

# Groton Daily Independent

Sunday, Feb. 17, 2019 ~ Vol. 26 - No. 222 ~ 1 of 37

## Groton Area Schedule of Events

### Sunday, February 17, 2019

11:00am: Youth Wrestling Tournament at Groton Area High School

### Monday, February 18, 2019

GBB at Milbank (make-up game). Varsity only with game starting around 7:30 p.m.

No School at Groton Area School District (President's Day)

### Tuesday, February 19, 2019

4:00pm: Basketball: Boys 7th/8th Game vs. Leola-Fredrick @ Groton Area High School (7th Grade @ 4pm; 8th grade @ 5pm)

6:30pm: Basketball: Girls Varsity Game (Rescheduled from 01-31-19) vs. Tiospa Zina @ Groton Area High School

### Wednesday, February 20, 2019

NAEP Testing at Groton Area School District

### Thursday, February 21, 2019

4:00pm: Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Deuel @ Groton Area High School (JV Girls game at 4pm, JV Boys game at 5pm, Varsity Girls game at 6:30pm, Varsity Boys game at 8pm)

### Friday, February 22, 2019

Wrestling: Boys Varsity State @ Rapid City (Combined State Tourney (Class A & B))

6:30pm: Basketball: Girls Varsity Game (Rescheduled from 02-12-19) vs. Webster Area High School @ Groton Area High School

### Saturday, February 23, 2019

Robotics at Harrisburg High School

Show Choir at Vermillion

Wrestling: Boys Varsity State @ Rapid City (Combined State Tourney (Class A & B))

- 1- Groton Care & Rehab Help Wanted Ad
- 1- Help Wanted
- 2- Three Groton grapplers advance to state
- 3- NSU falls short in regular season home finale versus SCSU
- 3- St. Cloud State cruises past the Northern State women
- 4- Noem Streamlines Education Processes for Military Families, Signs Additional Legislation into Law
- 5- Ava Tunheim service
- 6- Today in Weather History
- 7- Weather Pages
- 9- Daily Devotional
- 10- 2019 Groton Events
- 11 - News from the Associated Press

### Help Wanted

Looking for a fun, part-time job? Groton Dairy Queen is now hiring. Stop in for an application. (0216.0316)

**HELP WANTED**

**Director of Nursing**



**Current RN licensure in SD  
BSN/MSN degree preferred  
Sign on bonus available  
Full benefits included.**

**Contact Brynn Pickrel**



**GROTON**  
CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

**1106 North Second Street  
605.397.2365**

### 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.**

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

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

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## Three Groton grapplers advance to state

Three Groton Area wrestlers placed at the Region 1B Tournament held Saturday in Redfield. The state tournament will be held Feb. 22-23 in Rapid City.

Dragr Monson at 113 pounds and Wyatt Locke at 285 pounds both placed second while Grady O'Neill at 195 pounds placed fourth.

### Team Scores

1	Redfield Area.....	164.5
2	Sisseton.....	137.5
3	Clark/Willow Lake .....	131.0
4	Webster Area .....	113.0
5	Potter County.....	101.0
6	Kingsbury County .....	88.0
7	Faulkton Area.....	87.0
8	Groton Area .....	49.0
8	Sioux Valley.....	49.0
10	Warner/Northwestern.....	34.0
11	Deuel.....	29.0
11	Ipswich/Leola/Bowdle.....	29.0
13	Britton-Hecla .....	18.0
14	Hamlin/Castlewood .....	0.0
14	Tiospa Zina .....	0.0

113: Champ. Round 1 - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) received a bye

Quarterfinals - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) over Jacob Fehlman (Redfield Area) (Dec 7-0)

Semifinals - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) over Dylan Zell (Kingsbury County) (Dec 6-0)

1st Place Match - Gage Martinmaas (Faulkton Area) over Dragr Monson (Groton Area) (Fall 3:34)

152: Champ. Round 1 - Garret Schroeder (Groton Area) received a bye

Quarterfinals - Alex Aesoph (Faulkton Area) over Garret Schroeder (Groton Area) (Fall 0:28)

