

## Groton Area Schedule of Events

### Thursday, January 17, 2019

Boys Basketball hosts Aberdeen Roncalli (7th grade game at 3 p.m., 8th grade game at 4 p.m., C game at 5:15 p.m., JV at 6:30 p.m. with varsity to follow.)

5:00pm: Wrestling: Boys Varsity Triangular vs. Clark/Willow Lake, Hamlin @ Clark Junior-Senior High School (We will wrestle C/WL and Hamlin. We will NOT wrestle Webster.)

### Friday, January 18, 2019

Speech Fiesta Debate at Watertown High School

No School - Faculty Inservice at Warner High School

6:30pm: Girls Varsity Basketball Game vs. Aberdeen Roncalli @ Aberdeen Roncalli High School.



### 81st Annual

## Carnival of Silver Skates

Sunday, January 27th—2:00 and 6:30  
Groton Ice Rink—West Side of Groton, SD

Join us for a fun “Road Trip”!

Admission: 13 & older—\$3.00 / 6-12—\$2.00

Parking: Provided around the rink and on the ice or cozy up on the bleachers  
(Ice parking begins at 10 am, then again at 4:30 pm)

\*\*Check us out on Facebook at “Silver Skates”

### **OPEN:** Recycling Trailer in Groton

The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

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## Skating Rink Hours

Open Monday - Thursday: 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Friday: 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Sunday: 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

It's Boys' Basketball Action on GDILIVE.COM



**Ipswich  
Tigers**

**VS**



**Groton Area Tigers**

Tuesday, Jan. 18, 2019

8:00 p.m.

in Ipswich

Broadcast of this game is sponsored by

**Aberdeen**  
**Chrysler Center**

901 Auto Plaza Drive  
Aberdeen, SD

**800.874.9173**

[www.aberdeenchrysler.com](http://www.aberdeenchrysler.com)

## Lions use height to beat the Lady Tigers

Langford Area shot better, had fewer turnovers and used its height to control the boards as the Lions posted a 47-28 win over Groton Area. The game was played Monday evening in Langford.

The Tigers made 11 of 49 shots for 22 percent while Langford Area shot 15 of 47 for 32 percent which included a hot second quarter with six of 10 shots made. Groton Area had 19 turnovers compared to eight for Langford Area.

Ady Dwight led the Lions and all scorers with 18 points while teammates Chesney Olson had 11, Madi Nelson seven, Hanna Miller five, Maddie Reints three, Mallory Miller two and Addison Taylor had one point.

The Tigers were led by Gracie Traphagen with nine points - six of them in the second quarter. Kenzie McInerney came off the bench and made six points in the third quarter. Jennie Doeden had five, Payton Maine three, Eliza Wanner and Miranda Hanson each had two and Kaycie Hawkins made one free throw.

The Tigers made six of 11 free throws off of Langford Area's 10 team fouls. The Lions made 14 of 24 free throws off of Groton Area's 14 team fouls with many of Groton Area's fouls coming while trying to battle for a defensive rebound.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by the Aberdeen Chrysler Center.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 37-25. Gracie Traphagen led the Tigers with 14 points followed by Brooke Gengerke with 11, Kenzie McInerney five, Trista Keith three and Allyssa Locke and Maddie Bjerke each had two points.

Jennaka Nelson led the Lions with seven points while Alyssa Keough had six, Brooklin Krueger and Ashley Gustafson each had four, Mallory Miller three and Katie Jensen added one point.

## John Roy named Wolves football offensive line coach

Aberdeen, S.D. – Northern State University head football coach, Tom Dosch announced today the addition of John Roy as the team's offensive line coach. Roy joins the NSU staff after three seasons with Rocky Mountain College.

"I am excited to announce John Roy as our new offensive line coach," explained Dosch. "John brings great knowledge, presence and energy to our program. He has coached with some of the best offensive line coaches in the region, and that experience has continued his growth as a football coach."

"I am honored to have been hired to work for Coach Dosch and the staff here at Northern State," noted Roy. "I am excited to get to work with the athletes and assist them to perform at their highest potential."

Roy was the offensive line coach, strength and conditioning coach, and run game coordinator for Rocky Mountain College. The Battlin' Bears were the 2018 Frontier Conference Champions and led the league in total offense, scoring, turnover margin, and points per game. They set the school rushing record in 2017 and finished second in the league in rushing yards. Roy worked with five all-conference linemen and one All-American.

Dosch added, "in addition, Coach Roy is a high-energy recruiter, and his geographical coaching connections will be a huge asset to our program from a recruiting standpoint. John is a great addition to the Wolves football family."

Prior to his time at RMC, Roy was the offensive line coach at New Mexico Military Institute for one season, developing three all-conference linemen. He spent the 2013 and 2014 seasons with Southern Illinois University in a variety of roles as the strength and conditioning, video coordinator, and offensive line graduate assistant.

Roy began his collegiate coaching career at Southern Oregon University from 2011-12. In his two seasons, the Raiders led the nation in passing yards, yards gained, passing touchdowns, and third down scoring. He worked specifically with the tight ends, developing one all-conference student-athlete.

He is a 2007 graduate of Arizona Western College with an associate's degree and 2012 graduate of Southern Oregon with a bachelor's in Health and Physical Education and Sociology. Roy played collegiately at Arizona Western, Oregon State, and Southern Oregon. He earned all-conference accolades for the Raiders in 2010.

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## Today in Weather History

January 15, 1982: Snowfall amounts of one to four inches and powerful northwest winds of 35 to 45 mph with gusts to 60 mph caused blizzard conditions with widespread drifting across much of South Dakota and Minnesota from the early morning of the 15th to mid-afternoon on the 16th. Wind chills were lowered to 50 to 80 degrees below zero and visibilities were near zero across most of the area. One death was attributed to exposure. There were numerous weather related accidents. Some of the major accidents included; a truck blown off Interstate 90 near Murdo injuring the driver; a truck blown off Highway 281 and turned upside down in a ditch, and a truck slamming into a bridge on Interstate 90 near Murdo. The extreme cold killed numerous fruit trees at a nursery in Watertown.

January 15, 1985: Heavy snow fell in central and south central South Dakota from early evening of the 15th to around noon on the 16th with areas around Pierre receiving up to 18 inches. Generally 5 to 10 inches fell with numerous minor traffic accidents reported. Interstate 90 had a no travel advisory in a 95-mile stretch from Kimball to Murdo until the afternoon of the 16th due to low visibility and heavy drifting. Also, many schools and businesses were closed. Some snowfall amounts included, 4 inches at Kennebec, 6 inches at Murdo, and 10 inches at Pierre.

January 15, 2009: The Arctic high pressure area settled in on the morning of the 15th bringing the coldest temperatures to the region in many years. The combination of a fresh and deep snow pack, clear skies, and light winds allowed temperatures to fall to record levels at many locations on the 15th. Day-time highs remained well below zero across the area. This was one of the coldest days that most areas experienced since the early 1970s. The records were broken by 1 to as much as 7 degrees. Click [HERE](#) for a list of records.

1852: In 1852, the long, cold winter froze the Susquehanna River in Maryland to a depth of 2 to 3 feet, preventing all ferry service. Railroad officials overcame this perplexing situation by laying tracks across the ice, with trestles for inclines at either bank. During the several weeks from January 15 to February 29, approximately 1,300 cars with a total weight of 10,000 tons were hauled across the river from Havre de Grace, Maryland to Perryville, Maryland.

1967: The Green Bay Packers beat the Kansas City Chiefs, 35-10, in Super Bowl I at the Memorial Coliseum in Los Angeles. From the weather station at the USC campus in downtown LA, the high temperature was 79 degrees and the low was 51. There was a light west wind.

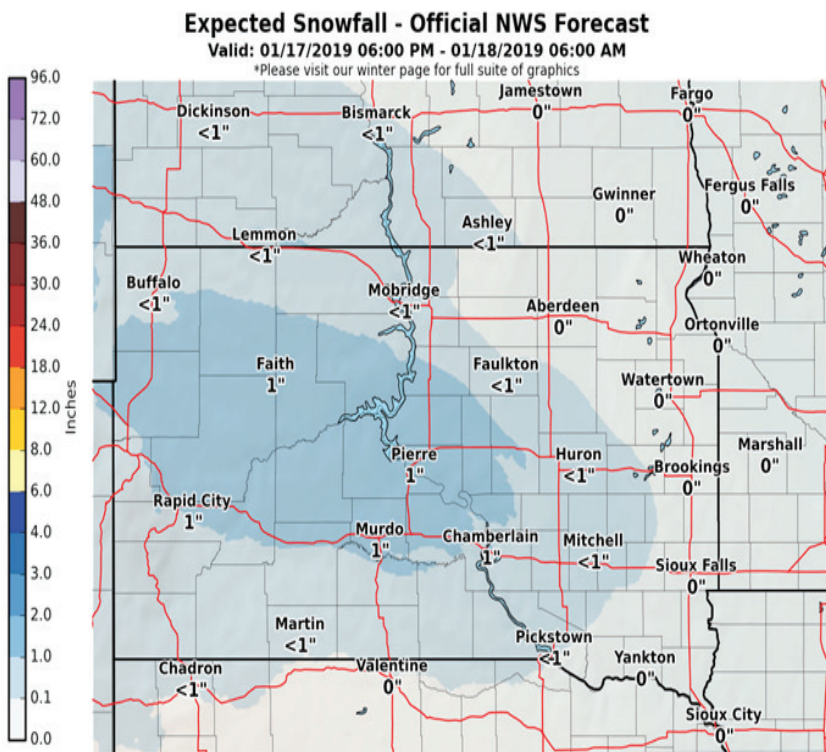
1972: In Flint, Michigan, daytime temperature rose to only -3 degrees. This is the second coldest maximum temperature recorded in the city of Flint since 1921. Detroit's high temperature was zero.



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Today	Tonight	Wednesday	Wednesday Night	Thursday
Areas Dense Freezing Fog then Partly Sunny	Decreasing Clouds	Mostly Sunny	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
High: 29 °F	Low: -2 °F	High: 11 °F	Low: 4 °F	High: 14 °F



Areas Of Dense Fog This Morning

Turning Notably Cold After Today

Snowfall Forecast Through 6AM CST Friday (+more snowfall on Friday)



National Weather Service  
 Aberdeen SD  
 01/15/2019 03:53 AM CST

Follow Us:   
 weather.gov/Aberdeen/winter

Published on: 01/15/2019 at 5:33AM

Cloudy and foggy again to start today. Some of the fog is dense, knocking visibility down to less than one half mile. It's that freezing fog again, too, so expect sidewalks, parking lots, roads, bridges and overpasses could become slick. Take care on your morning commute! Otherwise, accumulating snow is possible heading into Friday, mainly across central South Dakota. And, much colder air will work in and stick around across the area after today.

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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 29 °F at 12:00 AM**

**Low Outside Temp: 20 °F at 9:03 PM**

**High Gust: 12 mph at 6:58 AM**

**Precip:**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 48° in 1942, 1931**

**Record Low: -42° in 2009**

**Average High: 22°F**

**Average Low: 1°F**

**Average Precip in Jan.: 0.24**

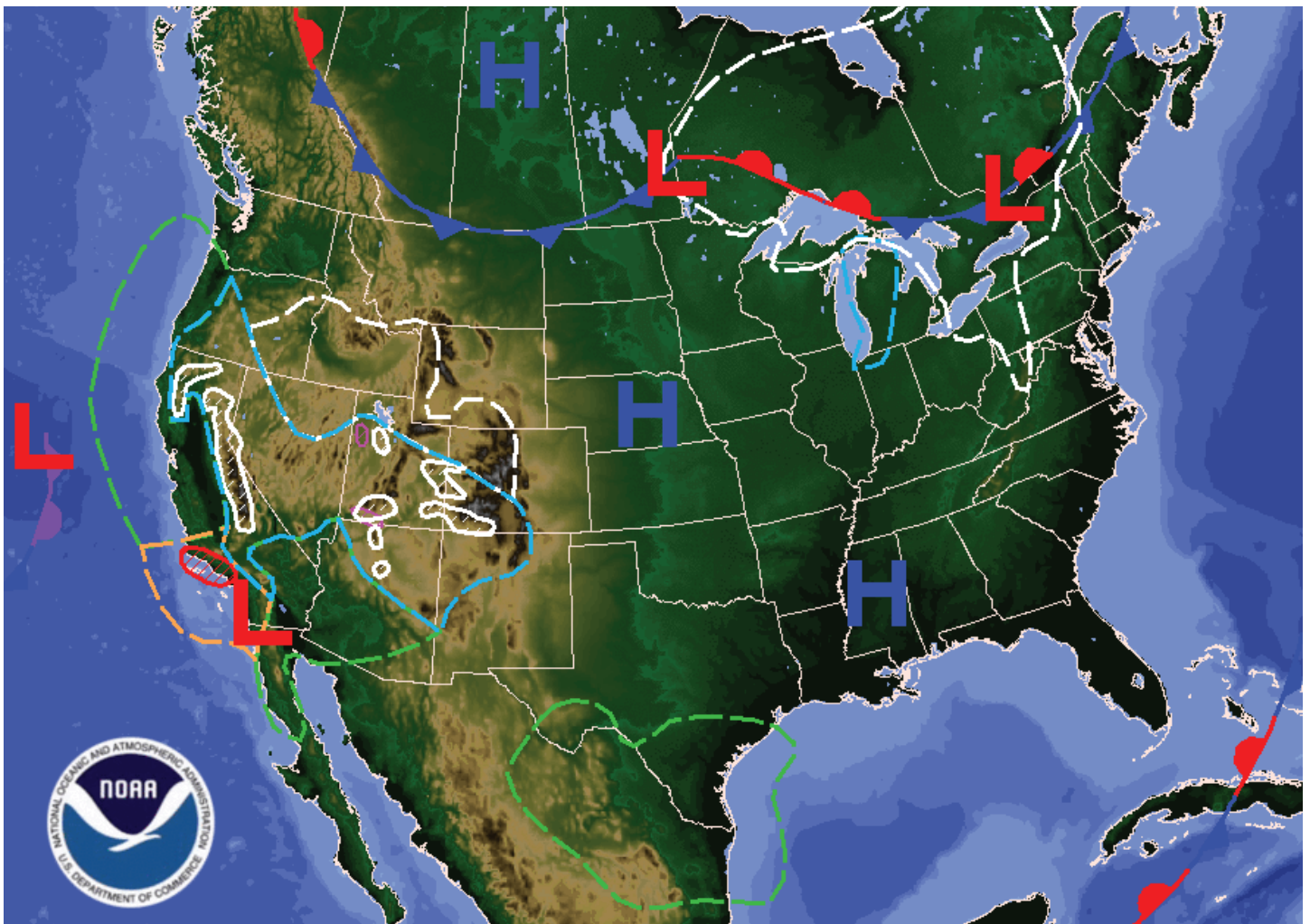
**Precip to date in Jan.: 0.00**

**Average Precip to date: 0.24**

**Precip Year to Date: 0.00**

**Sunset Tonight: 5:17 p.m.**

**Sunrise Tomorrow: 8:09 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Tue, Jan 15, 2019, issued 4:56 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

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

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



## THE STORY IN HANDS

Hanging above my office chair is a drawing entitled, Hands. It was drawn by an artist in Rochester, MI. The hands in the drawing are of many different sizes and shapes; some are little, representing small children; some are big, representing adults; some scarred representing hard work or accidents; some appear as though they have never been soiled. The hands in the drawing tell the story about how all hands are different, how important they are, and what they are used for.

