. Additional information at www.sdjobs.org.

Tuesday, November 20, to Wednesday, November 21 – Bring Your 'A' Game to Work encompasses seven different skills including Appreciation, Attitude, Attendance, Appearance, Ambition, Accountability and Acceptance. These soft skills and a willingness to take direction are generally more desired by employers than the specific skills a particular job requires. Bring Your 'A' Game is being offered at no cost to businesses and individuals. For more information or to register online, visit https://dlr.sd.gov/workforce_services/individuals/training_opportunities/soft_skills_training.aspx.

The workshop will be offered at the following location(s):

Tuesday, November 20, 1 – 4 p.m. CDT, and Wednesday, November 21, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. CDT, Huron – at Cornerstones Career Learning Center, 33 Third St. SE, Suite 202. Please register in advance. For more information or to register, call 605-353-7175. You may also register online at the link above.

Tuesday, November 20 – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be available at the following itinerant office locations. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

Canton, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT

Kyle, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT

Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT

Timber Lake, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. MDT

Webster, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT

Desmet, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT

Miller, 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT

Wagner, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT

Wednesday, November 21 – Benefits specialists from the Department of Social Services' Division of Economic Assistance will be available at the following itinerant office locations. For more information, contact Tia Kafka, 605-773-3165.

Wanblee, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. MDT

Salem, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CDT

Dupree, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MDT

Flandreau, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. CDT

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Today in Weather History

November 18, 1985: Snowfall of 3-8 inches fell over western, central and northern South Dakota, with the most significant amount of 8 inches at Huron in Beadle County and White River in Mellette County. Strong winds exceeding 40 mph over the area produced near-blizzard conditions at times, with considerable blowing and drifting snow. Additional storm total snowfall amounts included; 6.0 inches in Murdo; 5.5 inches at Gettysburg, 5.0 inches near Stephan, in Eureka, and 12SSW of Harrold; and 4.0 inches in McLaughlin.

November 18, 1992: Three to eleven inches of snow fell in the northeast third of South Dakota and into west central Minnesota from the 18th into the 19th. Storm total snowfall amounts included; 11.0 inches in Browns Valley and near Bryant, 9 inches near Sisseton, Summit and Wheaton MN, 8 inches near Victor and Wilmot, 7.9 inches at Artichoke Lake MN, and 7.0 inches in Clear Lake.

1421: The notorious St. Elizabeth's flood occurred during the night of November 18, to November 19 in what is now known as the Netherlands. A strong storm on the North Sea coast caused several dikes to break allowing the lower lands to flood. Some villages around Dordrecht were lost, causing an estimated 6,000 casualties.

1929: A magnitude 7.2 earthquake off the coast of the Grand Banks, Newfoundland caused a submarine landslide that triggered a tsunami that killed people on the Burin Peninsula of Newfoundland. The undersea landslide damaged several miles of transatlantic telegraph cables, resulting in much of the \$400,000 in damage. South Carolina and Portugal felt this tsunami.

1873 - A severe storm raged from Georgia to Nova Scotia causing great losses to fishing fleets along the coast. In Maine, the barometric pressure reached 28.49 inches at Portland. (David Ludlum)

1955 - An early season cold snap finally came to an end. Helena, MT, experienced 138 consecutive hours of subzero temperatures, including a reading of 29 below zero, which surpassed by seven degrees their previous record for the month of November. Missoula MT broke their November record by 12 degrees with a reading of 23 below zero, and Salt Lake City UT smashed their previous November record of zero with a reading of 14 below. Heavy snow in the Great Basin closed Donner Pass CA, and total crop damage from the cold wave amounted to eleven million dollars. (David Ludlum)

1957 - A tornado, 100 yards in width, travelled a nearly straight as an arrow 27-mile path from near Rosa AL to near Albertville AL, killing three persons. A home in the Susan Moore community in Blount County was picked up and dropped 500 feet away killing one person. (The Weather Channel)

1986 - The first of two successive snowstorms struck the northeastern U.S. The storm produced up to 20 inches of snow in southern New Hampshire. Two days later a second storm produced up to 30 inches of snow in northern Maine. (Storm Data)

1987 - It was a windy day across parts of the nation. Gale force winds whipped the Great Lakes Region. Winds gusting to 80 mph in western New York State damaged buildings and flipped over flatbed trailers at Churchville. In Montana, high winds in the Upper Yellowstone Valley gusted to 64 mph at Livingston. Strong Santa Ana winds buffeted the mountains and valleys of southern California. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Thunderstorms developing along a warm front drenched Little Rock AR with 7.01 inches of rain, smashing their previous record for the date of 1.91 inches. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - A second surge of arctic air brought record cold to parts of the north central U.S. Eleven cities in the Upper Midwest reported record low temperatures for the date, including Rochester MN with a reading of 4 degrees below zero. Strong winds ushering the arctic air into the north central U.S. produced squalls in the Lower Great Lakes Region. Snowfall totals in northern Ohio ranged up to twenty inches in Ashatabula County and Geauga County. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

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Today



Partly Sunny

High: 29 °F

Tonight



Cloudy

Low: 15 °F

Monday



Partly Sunny

High: 17 °F

Monday
Night



Mostly Cloudy

Low: 10 °F

Tuesday



Partly Sunny

High: 41 °F

5 Day Forecast Nov 18-22

Partly cloudy tonight, lows in the single digits and teens – perhaps below zero for some.
Blowing snow is possible across the eastern slopes of the Sisseton Hills.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thanksgiving
Clouds/possible light snow late	Above average temperatures	Clouds early, warming temps	Mild, mostly sunny	Most likely mild and dry
HI: 28 to 44° LO: 16 to 28°	HI: 20 to 38° LO: 8 to 26°	HI: 36 to 54° LO: 20 to 28°	HI: 32 to 52° LO: 22 to 30°	HI: 42 to 58° LO: 28 to 34°

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

Updated: 11/17/2018 3:34 PM Central

Published on: 11/17/2018 at 3:39PM

The forecast for the next 5 days features a slow warming trend into the middle of next week. We will eat away at the snow cover that exists across a good portion of the area. By Thanksgiving, many areas will be in the 40s and 50s for highs! Backing up to tonight's weather, it will be cold with lows in the single digits and teens. Portions of northeast South Dakota will drop into the single digits below zero this evening before temps steady out and slowly rise late tonight as warmer temperatures in the lower levels of the atmosphere move in. West to southwest winds from 25 to 40 mph will occur across the eastern slopes of the Sisseton hills late tonight, which could bring areas of near-surface blowing and drifting snow along area roadways.