Cons. Round 2 - Garret Schroeder (Groton Area) received a bye

Cons. Round 3 - Monte Albrecht (Kingsbury County) over Garret Schroeder (Groton Area) (Fall 4:12)

160: Quarterfinals - Dylan Whitley (Redfield Area) over Lane Krueger (Groton Area) (Fall 1:04)

Cons. Round 1 - Owen Kerkvliet (Kingsbury County) over Lane Krueger (Groton Area) (Dec 8-7)

170: Champ. Round 1 - Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) over Logan Johnson (Britton-Hecla) (Fall 4:44)

Quarterfinals - Gage Carter (Faulkton Area) over Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) (Fall 1:44)

Cons. Round 2 - Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) received a bye

Cons. Round 3 - Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) over Sean Domke (Redfield Area) (Dec 5-2)

Cons. Semis - Matthew Moen (Sisseton) over Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) (Fall 2:12)

195: Quarterfinals - Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) over Kain Gilligan (Kingsbury County) (Fall 2:59)

Semifinals - Barrett Wren (Redfield Area) over Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) (Fall 0:39)

Cons. Semis - Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) over Avery Nichols (Clark/Willow Lake) (Fall 4:05)

3rd Place Match - Joey Hubsch (Webster Area) over Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) (Fall 1:18)

285: Quarterfinals - Wyatt Locke (Groton Area) received a bye

Semifinals - Wyatt Locke (Groton Area) over Gabe VanWormer (Deuel) (Fall 0:39)

1st Place Match - Chase Sigdestad (Webster Area) over Wyatt Locke (Groton Area) (SV-1 6-2)

## **NSU falls short in regular season home finale versus SCSU**

Aberdeen, S.D. – The Northern State University men's basketball team came up just short on Saturday evening versus St. Cloud State, falling to the Huskies 65-62. The Wolves had possession with 22 seconds remaining, however were unable to tie the game at 64-all or take the lead. After clinching a share of the NSIC overall and North Division titles last night, NSU drops to 20-6 overall and 16-4 in the league and will battle next weekend to win the out-right crowns.

St. Cloud State went on a 12-2 run to open the contest, but the Wolves battled back taking a 34-31 lead at the half break. Northern continued to hold the lead, though close, through a majority of the second half until the Huskies tied things at 49 with 8:07 to play. Neither team led by more than three points in those final eight minutes, with the Wolves given their opportunities to seal the contest.

Northern out-shot St. Cloud 43.6 percent to 41.0 percent in the contest, while the Huskies out-rebounded the Wolves 41-36. Despite forcing six turnovers, they were only able to come up with two points on their end.

As a team they men combined for 12 assists, five blocks, and four steals. NSU tallied 34 points in the paint, 14 points off the bench, six points off seven offensive boards, and five made three pointers in the game.

Gabe King led three Wolves in double figures, knocking down 20 points. The junior shot 57.1 percent from the floor, and hit 3-of-6 from beyond the arc. He also added two rebounds and one steal. Ian Smith was second on the team with 12 points, notching seven rebounds, one steal, and a team high six assists.

Parker Fox led the team off the bench with 11 points, and tallied a double-double with a team high ten rebounds. It was his first double-double of the season since early January versus Minnesota Crookston. The redshirt freshman added one assist and two blocks, shooting 40.0 percent from the floor.

Bo Fries tallied eight points for NSU, while Andrew Kallman and Justin Decker rounded out the starters with four points apiece. Fries pulled down a team second best nine rebounds, and recorded two steals, one assist, and one block. Decker notched four rebounds, one assist, and one block, while Kallman tallied two assists, one rebound, and one block. Jordan Belka tallied the final three team points for the Wolves, hitting his lone 3-point attempt of the contest.

NSU will travel to UMary and Minot State next Friday and Saturday, with tip-off set for 7:30 and 5:30 p.m. from Bismarck and Minot.

## **St. Cloud State cruises past the Northern State women**

Aberdeen, S.D. – The Northern State University women's basketball team dropped the final home game of the 2018-19 season, 70-43 to St. Cloud State. With the loss, the Wolves slide to 9-17 overall and 6-14 in the NSIC.