The hands of Jesus tell a very important story. He used His hands to hold the tools of a carpenter and turn pieces of wood into useful objects. He used His hands to offer hungry people a piece of bread and fish. He used His hands to hold small children. He used His hands to touch the eyes of the blind and restore their sight. He used His hands to open the ears of the deaf. He used His hands to quiet the raging seas. He used His hands to point people in the direction of the Kingdom of His Father.

He never used His hands to make a fist. He never used His hands to grasp things from others. He never used His hands to point people in the wrong direction. He never used His hands to do anything that was evil. He never used His hands to strike others. He never used His hands to push people away from Him.

One fateful day those hands were pierced and nailed to a cross. Pierced but not closed. His hands were on the end of arms that were reaching out to a lost and dying world.

The Psalmist wrote, They pierce my hands. Now, we know why.

Prayer: Thank You, Father, for loving us, for reaching out to us with hands that were pierced because of our sins. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Psalm 22:16c They pierce my hands and my feet.



## 2019 Groton SD Community Events

- 01/27/2019 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm
- 03/17/2019 Groton American Legion Spring Fundraiser
- 04/13/2019 Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 04/27/2019 Fireman's Stag
- 05/04/2019 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday in May)
- 05/27/2019 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)
- 06/14/2019 SDSU Golf Tournament at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 06/15/2019 Triathlon (Saturday before Father's Day)
- 06/21/2019 Best Ball Golf Tourney
- 07/04/2019 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
- 07/14/2019 Summer Fest
- 08/22/2019 First Day of School
- 09/07/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 09/08/2019 Sunflower Classic at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/31/2019 Trunk or Treat/Halloween on Main
- 11/9/2019 Groton American Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/07/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course 2019 Holiday Party
- 12/07/2019 Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services
- Crazy Dayz/Open Houses
- School Events

## News from the Associated Press

### Waitress gets support after \$1 tip and vulgar message

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Sioux Falls' mayor is among those tweeting words of support to a teenage waitress at a local restaurant who was left with a \$1 tip and a vulgar message from a group of customers.

Shenanigan's Sports Bar and Grill posted the bill on social media Sunday showing the \$1 tip on a \$55.50 bill and the expletive on the signature line.

The Argus Leader reports the server, 19-year-old Brooke Heinen, says the customers in question came in to watch the NFL playoff game Saturday night. Heinen says they seemed nice and joked around with her for being a Minnesota Vikings fan. But, when she picked up the tab receipt she was surprised at what they left behind.

Heinen says supportive comments on Twitter have helped, but in the end she says things happen and you just have to shrug it off.

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

### Minnehaha County stays out of opioid lawsuit

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Minnehaha County won't join a lawsuit filed by more than 30 states and hundreds of local government against big pharmaceutical companies over the opioid epidemic.

South Dakota is one of the states accusing the drug makers of misleading marketing that downplayed the risk of opioid addiction. Hundreds of similar cases filed by cities and counties have been bundled together in Ohio's federal court system.

KELO-TV reports the Minnehaha County Commission has been approached by law firms filing the suit, asking the county to join. The county has rejected the law firm offers to join the class-action lawsuit.

Commissioner Jean Bender says the state administers Medicaid dollars for addiction treatment so it makes sense for the attorney general to handle the case.

Information from: KELO-TV, <http://www.keloland.com>

BC-SD-BKH--Prep Scores, SD

### Monday's Scores By The Associated Press

#### BOYS PREP BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Christian 57, Waubay/Summit 36  
Mobridge-Pollock 72, Standing Rock, N.D. 44  
Platte-Geddes 55, Gregory 52  
Tea Area 77, Aberdeen Roncalli 47  
Timber Lake 61, Bison 50

#### GIRLS PREP BASKETBALL

Bridgewater-Emery 73, Bon Homme 47  
Crazy Horse 52, Bennett County 39  
Flandreau Indian 65, Walthill, Neb. 45  
Herreid/Selby Area 52, South Border, N.D. 51  
Langford 47, Groton Area 28  
Lemmon 45, Flasher, N.D. 40

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Northwestern 71, Potter County 36  
Tiospa Zina Tribal 68, Sisseton 64  
Tripp-Delmont/Armour 57, Colome 28  
Warner 56, Florence/Henry 30  
Waubay/Summit 50, Aberdeen Christian 18  
Wilmot 47, Tri-State, N.D. 33  
Wynot, Neb. 44, Viborg-Hurley 27  
281 Conference Tournament(equals)  
Consolation Semifinal(equals)  
James Valley Christian 53, Iroquois 21  
Wessington Springs 45, Sunshine Bible Academy 28  
Semifinal(equals)  
Hitchcock-Tulare 41, Highmore-Harrold 38  
Sanborn Central/Woonsocket 60, Wolsey-Wessington 40  
DVC Tournament(equals)  
First Round(equals)  
Arlington 50, Dell Rapids St. Mary 42  
Colman-Egan 60, Lake Preston 53  
Deubrook 59, Elkton-Lake Benton 23  
Estelline/Hendricks 56, Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 30

Some high school basketball scores provided by Scorestream.com, <https://scorestream.com/>

## Rapid City man gets 5 years for robbing Spearfish restaurant

DEADWOOD, S.D. (AP) — A Rapid City man who held up a Spearfish restaurant at gunpoint last summer has been sentenced to serve five years in prison.

Authorities say 19-year-old Daniel Beck Jr. robbed the Pizza Ranch restaurant of more than \$400 on July 30, 2018. He pleaded guilty last November to robbery and prosecutors dropped a grand theft charge related to a stolen vehicle recovered during the investigation.

The Black Hills Pioneer reports Beck was recently sentenced to 10 years in prison with half of the time suspended. He also was ordered to pay restitution to the restaurant and about \$3,625 in court costs and attorney fees.

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

## Bill would void South Dakota transgender athletes policy

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota lawmakers are set to debate a bill this session that would void an activities association policy allowing transgender students to request to play on the athletic team that matches their gender identity.

The legislation introduced Monday would require a student's sex to be determined by their birth certificate or a South Dakota High School Activities Association physical exam form. It means years of legislative debates over transgender students in South Dakota will continue during the 2019 session.

Republican Sen. Jim Bolin, the bill's main sponsor, said the legislation is "all about fair competition" and is patterned after rules in Texas.

"I just firmly believe that those who are males should play in sports designated for males and those who are females ... should play in sports designated for females, according to your birth certificate," Bolin said. "It's about fair competition, and we're not breaking any new ground."

Libby Skarin, policy director at the American Civil Liberties Union of South Dakota, said in a statement that

the measure is another attempt to “single transgender students out for discrimination” in South Dakota. “All young people should have the opportunity to play high school sports and have their personal dignity respected,” Skarin said. “Transgender students are no different. No one is harmed by allowing transgender people to compete consistent with who they are.”

Association Executive Director Dan Swartos said the group is reviewing the measure. He said the association will defend its current policy and address any potential issues it sees resulting from the bill with the sponsors and the committee to which it gets assigned.

A “small number” of students are currently competing with approved waivers for transgender student participation, Swartos said, declining to disclose the exact number for fear of violating their privacy.

The association’s 2015 policy requires a student and parent to notify their school that the student wants to play on the sports team that matches their gender identity.

The school submits an application and documentation to the association for review by an independent hearing officer who must be a licensed attorney and a member of the State Bar of South Dakota. The student or the student’s school can appeal the hearing officer’s decision to the association’s board of directors for a final decision.

Similar bills to void the policy failed in the 2015 and 2016 sessions. Bolin sought to differentiate his proposal from legislation former Gov. Dennis Daugaard vetoed in 2016 that would have restricted which bathrooms transgender students could use at school. That debate spurred national headlines.

“This has nothing to do with bathrooms, locker rooms or shower rooms,” Bolin said. “This has only to do with the eligibility for athletic competition.”

A spokeswoman for Republican Gov. Kristi Noem said in an email that the governor and her team are reviewing the measure.

## **South Dakota House offers support for border barriers**

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota’s Legislature has passed a resolution urging the funding of steel barriers at the southern border as the government shutdown hit its 24th day.

The state House voted 55-13 on Monday for the measure, which senators approved last week. Republican Rep. Tony Randolph, the measure’s House sponsor, says it’s a simple measure to urge the president and Congress to secure the border.

Democratic Rep. Ray Ring, who spoke against the measure, says it goes against “what our country stands for and what our faith stands for.”

Resolutions express the Legislature’s opinions but don’t have the force of law.

President Donald Trump and congressional Democrats have been at an impasse over funding for the proposed wall, which has led to the partial government shutdown.

## **North Dakota officials seek dismissal of road closure suit**

**By BLAKE NICHOLSON, Associated Press**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — North Dakota officials have asked a federal judge to dismiss a lawsuit filed over the five-month closure of a section of highway during the large protests against the Dakota Access oil pipeline, saying they had both the authority and an obligation to do it.

The federal lawsuit brought by two members of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe and a reservation priest alleges that the closure of state Highway 1806 near the pipeline route north of the reservation unduly restricted travel and commerce and violated the free speech and religious rights of them and others. It seeks unspecified monetary damages from state officials, Morton County and TigerSwan, a North Carolina-based company that oversaw private security for the Texas-based pipeline developer, Energy Transfer Partners.

Attorneys for the county and the state officials, including Republican Gov. Doug Burgum, contend in a court filing dated Friday that the highway shutdown was warranted because of “mayhem” caused by some of the thousands of demonstrators who gathered in the area in 2016 and early 2017 to protest the \$3.8

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billion pipeline, which now moves North Dakota oil to Illinois.

"The criminal behavior included trespassing, destruction of private property, vandalism, setting fire to multiple vehicles on the bridge, stampeding bison and shooting at law enforcement personnel in attempts to kill them, unlawfully blocking the highway, throwing Molotov cocktails and other projectiles at law enforcement, and evading and resisting arrest," state Deputy Solicitor General James Nicolai wrote.

State officials closed a stretch of the highway just north of protest camps in October 2016 and didn't reopen it until March 2017, after initial repairs to a bridge were completed and the protest camps were cleared out.

The highway is the main route between the reservation and Bismarck, the nearest large city. Plaintiffs allege that the closure was targeted at them and didn't apply to pipeline workers, who were allowed to continue using that stretch of highway.

Nicolai and Shawn Grinolds, an attorney for Morton County, argue that at one point, the protesters, themselves, blocked the highway with hay bales and other objects and that for months, they ignored an evacuation notice issued by then-Gov. Jack Dalrymple. They argue that pipeline workers had a legitimate reason to use the highway and that blocking others from using it was not retaliatory.

"The plaintiffs' peaceful protests were disrupted by a violent criminal faction that required responsible public officials to take necessary and appropriate steps to quell a criminal riot, protect private property from criminal activity and to ensure public safety," Nicolai said.

TigerSwan asked to be dismissed as a defendant, arguing that it had nothing to do with the decision to close the road. Attorney Lynn Boughey also asked U.S. District Judge Dan Hovland to force the plaintiffs to pay the company's attorney fees.

The three plaintiffs are reservation businesswoman Cissy Thunderhawk, pipeline opponent Waste'Win Young and the Rev. John Floberg of St. James' Episcopal Church in Cannon Ball. They're suing the county, its sheriff, Burgum and Dalrymple, and the heads of the state Transportation Department and Highway Patrol.

In addition to the monetary damages, the lawsuit seeks stricter rules for road closures in such instances and class-action status, meaning it would apply to all affected people, if granted.

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

## Girl's Basketball Polls

By The Associated Press \ \

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Sportswriters Association high school girl's poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records, total points and last week's ranking.

### Class AA

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. O'Gorman	(17)	7-1	112	1	
2. Harrisburg	(6)	8-0	97	2	
3. Brandon Valley	(1)	7-1	77	3	
4. Rapid City Stevens	-	8-2	40	4	
5. Washington	-	7-2	22	5	

Others receiving votes: Brookings 7, Lincoln 5.