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Yesterday's Weather

High Outside Temp: 17 °F at 12:07 AM

Low Outside Temp: -2.2 °F at 8:30 PM

High Gust: 24 mph at 2:55 AM

Precip: 0.00

Today's Info

Record High: 71° in 1908

Record Low: -13 in 1896

Average High: 38°F

Average Low: 18°F

Average Precip in Nov.: 0.46

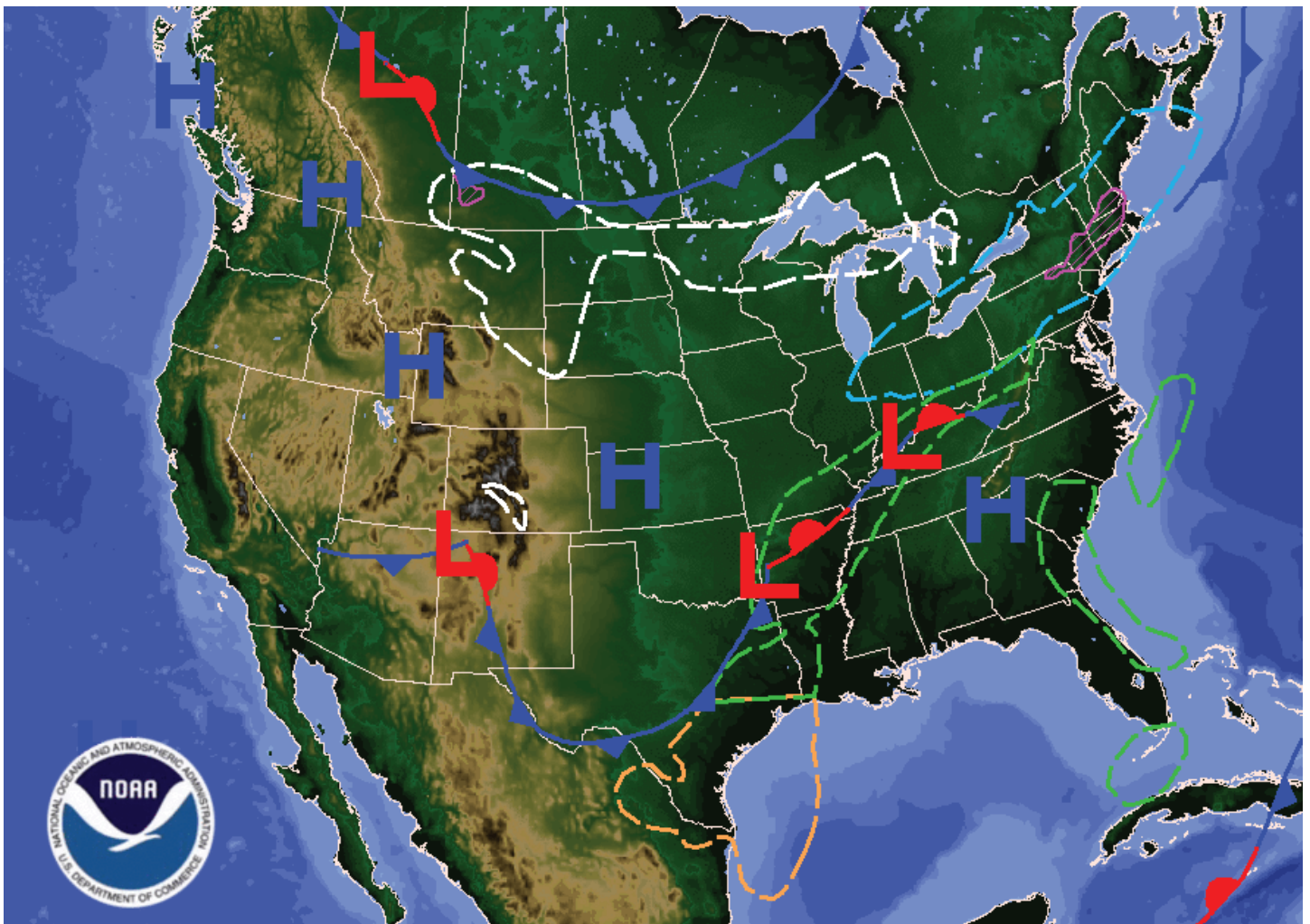
Precip to date in Nov.: 0.76

Average Precip to date: 20.93

Precip Year to Date: 15.81

Sunset Tonight: 5:01 p.m.

Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:38 a.m.



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Nov 18, 2018, issued 4:22 AM EST
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by Snell 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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THE DANGER OF ANGER

Sin is not a behavior to belittle. When it no longer frightens us, we have lost contact with God. A small sin can lead to a large tragedy. All sin has consequences.

One day, while the children of Israel were on the path to the Promised Land, they came to a place that had no water. Rather than trusting their God who had always provided for their every need, they became frightened. And when fear takes over in anyone's life, faultfinding follows.

Our Psalmist gives us a vivid report of the consequences of their behavior: it angered Moses. So, the Lord told him to take his rod, gather the people together, speak to the rock in their presence, and it would give them all the water they needed.

But Moses did not speak to the rock. He struck it twice with his rod. Then, in anger, he spoke harshly to the people. Instead of doing what God asked him to do, he did what he wanted to do and then reacted in anger.

Notice that the word anger is only one letter short of danger - it lacks a d. The result of his disobedience is seen in his anger. And there is always a great danger when we are disobedient to God. His disobedience led to anger - which led to sin. As a result, he lost the great honor and privilege of leading his people into the Promised Land.

How sad. How tragic. Moses did many great and glorious things. He had worked hard and done well. He was so close to reaching the goal God had given him. But he disobeyed God, lost control of his emotions, and had to pay the consequences. A moment of anger can destroy anyone.

Prayer: Lord, only You can give us victory over things that will so easily destroy us. May we follow Your advice. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture for Today: Psalm 106:32 At Meribah, too, they angered the Lord, causing Moses serious trouble.

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2018 Groton SD Community Events

- Groton Lion's Club Bingo- Wednesday Nights 6:30pm at the Groton Legion (Year Round)
- Nov./Dec./Jan./Feb./Mar. Groton Lion's Club Wheel of Meat- Saturday Nights 7pm at the Groton Legion (Fall/Winter Months)
- 1/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 4/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 5/4/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 5/27/2019 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Program at the Cemetery, Lunch to follow at the American Legion (Memorial Day)
- Transit Fundraiser (Middle Thursday in June)
- SDSU Golf at Olive Grove
- 6/15/2019 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 7/4/2019 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 7/14/2019 Summer Fest
- 9/7/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2018 Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/10/2018 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/01/2018 Olive Grove Golf Course 2018 Holiday Party
- Best Ball Golf Tourney
- SDSU Golf Tourney
- Sunflower Golf Tourney
- Santa Claus Day
- Fireman's Stag
- Tour of Homes
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events

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News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash
03-05-14-15-19
(three, five, fourteen, fifteen, nineteen)
Estimated jackpot: \$79,000

Lotto America
04-06-11-43-52, Star Ball: 6, ASB: 2
(four, six, eleven, forty-three, fifty-two; Star Ball: six; ASB: two)
Estimated jackpot: \$11.5 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$139 million

Powerball
06-08-20-52-68, Powerball: 5, Power Play: 2
(six, eight, twenty, fifty-two, sixty-eight; Powerball: five; Power Play: two)
Estimated jackpot: \$124 million

Strong's big day catapults South Dakota State to win

BROOKINGS, S.D. (AP) — Freshman Pierre Strong Jr. ran for 253 yards and three touchdowns on just 17 carries and Taryn Christion had three TD passes and ran for a score to propel South Dakota State to a 49-27 victory over South Dakota on Saturday.

Strong had three rushing TDs for a second straight game and is averaging more than 10 yards per carry this season. The Jackrabbits (8-2, 6-2 Missouri Valley Football Conference), ranked fifth in the FCS coaches poll, will find out Sunday if they are one of eight teams chosen to host a first-round playoff game. SDSU beat the Coyotes (4-7, 3-5) for a 10th straight time, including seven straight at the Division-I level.

Strong scored on a 30-yard run on the Jackrabbits' first possession. After Austin Simmons hit Brett Samson for a 3-yard score to knot the score at 7, Strong took a first-down handoff and raced 73 yards for a TD and a 14-7 lead. Christion followed with two scoring strikes — a 20-yarder to Cade Johnson and a 59-yarder to Blake Kunz — to put the Jackrabbits up 28-7 at the end of the first quarter. Christion added a 16-yard TD run in the second quarter for a 35-7 halftime lead.

A Christion-to-Johnson 10-yard scoring strike in the third quarter and Strong's 46-yard TD run in the fourth capped the scoring for SDSU.

Simmons, who passed for 295 yards and ran for 79 more, scored on runs of 8 and 16 yards and connected with Connor Herrmann for a 17-yard score in the second half for South Dakota.

Rapid City priest pleads not guilty to sex abuse charges

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A priest who served in Rapid City, South Dakota has pleaded not guilty to sexually abusing a child.

Thirty-eight-year-old John Praveen was charged last month with sexually touching a 13-year-old girl over her clothes. The Rapid City Journal reports he entered his plea Friday. Bond remains set at \$100,000.

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The Rapid City diocese earlier offered to house and supervise Praveen at a retirement home for priests in Piedmont, but backed off after some community members objected.

Praveen worked at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Rapid City and All Saints Church in Eagle Butte. He belongs to the Holy Spirit Fathers, an order based in Hyderabad, India, that has tried to raise his bail. His arraignment earlier this month was postponed because of the lack of a translator.

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

Harley-Davidson donates 375 bikes to Rapid City schools

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Black Hills Harley-Davidson has donated hundreds of bicycles to schools across Rapid City.

Rapid City Area Schools, the Rapid City Council, Rapid City-based Strider Bikes and the Black Hills Harley-Davidson all gathered last week to assemble the 375 Strider Bikes that the local Harley dealership gifted to the district. The Strider Bikes were delivered to every kindergarten physical education class in the district to be incorporated into their curriculum.

The bicycles require minimal set-up. It took only an hour to assemble all the bikes.

The company's nonprofit Strider Education Foundation hopes the partnership with Rapid City schools will help spark others across the country, encouraging students to use bikes to learn fitness and have fun.

"Black Hills Harley-Davidson's generous donation of 375 Strider Bikes will give every kindergartner in our district an opportunity to experience the lifelong benefits of knowing how to ride a bike," said Lori Simon, the district's superintendent.