The Wolves led 11-9 through the first quarter and trailed by just seven at the half, however the Huskies ran away with the game in the final 20 minutes of action. Northern shot 25.0 percent from the floor, 18.8 percent from the 3-point line, and 92.3 percent from the foul line in the game.

They tallied 18 points in the paint, nine points off the bench, eight points off turnovers, and five second chance points. NSU combined for 30 rebounds, eight steals, five assists, and two blocks.

Brianna Kusler and Jessi Marti led the team with 13 and ten points respectively. Kusler nearly tallied a double-double with a team high nine rebounds, as well as two steals and one assist. Marti knocked down two of the team's three long range buckets in the game, and added two rebounds and two steals.

Lexi Wadsworth grabbed eight points and shot 50.0 percent from the floor. She added three rebounds, one assist, one block, and one steal. Joie Spier led the team off the bench with four points, going a perfect 2-of-2 from the foul line and recording one rebound and one assist.

Anika Fredrick tallied the final three points from the NSU starters, and added two rebounds, one assist, and one steal. Kendall Kohler and Alayna Johnson grabbed two points apiece, followed by Zoe Hardwick with one. Johnson was second on the team with five rebounds, including four offensive boards.

Northern will close out the regular season next Friday and Saturday at UMary and Minot State. Tip-off is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Friday versus the Marauders and 3:30 p.m. on Saturday against the Beavers.

## Noem Streamlines Education Processes for Military Families, Signs Additional Legislation into Law

PIERRE, S.D. – Governor Kristi Noem yesterday signed legislation to streamline school enrollment processes for military families relocating to a new school district.

“The men and women of our military serve sacrificially, but they don’t do it alone. Their families serve beside them,” said Noem. “Too often, military kids unintentionally bear the brunt of a military transfer. I’m proud to sign this bill that streamlines and simplifies the process of transferring schools for children of military personnel, further ensuring their education remains on track.”

HB1044 will allow an active military parent to enroll their child in school while pending transfer and prior to establishing residency in the district – providing for a smoother relocation.

Noem approved the following pieces of legislation:

HB1008 – An act to revise certain provisions regarding the required notice for biennial state political party conventions

HB1020 – An act to revise certain provisions regarding state building committees for capital improvement projects

HB1024 – An act to authorize certain species of game fish to be used as bait

HB1043 – An act to require the Department of Social Services to collect and report certain information regarding the military affiliation of a parent whose child is subject to a report of abuse or neglect

HB1044 – An act to authorize certain children who are subject to a pending military relocation to apply for enrollment in a school district

HB1045 – An act to revise the definition of campus security officers for purposes of the South Dakota Retirement System

HB1052 – An act to revise certain provisions regarding the notice given to county commissioners for special sessions

HB1075 – An act to revise certain provisions regarding the authority of conservation district governing boards

SB32 – An act to revise the composition of the South Dakota Board of Social Work Examiners

SB37 – An act to revise certain provisions regarding association health plans

SB51 – An act to revise certain provisions regarding trusts



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The celebration of life of Ava Tunheim was held Saturday afternoon in the GHS Arena. Some of her eighth grade classmates talked about Ava as pictured above. Below, the Tunheim family is gathered on the left all wearing the black Tunheim T-Shirts as the Rev. Janine Rew-Werling led the service. (Photos by Paul Kosel)



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## Today in Weather History

February 17, 1962: Very heavy snow of 20 to 30 inches fell across the southeastern half of South Dakota. One location had 44 inches of snowfall from the storm. Everything was shut-down due to the storm including roads, schools, and businesses. Some snowfall amounts included, 10 inches at Bryant, 11 inches at Miller, 20 inches at Mitchell, 21 inches at Redfield, 23 inches at Huron, and 32 inches at Sioux Falls.

February 17, 1972: In Minnesota, high winds of 30 to 50 mph across southern and central Minnesota reduced visibilities to zero at times from blowing snow. Wind gusts of 90 mph were reported at Worthington and Fairmont. Snow of 2 to 6 inches fell across the state. The blizzard stopped almost all traffic from west-central through the south-central part of the state. Most schools in the area closed. Dozens to hundreds of people were stranded in nearly every town. Many communities stopped all traffic from leaving town. The snow derailed a train at Butterfield. There were many auto accidents. In South Dakota, freezing rain followed by snow accompanied by winds of over 60 mph produced hazardous driving conditions in the area. Traffic was brought to a standstill in many areas resulting in cancellations of school and other activities. Some accidents occurred due to the icy roads. Although the snowfall was light, strong winds caused drifting with visibilities to near zero at times.