### Class A

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs
1. Lennox	(21)	7-1	117	2
2. Winner	(3)	7-0	98	3



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3. Vermillion	(3)	6-1	34	1	
4. Belle Fourche	-	6-0	32	5	
5. St. Thomas More	-	6-0	25	RV	

Others receiving votes: Hamlin 20, McCook Central-Montrose 19, West Central 14, Miller 1.

## Class B

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Ethan	(24)	8-0	120	1	
2. Corsica-Stickney	-	9-0	88	4	
3. Warner	-	7-2	65	2	
4. De Smet	-	8-1	44	3	
5. Faith	-	9-0	41	5	

Others receiving votes: Freeman 1, Irene-Wakonda 1.

## Boy's Basketball Polls

By The Associated Press \

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — The South Dakota Sportswriters Association high school boy's preseason poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records, total points and last week's ranking.

## Class AA

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Lincoln	(24)	7-0	120	1	
2. Yankton	-	9-1	96	2	
3. Stevens	-	7-3	51	4	
4. Brandon Valley	-	6-2	49	5	
5. O'Gorman	-	5-4	28	NR	

Others receiving votes: Huron 16.

## Class A

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Tea Area	(22)	9-1	117	1	
2. SF Christian	(2)	8-0	98	2	
3. St. Thomas More	-	-	8-0	72	3
4. Red Cloud	-	8-2	32	4	
5. Pine Ridge	-	7-2	25	5	

Others receiving votes: Tiospa Zina 10, Dakota Valley 6.

## Class B

Rank-School	FPV	Rcd	TP	Pvs	
1. Bridgewater-Emery	(15)	8-1	104	1	
2. Clark-Willow Lake	(6)	7-0	94	2	
3. White River	(3)	10-0	76	3	
4. Timber Lake	-	7-0	44	4	
5. Aberdeen Christian	-	9-0	23	5	

Others receiving votes: Sully Buttes 4.

## Yankton man sent to prison for 15 years for shootout

YANKTON, S.D. (AP) — A Yankton man has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for a shootout following a law enforcement pursuit.

South Dakota's attorney general said Monday Curt Wayne Adams earlier entered a no contest plea to aggravated assault on a law enforcement officer stemming from an attempted traffic stop in December 2016.

Adams led a North Dakota Highway Patrol trooper on a 20-minute chase. Prosecutors say Adams displayed a weapon during the chase and after his vehicle was stopped exchanged gunfire with the trooper. Adams was struck and wounded by gunfire.

Adams remains jailed in Yankton County until he's transferred to the South Dakota State Penitentiary. He was given an 18-year sentence with three of those years suspended.

## Excerpts from recent South Dakota editorials

By The Associated Press

Rapid City Journal, Jan. 10

Noem's speech had little for the Black Hills

Gov. Kristi Noem served up a predominantly rural assortment of hors d'oeuvres for Tuesday's state of the state address. The annual speech typically sets up expectations for more serious fare in the legislative session.

Noem's tray was heavy on rural issues — promoting pheasant habitat, rural broadband, agriculture and rural housing. A few mystery canapés piqued interest for the Black Hills, such as her big — if undisclosed — plans for Hot Springs, vague references to improved mental health care, and an initiative to stare down methamphetamine.

Rapid City and the Black Hills earned specific mentions related to the importance of Ellsworth Air Force Base. The state must ensure Box Elder, Rapid City and the Black Hills region are equipped to capitalize on Ellsworth's rapid expansion as the B21 replaces the B1, Noem said. We can all hope the transition to an advanced Air Force bomber stimulates the local economy.

A few expected items were conspicuously missing. Noem said she hears from state parents who lie awake at night and wonder if they are a medical emergency away from financial disaster — and that was the entirety of her discussion about health care.

Noem said lawmakers wouldn't raise taxes or needlessly grow the government. Both of those morsels were expected as they featured large in her recent campaigns.

The emphasis she placed on expanding rural broadband was surprising. Half of South Dakota counties have rural areas where one in four people lacks broadband access, Noem said, announcing intentions to close this high-speed internet gap.

Rural broadband has been a perennial focus. The South Dakota Dashboard recently released a report that concluded rural connectivity in this state significantly exceeds national averages. This was despite the fact that, with fewer than five residents per square mile, deploying fiber costs on average \$3,571 per resident in rural regions compared with about \$26 per resident in densely populated Sioux Falls.

To improve pheasant habitat, meanwhile, Noem proposed voluntary funding solutions, such as premium hunting tags and conservation themed license plates. Yet she also praised and promoted ethanol expansion, which has been a primary driver in the conversion of pheasant habitat to cropland. It's hard to fight market trends, but maybe voluntary funding measures can somewhat slow habitat conversion.

Noem said the search was on for the "Next Big Thing," hoping to repeat Gov. Bill Janklow's credit card coup of the early 1980's. There aren't a lot of winning lottery tickets lying on the ground, but maybe South Dakota will get lucky again.

To ease the gap in affordable rural housing, Noem announced a pilot project where communities of

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less than 5,000 people could purchase prison-built modular units to rent at affordable rates. Rapid City, meanwhile, deals with serious affordable housing issues.

To address the shortage of skilled workers for the state's workforce, Noem said she would promote high school career weeks, "when every high school student will get out of the classroom to experience a day on the job." It's always worthwhile to spend time with a truly interested student, but few businesses can spare the time to shepherd apathetic students present only to fulfill class requirements. Tuition support for technical schools might be more productive.

Meanwhile, Noem proposes every high school graduate be able to pass the United States citizenship exam — a proposal that drew the loudest cheers from lawmakers. Democracy depends on an informed citizenry, but another government-mandated test seems a strange choice after all the effort to repeal nationally mandated tests. Teaching to the test — memorizing rote facts and figures — does little to promote true understanding. As a side note, it might be interesting to find out how many legislators could pass this test.

Overall, Noem's presentation left her Black Hills public wishing for something more substantial. Perhaps the Legislature will serve up some real meat and potatoes.

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Madison Daily Leader, Madison, Jan. 9

Noem speech presents startling meth picture

Gov. Kristi Noem presented her first State of the State speech Tuesday and included a startling picture of the methamphetamine crisis plaguing our state.

We all hear about meth in South Dakota, and some of us even hear about how it has grown into a statewide crisis. But not many heard the statistics Noem presented.

In 2011, there were 402 meth arrests in South Dakota. Those arrests led to the seizure of approximately 4,300 grams of meth. Look ahead seven years to 2018. We have gone from 402 arrests to 3,366 — and that doesn't even include December 2018. The amount of meth seized in these arrests has increased from approximately 4,300 grams to nearly 40,000 grams — a nearly tenfold increase.

Some of the increase is likely due to increased law enforcement, but no one can argue that meth abuse hasn't grown.

And in our opinion, no one can say that meth use is a "victimless" crime. People are dying. Families and communities in South Dakota are being destroyed.

We're alarmed, saddened and angered to hear about the rapid growth in meth abuse and the damage caused by it. We can add "fearful" as we consider the possibility of that growth rate continuing.

We talk with local law enforcement and hear awful stories. Our criminal justice system — from law enforcement officers and courts to jails and treatment facilities — are strained by meth.

This problem should define the 2019 legislative session and the first years of the Noem administration. We need a full-effort attack on the problem, using resources to turn back the tide. Noem is right in saying it will take strong efforts in prevention, education, enforcement and treatment.

We're eager to hear the debate in the Legislature as lawmakers work to establish and fund the best methods to win our state's war against meth.

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Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Jan. 7

Noem's Promise To 'Future Generations'

Meet the new boss: South Dakota has a new governor, as Kristi Noem took the oath of office Saturday in Pierre.

It was a historic moment as our state officially swore in its first female governor. However, this sense of history may have felt muted for some of us, which is the feeling you may have gotten when someone who's been a political household name in this state for eight years and who hails from the party that's controlled the executive branch for 40 years is elected governor — it's more like "same as the old boss," in a way.

That being said, Noem's inaugural speech touched on numerous familiar themes, but one point in particular has a lot of possibilities.

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She said people have asked her how she wanted her governorship to someday be remembered. "To that end, when this is all over," she said, "I want to be a governor for the next generation."

She elaborated, " ... whether it's tackling the meth crisis that is hurting so many families and children, strengthening our schools and revitalizing civics in the classroom, keeping taxes and regulation low, or creating more habitat for wildlife so that our hunting traditions can be passed on — the north star that I want to follow with each decision I make as governor is the impact on the next generation. How does this policy, this legislation, this program, impact the next generation of South Dakotans?"

This represents a broad — and potentially ambitious — vision.

For instance, the drug problems in this state stretch beyond meth. Opioids are becoming an increasing issue, as well. Also, do we deal with these problems by getting those addicted more help, or do we make even tougher laws that emphasize incarceration over treatment? This debate may be looming shortly in Pierre.

Another issue facing the next generation is economic opportunity in this state. This, too, is quite expansive. It's not simply about making sure there are good-paying jobs that will either attract young people to this state or that will keep them here. It's also about finding enough workers so that the next generation of entrepreneurs can actually make a go of it with their ideas. South Dakota is blessed with low unemployment, but that's also come to mean it's cursed with a lack of workers for so many open jobs, including openings in the Yankton area. If we don't have the workers, how can we grow economically? That's a critical issue everywhere, and the Noem administration needs to start addressing it as soon as possible.

Certainly, education is important to the next generation, which is on the front lines of this issue. This matter ranges from addressing teacher pay and teacher shortages to determining whether the notion of state-funded preschool education should be considered a practical investment. (Here's a hint: yes.) If the next generation is a priority, this issue is arguably where it all starts.

The situation on the state's Native American reservations must be confronted head-on. Poverty and drugs are rampant, and it often seems that hope is just a worn-out myth. Working with the next generation in mind includes helping the current generations on tribal lands and reversing this destructive cycle as much as possible.

There are other issues — ranging from the rising suicide rate and climate change to highway infrastructure and high-speed internet access — that will also impact the next generation. These cannot be forgotten.

The fact that Noem mentions the impact on the next generation as the legacy she hopes to forge is not unimportant. It sets a higher bar than many people (including, perhaps, the new governor herself) might realize.

Here's hoping her vision is more than rhetorical and that her governorship lives up to that promising vow.

## Panel rejects letting voters wear political attire to polls

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A South Dakota legislative panel on Monday rejected a bill that would have let voters wear political attire while casting their ballots.

The Senate State Affairs Committee voted unanimously against the measure, which would have allowed voters to wear political clothing and buttons while retaining a prohibition on campaign posters and signs inside polling places or near their entrances.

Right now, the law says people can't display campaign posters, signs or "other campaign materials" in a polling place or within 100 feet of its entrance.

Republican Sen. Stace Nelson, the bill's main sponsor, said he believes South Dakota's law violates people's First Amendment rights.

"If we continue down this line and we have someone that ... tries to enforce this at the polling place and harasses an actual voter, South Dakota could get sued," Nelson said.

Democratic Sen. Craig Kennedy, a bill opponent, said the measure was an "unnecessary and unreasonable" change to what's permitted in or near polling places.

The bill came after a Supreme Court ruling last year striking down Minnesota's broad restrictions on

voters wearing political hats, T-shirts and pins to the polls.

Most states restrict what people can wear when they vote, but Minnesota's restraints were some of the broadest. The high court ruling did say states can place limits on such apparel.

## Trump's AG pick to face questions on his Russia probe views

By MICHAEL BALSAMO and ERIC TUCKER, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump's attorney general nominee will have to navigate his confirmation hearing skillfully, emphasizing his support for Trump's policies while assuring Democrats he will act independently and won't interfere with the special counsel's Russia investigation.

Barr will face questions Tuesday from the Senate Judiciary Committee about his relationship with Trump and his views on executive powers.

Barr plans to tell legislators that Trump never sought any promises, assurances or commitments — and that he didn't offer Trump any — before he was nominated for the post.

Trump has repeatedly complained that his first attorney general, Jeff Sessions, was insufficiently loyal because he recused himself from special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into potential ties between Russia and the 2016 Trump campaign. Trump ultimately forced Sessions from office.

Barr, 68, is expected to be confirmed, unless there is a major surprise during the hearing. It would be his second stint as attorney general, a position he held from 1991 to 1993 during the George H.W. Bush administration.

The hearing will be the first time a high-profile nominee will come before the committee since it considered the Supreme Court nomination of Brett Kavanaugh, who was accused of sexual misconduct. The panel has a new chairman, Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C.

On Monday, the Justice Department moved to pre-empt the most significant questions that Barr is likely to face by releasing his prepared remarks. Barr plans to tell the senators that it is "vitaly important" that Mueller be allowed to complete his investigation and that he believes Congress and the public should learn the results.

"I believe it is in the best interest of everyone — the president, Congress, and, most importantly, the American people — that this matter be resolved by allowing the special counsel to complete his work," Barr says.

Barr describes Mueller, a former Justice Department colleague, as a friend he has known personally and professionally for 30 years. Mueller headed the department's criminal division when Barr served as attorney general.

The special counsel is required to confidentially report his findings to the Justice Department. In his prepared remarks, Barr stops short of directly pledging to release Mueller's report, but he expresses general support for disclosing the findings, whatever they may be.

Democrats had raised concerns about Barr's prior comments about the Russia investigation, including an unsolicited memo he sent to Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein last year criticizing the inquiry into whether the president had obstructed justice.

Barr also sent the memo to White House lawyers and discussed it with Trump's personal attorneys and a lawyer who represents Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, he said in a letter to Graham. Copies also were sent by Barr to White House lawyer Emmet Flood, Solicitor General Noel Francisco and Pat Cipollone, who is now White House counsel. Barr said he discussed the contents of the memo with Trump's attorneys, Jay Sekulow and Jane and Martin Raskin.