Simon said studies show riding a bike also benefits student learning, development and mental health.

Danny Janklow, principal at Meadowbrook Elementary School, said he's excited about integrating the new Strider bikes.

"We have a very large special needs population, so I can see everyone using them," he said. "We just want the students to get out and enjoy themselves and get physically active."

Al Rieman, co-owner of Black Hills Harley-Davidson, said the initiative works with the company's efforts to attract 2 million new riders over the next decade.

"This is a real tangible way that we can move toward that effort of building new riders. With this program, we're starting at the very beginning," he said. "Riding a bike is a life-long endeavor. This is something they can pick up again at any time in their life for bicycling or motorcycling, anything that uses two wheels."

1st black Democratic nominee for Florida governor concedes

By GARY FINEOUT and BRENDAN FARRINGTON, Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Andrew Gillum, who tried to energize Florida's young and minority voters through a Democratic coalition seeking to end two decades of Republican control of the governor's office, ended his hard-fought campaign Saturday as the state's first black nominee for the post.

Gillum, whose refrain had been "bring it home" as he recounted stories of growing up poor in the state, concluded his campaign with a Facebook video he recorded alongside his wife in a park.

In his four-minute plus video, Gillum congratulated Republican Ron DeSantis and also vowed to remain politically active even though his term as mayor of the Florida capital of Tallahassee ends next week. Of his future plans, Gillum said: "stay tuned."

Gillum, just 39 years old, earned national attention and financial backing from well-known liberal billionaires with his first bid for statewide office. He ran on a liberal platform that included expanding Medicaid and raising taxes to spend more on education even though both ideas would have been hard to pass through the GOP-controlled Legislature.

His final act as a candidate was less confrontational than that of another prominent African-American candidate in this year's midterm elections: Stacy Abrams in neighboring Georgia ended her campaign for governor on Friday, ceding to a Republican with an unapologetically indignant tone establishing herself as

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a leading voting rights advocate.

"This has been the journey of our lives," said Gillum, appearing in the video with his wife, R. Jai Gillum. "Although nobody wanted to be governor more than me that this was not just about an election cycle. This was about creating the type of change in this state that really allows for the voices of everyday people to show up again in our government, in our state, and in our communities. We know that this fight continues."

Gillum's concession came hours before Florida's counties must turn in their official results at noon Sunday after tense days of recounting ballots in both the gubernatorial and a U.S. Senate contest — two nationally watched midterm elections that have kept the presidential swing state on edge since Election Day.

Gillum's brief remarks came hours after President Donald Trump, who at one point in the campaign had sharply criticized Gillum, praised him for running a tough race.

"He will be a strong Democrat warrior long into the future - a force to reckon with!" said Trump in a Twitter post.

Gillum had initially conceded to DeSantis on election night, but he retracted it as the razor-thin margin between the two candidates narrowed. But he still trailed DeSantis by more than 30,000 votes following a legally required machine recount. Counties are wrapping up a hand recount this weekend and must submit their official results by noon Sunday.

Gillum's concession assures Florida Republicans will retain their grasp on the governor's office since Jeb Bush's term starting in 1999.

DeSantis, 40, was considered an underdog before Trump tweeted his support for DeSantis in December, a month before DeSantis even entered the race. Trump campaigned to help push DeSantis to a primary victory in August and visited Florida two more times to help the Republican in the final days of the election.

DeSantis's campaign did not respond to Gillum's remarks, pointing instead to a statement the former congressman put out two days ago.

"Campaigns are meant to be vigorously debated contests of ideas and competing visions for the future," DeSantis said. "The campaign for governor achieved this objective as evidenced by historic voter turnout from people of all parties across our state. But campaigns of ideas must give way to governing and bringing people together to secure Florida's future. With the campaign now over, that's where all of my focus will be."

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.

Despite implications that DeSantis is racially insensitive — an idea he angrily disputed during a debate — he is poised to officially win the state that Trump carried in 2016. He has promised to keep intact many of the same policies on education and health care that have been in place by previous Republican governors.

DeSantis ran as a political outsider despite serving three terms in Congress and running for the U.S. Senate in 2016 before dropping out of the race when Republican Sen. Marco Rubio decided to run for re-election.

DeSantis is a former Navy officer who graduated from Yale University before getting his law degree at Harvard University.

He gained name recognition during the primary with more than 100 appearances on Fox News, often to defend the president.

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 on the criticism, tweeting similar messages. The corruption 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.

Gillum portrayed DeSantis as racially divisive, repeatedly pointing out his "monkey this up" comment.

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

Gillum's announcement came as most Florida counties were winding down their hand recount in the state's contentious U.S. Senate race. The smattering of results publicly posted Saturday showed that

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Democratic U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson was only gaining a few hundred votes in his bitter contest with outgoing Gov. Rick Scott, a Republican.

State officials ordered a manual recount earlier in the week after a legally required machine recount showed that Scott led incumbent Democrat Bill Nelson by about 12,600 votes. More than 8 million voters cast ballots in the race.

Nelson and Democrats filed several lawsuits following the close election, challenging everything from the state's signature mismatch law to deadlines for mail-in ballots.

If the 76-year-old Nelson loses, it would likely spell an end to a lengthy political career that stretches back four decades. Nelson was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 2000. A win for Scott would mark his third victory since the multimillionaire businessman launched his political career in 2010. In each race, Scott has barely edged his Democratic opponent.

State law requires a machine recount in races where the margin is 0.5 percentage points or less. Once that recount was complete, if the differences in any of the races are 0.25 percentage points or less, a hand recount is ordered. Local canvassing boards only review ballots where a vote was not recorded by voting machines.

Death toll rises to 76 in California fire with winds ahead

By SUDHIN THANAWALA and TERENCE CHEA, Associated Press

CHICO, Calif. (AP) — Northern California crews battling the country's deadliest wildfire in a century were bracing for strong winds, with gusts up to 50 miles per hour, creating the potential to erode gains they have made in containing a disaster that has killed at least 76 and leveled a town.

Even as hundreds of searchers sift through the rubble in the town of Paradise looking for the dead, nearly 1,300 people remain unaccounted for more than a week after the fire sparked in Butte County, Sheriff Kory Honea announced Saturday night. Authorities stressed that the long roster does not mean they believe all those people are missing.

Honea pleaded with fire evacuees Saturday to review the list of those reported as unreachable by family and friends and call if they are safe. Deputies have located hundreds of people to date, but the overall number keeps growing because they are adding more names, including those from the disaster's chaotic early hours, Honea said.

"It's really very important for you to take a look at the list and call us if you're on the list," he said.

The remains of five more people were found Saturday, including four in the decimated town of Paradise and one in nearby Concow, bringing the number of dead to 76.

Honea said among the dead was Lolene Rios, 56, whose son Jed tearfully told KXTV in Sacramento that his mother "had endless amount of love for me."

President Donald Trump toured the area Saturday, joined by California's outgoing and incoming governors, both Democrats who have traded sharp barbs with the Republican administration. He also visited Southern California, where firefighters were making progress on a wildfire that tore through communities west of Los Angeles from Thousand Oaks to Malibu, killing three people.

The president pledged the full support of the federal government. Gov. Jerry Brown and Gov.-elect Gavin Newsom thanked him for coming out.

"We've never seen anything like this in California, we've never seen anything like this yet. It's like total devastation," Trump said as he stood amid the ruins of Paradise.

Rain was forecast for midweek, which could help firefighters but also complicate the search for remains.

Northern California's Camp Fire has destroyed nearly 10,000 homes and torched 233 square miles (603 square kilometers). It is 55 percent contained.

The fire zone in Northern California is to some extent Trump country, and that enthusiasm was on display as dozens of people cheered and waved flags as his motorcade went by.

Kevin Cory, a wildfire evacuee who lost his home in Paradise, praised Trump for coming to a state that is often at odds with the White House.

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"I think that California's been really horrible to him and the fights. I mean they're suing him," he said. "It's back and forth between the state and the feds. It's not right."

But for the most part, survivors, some who had barely escaped and no longer had homes, were too busy packing up what little they had left or seeking help to pay much attention to the president's visit.

Michelle Mack Couch, 49, waited in line to get into a Federal Emergency Management Agency center in the city of Chico. She needed a walker for her elderly mother and tags for her car.

"Let's hope he gets us some help," said Couch, who voted for Trump and whose rental home burned down last week. But as far as taking time out to watch the president, she said wryly, "We don't have a TV anymore."