February 17, 1991: On February 17th, a major snowstorm dumped massive amounts of snow on the most of the state from the Black Hills, southwest, central, east-central, and the northeast. At the end of the storm, parts of the black hills received up to 2 feet of snow while the rest of affected area had between 8 and 15 inches. The heavy snow caused most of Interstate 90 west of the Missouri River to close, as well as many other highways in the central part of the state. Many cars and trucks skidded off the roads, causing many minor injuries. The only serious injury was a man rolled his car over after losing control near Belvidere.

1926: A deadly avalanche, Utah's worst, demolishes 14 miner's cottages and a three-story boarding house in Bingham Canyon. Thirty-six are killed and 13 injured.

1958: From the 14th through the 17th, one of the greatest snowstorms of the mid 20th century struck the northeastern U.S. The storm produced 30 inches of snow in the interior of New England, including more than 19 inches in 24 hours at the Boston Airport. The same storm produced up to three feet of snow in the Middle Atlantic Coast Region, with 14 inches at Washington D.C., and 15.5 inches at Baltimore, Maryland. The storm resulted in 43 deaths and 500 million dollars damage over the Middle Atlantic Coast States.

1973: Snow showers moved across southeast Texas with most locations only reporting snow flurries. However, the Houston Intercontinental Airport measured 1.4 inches of snow.

1930 - Eureka, CA, reported an all-time record high of 85 degrees, a record which lasted until September of 1983. (The Weather Channel)

1936 - The temperature at McIntosh SD plunged to 58 degrees below zero to establish a state record. (David Ludlum)

1958 - The greatest snowstorm of the mid 20th century struck the northeastern U.S. The storm produced 30 inches of snow in interior New England, including more than 19 inches in 24 hours at the Boston Airport. The same storm produced up to three feet of snow in the Middle Atlantic Coast Region, with 14 inches at Washington D.C., and 15.5 inches at Baltimore MD. The storm resulted in 43 deaths and 500 million dollars damage over the Middle Atlantic Coast States. (David Ludlum)

1987 - A couple of winter storms, one off the Atlantic coast and another over the south central U.S., produced snow and ice from the Mississippi Valley to the Mid Atlantic Coast Region. Freezing rain produced a coat of ice three inches thick in northern South Carolina, and 30,000 homes around Pee Dee were left without electricity. Parts of south central Kentucky were without electricity for three days following the storm, which was their worst in 35 years. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)

1988 - Santa Ana winds in southern California gusted to 63 mph at Ontario. Heavy snow blanketed parts of Colorado, with 11 inches reported at Strontia. (The National Weather Summary) (Storm Data)



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Today



Chance Snow

High: 13 °F

Tonight



Chance Snow  
then Cloudy

Low: -3 °F

Washington's  
Birthday



Slight Chance  
Flurries

High: 7 °F

Monday  
Night



Mostly Cloudy

Low: -11 °F

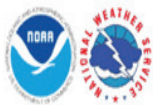
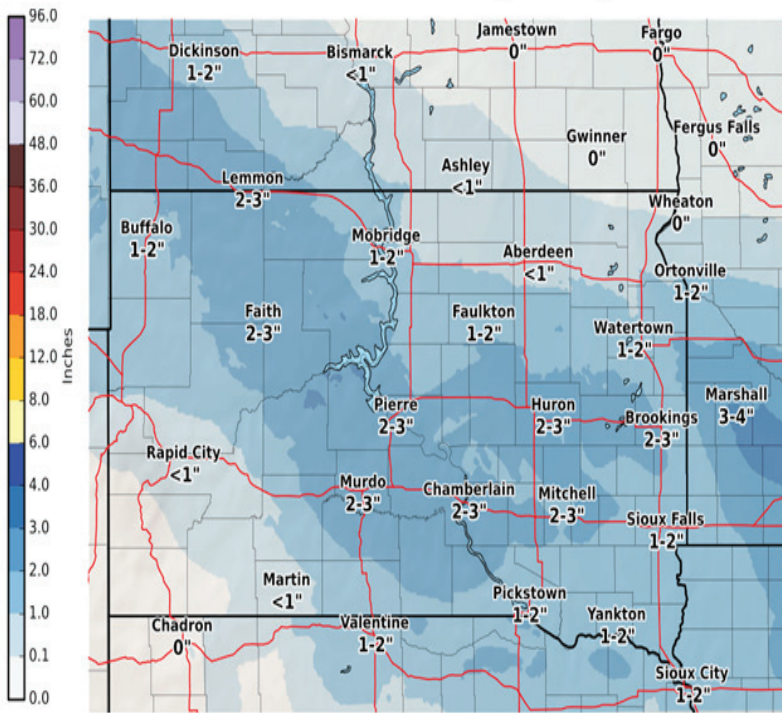
Tuesday