The development is likely to raise even more questions at the hearing about Barr's contact with those close to Trump ahead of his nomination. He has insisted that the memo was not to influence public opinion about Mueller's investigation.

Barr has previously said the president's firing of FBI Director James Comey was appropriate and that the Mueller prosecution team, criticized by Trump for including prosecutors who have contributed to Demo-



crats, should have had more "balance."

Barr's role leading the Russia investigation may be especially important since Rosenstein, who has overseen the day-to-day work of Mueller's team, expects to leave the Justice Department soon after Barr is confirmed. It is not clear how much of the investigation will be left by then.

Barr would replace acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker, who declined to recuse himself from the investigation — despite the advice of a Justice Department ethics official and calls from Democrats who cited Whitaker's past critical comments on the probe.

Read Barr's prepared testimony: <http://apne.ws/x87UoUn>

## Broadway legend Carol Channing has died at age 97

By MARK KENNEDY, AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Carol Channing, the lanky, ebullient musical comedy star who delighted American audiences over almost 5,000 performances as the scheming Dolly Levi in "Hello, Dolly" on Broadway and beyond, has died. She was 97.

Publicist B. Harlan Boll said Channing died of natural causes at 12:31 a.m. Tuesday in Rancho Mirage, California. Boll says she had twice suffered strokes in the last year.

Besides "Hello, Dolly," Channing starred in other Broadway shows, but none with equal magnetism. She often appeared on television and in nightclubs, for a time partnering with George Burns in Las Vegas and a national tour.

Her outsized personality seemed too much for the screen, and she made only a few movies, notably "The First Traveling Saleslady" with Ginger Rogers and "Thoroughly Modern Millie" with Julie Andrews.

Over the years, Channing continued as Dolly in national tours, the last in 1996, when she was in her 70s. Tom Shales of The Washington Post called her "the ninth wonder of the world."

Channing was not the immediate choice to play Dolly, a matchmaker who receives her toughest challenge yet when a rich grump seeks a suitable wife. The show, which features a rousing score by Jerry Herman that's bursting with joy and tunes like "Put On Your Sunday Clothes," "Before the Parade Passes By" and "It Only Takes a Moment," is a musical version of Thornton Wilder's play "The Matchmaker."

Theater producer David Merrick told her: "I don't want that silly grin with all those teeth that go back to your ears." Even though director Gower Champion had worked on her first Broadway hit, "Lend an Ear," he had doubts about Channing's casting.

She wowed them in an audition and was hired on the spot. At opening night on Jan. 16, 1964, when Channing appeared at the top of the stairs in a red gown with feathers in her hair and walked down the red carpet to the Harmonia Gardens restaurant, the casehardened New York audience went crazy. The critics followed suit. "Hello, Dolly" collected 10 Tony Awards, including one for Channing as best actress in a musical.

She was born Jan. 31, 1921, in Seattle, where her father, George Channing, was a newspaper editor. When his only child was 3 months old, he moved to San Francisco and worked as a writer for the Christian Science Monitor and as a lecturer. He later became editor-in-chief of Christian Science publications.

At the age of 7, Channing decided she wanted to become an entertainer. She credited her father with encouraging her: "He told me you can dedicate your life at 7 or 97. And the people who do that are happier people."

While majoring in drama and dance at Bennington College in Vermont, she was sent off to get experience in her chosen field. She found a job in a New York revue. The show lasted only two weeks, but a New Yorker magazine critic commented, "You will hear more about a satiric chanteuse named Carol Channing." She said later: "That was it. I said goodbye to trigonometry, zoology and English literature."

For several years she worked as an understudy, bit player and nightclub impressionist, taking jobs as a model, receptionist and sales clerk during lean times. Landing in Los Angeles, she auditioned for Marge Champion, wife and dance partner of Gower Champion who was putting together a revue, "Lend an Ear."

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Marge Champion recalled: "She certainly was awkward and odd-looking, but her warmth and wholesomeness came through."

Channing was the hit of "Lend an Ear" in a small Hollywood theater, and she captivated audiences and critics when the show moved to New York. As the innocent gold digger in the musical "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes," her stardom was assured. One reviewer reported she "hurls across the footlights in broad strokes of pantomime and bold, certain, exquisitely comical gestures." The show's hit song, "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend," became her signature number.

Over and over again she returned to the surefire "Hello, Dolly," which earned her \$5 million on one tour. She considered Dolly Levi "a role as deep as Lady Macbeth," but added that "the essence of her character was her unquenchable thirst for life." That description fit Carol Channing, who attributed her sunny optimism to her lifelong faith in Christian Science.

Others who have played the role include Pearl Bailey, Phillis Diller, Betty Grable, Ethel Merman, Martha Raye, Ginger Rogers and Barbra Streisand, who played Dolly in a 1969 film version directed by Gene Kelly. Bette Midler won a Tony Award in the role in 2017.

Channing had two early marriages that ended in divorce — to novelist Theodore Naidish and pro footballer Alexander Carson, father of her only child, Channing. Her son became a successful political cartoonist.

In 1956 she married a television producer, Charles Lowe, who seemed like the perfect mate for a major star. He adopted Channing's son and supervised every aspect of her business affairs and appearances. He reportedly viewed every one of her performances from out front, leading the applause.

After 41 years of marriage, she sued for divorce in 1998, alleging that he misappropriated her funds and humiliated her in public. She remarked that they only had sex twice in four decades.

"The only thing about control freak victims is that they don't know who they are," she told The Washington Post. "It's taken me 77 years to figure that out. I was miserable. I was unhappy. And I didn't realize it wasn't my fault. But I'm going to survive. I'm going to live. I'm free."

Lowe died after a stroke in 1999. Channing moved to Rancho Mirage near Palm Springs, California, in 2000 to write her memoirs. She called the book "Just Lucky, I Guess."

Channing remarried in 2003 to Harry Kullijian, her childhood sweetheart from 70 years before. He died in 2011.

In her book, Channing recounted an early story from her childhood that showed a budding audience-pleasing performer. She wrote that she came home from kindergarten and noted that all the little girls hit the little boys.

Her parents asked: "Do you?"

She responded: "Oh no, I pet them."

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Associated Press writer Shawn Marsh in New York contributed to this report.

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Follow Mark Kennedy on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/KennedyTwits>

## China criticizes Trudeau comments on death penalty case

By YANAN WANG, Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China expressed its "strong dissatisfaction" with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Tuesday over his criticism of a death sentence given to a Canadian accused of drug smuggling at a retrial that followed a chilling of relations over the arrest of a senior Chinese technology executive.

Trudeau should "respect the rule of law, respect China's judicial sovereignty, correct mistakes and stop making irresponsible remarks," foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said.

"We express our strong dissatisfaction with this," Hua told reporters at a daily briefing.

Her comments are the latest sign of a sharp cooling of China-Canada ties since Canada detained Meng Wanzhou, chief financial officer of Chinese telecommunications giant Huawei, on Dec. 1 at the request of the United States.

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The U.S. wants Meng extradited to face charges that she committed fraud by misleading banks about the company's business dealings in Iran.

The Liaoning provincial court in northeastern China announced the death sentence for 36-year-old Robert Lloyd Schellenberg on Monday.

Schellenberg was detained more than four years ago, went on trial in 2016 and was initially sentenced to 15 years in prison in November. The Chinese media began republicizing Schellenberg's case after Meng's detention. Within weeks, an appeals court suddenly reversed the earlier decision, saying the sentence was too lenient, and scheduled Monday's retrial with just four days' notice.

The court gave no indication that the death penalty could be commuted, but observers said Schellenberg's fate is likely to be drawn into diplomatic negotiations over China's demand for Meng's release.

Schellenberg's defense lawyer, Zhang Dongshuo, said his client plans to appeal the verdict.

"I can't tell you the relationship between Mr. Schellenberg's last appeal procedure and sensitive events which happened in Canada," Zhang said, but he described the timing of Schellenberg's appeal and retrial as "very significant."

He declined to elaborate on the significance or to comment specifically on whether recent developments were linked to Meng.

Zhang, a Beijing-based lawyer who has taken on several high-profile cases involving foreigners arrested in China, previously represented Phan "Sandy" Phan-Gillis, an American woman convicted of espionage and deported back to the U.S. in 2017.

Questions have swirled over the court's rapid retrial and sentencing of Schellenberg. Zhang said while the court's actions were all lawful, they were also "abnormal." Among the unusual features of the proceedings, according to Zhang: the public nature of Schellenberg's December appeal, the swift scheduling of the retrial and the fact that the court announced its sentence just one hour after the trial ended Monday.

Trudeau suggested on Monday that China was using its judicial system to pressure Canada over the arrest of Meng, who is also the daughter of Huawei's founder.

"All countries around the world" should be concerned that Beijing is acting arbitrarily with its justice system, Trudeau said.

"It is of extreme concern to us as a government, as it should be to all our international friends and allies, that China has chosen to begin to arbitrarily apply a death penalty," Trudeau said.

Canada later updated its travel advisory for China, urging Canadians to "exercise a high degree of caution due to the risk of arbitrary enforcement of local laws."

Hua dismissed such concerns, saying the 222 kilograms (489 pounds) of methamphetamine that Schellenberg was accused of smuggling merited the harsh penalty.

"When facing such a serious drug smuggling crime, I think any responsible government that takes resolute measures to deal with the case just reflects the responsible attitude and strong determination of the government in protecting the lives and safety of its people," Hua said.

A Chinese man convicted of involvement in the same operation was earlier given a suspended death sentence.

Describing the case as "highly politicized," the human rights group Amnesty International urged that Schellenberg's sentence be revoked.

"The sudden retrial and apparent rush to judgment has highlighted the numerous flaws in China's judicial system," China researcher William Nee said in a statement.

Since Meng's detention, China has arrested two Canadians in apparent retaliation. Michael Kovrig, a former diplomat, and Michael Spavor, a businessman, were both arrested on vague national security allegations. A Canadian teacher was detained but released.

Hua on Monday denied Kovrig was eligible for diplomatic immunity as Trudeau has maintained.

A senior Canadian government official said Chinese officials have been questioning Kovrig about his diplomatic work in China, which is a major reason why Trudeau is asserting diplomatic immunity. The official, who was not authorized to comment publicly about the case, spoke on condition of anonymity.

Kovrig, a Northeast Asia analyst for the International Crisis Group think tank, was on a leave of absence from the Canadian government at the time of his arrest last month.

Ren Zhengfei, Meng's father and Huawei's founder, told foreign reporters on Tuesday that he doesn't believe the death sentence and arrests of the Canadians are related to Meng's detention.

"Personally, I don't see a connection between these cases and Meng Wanzhou," he said.

Canada has embarked on a campaign with allies to win the release of Kovrig and Spavor. The United States, Britain, European Union and Australia have issued statements in support. Trudeau called U.S. President Donald Trump about their case last week and the White House called the arrests "unlawful."

Last week, Poland arrested a Huawei director and one of its own former cybersecurity experts and charged them with spying for China. The move came amid a U.S. campaign to exert pressure on its allies not to use Huawei, the world's biggest maker of telecommunications network equipment, over data security concerns.

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Associated Press writer Christopher Bodeen in Beijing contributed to this report.

## **UK lawmakers prepare to deliver verdict on EU divorce deal**

**By JILL LAWLESS and DANICA KIRKA, Associated Press**

LONDON (AP) — British lawmakers were preparing to deliver their verdict on Prime Minister Theresa May's divorce deal with the European Union on Tuesday after more than two years of political upheaval.

All signs point to it receiving a resounding thumbs-down from Parliament, a development that would throw British politics further into turmoil, just 10 weeks before Britain is due to leave the EU on March 29.

Despite a last-ditch plea from May for legislators to give the deal "a second look," it faces deep opposition from both sides of Britain's divide over Europe. Pro-Brexit lawmakers say the deal will leave Britain bound indefinitely to EU rules, while pro-EU politicians favor an even closer economic relationship with the bloc.

That leaves the agreement facing likely defeat on a day that could bring a very British mix of high drama, low insults and convoluted parliamentary procedure. The government and opposition parties ordered lawmakers to cancel all other plans to be on hand for the crucial vote. One Labour legislator, Tulip Siddiq, delayed the scheduled cesarean birth of her son so she could attend.

Environment Secretary Michael Gove urged colleagues not to let their visions of a perfect Brexit get in the way of what he said was a good deal.

"The real danger is if people do not vote for the government this evening, we face either a no-deal Brexit, with the short-term economic damage that would bring, or worse: no Brexit at all," Gove told the BBC.

Lawmakers are scheduled to vote Tuesday evening, after the last of five days of debate on the deal struck between May's government and the EU in November. May postponed a vote on the deal in December to avoid a resounding defeat, and there are few signs sentiment has changed significantly since then.

In the last few weeks May has sought new reassurances on the deal's most contentious section, an insurance policy known as the "backstop" designed to prevent the reintroduction of border controls between the U.K.'s Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland.

But assurances from EU leaders that the backstop is intended as a temporary measure of last resort have failed to win over many skeptics, and the EU is adamant that it will not renegotiate the 585-page withdrawal agreement.

In a sign of the widespread opposition, Parliament's unelected upper chamber, the House of Lords, voted by 321 to 152 late Monday in favor of a motion saying May's deal would damage Britain's economic prosperity, internal security and global influence, while also rejecting the idea of leaving the EU without a deal.

The Lords' vote has no direct effect on the fate of May's deal.

May says rejecting the agreement would lead either to a reversal of Brexit — overturning voters' decision in a 2016 referendum — or to Britain leaving the bloc without a deal. Economists warn that an abrupt break from the EU could batter the British economy and bring chaotic scenes at borders, ports and airports.