Honea expressed hope that Trump's visit would help with recovery, saying the tour by the Republican president and California's Democratic leaders "signals a spirit of cooperation here that ultimately benefit this community and get us on a path toward recovery."

In Southern California, Trump also met briefly at an airport hangar with families and first responders touched by the shooting at the Borderline Bar & Grill in Thousand Oaks more than a week ago.

Trump called the shooting at a country music bar, which left 12 dead, "a horrible, horrible event."

Associated Press writers Jonathan Lemire in Paradise, California, and Janie Har and Daisy P. Nguyen in San Francisco contributed to this report.

Trump consoles Californians suffering from twin tragedies

By JONATHAN LEMIRE, Associated Press

PARADISE, Calif. (AP) — President Donald Trump acknowledged Californians suffering from twin tragedies, walking through the ashes of a mobile home and RV park in a small northern town all-but-destroyed by deadly wildfires and privately consoling people grieving after a mass shooting at a popular college bar outside Los Angeles.

"This has been a tough day when you look at all of the death from one place to the next," Trump said Saturday before flying back to Washington.

Trump's visits to areas of Northern and Southern California in the aftermath of unprecedented wildfires that have killed more than 70 people gave him what he sought in flying coast to coast and back in a single day — a grasp of the desolation in the heart of California's killer wildfires.

"We've never seen anything like this in California, we've never seen anything like this yet. It's like total devastation," Trump said as he stood amid the ruins of Paradise, burned to the ground by a wildfire the president called "this monster."

Before returning to Washington, Trump met briefly at an airport hangar with families and first responders touched by the shooting at the Borderline Bar & Grill in Thousand Oaks more than a week ago, which left 12 dead in what Trump called "a horrible, horrible event." Reporters and photographers were not allowed to accompany the president to the session, which Trump later described as emotional.

"What can you say other than it's so sad to see. These are great people. Great families, torn apart," he told reporters. "We just hugged them and we kissed them — and everybody. And it was very warm."

He added: "It was tragic and yet, in one way, it was a very beautiful moment."

Trump had made only one previous trip as president to California, a deeply Democratic and liberal state that he has blamed for a pair of overheated crises, illegal immigration and voter fraud. He also has been at odds with the state's Democratic-led government, but differences were generally put aside as Gov. Jerry Brown and Gov.-elect Gavin Newsom joined Trump in surveying the wildfire damage.

"We're going to have to work quickly," Trump said near the crumpled foundations of Paradise homes and twisted steel of melted cars. "Hopefully this is going to be the last of these because this was a really, really bad one."

In a nod to his belief — not shared by all forest scientists — that improved forest management practices will diminish future risks, Trump added: "I think everybody's seen the light and I don't think we'll have this

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again to this extent.”

With that bold and perhaps unlikely prediction, Trump evoked his initial tweeted reaction to the fire, the worst in the state’s history, in which he seemed to blame local officials and threatened to take away federal funding.

Hours later and hundreds of miles to the south, Trump found similar signs of devastation in the seaside conclave of Malibu, one of the areas of Southern California ravaged by wildfires that have killed at least three. Palm trees stood scorched and some homes were burned to the ground on a bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

At least 71 people have died across Northern California, and authorities are trying to locate more than 1,000 people, though not all are believed missing. More than 5,500 fire personnel were battling the blaze that covered 228 square miles (590 square kilometers) and was about 50 percent contained, officials said.

When asked in Paradise if seeing the historic devastation, which stretched for miles and left neighborhoods destroyed and fields scorched, altered his opinion on climate change, Trump answered, “No.”

The president has long voiced skepticism about man’s impact on the climate and has been reluctant to assign blame to a warming earth for the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters.

Wearing a camouflage “USA” hat, Trump gazed solemnly at the devastation in Paradise. Several burned-out buses and cars were nearby. Trees were burned, their branches bare and twisted. Homes were totally gone; some foundations remained, as did a chimney and, in front of one house, a Mickey Mouse lawn ornament. The fire was reported to have moved through the area at 80 mph.

“It’s going to work out well, but right now we want to take care of the people that are so badly hurt,” Trump said while visiting what remained of the Skyway Villa Mobile Home and RV Park. He noted “there are areas you can’t even get to them yet” and the sheer number of people unaccounted for.

“I think people have to see this really to understand it,” Trump said.

The president later toured an operation center, met with response commanders and praised the work of firefighters, law enforcement and representatives of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Trump took a helicopter tour en route to Chico before he toured Paradise. A full cover of haze and the smell of smoke greeted the president upon his arrival at Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento.

“They’re out there fighting and they’re fighting like hell,” Trump said of the first responders.

He pledged that Washington would do its part by coming to the Golden State’s aid and urged the House’s Republican leader, Rep. Kevin McCarthy of California, a Trump ally and frequent White House visitor, to “come to the office” to help secure the needed funding.

Trump long has struggled to convey empathy to victims of national disasters and tragedies. His first reaction to the fires came in a tweet last week that drew criticism as unnecessarily critical and tone-deaf given the devastation: “There is no reason for these massive, deadly and costly forest fires in California except that forest management is so poor. Billions of dollars are given each year, with so many lives lost, all because of gross mismanagement of the forests.”

After the negative reaction to that response, Trump shifted gears, expressing words of encouragement to first responders and those of sympathy for hit victims.

Nature and humans share blame for the wildfires, but fire scientists are divided as to whether forest management played a major role. Nature provides the dangerous winds that have whipped the fires, the state has been in a drought and human-caused climate change over the long haul is killing and drying the shrubs and trees that provide the fuel.

When Trump was asked during an interview set to air on “Fox News Sunday” whether climate change played a role in the number of serious fires, he said “maybe it contributes a little bit. The big problem we have is management.”

In Northern California, Trump continued to show skepticism about the impact of climate change on wildfires. His grasp of forests was shaky at times, at one point, invoking fire prevention efforts in Finland — it has a very different climate than California — as an example for the Golden State to follow.

Asked if he thought climate change played a role in the fires, Brown responded: “Yes. Yes. And we’ll let science determine this over a longer period of time.”

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A reporter asked if climate change was discussed with the president, but Trump jumped in to say, "We didn't discuss it."

A reporter then said, "Well, you obviously disagree on this issue." Trump answered, in part: "Maybe not as different as people think. Is it happening? Things are changing. And I think most importantly we're doing things about. We're gonna make it better. We're going to make it a lot better. And it's gonna happen as quickly as it can possibly happen."

Brown and Newsom said they welcomed the president's visit, with Brown suggesting they set aside political differences since it "now is a time to pull together for the people of California." A fierce advocate of addressing climate change, the governor pointed to several causes and said they need to deal with them.

"If you really look at the facts, from a really open point of view, there are a lot of elements to be considered," Brown said. "The president came, he saw and I'm looking forward over the next months and beyond to really understand this threat of fire, the whole matter of drought and all the rest of it. It's not one thing, it's a lot of things and I think that if we just open our minds and look at things, we'll get more stuff done."

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Pacific summit ends with no communique as China, US differ

By STEPHEN WRIGHT, Associated Press

PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea (AP) — An acrimonious meeting of world leaders in Papua New Guinea failed to agree Sunday on a final communique, highlighting widening divisions between global powers China and the U.S.

The 21 nations at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Port Moresby struggled to bridge differences on the role of the World Trade Organization, which governs international trade, officials said. A statement was to be issued instead by the meeting's chair, Papua New Guinea Prime Minister Peter O'Neill.

"The entire world is worried" about tensions between China and the U.S., O'Neill told a mob of reporters that surrounded him after he confirmed there was no communique from leaders.

It was the first time leaders had failed to agree on a declaration in 29 years of the Pacific Rim summits that involve countries representing 60 percent of the world economy.

Draft versions of the communique seen by The Associated Press showed the U.S. wanted strong language against unfair trade practices that it accuses China of. China, meanwhile, wanted a reaffirmation of opposition to protectionism and unilateralism that it says the U.S. is engaging in.

The U.S. has imposed additional tariffs of \$250 billion on Chinese goods this year and Beijing has retaliated with its own tariffs on American exports.

"I don't think it will come as a huge surprise that there are differing visions" on trade, said Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. "Those prevented there from being a full consensus on the communique."

The two-day summit was punctuated by acrimony and also underlined a rising rivalry between China and the West for influence in the usually neglected South Pacific, where Beijing has been wooing impoverished island states with aid and loans.