Cold

High: 8 °F

## Additional Snowfall through Tonight



National Weather Service  
Aberdeen SD  
02/17/2019 03:53 AM CST

Follow Us:   
weather.gov/Aberdeen/winter



Light to Moderate  
Snow Ending Tonight

Cold with Flurries on  
Monday

Below Normal  
Temperatures Expected  
through the Work  
Week

Published on: 02/17/2019 at 5:24AM

Light to occasionally moderate snow will continue through afternoon hours across a good portion of South Dakota. An additional 1 to 3 inches will be possible. West central Minnesota and northeastern South Dakota will see little to no accumulating snowfall today.

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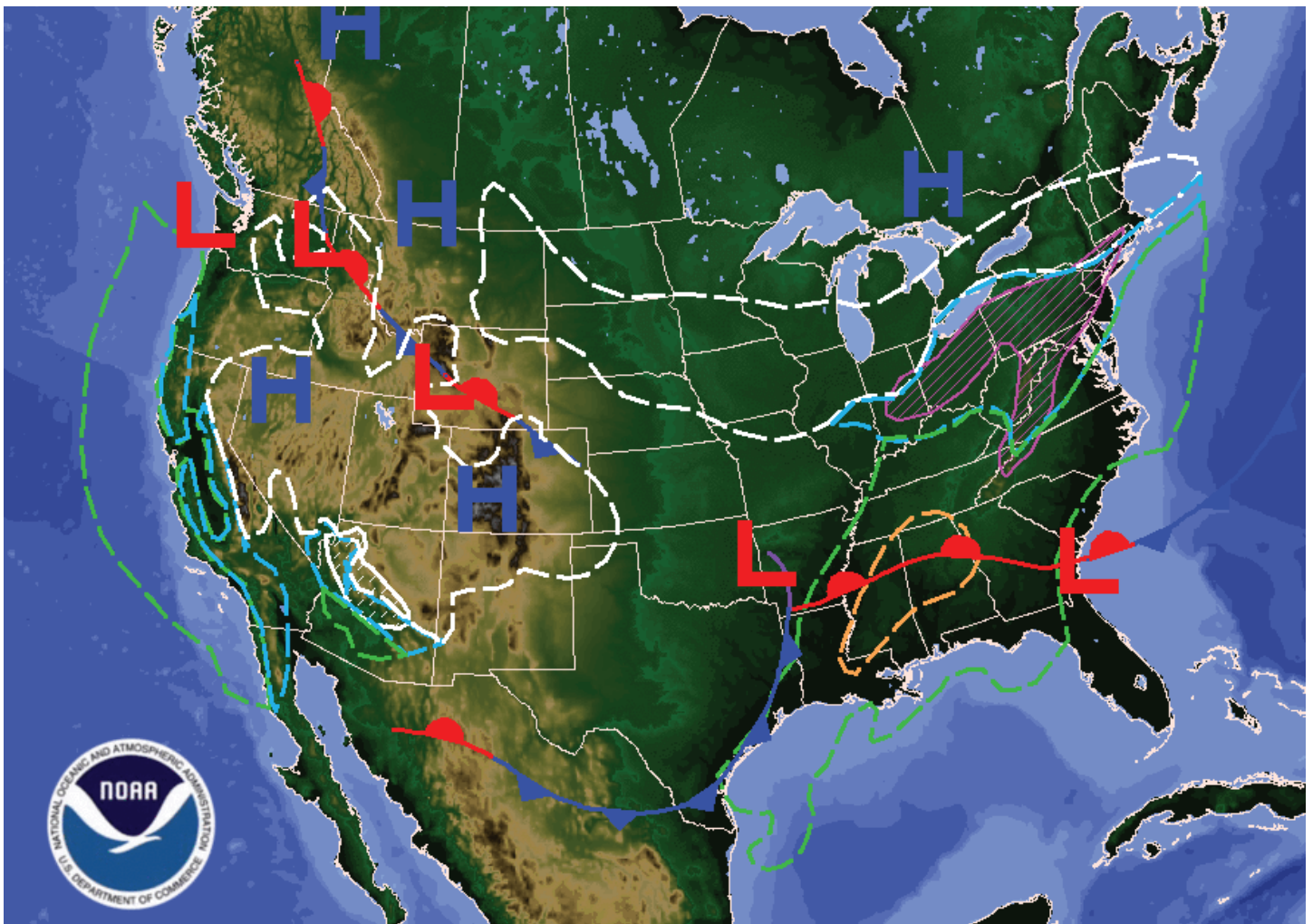
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## Yesterday's Weather