Former education minister Nicky Morgan, who said she planned to vote for May's agreement, warned



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that the U.K. wasn't ready for the economic upheaval of a no-deal Brexit.

"There are millions of people in this country watching Westminster and Parliament very anxiously today," she told the BBC.

If Parliament votes down the deal, May has until Monday to come up with a new proposal. So far, May has refused publicly to speculate on a possible "Plan B."

Some Conservatives expect her to seek further talks with EU leaders on changes before bringing a tweaked version of the bill back to Parliament.

Germany's foreign minister played down the possibility of May getting a better deal.

Heiko Maas told reporters in Strasbourg that while there would probably be new talks with the EU, he doesn't believe that "completely new solutions" will be offered "that are not related to what has been negotiated and decided on so far."

German news agency dpa reported Maas said that he's "skeptical that the entire agreement can be re-opened."

May's position will be precarious if her deal is defeated by a large margin. The main opposition Labour Party says it will call a no-confidence vote in the government if the deal is defeated in an attempt to trigger a general election.

The party has not disclosed the timing of such a motion, which could come as early as Tuesday night. Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn told colleagues on Monday that a no-confidence vote was "coming soon."

Amid the uncertainty, some members of Parliament from both government and opposition parties are exploring ways to use parliamentary procedures to wrest control of the Brexit process away from the government, so that lawmakers by majority vote could specify a new plan for Britain's EU exit.

But with no clear majority in Parliament for any single alternate course, there is a growing chance that Britain may seek to postpone its departure date while politicians work on a new plan.

Business groups appealed for lawmakers to back the deal to provide certainty about the future.

Mike Hawes, chief executive of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said lawmakers "hold the future of the British automotive industry — and the hundreds and thousands of jobs it supports — in their hands.

"Brexit is already causing us damage, in output, costs and jobs, but this does not compare with the catastrophic consequences of being cut adrift from our biggest trading partner overnight," he said.

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Frank Jordans in Berlin contributed to this story.

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Follow AP's full coverage of Brexit at: <https://www.apnews.com/Brexit>

## Desperate parents and discount marijuana: DC in a shutdown

By ASHRAF KHALIL, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — No city experiences a shutdown quite like Washington.

Besides the economic impact, a shutdown warps the nation's capital on a cultural, recreational and logistical level -- touching everybody from garbage collectors to young parents, prospective newlyweds to aspiring Eagle Scouts.

The current partial shutdown, now in a record fourth week, has also provided a quiet boon for Mayor Muriel Bowser's government, which rushed into the void to claim unprecedented new powers while making a public show of literally cleaning up the federal government's mess.

The economic situation is, of course, brutal. Recent surveys estimate that the federal government directly employs more than 364,000 people in the greater Washington area including northern Virginia and southern Maryland. The District of Columbia alone -- population 700,000 -- contains more than 102,000 jobs in agencies that are now without appropriations funding.

Deputy City Administrator Kevin Donahue made the analogy to the main plant shutting down in a factory town -- with the subsequent knock-on effect through the service industries like restaurants, food trucks,



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entertainment and taxis.

"What keeps us up at night is not the work we know we have to do in weeks one and two," Donahue said. It's the unpredictable impacts of weeks four and five and onward, he said, with the potential for mass restaurant closures or residents missing payments on rent, mortgages, car loans or school fees.

Most immediately, the shutdown created a logistical and public health problem. The district is riddled with National Park Service land, ranging from the National Mall to urban green spaces like Dupont Circle and dozens of neighborhood parks.

Washington sanitation crews now empty the trash bins at 122 separate NPS sites -- three times a day in the case of the bins at the National Mall. It's costing at least \$54,000 per week in overtime, and Donahue said there's a handshake agreement dating back to previous shutdowns that Washington will be compensated when the government reopens. The NPS recently announced it would tap into other funds to resume its own trash pickup at some -- but not all -- of the Washington sites.

"There's a past practice of reimbursement," Donahue said. "But they don't have a legal obligation to compensate us."

Given Washington's tortured relationship with the federal government, which can essentially alter or block any local law, city officials have seemingly relished the chance to highlight the ironies of the moment. They frequently claim they are treated by Congress as if they can't handle their own affairs; now they're taking over and covering for a dysfunctional central government.

"When the federal government shuts down, we step up," Bowser said during a Jan. 4 news conference with Washington's nonvoting congressional delegate, Eleanor Holmes Norton, to announce a renewed push this year for district statehood.

The shutdown cuts a cultural swath through the lives of city residents. The entire Smithsonian network of museums, including the zoo, closed their doors about a week into the shutdown, and quasi-federal entities like the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts have severely cut back their hours.

On a recent weekend, the usual Saturday morning kids' drumming workshop at the BloomBars cultural center in Columbia Heights drew nearly triple the usual crowd, with parents and strollers lined halfway up the block in the rain. The reason: desperate parents searching for something to occupy their kids in a city where more than a dozen free museums and the zoo have been shuttered.

"It happens every time," laughed BloomBars founder John Chambers, who recalls an identical spike during the 16-day 2013 shutdown. "But this time it feels like there's more of a panic among people because (this shutdown) genuinely seems open-ended."

The district is littered with shutdown specials -- offering furloughed federal employees discounts on everything from food and drink to live theater and medical marijuana.

Examples of unexpected shutdown fallout are all around. High school senior Yosias Zelalem was all set to secure his Eagle Scout rank with a project to repair park benches along the Mount Vernon Trail. But his liaison at the NPS has been furloughed and the project is frozen.

"I didn't really think about it until New Year's came and went," said Zelalem, who needs to complete the project before he turns 18 on March 27. "I honestly didn't expect it to go on this long. Now everybody's talking like this could go for months."

One of the more random side-effects of shutdown: the closure of the marriage bureau.

Bowser told The Associated Press that even she was surprised to learn that local couples couldn't get their marriage licenses because Congress funds the local court system. Divorce proceedings, however, were unaffected.

Bowser quickly tapped allies on the Council of the District of Columbia to pass emergency legislation called the Let Our Vows Endure (LOVE) act, which granted her administration the right to issue marriage licenses. In addition to an enjoyable public victory that drew national attention, Bowser's administration just stepped into the federal void to claim a whole new power ahead of an impending district statehood push.

At a recent event to sign the LOVE act into law, Bowser -- flanked by grateful newlyweds -- said, "Just so my team knows, we're probably going to want to keep that power."

Nobody laughed and she didn't seem to be joking.

For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. government shutdown: <https://apnews.com/GovernmentShutdown>

Follow Khalil on Twitter at [www.Twitter.com/Ashrafkhalil](http://www.Twitter.com/Ashrafkhalil)

## Trump says solution to shutdown impasse 'so simple'

By CATHERINE LUCEY and JILL COLVIN, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the government mired in shutdown week four, President Donald Trump rejected a short-term legislative fix and dug in for more combat, declaring he would “never ever back down.”

Trump rejected a suggestion to reopen the government for several weeks while negotiations would continue with Democrats over his demands for \$5.7 billion for a long, impregnable wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. The president also edged further away from the idea of trying to declare a national emergency to circumvent Congress.

“I’m not looking to call a national emergency,” Trump said Monday. “This is so simple we shouldn’t have to.”

No cracks were apparent in the president’s deadlock with lawmakers after a weekend with no negotiations at all. His rejection of the short-term option proposed by Republican Sen. Lindsay Graham removed one path forward, and little else was in sight. Congressional Republicans were watching Trump for a signal for how to move next, and Democrats have not budged from their refusal to fund the wall and their demand that he reopen government before border talks resume.

The White House has been considering reaching out to rank-and-file Democrats rather than dealing with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer to try to chip away at Democratic opposition to the wall. A White House official said plans were in the works to call freshman representatives, especially those who initially did not support Pelosi’s bid for the speakership.

It was uncertain whether any Democrats would respond to the invitation.

Separately, around a dozen senators from both parties met Monday to discuss ways out of the shutdown gridlock. Participants included Graham and Sens. Susan Collins, R-Maine, Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., and Tim Kaine, D-Va.

Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., was aware of the group’s effort but added, “I wouldn’t go so far as to say he’s blessed it.” The odds of the group producing an actual solution without Trump’s approval seemed slim. In the past, centrists of both parties banding together have seldom resolved major partisan disputes.

Lawmakers returned to Capitol Hill late Monday “discouraged,” according to GOP Sen. Mike Rounds of South Dakota, as all signals pointed to a protracted fight.

Alabama Sen. Richard Shelby, the GOP chairman of the Appropriations Committee, compared the shutdown saga to the play “Waiting for Godot.”

“And Godot never shows up,” Shelby said. “We could be protracted here for a long time. There’s nobody on the horse coming to rescue us ... that I know about.”

Meanwhile, the impact of the 25-day partial government closure was intensifying around the country. Some 800,000 federal workers missed paychecks Friday, deepening anxieties about mortgage payments and unpaid bills, and about half of them were off the job, cutting off some services. Travelers at the Atlanta airport, the nation’s busiest, dealt with waits of more than an hour Monday as no-shows by security screeners soared.

Trump spent the weekend in the White House reaching out to aides and lawmakers and tweeting aggressively about Democratic foes as he tried to make the case that the wall was needed on both security and humanitarian grounds. He stressed that argument repeatedly during a speech at a farming convention in New Orleans on Monday, insisting there was “no substitute” for a wall or a barrier along the southern border.

Trump has continued to insist he has the power to sign an emergency declaration to deal with what he

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says is a crisis of drug smuggling and trafficking of women and children at the border. But he now appears to be in no rush to make such a declaration.

Instead, he is focused on pushing Democrats to return to the negotiating table — though he walked out of the most recent talks last week — and seized on the fact that a group of House and Senate Democrats were on a retreat in Puerto Rico. Democrats, he argued, were partying on a beach rather than negotiating — though Pelosi and Schumer were not on the trip.

White House officials cautioned that an emergency order remains on the table. Many inside and outside the White House hold that it may be the best option to end the budget standoff, reopening the government while allowing Trump to tell his base supporters he didn't cave on the wall.

However, some GOP lawmakers — as well as White House aides — have counseled against it, concerned that an emergency declaration would immediately be challenged in court. Others have raised concerns about re-routing money from other projects, including money Congress approved for disaster aid. Lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have also warned that acting under an emergency order would set a troubling precedent for executive power.

For now, Trump apparently sees value in his extended fight to fulfill a key campaign pledge, knowing that his supporters — whom he'll need to turn out in 2020 to win re-election — don't want to see him back down.

Trump was taking a wide range of advice on both sides of the issue, including from his new chief of staff, Mick Mulvaney, senior aide and son-in-law Jared Kushner, and Rep. Mark Meadows, as well as outside political advisers.

In the House, Democrats look to keep the pressure on Trump by holding votes this week on two bills: one that would reopen the government until Feb. 1, and a second that would reopen it until Feb. 28.

Rep. Nita Lowey of New York, the top Democrat on the Appropriations Committee, said the bills offer "additional options" to end the shutdown and would give lawmakers time for negotiations on border security and immigration.

A key question is how long Trump is willing to hold out in hopes of extracting concessions from Democrats.

Recent polling finds a slight majority of Americans opposed to building a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border — and few see the situation at the border as a crisis — but views are predictably divided by partisanship.

Polls also show that Americans are more likely to fault Trump for the shutdown. A large majority of Democrats put responsibility on Trump, while a slightly smaller majority of Republicans blame Democrats. A modest share of Republicans either hold Trump responsible or say both sides are at fault.

A Washington Post-ABC News poll published Jan. 13 found that 54 percent of Americans oppose a wall along the border, while 42 percent express support for it. Fully 87 percent of Republicans favor the wall, compared with about as many Democrats (84 percent) who are opposed.

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For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. government shutdown: <https://apnews.com/GovernmentShutdown>

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AP Writers Darlene Superville, Matthew Daly, Jonathan Lemire, Alan Fram and Lisa Mascaro contributed to this article.

## Iran says it's launched a satellite that didn't reach orbit

By **NASSER KARIMI, Associated Press**

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran on Tuesday conducted one of at least two satellite launches it plans despite criticism from the United States, but the satellite failed to reach orbit.

The rocket carrying the Payam satellite failed to reach the "necessary speed" in the third stage of its launch, Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Javad Azari Jahromi said.

Jahromi said the rocket had successfully passed its first and second stages before developing problems in the third. He did not elaborate on what caused the rocket failure, but promised that Iranian scientists would continue their work.

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Tuesday's launch took place at Imam Khomeini Space Center in Iran's Semnan province, a facility under the control of the country's Defense Ministry, Jahromi said. Satellite images published last week and first reported by CNN showed activity at the launch site. Given the facility's launching corridor, the satellite likely fell in the Indian Ocean.

Iran had said that it plans to send two satellites, Payam and Doosti, into the orbit. Payam means "message" in Farsi, while Doosti means "friendship."

It's unclear how the failure of the Payam will affect the launch timing for the Doosti. Jahromi wrote on Twitter that "Doosti is waiting for orbit," without elaborating.

Iranian state television aired footage of its reporter narrating the launch of the Simorgh rocket, shouting over its roar that it sent "a message of the pride, self-confidence and willpower of Iranian youth to the world!"

The TV footage shows the rocket becoming just a pinpoint of light in the darkened sky and not the moment of its failure. Jahromi's comments that the problem developed in the launch's third stage suggest something went wrong after the rocket pushed the satellite out of the Earth's atmosphere.

The Simorgh, meaning "phoenix" in Farsi, has been used in previous satellite launches. It is larger than an earlier model known as the Safir, or "ambassador," that Iran previously used to launch satellites.