U.S. Vice President Mike Pence and Chinese President Xi Jinping traded barbs in speeches on Saturday.

Pence professed respect for Xi and China but also harshly criticized the world's No. 2 economy for intellectual property theft, forced technology transfers and unfair trading practices. He accused China of luring developing nations into a debt trap through the loans it offers for infrastructure.

The world, according to Xi's speech, is facing a choice between cooperation and confrontation as protectionism and unilateralism grows. He said the rules of global institutions set up after World War II such as the World Trade Organization should not be bent for selfish agendas.

Pence told reporters that during the weekend he had two "candid" conversations with Xi, who is expected to meet President Donald Trump at a Group of 20 summit at the end of this month in Argentina.

"There are differences today," Pence said. "They begin with trade practices, with tariffs and quotas,

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forced technology transfers, the theft of intellectual property. It goes beyond that to freedom of navigation in the seas, concerns about human rights."

The U.S. is interested in a better relationship "but there has to be change" from China's side, Pence said he told Xi, who responded that dialogue is important.

China's foreign ministry rejected the U.S. criticism that it was leading other developing nations into debt bondage.

"The assistance provided by China has been warmly welcomed by our partners in this region and beyond," Wang Xiaolong, a foreign ministry official, told a news conference.

"No country either in this region or in other regions has fallen into a so called debt trap because of its cooperation with China. Give me one example," he said.

China is a relative newcomer to providing aid, and its loan-heavy, no-strings attached approach has unsettled Western nations that have been the mainstay donors to developing nations and often use aid to nudge nations towards reforms.

In Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea's capital, the impact of China's aid and loans is highly visible. But the U.S. and allies are countering with efforts to finance infrastructure in Papua New Guinea and other island states. The U.S. has also said it will be involved in ally Australia's plan to develop a naval base with Papua New Guinea.

On Sunday, the U.S., New Zealand, Japan and Australia said they'd work with Papua New Guinea's government to bring electricity to 70 percent of its people by 2030. Less than 20 percent have a reliable electricity supply.

"The commitment of the United States of America to this region of the world has never been stronger," Pence said at a signing ceremony. A separate statement from his office said other countries are welcome to join the electrification initiative provided they support the U.S. vision of a free and open Pacific.

China, meanwhile, has promised \$4 billion of finance to build the the first national road network in Papua New Guinea, among the least urbanized countries in the world.

Migrants get cool reception in Mexican border town

By JULIE WATSON, Associated Press

TIJUANA, Mexico (AP) — Many of the nearly 3,000 Central American migrants who have reached the Mexican border with California via caravan said Saturday they do not feel welcome in the city of Tijuana, where hundreds more migrants are headed after more than a month on the road.

The vast majority were camped at an outdoor sports complex, sleeping on a dirt baseball field and under bleachers with a view of the steel walls topped by barbed wire at the newly reinforced U.S.-Mexico border. The city opened the complex after other shelters were filled to capacity. Church groups provided portable showers, bathrooms and sinks. The federal government estimates the migrant crowd in Tijuana could soon swell to 10,000.

Tijuana Mayor Juan Manuel Gastelum has called the migrants' arrival an "avalanche" that the city is ill-prepared to handle, calculating that they will be in Tijuana for at least six months as they wait to file asylum claims. U.S. border inspectors are processing only about 100 asylum claims a day at Tijuana's main crossing to San Diego. Asylum seekers register their names in a tattered notebook managed by migrants themselves that had more than 3,000 names even before the caravan arrived.

While many in Tijuana are sympathetic to the migrants' plight and trying to assist, some locals have shouted insults, hurled rocks and even thrown punches at the migrants.

It's a stark contrast to the many Mexican communities that welcomed the caravan with signs, music and donations of clothing after it entered Mexico nearly a month ago. Countless residents of rural areas pressed fruit and bags of water into the migrants' hands as they passed through southern Mexico, wishing them safe journeys.

Alden Rivera, the Honduran ambassador in Mexico, visited the outdoor sports complex Saturday. Rivera expects the migrants will need to be sheltered for eight months or more, and said he is working with

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Mexico to get more funds to feed and care for them. He expects the migrant numbers in Tijuana to reach 3,400 over the weekend, with another 1,200 migrants having made it to Mexicali, another border city a few hours to the east of Tijuana. An additional 1,500 migrants plan to reach the U.S. border region next week.

Rivera said 1,800 Hondurans have returned to their country since the caravan first set out on Oct. 13, and that he hopes more will make that decision.

"We want them to return to Honduras," Rivera said, adding that each migrant must weigh whether to go home, appeal for asylum in Mexico or wait in line to apply for asylum in the U.S.

The Mexican Interior Ministry said Friday that 2,697 Central American migrants have requested asylum in Mexico under a program that the country launched on Oct. 26 to more quickly get them credentials needed to live, work and study in southern Mexico.

Ivis Muñoz, 26, has considered returning to Honduras. The coffee farmer called his father in Atima, Honduras, on Saturday to consult on his next move a few days after being attacked on a beach by locals in Tijuana. His father told him to stick it out.

Munoz has a bullet in his leg. A gang member shot him a year ago in Honduras and threatened to kill him if he sees him again. Munoz said he found out later his girlfriend had been cheating on him with the gang member.

He's afraid to go home, but he feels unwelcome in Tijuana.

Munoz was asleep on a beach in Tijuana with about two dozen other migrants when rocks came raining down on them around 2 a.m. Wednesday. He heard a man shout in the darkness: "We don't want you here! Go back to your country!" Munoz and the others got up and ran for cover, heading toward the residential streets nearby. As the sun rose, they hitched a ride on a passing truck to Tijuana's downtown. Now he is staying at the sports complex.

"I don't know what to do," said Munoz. He fears the U.S. won't grant him asylum, and that he'll get deported if he tries to cross into the country without authorization.

Carlos Padilla, 57, a migrant from Progreso, Honduras, said a Tijuana resident shouted "migrants are pigs" as he passed on the street recently. He did not respond. "We didn't come here to cause problems, we came here with love and with the intention to ask for asylum," Padilla said. "But they treat us like animals here."

Padilla said he will likely return to Honduras if the U.S. rejects his asylum request.

The migrants' expected long stay in Tijuana has raised concerns about the ability of the border city of more than 1.6 million to handle the influx.

Tijuana officials said they converted the municipal gymnasium and recreational complex into a shelter to keep migrants out of public spaces. The city's privately run shelters have a maximum capacity of 700. The municipal complex can hold up to 3,000; as of Friday night there were 2,397 migrants there.

Some business owners near the shelter complained on Saturday of migrants panhandling and stealing.

Francisco Lopez, 50, owns a furniture store nearby. He said a group of migrants took food from a small grocery a few doors down, and he worries that crime in the area will rise the longer the migrants stay at the shelter.

Other neighbors expressed empathy.

"These poor people have left their country and they're in an unfamiliar place," said Maria de Jesus Izarraga, 68, who lives two blocks from complex.

As Izarraga spoke from her home's front door, a man interrupted to ask for money to buy a plate of beans. He said he came with the caravan and had blisters on his feet. She gave him some pesos, and continued speaking: "I hope this all works out in the best possible way."

Outside the complex, lines of migrants snaked along the street to receive donations of clothes and coolers full of bottled water being dropped off by charity groups and others looking to help the migrants.

Felipe Garza, 55, acknowledged that many in his hometown don't want to help as he and other volunteers from his church handed migrants coffee and rolls at the impromptu municipal shelter. "It's uncomfortable to receive such a big multitude of people, but it's a reality that we have to deal with," he said.

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Garza surmised that if the Central Americans behave, Tijuana will embrace them just as it did thousands of Haitians in 2016. Those Haitians have since opened restaurants, hair salons and enrolled in local universities.

Police officer Victor Coronel agrees but wonders how much more the city can take. "The only thing we can do is hope that President (Donald) Trump opens his heart a little," said Coronel.

Trump, who sought to make the caravan a campaign issue in last week's elections, took to Twitter on Friday to aim new criticism at the migrants.

"Isn't it ironic that large Caravans of people are marching to our border wanting U.S.A. asylum because they are fearful of being in their country — yet they are proudly waving ... their country's flag. Can this be possible? Yes, because it is all a BIG CON, and the American taxpayer is paying for it," Trump said in a pair of tweets.

Associated Press writer Amy Guthrie in Mexico City contributed to this story.

House win part of major realignment in Southern California

By MICHAEL R. BLOOD, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Democrat Gil Cisneros captured a Republican-held U.S. House seat in Southern California on Saturday, capping a Democratic rout in which the party picked up six congressional seats in the state.