**High Outside Temp: 18 °F at 3:20 PM**  
**Low Outside Temp: -2 °F at 12:00 AM**  
**High Gust: 22 mph at 7:57 PM**  
**Precip:**

## Today's Info

**Record High: 58° in 1930**  
**Record Low: -39° in 1903**  
**Average High: 29°F**  
**Average Low: 8°F**  
**Average Precip in Feb.: 0.27**  
**Precip to date in Feb.: 0.00**  
**Average Precip to date: 0.74**  
**Precip Year to Date: 0.00**  
**Sunset Tonight: 6:04 p.m.**  
**Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:31 a.m.**



### Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Sun, Feb 17, 2019, issued 4:40 AM EST  
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center  
Prepared by Kong with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

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



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## HELP, IM A PARENT

Throughout the Bible, being obedient to parents is always connected to being submissive to and following the teachings of God. And, if we consider Gods character to be important and the foundation of His role as our Father, parents will strive to imitate His characteristics if they want to be effective representatives of Him.

We often speak of the characteristics of God in high and lofty terms: He is omniscient, omnipotent, immortal, and omnipresent! But, Jesus presented the character of God in behaviors that could be seen, and, most of them imitated. Consider these important behaviors we constantly see in the life of Jesus: loving, kind, caring, compassionate, forgiving, accepting, helping, healing, encouraging, honest, thoughtful, sensitive, open, available, authentic, a disciplinarian, knowledgeable, wise, a craftsman, a caring Son, student of the Law and Prophets, a model to be followed, submissive to and respectful of the laws and a close obedient relationship to His Father.

Quite a list, indeed. And, when I review and think about this list, I wonder how often I failed my Heavenly Father as the father He wanted me to be to my children as they grew up - even now.

When we consider the important role that parents are called to fulfill, spiritual, moral, and ethical examples and authorities to our children, it is easy to cry out, This job is far beyond me! And, it is if we attempt to do it on our own. But, if we are humble and dependent on Him, we have His Word to guide us and guard us, His Son within us to empower us, and the Holy Spirits presence to lead us.

We also have His Word, especially the Proverbs, when we want His wisdom.

Prayer: Father, we parents who love and believe in You are blest to have You and Your Word as a parents guide. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: Proverbs 1:8 Listen, my son, to your fathers instruction and do not forsake your mothers teaching.