Iran usually displays space achievements in February during the anniversary of its 1979 Islamic Revolution. This year will mark the 40th anniversary of the revolution amid Iran facing increasing pressure from the U.S. under the administration of President Donald Trump.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has said that Iran's plans for sending satellites into orbit demonstrate the country's defiance of a U.N. Security Council resolution that calls on Iran to undertake no activity related to ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear weapons.

In Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promptly slammed Iran over the launch, accusing Tehran of lying and alleging that the "innocent satellite" was actually "the first stage of an intercontinental missile" Iran is developing in violation of international agreements.

Iran insists the launches do not violate the resolution.

Over the past decade, Iran has sent several short-lived satellites into orbit and in 2013 launched a monkey into space. The U.S. and its allies worry the same satellite-launching technology could be used to develop long-range missiles capable that could carry nuclear weapons.

Iran denies wanting nuclear weapons. A 2015 nuclear deal it struck with world powers limited its enrichment of uranium in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions.

However, Trump pulled America out of the deal in May. While United Nations inspectors say Iran has honored the deal up to this point, it has threatened to resume higher enrichment.

Ahmad Motamedi, the chancellor of Tehran Amirkabir University of Technology, which designed the satellite, told the semi-official Mehr news agency that Jahromi already has ordered them to design another satellite.

"Now, we have earned plenty of experience and we will be able to make a new satellite quicker," he said.

Associated Press writers Aron Heller in Jerusalem and Jon Gambrell in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, contributed to this report.

## Why US classrooms are starting to resemble arcades

By MICHAEL MELIA, Associated Press

WALLINGFORD, Conn. (AP) — It's 1 o'clock on a Wednesday afternoon in Wallingford, Connecticut, and about 20 children are watching a screen at the front of the room as they take turns navigating challenges and collecting virtual currency to unlock powers, outfits and pets for their characters.

The game they're playing has some similarities to the online battle game "Fortnite." But the kids aren't fighting one another — they're racking up points for participation and good behavior in their classroom at Dag Hammarskjold Middle School, where their teacher is presenting a home economics lesson with help



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from Classcraft, a fantasy-themed educational program.

"It's actually a lot of fun," said 13-year-old Caiden McManus. "The pets — that's my favorite thing to do. To train the pets, you gain as many gold pieces as possible so you can get the new outfits and stuff."

Peek inside your average classroom these days, and you're likely to see teachers using apps, websites and software that borrow elements from video games to connect with students living technology-infused lives. By all accounts, they're fun to use, and studies have found that some can be effective. But there is also skepticism about how often students who use them are better educated, or just better entertained.

Dag Hammarskjold consumer sciences teacher Gianna Gurga said she had been looking for a way to get more out of her students. Students have been more motivated and performed better in her classes since she began using Classcraft in spring 2017, she said, and she has signed up a handful of other teachers in the school.

"My kids are so addicted to it in the best way possible," Gurga said.

In one session, the classroom filled with suspenseful music as Gurga began rapid-fire questioning. With each correct answer, chosen from multiple choices on the screen, students gained points that could be used for avatar upgrades, privileges like listening to music in class, and a competition against other classrooms. The available characters -- warriors, mages and healers -- each have different powers and must collaborate to succeed.

Points are awarded for class participation as well as good behavior, but the kids can also be penalized, as was the case for one of Gurga's seventh-graders who told a classmate to "shut up."

A middle school in New York City, Quest to Learn, was the first public school to fully embrace game-based learning when it opened nearly a decade ago. The Manhattan school, developed by game theorists with the Institute of Play, has been closely followed since by researchers hoping for hard evidence of results from technology-inspired gamification.

In the last school year, 43 percent of Quest to Learn's students were up to state standards on the state English test, compared to 41 percent citywide, and 29 percent of its students met state standards on the state math test, compared to 33 percent citywide. But advocates say standardized testing alone does not tell the story. Outside studies have shown growth in soft skills such as collaboration, creative thinking and empathy, according to Ross Flatt, director of programs and partnerships for the Institute of Play, a nonprofit studio that uses game design principles to develop new learning experiences.

To help educators identify programs with promise, the Johns Hopkins University Center for Research and Reform in Education launched a website that rates math and learning programs based on how they meet evidence standards for effectiveness under federal education law. The center's director, Robert Slavin, said there are some programs that have shown positive impacts but on average improvements are small.

"When people talk about technology transforming everything, it may in the future, but it's not there yet," Slavin said.

Some question whether the graphics, videos and sounds in so many programs are doing harm by teaching students to pursue the rewards.

"Part of life is figuring out how to learn to love things and how to persevere in things even when it's not extrinsically motivated," said Christopher Devers, an education researcher at Johns Hopkins who said his review of the evidence suggests that on balance, games-based approaches tend to influence students in negative ways.

One of the better known programs, DreamBox, teaches math by offering a series of problems that can grow increasingly challenging as the student enters correct answers. The program, which began as an app for consumers, entered the school market in 2011 and last year had 2.6 million student users. The company charges a fee of \$7,500 per school building per year.

DreamBox CEO Jessie Woolley-Wilson said the program is intended as an aid for teachers who can't be expected to personalize learning for two dozen students simultaneously.

"Let's figure out a way to support a way to deliver the best teaching, and allow the learning guardian to get back to art of teaching," she said. "Technology can deliver that math personalization in a way that can give the learning guardian actionable insights."



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In Groton, Connecticut, early users of DreamBox reported anecdotal evidence of improved outcomes and schools are now using it district-wide. In Heather Dalton's fifth-grade classroom at the Charles Barnum Elementary School, students spent the first half of a recent class working individually on DreamBox with headphones on. Information about their level of mastery of fractions was sent to Dalton's laptop, but the students were most excited about the short video-game rewards they received between levels and the coins they gathered for upgrades to their avatars.

"There's a lot of learning," Dalton said, "but it feels like a game to the kids."

## 10 Things to Know for Today

By The Associated Press

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

### 1. BIG DAY FOR BREXIT'S SURVIVAL

British lawmakers are set to vote on Prime Minister Theresa May's deal with the European Union and all indications are that she will suffer a heavy defeat.

### 2. 'NEVER EVER BACK DOWN'

With the government mired in the fourth week of a shutdown, Trump rejects a short-term legislative fix and digs in for more combat.

### 3. LAWMAKERS TO GRILL TRUMP'S ATTORNEY GENERAL PICK

William Barr will need to emphasize that he supports the president's policies while assuring Democrats he will act independently and won't interfere with Robert Mueller's investigation.

### 4. WISCONSIN TEEN'S ORDEAL COMES TO LIGHT

For nearly three months, Jayme Closs was forced to hide in a 2½-foot space beneath her kidnapper's bed, going without food, water or a bathroom for hours.

### 5. SKIPPING CLASS DEEMED AN OPTION

Parents are concerned that little learning is happening at Los Angeles schools staffed by substitutes during a teacher strike in the nation's second-largest school district.

### 6. SOUTH SUDANESE WARY OF FRAGILE PEACE DEAL

Residents of a displacement camp in one town near the Ugandan border tell AP it's still too uncertain for them to return home.

### 7. TRUMP'S CUBA POLICY HAVING REVERSE EFFECT

New statistics from Havana say his initiative is driving hundreds of millions of dollars from the island's private entrepreneurs to its military-controlled tourism sector.

### 8. CASH IS KING AGAIN

With the Federal Reserve raising short-term rates four times last year, money-market funds and online savings accounts have begun paying a livable interest.

### 9. BURGER KING

The president was "lovin' it" as he fete the Tigers' football team with Big Macs from McDonald's and other fast-food favorites.

### 10. WHAT NBA COACHES ARE TAKING SERIOUSLY

Luke Walton and Steve Kerr are among sideline bosses putting priority on their health in order to get through the grind, travel and stress of a pro basketball season.

## Complaint: Kidnapping suspect kept Wisconsin girl under bed

By AMY FORLITI and TODD RICHMOND, Associated Press

BARRON, Wis. (AP) — For nearly three months, 13-year-old Jayme Closs was forced to hide in a 2½-foot space beneath her kidnapper's bed, going without food, water or a bathroom for hours, too terrified to flee from a man she knew had fatally shot both of her parents.

But when Jake Thomas Patterson left the remote cabin on the 88th day of her captivity, she finally

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made a break for freedom, authorities said. She put on Patterson's sneakers so hastily that they ended up on the wrong feet. After a neighbor called 911, Patterson was soon captured as he drove around the rural area searching for her.

"She's 13 years old, and if you read the criminal complaint, you can see the amount of control that he was exerting over her," Barron County District Attorney Brian Wright said. "And at some point, she found it within herself at 13 years old to say, 'I'm going to get myself out of this situation.' I think it's incredible."

The complaint filed Monday offered the most detailed account yet of the attack on the Closs couple and the cruel conditions under which their daughter was held.

Patterson, 21, was charged Monday with two counts of intentional homicide, one count of kidnapping and one count of armed burglary. A judge set his bail at \$5 million cash. Prosecutors say more charges could come later.

His defense attorneys, Charles Glynn and Richard Jones, have said they might seek a change of venue. "It's been an emotional time for this community and a difficult time for this community. We don't take that lightly. But we have a job to do in protecting our client," Jones said.

Patterson's relatives, including his father, Patrick, declined to comment after his initial court hearing.

The suspect grew up an hour north of Barron, which is about 90 miles (144 kilometers) northeast of Minneapolis. He graduated from high school in May 2015 and joined the Marines. He lasted a month before he washed out after failing to meet "expectations and standards," a Marine spokeswoman said. She did not elaborate.

According to the complaint:

Patterson was working at a cheese factory west of Barron when he stopped behind a school bus on his way to work and saw Jayme getting on. He decided then that she "was the girl he was going to take."

He made two trips to her home meaning to kidnap her but broke off both attempts because he thought too many people were at the house. He returned to the home a third time on Oct. 15.

Dressed almost entirely in black and wearing a face mask and gloves, he armed himself with a shotgun. He told detectives he attached stolen license plates to his car so police would not be able to track him. He disabled the dome light, removed a cord that allowed the trunk to be opened from inside and coasted down the Closs driveway with his lights off just before 1 a.m.

Jayme told police that her dog began to bark. She woke her parents. Her father went to the front door while she and her mother hid in the bathroom, hugging each other in the bathtub with the shower curtain pulled closed.

Hearing a shotgun blast, Jayme said she knew her father was dead. Patterson told investigators he shot James Closs through the front door, then blew the lock apart with a second blast.

He battered down the door to the bathroom, then pulled out a roll of black duct tape and demanded Denise Closs tape her daughter's mouth shut. When Denise struggled to do it, he took the tape from her and did it himself. He taped the girl's hands behind her back and taped her ankles together, pulled her out of the bathroom and then shot her mother in the head, the complaint said.

The entire attack took four minutes, he said, according to the complaint.

Patterson dragged Jayme outside, nearly slipping in the blood on the floor. He pulled her across the yard and threw her in his trunk. Squad cars racing to the Closs residence passed him on the highway. Jayme told police she could hear the sirens. He told detectives he would have opened fire if officers had tried to stop him.

He took her to his cabin in Gordon, a township of 645 people in thickly forested Douglas County. He told police he ordered a weeping Jayme to strip and dress in his sister's pajamas, saying he had to get rid of the evidence. He then threw her clothes into a fireplace in the cabin's basement.

It's unclear what Patterson may have done to her over the months she spent in the cabin. Prosecutors have not charged him with sexual assault, and the charging documents do not say he ever attempted that.

He told investigators that whenever he left the cabin or people visited him, he forced Jayme to crawl into the narrow space under his twin bed. He slid tote boxes and weights against the side of the bed so she could not see out and to make it harder for her to wriggle free.

He said Jayme tried to get out twice. The first time he screamed and banged the wall and made her so scared that he thought she would never try it again. Whenever he left the house, he told her "bad things would happen" if she tried to leave. During the Christmas holidays he left, forcing Jayme to endure 12 hours under the bed without a bathroom break, according to the complaint.

On Thursday he left again. He returned to find Jayme gone. He found her tracks and was out looking for her when police stopped him .

Patterson is due back in court on Feb. 6.

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Associated Press investigative researcher Randy Herschaft in New York contributed to this report.

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For more stories on Jayme's abduction and her parents' deaths: <https://apnews.com/JaymeCloss>

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Richmond reported from Madison, Wisconsin. Follow him on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/trichmond1>

## Parents wonder if kids are learning amid Los Angeles strike

By CHRISTOPHER WEBER, Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Kathleen Whitehead vowed to keep her 14-year-old daughter home Tuesday, after the teen reported not learning much the day earlier at a Los Angeles high school staffed by a skeleton crew of substitutes as tens of thousands of teachers walked off the job in the nation's second-largest school district.

Whitehead said she grew "more and more irritated" as the ninth-grader texted that she and her classmates at Reseda High School were "shuffled from one large auditorium to the next" in big groups so they could be looked after by fewer adults.

"It's semi-organized chaos," Whitehead said Monday.

The teen told her mom that some kids huddled around a TV showing Michelle Obama's recent appearance on "Carpool Karaoke," a segment from "The Late Late Show with James Corden," while others browsed the internet for busy-work assignments.

Meanwhile, educators and parents packed streets in pouring rain to march from City Hall to district headquarters, pressing for higher pay and smaller class sizes that school officials say could bankrupt the system with 640,000 students. The rain-slicked streets filled with demonstrators toting umbrellas and picket signs contributed to heavy downtown traffic, but there were no major incidents or arrests.

With no new negotiations planned, union members planned to strike again Tuesday.

Teachers are trying to tap into the "Red for Ed" movement that began last year and won big raises even in states with "right to work" laws that limit the ability to strike. They started in West Virginia, Oklahoma, Kentucky and Arizona and moved to Colorado and Washington state.