In what had been the last undecided House contest in California, Cisneros beat Republican Young Kim for the state's 39th District seat. The Cisneros victory cements a stunning political realignment that will leave a vast stretch of the Los Angeles metropolitan area under Democratic control in the House.

With Kim's defeat, four Republican-held House districts all or partly in Orange County, California, a one-time nationally known GOP stronghold southeast of Los Angeles, will have shifted in one election to the Democratic column. The change means that the county — Richard Nixon's birthplace and site of his presidential library — will only have Democrats representing its residents in Washington next year.

Democrats also recently picked up the last Republican-held House seat anchored in Los Angeles County, when Democrat Katie Hill ousted Republican Rep. Steve Knight.

With other gains — Republicans also lost a seat in the agricultural Central Valley — Democrats will hold a 45-8 edge in California U.S. House seats next year.

The district was one of seven targeted by Democrats across California after Hillary Clinton carried them in the 2016 presidential election.

Cisneros, 47, a \$266 million lottery jackpot winner, had been locked in a close race with Kim in a district that has grown increasingly diverse. It's about equally divided between Republicans, Democrats and independents, as it is with Asians, Hispanics and whites.

Kim, 55, a former state legislator, worked for years for retiring Republican Rep. Ed Royce, who is vacating the seat and had endorsed her.

In a state where President Donald Trump is unpopular, Kim sought to create distance with the White House on trade and health care. Her immigrant background — and gender — made her stand out in a political party whose leaders in Washington are mostly older white men.

"I'm a different kind of candidate," she had said.

It wasn't enough. Democratic ads depicted her as a Trump underling, eager to carry out his agenda.

Cisneros, a first-time candidate, described his interest in Congress as an extension of his time in the military — he said it was about public service. He runs a charitable foundation with his wife.

On health care, he talked about his mother who went without insurance for 16 years. "That should just not happen in this country," he had said.

While the election delivered mixed results around the U.S., it affirmed California's reputation as a Democratic fortress.

Democrats are on track to hold every statewide office — again. The party holds a supermajority in both chambers of the Legislature — and a 3.7-million advantage in voter registration.

There wasn't even a Republican on the ballot for U.S. Senate.

AP Top 25 Takeaways: Can Urban Meyer endure at Ohio State?

By RALPH D. RUSSO, AP College Football Writer

As nerve-wracking as it must have been for Ohio State fans to watch the wild, back-and-forth overtime victory against Maryland, it has become just as uncomfortable to watch coach Urban Meyer endure his team's games.

The countless camera shots of Meyer bent over, hands on knees and head down, are excruciating television. As his defense allowed big play after big play to the Terrapins on Saturday, Meyer looked as if every yard was a sharp stick poking him in the neck. Each penalty on Ohio State, wiping out a positive play for the Buckeyes, seemed to zap Meyer like an electric shock.

"I'm relieved we won," Meyer said.

The Buckeyes coach has dealt for years with a congenital arachnoid cyst in his brain that causes what his doctor has called aggressive headaches. Meyer had surgery to address the issue in the spring of 2014.

Meyer, 54, is not a sympathetic figure for most fans outside of those who root for the Buckeyes. Even in Florida, where he led the Gators to two national championships, Meyer is remembered as much for bailing out abruptly when things started going bad and leaving behind a dysfunctional team. He said health issues and a desire to spend more time with his family led him to step aside, but after a year away he landed at Ohio State, coaching the team he grew up rooting for. Meyer and the Buckeyes have been rolling ever since — 80-9 with a national title.

The first taste of turmoil in Columbus for Meyer came this offseason, when he was suspended for the first three games for his handling of former assistant coach Zach Smith, who had been accused by his ex-wife of domestic abuse.

Meyer has faced numerous questions since his return to the sideline about his future as Ohio State coach and his health. He has said he expects to be back in 2019. But in a season in which there has been limited drama on the field — with No. 1 Alabama and No. 2 Clemson stomping toward a seemingly inevitable College Football Playoff championship matchup — whether Meyer can continue to be Ohio State coach has become the most intriguing story of 2018.

Amazing as it may seem with how the ninth-ranked Buckeyes (10-1, 7-1, No. 10 CFP) have played this season, they head into the rivalry game against No. 4 Michigan (10-1, 8-0, No. 4 CFP) a victory away from winning the Big Ten East and playing for the conference title.

The playoff is still a possibility, too. But what happens at Ohio State after the games have been played?
BIG 12 MADNESS

In the last four weeks, Oklahoma State has beaten No. 13 Texas, taken No. 6 Oklahoma to overtime and, now, beaten No. 7 West Virginia. Oh, and the Cowboys have also lost to Baylor.

The Big 12 race is a little bananas and Oklahoma State has epitomized the on-any-given-Saturday nature of the conference. On this Saturday, the Cowboys dealt a severe blow to both West Virginia's chances of reaching the Big 12 title game and the Mountaineers' playoff hopes. WVU led by 10 twice in the fourth quarter only to allow two touchdowns in the last five minutes.

Texas beat No. 18 Iowa State with relative and surprising ease and Oklahoma allowed 40 points and more 500 yards to Kansas — and still won by two touchdowns.

West Virginia's loss means the chances of the Mountaineers and Sooners playing two straight weeks just dropped precipitously.

It will all be decided Black Friday. Texas earns a spot in the Big 12 title game by winning at Kansas. And if the Longhorns win, the winner of Oklahoma-WVU that night in Morgantown goes to the Big 12 title game the following week.

If Texas loses, it gets a little more complicated, but the Longhorns are not necessarily eliminated. Yes, the Longhorns could lose to Kansas and play for the Big 12 title — which sounds crazy but this is the Big 12.

SE-SIESTA

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For a half, The Citadel gave college football fans a few laughs. The Bulldogs and their triple-option were tied at half, 10-10, with No. 1 Alabama. Whoa! Early in the second half The Citadel kicked a field goal to take a 13-10, lead but a penalty took the points off the board and the re-kick was no good and that was that .

The SEC's Siesta weekend otherwise went according to plan: Eight SEC teams 398, nonconference opponents 116.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Heisman Watch: Tua Tagovailoa, Alabama; Kyler Murray, Oklahoma; Gardner Minshew, Washington State . That might be it for finalists. ... Oregon beat Arizona State and No. 21 Utah, which closed its conference schedule with a rout of Colorado, is the Pac-12 South champion. Been an unusual season for the Utes, with a slow start, followed by a surge, followed by some key injuries, but they will play in the conference title game for the first time since joining the Pac-12 in 2011. Utah will face the winner of the Apple Cup between No. 8 Washington State and No. 17 Washington No. 11 UCF basked in the spotlight, pummeling No. 19 Cincinnati in a prime-time showcase game to run its winning streak to 23 games and clinch a spot in the American Athletic Conference championship. The Knights still have to face USF next weekend and the winner of Memphis-Houston game awaits in the AAC title game. ... Did Illinois coach Lovie Smith do something to anger Iowa's Kirk Ferentz? The Hawkeyes handed the Illini their most lopsided loss in 112 years Just when it seemed Texas Tech coach Kliff Kingsbury had worked his way off the hot seat and maybe into a contract extension, the Red Raiders have lost three straight, including a stunningly ugly setback at Kansas State. Was that K-State coach Bill Snyder's last home game? ... Pitt (7-4) joined Northwestern as unlikely division winners, blowing out Wake Forest to wrap up the ACC Coastal and its first trip to conference title game. ... In the last two weeks, USC, with a chance to win the Pac-12 South, lost to Cal for the first time in 15 years and to the worst team UCLA has fielded maybe in 30 years. Good luck, Clay Helton. ... Florida State's 36-year bowl streak is still alive after the Seminoles beat Boston College. They'll host rival No. 15 Florida next week, looking for a sixth win. ... This has been probably the best four-win season in Nebraska history. The Cornhuskers edged Michigan State for their fourth victory in the last five games. Scott Frost's team finishes at Iowa on Friday, and no matter what happens Nebraska fans have to think the program is headed in the right direction.

Follow Ralph D. Russo at www.Twitter.com/ralphDrussoAP and listen at <https://www.podcastone.com/AP-Top-25-College-Football-Podcast>

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GOP Legislatures try to curb Democratic governors' power

By DAVID EGGERT, Associated Press

LANSING, Mich. (AP) — With their grip on power set to loosen come January, Republicans in several states are considering last-ditch laws that would weaken existing or incoming Democratic governors and advance their own conservative agendas.

In Michigan, where the GOP has held the levers of power for nearly eight years, Republican legislators want to water down a minimum wage law they approved before the election so that it would not go to voters and would now be easier to amend.

Republicans in neighboring Wisconsin are discussing ways to dilute Democrat Tony Evers' power before he takes over for GOP Gov. Scott Walker. And in North Carolina, Republicans may try to hash out the requirements of a new voter ID constitutional amendment before they lose their legislative supermajorities and their ability to unilaterally override vetoes by Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper.

Republicans downplay the tactics and point out that Democrats have also run lame-duck sessions, including in Wisconsin in 2010 before Walker took office and the GOP took control of the Legislature. But some of the steps Republicans are expected to take will almost surely be challenged in court, and critics

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say such maneuvers undermine the political system and the will of the people, who voted for change.

"It's something that smacks every Michigan voter in the face and tells them that this Republican Party doesn't care about their voice, their perspective," House Democratic Leader Sam Singh said of the strategizing to control the fate of minimum wage increases and paid sick leave requirements.

The moves would follow midterm elections in which Democrats swept statewide offices in Michigan and Wisconsin for the first time in decades but fell short of taking over their gerrymandered legislatures. That gives Republicans a final shot to lock in new policies, with Democrats unable to undo them anytime soon.

Michigan's new minimum wage and sick time laws began as ballot drives but because they were preemptively adopted by lawmakers in September rather than by voters, they can be altered with simple majority votes rather than the support of three-fourths of both chambers.

One measure would gradually raise the minimum wage to \$12 an hour and increase a lower wage for tipped workers until it is in line with the minimum. The other would require that employees qualify for between 40 and 72 hours of paid sick leave, depending on the size of their employer.

It is unclear how the laws may be changed to appease an anxious business lobby. The Michigan Chamber of Commerce says mandatory sick time — 10 other states also require it — will place "severe compliance burdens" on employers, including those with paid leave policies in place currently. The group also is urging lawmakers to "be pragmatic, not extreme" and revisit the wage hikes that would make Michigan's minimum the highest in the Midwest.

Republicans seem unfazed by criticism that scaling back the measures would thwart the will of voters who resoundingly elected Democrat Gretchen Whitmer to replace GOP Gov. Rick Snyder, who reached his term limit. The Michigan Senate's majority leader, Arlan Meekhof, said changes to the laws are needed to "continue to keep our economy on track and not put a roadblock or hindrance" in the way of businesses.

Lame-duck sessions, which are commonplace in Congress but rare among many state legislatures, are frenetic, as legislators rush to consider bills that are controversial or were put on the backburner during election season. Michigan's 2012 session, for example, produced right-to-work laws and a contentious revised emergency manager statute for cities in financial peril, despite voters having just repealed the previous law.

The lame-duck period may be especially intense this year in Michigan and Wisconsin because they are among just four states in which Republicans are losing full control the governorship and both legislative chambers. Lawmakers in the other two states, Kansas and New Hampshire, will not convene until next year.

Six states with a split government now will be fully controlled by Democrats in 2019, and Alaska will be fully controlled by Republicans.

Wisconsin Republicans plan to consider a variety of ways to protect laws enacted by Walker. Those include limiting Evers' ability to make appointments, restricting his authority over the rule-making process and making it more difficult for him to block a work requirement for Medicaid recipients. They might also change the date of the 2020 presidential primary so that a Walker-appointed state Supreme Court justice has better odds to win election.

In North Carolina, GOP legislators may use the session for more than approving additional bipartisan Hurricane Florence relief. They are expected to implement a voter photo ID requirement passed this month by the electorate and to consider other legislation that the Democratic governor would be powerless to stop until Republicans can no longer easily override his vetoes come 2019.

Two years ago, they reduced Cooper's powers before he took office. He successfully sued over a law that diminished his role in managing elections. Other suits remain pending.

Michigan's outgoing governor, Snyder, hasn't weighed in on the plan to amend the minimum wage and sick leave laws, which would require his signature, unlike when they were passed. He is trying to persuade his fellow Republicans to boost and add new fees for environmental cleanup and water infrastructure upgrades, and he wants the Legislature to help facilitate a deal to drill an oil pipeline tunnel beneath the Straits of Mackinac. The agreement is opposed by Whitmer and the state's Democratic Attorney General-elect, Dana Nessel.

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Supporters of the existing wage and sick time laws have been mobilizing to keep them intact. MI Time to Care — the campaign backing guaranteed paid time off for workers who are sick or need to stay home with an ill family member — launched ads, mailed postcards and went door to door before the election reminding people of their rights under the law that is scheduled to take effect in March.

Chairwoman Danielle Atkinson said the sick leave proposal would have been approved in a “landslide” if it had been on the ballot.

“It’s clearly why the Legislature moved to pass it, and now they should uphold it as the promise that they made to the voters,” she said.

Associated Press writers Scott Bauer in Madison, Wis., and Gary Robertson in Raleigh, N.C., contributed to this report.

Follow David Eggert on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/DavidEggert00> . His work can be found at <https://apnews.com/search/David%20Eggert> .

Trump says report on Khashoggi’s death coming in 2 days

By DEB RIECHMANN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Saturday that his administration will release a full report in the next two days about the death of a Saudi journalist, which has created a diplomatic conundrum for the president: How to admonish Riyadh for the killing yet maintain strong ties with a close ally in the Middle East.

“We’ll be having a very full report over the next two days, probably Monday or Tuesday,” Trump said. That will include “who did it,” he said.

Reporters asked Trump about the death of Jamal Khashoggi, a columnist for The Washington Post who was slain Oct. 2 inside the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul. Saudi Arabia’s top diplomat has said the crown prince had “absolutely” nothing to do with it.

American intelligence agencies have concluded that the crown prince ordered the killing in the Saudi Consulate in Turkey, according to a U.S. official familiar with the assessment. The official was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. Others familiar with the case caution that while it’s likely that the crown prince was involved in the death, there continue to be questions about what role he played.

“The United States government is determined to hold all those responsible for the killing of Jamal Khashoggi accountable,” the State Department said in a statement. “Recent reports indicating that the U.S. government has made a final conclusion are inaccurate. There remain numerous unanswered questions with respect to the murder of Mr. Khashoggi.”

The statement added: “The U.S. government has taken decisive measures against the individuals responsible, including visa and sanctions actions. We will continue to explore additional measures to hold those accountable who planned, led and were connected to the murder. And, we will do that while maintaining the important strategic relationship between the United States and Saudi Arabia.”

Intelligence officials have been providing information to Trump about the death for weeks and he was briefed again by phone Saturday by CIA Director Gina Haspel and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo as he flew to California. White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders provided no details of his call but said the president has confidence in the CIA.

Before his call on Air Force One, Trump told reporters that when it came to the crown prince, “as of this moment we were told that he did not play a role. We’re going to have to find out what they have to say.” That echoed remarks by national security adviser John Bolton, who said earlier this week that people who have listened to an audio recording of the killing do not think it implicates the crown prince.

Also before leaving on his trip, Trump said Saudi Arabia was “a truly spectacular ally in terms of jobs and economic development.”

"I have to take a lot of things into consideration" when deciding what measures to take against the kingdom, he said.

Trump has called the killing a botched operation that was carried out very poorly and has said "the cover-up was one of the worst cover-ups in the history of cover-ups."

But he has resisted calls to cut off arms sales to the kingdom and has been reluctant to antagonize the Saudi rulers. Trump considers the Saudis vital allies in his Mideast agenda.

But members of Congress are pushing Trump for a tougher response to the killing. The administration this past week penalized 17 Saudi officials for their alleged role in the killing, but American lawmakers have called on the administration to curtail arms sales to Saudi Arabia or take other harsher punitive measures.

Vice President Mike Pence told reporters traveling with him Saturday for a summit of Pacific Rim nations in Papua, New Guinea, that the "murder of Jamal Khashoggi was an atrocity. It was also an affront to a free and independent press, and the United States is determined to hold all of those accountable who are responsible for that murder."

Khashoggi, a Saudi who lived in the United States, often criticized the royal family. Turkish and Saudi authorities say he was killed inside the consulate by a team from the kingdom after he went there to get marriage documents.

1 dead, scores injured in fuel tax protests around France

By ELAINE GANLEY, Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — One protester was killed and 227 other people were injured — eight seriously — at road-blocks set up around villages, towns and cities across France on Saturday as citizens angry with rising fuel taxes rose up in a grassroots movement, posing a new challenge to beleaguered President Emmanuel Macron.