But unlike those strikes, which shut down many schools and forced parents to find other care for their kids, all 1,240 K-12 schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District were open.

For kids who went to school, bus service was normal, breakfast and lunches were served, and "students are safe and learning," Superintendent Austin Beutner said.

The district has hired hundreds of substitutes to replace educators and staff members who left for picket lines, a move that the teachers union has called irresponsible.

Taehyum Kim sent his two sons to their San Fernando Valley schools so they wouldn't ruin their perfect attendance records. But then he picked them up early after they complained they weren't doing anything except playing chess on iPads.

Only seven of the 24 students in his younger son's third-grade class showed up, Kim said, adding attendance was better at the older boy's middle school.

Neither child brought back any homework. Kim said he's considering keeping both boys home Tuesday, partly to send a message to school officials.

"Because what's the point?" he said. "They're not learning anything and you know that."

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Other parents took their children to picket lines.

Peter Spruyt said he and his fifth-grade daughter “got wet and yelled our voices raw” as they joined teachers protesting in the rain for additional staffing at Micheltorena Elementary School. He said he understands parents who sent their kids to school.

“A lot of people have no choice. They have to work, and child care is unaffordable,” Spruyt said.

District officials estimated that more than 141,630 students — less than a quarter of the usual daily total — attended 1,240 schools on Monday.

Months of talks between United Teachers Los Angeles, which has about 35,000 members, and the district ended without a deal. Beutner said the district is committed to resolving the contract negotiation as soon as possible and urged the union to resume bargaining.

“We made our last proposal to UTLA on Friday, which was rejected. They walked away from bargaining,” the superintendent said.

Gov. Gavin Newsom urged the sides to resume negotiations and end the strike that was “disrupting the lives of too many kids and their families.”

The union rejected the district’s latest offer to hire nearly 1,200 teachers, counselors, nurses and librarians and reduce class sizes by two students. It also included a previously proposed 6 percent raise over the first two years of a three-year contract. The union wants a 6.5 percent hike at the start of a two-year contract.

Teachers earn between \$44,000 and \$86,000 a year depending on their education and experience, according to the Los Angeles County Office of Education. The district says the average teacher salary is \$75,000, which reflects an older, more experienced workforce.

Teachers want significantly smaller class sizes, which routinely top 30 students, and more staff members for the district’s campuses in Los Angeles and all or parts of 31 smaller cities, plus several unincorporated areas.

Brent Smiley, a 23-year district veteran who teaches at Sherman Oaks Center For Enriched Studies, said he’s had as many as 42 students in one class and his smallest has 39.

“Struggling to keep them focused can be an impossible task,” he said.

The district says the demands run up against an expected half-billion-dollar deficit this budget year and billions that are obligated for pension payments and health coverage for retired teachers.

The union argues that the district is hoarding reserves of \$1.8 billion that could be used to fund the pay and staffing hikes. The district said that money is needed to cover retiree benefits and other expenses.

The governor submitted a budget proposal last week that offers money to help pay down the district’s pension debt and provide substantial new funding for special education and early education.

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Associated Press reporters Amanda Lee Myers, Krysta Fauria and John Antczak contributed to this report.

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Follow Weber at <https://twitter.com/WeberCM>

## **EPA criminal action against polluters hits 30-year low**

**By ELLEN KNICKMEYER, Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Environmental Protection Agency hit a 30-year low in 2018 in the number of pollution cases it referred for criminal prosecution, Justice Department data show.

EPA said in a statement that it is directing “its resources to the most significant and impactful cases.”

But the 166 cases referred for prosecution in the last fiscal year is the lowest number since 1988, when Ronald Reagan was president and 151 cases were referred, according to Justice Department data obtained by the nonprofit Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility advocacy group and released Tuesday.

“You don’t get closer to the core of EPA’s mission than enforcing the law,” Jeff Ruch, PEER’s executive director, told The Associated Press. “We’re reaching levels where the enforcement program is lacking a pulse.”



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EPA efforts to prosecute polluters reached 592 criminal referrals under President Bill Clinton in 1998. Criminal referrals have been on a downward trajectory since then, especially under the Trump administration.

A supporter of deregulation, President Donald Trump as a candidate called for doing away with all but "little tidbits" of the federal environmental agency.

Asked for comment, EPA spokesman John Konkus pointed to the civil settlement of about \$800 million with Fiat Chrysler over claims the automaker rigged its diesel-powered Ram and Jeep vehicles to cheat on emissions tests.

The agency said its actions in fiscal year 2018 led polluters and potential polluters to take care of 809 million pounds (370 million kilograms) of waste and pollutants, a 40 percent increase from 2017.

EPA referrals resulted in 62 federal convictions in fiscal year 2018, the fewest since 1995.

Scott Pruitt was the agency's head for most of fiscal year 2018, resigning in July amid ethics scandals over his spending and allegations of favor-seeking in office. Pruitt rankled many by insisting on an unusual round-the-clock security detail, which required drawing agency special agents from regional offices for stints guarding him.

Andrew Wheeler, whose nomination to succeed Pruitt as the agency's chief goes before a Senate committee Wednesday, stopped the 24-hour guard when he was named Pruitt's acting replacement.

Congress in 1990 mandated that the agency's Criminal Investigation Division deploy at least 200 special agents.

PEER said the number had fallen to 140 special agents by last April.

"They're being gutted," said Michael Hubbard, a former special agent who led the EPA's Criminal Investigation Division regional office in Boston.

With so few EPA special agents to investigate polluters around the country, "as leads come in, they can't be followed up on," Hubbard said. "You end up saying 'no' to potential leads routinely because you just don't have the wherewithal to investigate them."

Justice Department figures show the agency's referrals for criminal prosecution slowing even more in the first two months of fiscal year 2019, to 24, under Wheeler.

Wheeler, like Pruitt, at times emphasizes giving states more say in regulation of polluters within their borders. Wheeler also has continued a centralization of enforcement action and decision-making within the agency. Critics say that could discourage enforcement.

## Trump's Cuba policy hurts private sector, new figures say

By ANDREA RODRIGUEZ, Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — President Donald Trump's Cuba policy is driving hundreds of millions of dollars from the island's private entrepreneurs to its military-controlled tourism sector, the opposite of its supposed goal, new statistics say.

Trump announced in June 2017 that he was tightening limits on U.S. travel to Cuba in order to starve military-linked travel businesses and funnel money directly to the Cuban people.

He restricted Americans' ability to travel to Cuba on their own, rather than with a tour group. At the same time, he allowed U.S. cruise lines to continue to take passengers to Cuba, where they pay millions to disembark at military-run docks and make quick trips onshore that are generally coordinated by government tour agencies that steer travelers to state-run destinations.

Cuban government figures from the first full year under Trump's policy show occupancy of private bed-and-breakfasts in Havana plunged to 44 percent in 2018 after years at near capacity in the wake of President Barack Obama's start of normalization with Cuba, said Michael Bernal, commercial director for the Ministry of Tourism.

Even as the private sector suffered, U.S. travel to Cuba was growing, from 618,000 in 2017 to 630,000 last year, Tourism Ministry figures say. Most of those travelers came by ship, avoiding the confusing rules on travel to the island with package tours that are guaranteed to comply with the law.

The shift to cruises meant the average U.S. stay on the island dropped from six days to three, said Jose



Luis Perello, a former University of Havana professor who studies Cuba's tourism industry.

That has had a devastating effect on owners and employees of Cuba's 24,185 private bed-and-breakfasts and 2,170 private restaurants. They cherished U.S. travelers as heavy tippers who crammed days full of activities like classic car rides and cooking classes that put money into private hands.

David Pajon, a university professor who bought an apartment to rent in Old Havana, said he has had to drop his rates 40 percent since Trump's new policy went into effect in 2017. He still was a third empty last month, the first time in three years that he wasn't fully booked in December.

"U.S.-Cuba normalization inspired a lot of people who thought this was a good business to invest their savings in," Pajon said. "And all of a sudden you have the U.S. government creating a situation that has an impact on the number of people who came, or changes the way they're coming — on cruise ships!"

The number of U.S. travelers to Cuba grew from 162,000 in 2015, the year after Obama and then Cuban President Raul Castro announced detente, to 284,000 in 2016 and 618,000 in 2017.

The overall number of travelers grew, too, from 3.5 million in 2015 to 3.7 million in 2016, 4.3 million in 2017 and 4.7 million last year.

Nonetheless, the private sector suffered.

Enrique Nunez, owner of La Guarida, perhaps Havana's best-known restaurant, said he had to cut his employees' hours last year because his revenue fell 40 percent.

"We don't understand the U.S. rules," said Bernal, the tourism official. "We heard the president's speech saying that the U.S. government supports entrepreneurs. However, that's the sector that's suffering most in Cuba."

Associated Press writer Michael Weissenstein contributed to this report.

Andrea Rodríguez on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/ARodriguezAP](http://www.twitter.com/ARodriguezAP)

## The shutdown today: Trump says he'll 'never, ever back down'

By The Associated Press

What's up with the partial government shutdown on Day 25:

### WHAT'S NEW

With the government mired in shutdown week four, President Donald Trump is rejecting a short-term legislative fix and digging in for a fight, declaring he will "never ever back down."

Air travelers endured waits of more than an hour to get through domestic checkpoints at the world's busiest airport in Atlanta on Monday. No-shows among screeners across the nation soared Sunday and again Monday, when the Transportation Security Administration reported a national absence rate of 7.6 percent, compared with 3.2 percent on the comparable Monday a year ago.

Like some of his recent predecessors, Trump is carefully picking and choosing where he'll travel during the partial government shutdown.

### QUOTES OF THE DAY

"It's chaos out here," passenger Vincent Smith said Monday as he stood in a line that snaked through the Atlanta airport's atrium and baggage claim areas. "This line, I've been here about 15 minutes, and it has moved 2 feet."

### WHAT'S COMING NEXT?

Trump is expected to sign legislation this week authorizing back pay for some 800,000 federal workers who either have been idled or are working without pay for as long as the shutdown lasts.

### WHAT REMAINS CLOSED

Nine of the 15 Cabinet-level departments have not been funded, including Agriculture, Homeland Se-

curity, State, Transportation, Interior and Justice. Some iconic National Park facilities are shuttered as are the Smithsonian museums and the National Zoo in Washington. Nearly everyone at NASA is being told to stay home, as are most at the Internal Revenue Service, which processes tax returns and issues refunds, though the administration says it will issue refunds during the shutdown.

## WHO IS AT WORK BUT NOT GETTING PAID

Some 420,000 federal employees whose work is declared essential are working without pay, including at the FBI, TSA and other federal law enforcement offices. Some staff at the State and Homeland Security departments are also working without compensation.

For AP's complete coverage of the U.S. government shutdown: <https://apnews.com/GovernmentShutdown>

## Man who took 2 women hostage at UPS facility is dead

By MARYCLAIRE DALE, Associated Press

LOGAN TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP) — An armed man who entered a UPS processing facility Monday morning and held two women hostage for several hours was shot and killed by police as he left the building with the women, authorities said.

Several officers fired at William Owens, 39, of Sicklerville, New Jersey, the state Attorney General's Office said in a news release that did not detail the situation or explain why the suspect was shot.

Owens had entered the business at about 8:45 a.m. and fired shots, which did not strike anyone, before taking the women to a room and barricading himself inside with them, authorities said. Officials believe that Owens had a prior relationship with one of the hostages, Gloucester County Prosecutor Charles Fiore said.

The women escaped without serious injuries after the standoff in Logan Township, about 20 miles (30 kilometers) south of Philadelphia, Fiore said.

"Multiple members of law enforcement fired at the man, who was armed with a handgun. He was pronounced dead at the scene," the news release said.

Earlier in the day, Fiore said the suspect had been taken to a hospital after being shot but that his condition was not known.

"I heard one of my fellow employees say, 'Run, he's got a gun,' then I heard the little pop of the gun, I guess, and we all ran and law enforcement took over," employee Allen Anthony Dowling said.

Police evacuated the building and blocked access to the busy industrial park, and nearby schools were put on a modified lockdown.

Hostage negotiators talked to the suspect by phone as he held the women captive. Television news footage showed officers crouched behind a vehicle behind the building's loading dock at the time.

Shortly before noon, as Fiore held a news conference at a township building about 8 miles (12 kilometers) away, a short burst of gunfire was heard at the scene. Fiore later said he didn't know how many shots police fired or whether the gunman fired any shots.

"There was an intervention," Fiore said. "He did not surrender."

Police trained in hostage situations, he said, "would make a determination as to whether or not it's appropriate to intervene, using force at any point in time."

Gail Wright, a woman at the scene who described herself as the suspect's cousin, described him as "a good guy."

"He must have felt forced, otherwise, he wouldn't have done this," she said.

In addition to UPS, other major companies including Amazon and U.S. Foods have operations in the area, Mayor Frank Minor said. The township has about 6,500 residents, but some 18,000 people are in the area each workday, he said.

Associated Press writer Geoff Mulvihill contributed to this report.

## China to cut taxes, keep policy flexible to counter slowdown

BEIJING (AP) — China plans to slash taxes, step up spending and provide ample financing to private and small enterprises to help counter the country's worst slowdown since the global financial crisis and the impact of a bruising trade war with the U.S.

The People's Bank of China is confident it can keep the value of China's currency, the yuan, steady while maintaining a stable but flexible monetary policy, Zhu Hexin, a deputy central bank governor, told reporters at a briefing Tuesday on plans for 2019 that were set by top leaders at an annual meeting in December.

The yuan, also known as the renminbi, or "people's money," sank to a 10-year low of 6.9756 per dollar at the end of October, coming close to breaking the level of seven to the greenback. It has strengthened since then to about 6.7580 per dollar.