Police officers lobbed tear gas canisters at demonstrators on the famed Champs-Elysees Avenue in Paris as groups of "yellow jackets," as the protesters called themselves, tried to make their way to the presidential Elysee Palace. Later, hundreds of protesters entered the bottom of the street dotted with luxury shops where the palace is located — and where Macron lives — before being pushed back by security forces with shields.

In a similar scenario, police cleared out the huge traffic circle around the Arc de Triomphe, paralyzed for hours by protesters.

French Interior Ministry officials counted nearly 283,000 protesters, mostly peaceful, throughout the day at more than 2,000 sites, some setting bonfires or flying balloons.

However, some demonstrations turned violent. In Troyes, southeast of Paris, about 100 people invaded the prefecture, the local representation of the state, damaging the inside, Interior Ministry officials said. In Quimper, in Brittany, security forces used water cannon to disperse hostile protesters.

The protester who died, a 63-year-old woman, was killed when a driver caught in the blockade accelerated in a panic at Pont-de-Beauvoisin, near Chambéry, in eastern France, according to Louis Laugier, the prefect, or top state official, in the Savoie region. A confrontation with protesters "got heated up for no reason" and the driver accelerated her minivan after "people started rattling her car," a protester who witnessed the incident told BFMTV, identifying himself only as Philippe. He said the woman told them she was taking her daughter to a doctor.

An investigation into the death was opened.

Eight of the 227 people injured were in serious condition, ministry officials said at an evening briefing, without providing details. A police officer and a firefighter who intervened when protesters attacked a closed service station were among the eight.

A total of 117 people were arrested with 73 of them held for questioning.

The protesters had pledged to target tollbooths, roundabouts and other strategic traffic sites. They called themselves "yellow jackets" because most were wearing the fluorescent yellow vests that must be kept in vehicles of all French drivers in case of car troubles.

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The daughter of the woman killed called for calm as she protested in Cavaillon, in southern France. "I really want people not to let themselves become submerged by anger," Alexandrine Mazet told RTL radio. "The yellow jackets must understand this is a peaceful movement," she said. The young woman appeared later on BFMTV still wearing her yellow vest.

The nationwide protest was unusual because it arose from within the citizenry, backed neither by unions nor politicians, although some took part in a clear bid for supporters. It was unclear whether the upstart movement, without a leader, would survive, and what problems it might pose for Macron.

The grassroots nature of the protests, which drew supporters angry over an array of issues, made it a political hot potato for Macron's government. Security officials treaded lightly, ordering police to use dialogue rather than force but to stop protesters from completely blocking major routes or endangering lives or property. About 30 canisters of tear gas were fired to disperse protesters at the entrance of the Mont Blanc tunnel.

"They have sent a message," Interior Minister Christophe Castaner said. "It is heard. The government is attentive to all demonstrations and, of course, we must continue to answer the expectations of the French including those about their purchasing power."

The planned increase in fuel taxes, notably for diesel fuel, spoke to those French who feel the president has asked ordinary citizens to make the largest efforts in his bid to transform France. Those French who have a hard time making ends meet often rely on cheaper diesel fuel.

Macron wants to close the gap between the price of diesel fuel and gasoline as part of his strategy to wean France off fossil fuels. A "carbon trajectory" calls for continued increases. Taxes on diesel fuel have risen 7 euro cents (nearly 8 U.S. cents) and are to keep climbing in the coming years, Transport Minister Elisabeth Borne has said. The tax on gasoline is to increase 4 euro cents.

Many drivers see this as emblematic of a presidency they view as disconnected from day-to-day economic difficulties and serving the rich.

Macron's popularity has plunged, hovering around 30 percent.

Robert Tichit, 67, a retiree, referred to the president as "King Macron."

"We've had enough of it. There are too many taxes in this country," he said.

More than 1,000 protesters congregated at the Place de la Concorde at the bottom of the Champs-Élysées, shouting "Macron resign" as police looked on.

Michel Euler and Jeffrey Schaeffer in Paris contributed to this report.

Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Nov. 18, the 322nd day of 2018. There are 43 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 18, 1978, U.S. Rep. Leo J. Ryan, D-Calif., and four others were killed in Jonestown, Guyana, by members of the Peoples Temple; the killings were followed by a night of mass murder and suicide by more than 900 cult members.

On this date:

In 1883, the United States and Canada adopted a system of Standard Time zones.

In 1916, the World War I Battle of the Somme pitting British and French forces against German troops ended inconclusively after 4 1/2 months of bloodshed.

In 1928, Walt Disney's first sound-synchronized animated cartoon, "Steamboat Willie" starring Mickey Mouse, premiered in New York.

In 1936, Germany and Italy recognized the Spanish government of Francisco Franco.

In 1959, "Ben-Hur," the Biblical-era spectacle starring Charlton Heston, had its world premiere in New York.

In 1966, U.S. Roman Catholic bishops issued a Pastoral Statement on Penance and Abstinence, which

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did away with the rule against eating meat on Fridays outside of Lent.

In 1976, Spain's parliament approved a bill to establish a democracy after 37 years of dictatorship.

In 1985, the comic strip "Calvin and Hobbes," created by Bill Watterson, was first published. (The strip ran for 10 years.)

In 1987, the congressional Iran-Contra committees issued their final report, saying President Ronald Reagan bore "ultimate responsibility" for wrongdoing by his aides. A fire at London King's Cross railway station claimed 31 lives.

In 1991, Shiite (SHEE'-eyet) Muslim kidnappers in Lebanon freed Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite and Thomas Sutherland, the American dean of agriculture at the American University of Beirut.

In 2003, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled 4-to-3 that the state constitution guaranteed gay couples the right to marry.

In 2004, Britain outlawed fox hunting in England and Wales.

Ten years ago: Detroit's Big Three automakers pleaded with Congress for a \$25 billion lifeline, warning of a national economic catastrophe should they collapse. Belgium-based InBev SA formed the world's largest brewer with its \$52 billion takeover of U.S.-based Anheuser-Busch Cos. Inc. Boston's Dustin Pedroia won the American League MVP award, becoming the first second baseman to earn the honor in nearly a half-century.

Five years ago: Toronto's city council voted to strip scandal-plagued Mayor Rob Ford of many of his powers following a heated debate in which he knocked over a city councilor. NASA's robotic explorer, Maven, rocketed toward Mars on a quest to unravel the ancient mystery of the red planet's radical climate change.

One year ago: Large crowds of demonstrators turned Zimbabwe's capital into a carnival ground, showing disdain for President Robert Mugabe and urging him to quit immediately; Mugabe was now powerless and had been placed under house arrest by the military command. After heading Northern Ireland's Sinn Fein party for more than 30 years, Gerry Adams announced that he was stepping down; he'd been known around the world as the face of the Irish republican movement as it shifted from violence to peace.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Brenda Vaccaro is 79. Author-poet Margaret Atwood is 79. Actress Linda Evans is 76. Actress Susan Sullivan is 76. Country singer Jacky Ward is 72. Actor Jameson Parker is 71. Actress-singer Andrea Marcovicci is 70. Rock musician Herman Rarebell is 69. Singer Graham Parker is 68. Actor Delroy Lindo is 66. Comedian Kevin Nealon is 65. Pro Football Hall of Fame quarterback Warren Moon is 62. Actor Oscar Nunez is 60. Actress Elizabeth Perkins is 58. Singer Kim Wilde is 58. Rock musician Kirk Hammett (Metallica) is 56. Rock singer Tim DeLaughter (dee-LAW'-ter) is 53. Actor Romany Malco is 50. Actor Owen Wilson is 50. Actor Dan Bakkedahl is 50. Singer Duncan Sheik is 49. Actor Mike Epps is 48. Actress Peta Wilson is 48. Actress Chloe Sevigny (SEH'-ven-ee) is 44. Country singer Jessi Alexander is 42. Actor Steven Pasquale is 42. Rock musician Alberto Bof (Lukas Nelson & Promise of the Real) is 41. Rapper Fabolous is 41. Actor-director Nate Parker is 39. Rapper Mike Jones is 38. Actress Mekia Cox is 37. Actress-comedian Nasim Pedrad is 37. Actress Allison Tolman is 37. Actor Damon Wayans Jr. is 36. Country singer TJ Osborne (Brothers Osborne) is 34. Actor Nathan Kress is 26.

Thought for Today: "Your way of giving is more important than what you give." — Vietnamese proverb.