A further slide in the yuan could fuel U.S. complaints about Beijing's currency controls. It also might prompt potentially destabilizing outflows of capital, which would raise borrowing costs and hobble efforts to shore up growth.

In July-September, China's economy expanded at a post-crisis slow annual pace of 6.5 percent despite government efforts to stem the downturn by ordering banks to lend more and by boosting spending on public works construction.

The government reported on Monday that China's exports to the U.S. slipped in December as the delayed impact of President Donald Trump's tariff hikes on Chinese products began to pinch demand. China's trade surplus with the U.S. surged to a record \$323.3 billion in 2018.

World markets tumbled in response, but recovered on Tuesday after the news conference in Beijing, with Hong Kong's Hang Seng jumping 1.8 percent while the Shanghai Composite index climbed 1.2 percent.

Sales to the U.S. market had kept growing by double digits in previous months as Chinese exporters rushed to fill orders. But forecasters said American orders would slump once the full impact of Trump's penalties hit. Global demand has also moderated.

The slump in exports adds to pressure on Beijing to resolve the dispute with Washington over Chinese technology policies. U.S. and Chinese officials ended a three-day negotiating session last week with no sign of agreements or word on what their next step would be.

The plans for 2019 outlined Tuesday included specific measures such as raising the maximum income levels for tax exempt companies and individuals and reducing the tax rate.

The government plans to begin construction of major projects and promote settlement of rural migrants in cities, slash bureaucratic and anti-competitive red tape, cut energy consumption and open more business areas to foreign investment, said Lian Weiliang, vice chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission, China's planning agency.

"We will do our best in the spirit of getting it nailed down to ensure that the economy gets a good start in the first quarter and keep it within a reasonable range throughout the year," Lian said.

Xu Hongcai, an assistant minister of finance, said the scale of tax reductions for the year would be about 1.3 trillion yuan (\$190 billion).

"The focus is on enhancement and efficiency," Xu said.

China's communist leaders have been trying to guide the economy toward a more sustainable mode of growth in recent years by reducing reliance on massive investments in infrastructure and on export manufacturing and expanding the services sector and private consumption.

It's a balancing act that requires just enough spending and access to credit to support businesses without setting off inflation and driving asset prices perilously higher.

Zhu said the central bank would keep monetary policy sound, "forward-looking, flexible and pertinent."

It's unclear if that will suffice to keep manufacturing on an even keel as Beijing and Washington work to resolve their trade disputes.

Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed on Dec. 1 to postpone additional tariff hikes by 90 days while they negotiated. But the penalties of up to 25 percent already imposed on billions of dollars of each other's goods remain in place, raising the cost for American and Chinese buyers of soybeans, medical

equipment and other goods.

AP Business Writer Elaine Kurtenbach in Beijing contributed to this report.

## California governor, lawmakers confront utility bankruptcy

By KATHLEEN RONAYNE AND JANIE HAR, Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The announcement by the nation's largest utility that it is filing for bankruptcy puts Pacific Gas & Electric Co.'s problems squarely in the hands of Gov. Gavin Newsom and state lawmakers, who now must try to keep ratepayer costs down, ensure wildfire victims get the money they're owed and rethink California's energy picture in the face of climate change.

"This issue is all about three fundamental things: It is about safety, it's about reliability and it's about affordability," Newsom told reporters Monday afternoon after spending the day in and out of meetings with lawmakers about the pending bankruptcy.

Earlier in the day, PG&E announced it will file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy as it faces at least \$30 billion in potential damages from lawsuits over catastrophic California wildfires in 2017 and 2018 that killed scores of people and destroyed thousands of homes. The announcement kicked off a 15-day window before the official filing. Newsom said he'd like to stave off the bankruptcy but it may not be possible.

"We'd like to see it avoided but we're not naive," he said. "I respect the taxpayer, I respect the ratepayer and I'm absolutely cognizant of those that lost their homes."

The filing would not make the lawsuits disappear, but would result in all wildfire claims being consolidated into a single proceeding before a bankruptcy judge, not a jury. That could shield the company from excessive jury verdicts and buy time by putting a hold on the claims.

"The chances of victims getting what they would've gotten without a bankruptcy are not good," said state Sen. Bill Dodd, a Napa Democrat.

How much and what the state can do remains to be seen. Lawmakers last year tried to prevent a threatened PG&E bankruptcy resulting from the 2017 fires by letting the utility pass on some of its costs to ratepayers, a move some critics dubbed a "bailout" for the utility. Democratic Assemblyman Chris Holden had considering introducing a similar bill that would pass on the costs of 2018 fires, but said Monday he's backed off that idea.

"Clearly PG&E has made a decision that the legislative arena is not where they feel they're going to get the kind of results that will go far enough," he said, adding that the decisions about PG&E's future now appear to be in the hands of bankruptcy court.

PG&E services about 40 percent of California's utility customers, Newsom said, making it the nation's largest utility. It operates in three-quarters of California's land most vulnerable to wildfires, Newsom said. While PG&E's equipment has been named the cause of multiple recent fires, experts blame climate change for extending California's wildfire season and making blazes more deadly and destructive.

State officials are investigating whether the utility's equipment sparked the deadliest, most destructive wildfire in California history, a November blaze that killed at least 86 people and burned down 15,000 homes.

Newsom and legislative leaders carefully avoided laying out potential solutions in the hours after the bankruptcy announcement while stressing the importance of ensuring wildfire victims get the money they are owed. But no one has yet figured out the future of California energy policy as the state faces increasing threats — and more wildfires — as it copes with climate change.

Democratic Sen. Jerry Hill, meanwhile, said a PG&E bankruptcy may turn out to be a good thing. Hill represents San Bruno in the San Francisco Bay Area, where a PG&E natural gas pipeline exploded in 2010 and killed eight people.

"This company has been dishonest, it has prioritized profits way over safety and there has been no effort on their part to change that," he said. "I don't believe it will change unless there is some sort of restructure."

Newsom agreed PG&E hasn't been a "trusted actor" in the past but said the state must work collabora-



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tively with the utility. He noted that a portion of the utility's leadership is gone, including chief executive Geisha Williams, who resigned on Sunday with a \$2.5 million severance package.

Chapter 11 reorganization represents "the only viable option to address the company's responsibilities to its stakeholders," Richard Kelly, chairman of PG&E's board of directors, said in a statement.

"The Chapter 11 process allows us to work with these many constituents in one court-supervised forum to comprehensively address our potential liabilities and to implement appropriate changes."

Regardless of the solution, the process is likely to be long: 18 years after the company's last bankruptcy filing, PG&E customers still see a small fee on their monthly bills to pay for it, labeled the "energy cost recovery amount."

The Natural Resources Defense Council warned that bankruptcy could threaten billions in funding for PG&E's clean energy initiatives, which are key to California's environmental goals. PG&E is the state's largest investor in energy efficiency and electric vehicle infrastructure, said the NRDC's Ralph Cavanagh.

The bankruptcy is different from PG&E's bankruptcy in 2001, when California faced an energy crisis that caused power outages. Newsom said the state has an "abundance" of energy and power shutoffs are not imminent.

Har reported from San Francisco. Associated Press writer Cathy Bussewitz New York contributed.

## Asian shares recover as China outlines 2019 policy plans

By ANNABELLE LIANG, Associated Press

SINGAPORE (AP) — Asian markets bounced back from slight early losses on Tuesday after senior economic officials said Beijing will cut taxes and keep monetary policy flexible to help weather China's slowdown.

KEEPING SCORE: Japan's Nikkei 225 index, reopening after a market holiday, added 0.9 percent to 20,544.64. The Kospi in South Korea jumped 1.5 percent to 2,095.58. Hong Kong's Hang Seng rebounded 1.9 percent to 26,793.29. It closed 1.4 percent lower on Monday. The Shanghai Composite index was up 1.0 percent at 2,560.17 and Australia's S&P ASX 200 rose 0.5 percent to 5,801.40. Shares rose in Taiwan, Singapore and Indonesia but fell in the Philippines.

WALL STREET: News that Chinese exports fell in December weighed on U.S. indexes. Technology companies fell, but a strong quarterly report by Citigroup lifted bank stocks. The broad S&P 500 index shed 0.5 percent to 2,582.61. The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 0.4 percent to 23,909.84 and the Nasdaq composite was 0.9 percent lower at 6,905.92. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks slipped 1 percent to 1,432.81.

CHINA ECONOMY: Mainland Chinese company shares surged after senior economic leaders, briefing reporters Tuesday on the outcome of an annual policy-setting meeting last month, pledged to keep the monetary policy of the world's No. 2 economy flexible but stable and to support growth with improved access to financing for private and smaller enterprises. The assurances came as China weathers its worst slowdown since the global financial crisis amid a punishing tariffs dispute with the U.S.

CHINESE TRADE: On Monday, China reported that its exports to the U.S. fell 3.5 percent from a year earlier in December to \$40.3 billion, although its overall trade surplus with the United States surged last year. Markets initially slipped on worries that tariffs were putting a drag on the world's second largest economy. But buying enthusiasm recovered on hopes that Chinese negotiators will be more keen to resolve a trade dispute with the U.S. Chinese Vice Premier Liu He is set to lead negotiators at talks in Washington later this month.

ANALYST'S TAKE: "Early movers had mostly headed into green, paring back losses from Monday's worry over China's trade performance," Jingyi Pan of IG said in a market commentary. "To some extent, the market is gradually shrugging this off as a one-off incident after front loading previously. The impetus this provides for a U.S.-China resolution had also likely inspired the gains," she added.

ENERGY: Benchmark U.S. crude oil added 62 cents to \$51.13 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract lost \$1.08 to settle at \$50.51 per barrel on Monday. Brent crude,



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the international standard, gained 71 cents to \$59.70. It gave up \$1.49 to \$58.99 a barrel in London.

CURRENCIES: The dollar strengthened to 108.51 yen from 108.16 yen late Monday. The euro rose to \$1.1485 from \$1.1473.

AP Markets Writer Marley Jay contributed. He can be reached at <http://twitter.com/MarleyJayAP>

## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 15, the 15th day of 2019. There are 350 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 15, 1929, civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta.

On this date:

In 1559, England's Queen Elizabeth I was crowned in Westminster Abbey.

In 1862, the U.S. Senate confirmed President Abraham Lincoln's choice of Edwin M. Stanton to be the new Secretary of War, replacing Simon Cameron.

In 1892, the original rules of basketball, devised by James Naismith, were published for the first time in Springfield, Massachusetts, where the game originated.

In 1919, in Boston, a tank containing an estimated 2.3 million gallons of molasses burst, sending the dark syrup coursing through the city's North End, killing 21 people.

In 1943, work was completed on the Pentagon, the headquarters of the U.S. Department of War (now Defense).

In 1961, a U.S. Air Force radar tower off the New Jersey coast collapsed into the Atlantic Ocean during a severe storm, killing all 28 men aboard.

In 1967, the Green Bay Packers of the National Football League defeated the Kansas City Chiefs of the American Football League 35-10 in the first AFL-NFL World Championship Game, retroactively known as Super Bowl I.

In 1973, President Richard M. Nixon announced the suspension of all U.S. offensive action in North Vietnam, citing progress in peace negotiations.

In 1978, two students at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Lisa Levy and Margaret Bowman, were slain in their sorority house. (Ted Bundy was later convicted of the crime and was sentenced to death. But he was executed for the rape and murder of a 12-year-old girl, which occurred 3 weeks after the sorority slayings.)

In 1981, the police drama series "Hill Street Blues" premiered on NBC.

In 1989, NATO, the Warsaw Pact and 12 other European countries adopted a human rights and security agreement in Vienna, Austria.

In 1993, a historic disarmament ceremony ended in Paris with the last of 125 countries signing a treaty banning chemical weapons.

Ten years ago: US Airways Capt. Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger ditched his Airbus 320 in the Hudson River after a flock of birds disabled both engines; all 155 people aboard survived.

Five years ago: In the latest in a series of nuclear stumbles, the U.S. Air Force disclosed that 34 officers entrusted with the world's deadliest weapons had been removed from launch duty for allegedly cheating — or tolerating cheating by others — on routine proficiency tests. A highly critical and bipartisan Senate report declared that the deadly Sept. 2012 assault on the American diplomatic compound in Benghazi, Libya, could have been prevented; the report spread blame among the State Department, the military and U.S. intelligence. A \$1.1 trillion spending bill for operating the government until just before the 2014 election steamed through the battle-weary House over tepid protests from tea party conservatives.

One year ago: Singer Dolores O'Riordan of the Irish rock band The Cranberries died at a London hotel at the age of 46; a coroner found that she had accidentally drowned in a bathtub after drinking. American

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women lost nine of their ten first-round matches on the opening day of the Australian Open; they included Venus Williams and U.S. Open champion Sloane Stephens.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Margaret O'Brien is 81. Actress Andrea Martin is 72. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Randy White is 66. Actor-director Mario Van Peebles is 62. Rock musician Adam Jones (Tool) is 54. Actor James Nesbitt is 54. Singer Lisa Lisa (Lisa Lisa and Cult Jam) is 52. Actor Chad Lowe is 51. Alt-country singer Will Oldham (aka Bonnie Prince Billy) is 49. Actress Regina King is 48. Actor Eddie Cahill is 41. NFL quarterback Drew Brees is 40. Rapper/reggaeton artist Pitbull is 38. Actor Victor Rasuk is 34. Actress Jessy Schram is 33. Electronic dance musician Skrillex is 31. Actress/singer Dove Cameron is 23. Singer-songwriter Grace VanderWaal (TV: "America's Got Talent") is 15.

Thought for Today: "I refuse to accept the idea that the 'is-ness' of man's present nature makes him morally incapable of reaching up for the 'ought-ness' that forever confronts him." — Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968).