## 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
- 06/13/2019 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
- 11/09/2019 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

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News from the  Associated Press

## Saturday's Scores

By The Associated Press

### BOYS PREP BASKETBALL

Bridgewater-Emery 62, Viborg-Hurley 45  
Chamberlain 57, Platte-Geddes 56  
Clark/Willow Lake 64, Tiospa Zina Tribal 43  
Dell Rapids St. Mary 68, Elkton-Lake Benton 59  
Flandreau 56, McCook Central/Montrose 55  
Harrisburg 70, Aberdeen Central 48  
Hot Springs 60, Custer 53  
Ipswich 45, Wilmot 39  
Mitchell Christian 47, Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 42  
Oelrichs 81, Edgemont 61  
Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 53, Estelline/Hendricks 41  
St. Thomas More 94, Hill City 52  
Wall 66, Newell 63, OT  
Watertown 56, Brandon Valley 40  
Webster 66, Deubrook 57  
White River 85, Todd County 48  
Wolsey-Wessington 62, Florence/Henry 33  
Great Plains Classic(equals)  
Andes Central/Dakota Christian 70, Centerville 34  
Burke 62, Avon 32  
Colome 65, Gayville-Volin 49  
Corsica/Stickney 62, Freeman Academy/Marion 47  
Marty Indian 60, Scotland 38  
Tripp-Delmont/Armour 70, Alcester-Hudson 55  
POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATIONS  
Gregory vs. Rapid City Christian, ppd. to Feb 23rd.  
Lemmon vs. Flasher, N.D., ccd.

### GIRLS PREP BASKETBALL

Aberdeen Roncalli 50, Dell Rapids 38  
Arlington 62, Dell Rapids St. Mary 46  
Bennett County 51, Jones County 50  
Brandon Valley 66, Watertown 50  
Castlewood 53, Estelline/Hendricks 42  
Chamberlain 57, Platte-Geddes 30  
Clark/Willow Lake 50, Tiospa Zina Tribal 28  
Crazy Horse 50, Takini 35  
DeSmet 58, Deubrook 36  
Eureka 43, Aberdeen Christian 37  
Flandreau 77, McCook Central/Montrose 57  
Harrisburg 54, Aberdeen Central 28  
Herreid/Selby Area 49, Edmunds Central 28  
Lake Preston 58, Oldham-Ramona/Rutland 29  
Mt. Vernon/Plankinton 39, Mitchell Christian 23



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Philip 34, Lyman 30  
Sioux Falls Christian 51, Milbank 36  
Sioux Falls O'Gorman 53, Mitchell 37  
Sioux Falls Roosevelt 56, Sioux Falls Washington 48  
Sturgis Brown 68, Red Cloud 60  
Waubay/Summit 54, Ortonville, Minn. 47  
West Central 59, Tri-Valley 42

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

## SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash  
13-20-21-28-32  
(thirteen, twenty, twenty-one, twenty-eight, thirty-two)  
Estimated jackpot: \$99,000

Lotto America  
16-27-32-47-51, Star Ball: 6, ASB: 2  
(sixteen, twenty-seven, thirty-two, forty-seven, fifty-one; Star Ball: six; ASB: two)  
Estimated jackpot: \$15.22 million

Mega Millions  
Estimated jackpot: \$206 million

Powerball  
29-30-41-48-64, Powerball: 1, Power Play: 4  
(twenty-nine, thirty, forty-one, forty-eight, sixty-four; Powerball: one; Power Play: four)  
Estimated jackpot: \$260 million

## Lawmakers to talk presumptive probation, campus free speech

By JAMES NORD, Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — South Dakota lawmakers plan to take up bills this week to end presumptive probation, promote "intellectual diversity" on college campuses and target an activities association policy for transgender student athletes.

Here's a look at the agenda after lawmakers return Tuesday to the Capitol:

### PRESUMPTIVE PROBATION

A bill to reverse South Dakota's presumptive probation policy for some lower-level felonies is set for debate Tuesday in the Senate Judiciary Committee. The proposal is a top priority for new Attorney General Jason Ravensborg.

Presumptive probation is credited with helping avert expensive prison population growth, but critics say it ties judges' hands. It was part of a 2013 Republican-led justice overhaul.

The package former Republican Gov. Dennis Daugaard and other officials championed included presumptive probation for some nonviolent crimes — including drug possession and ingestion — in the two lowest classes of felonies.

A 2016 report from the Urban Institute found presumptive probation and other changes played a major

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role in avoiding growth in the state prison population, and the latest state analysis credits the overhaul with saving taxpayers more than \$30 million.

Ravnsborg has said ending the practice would give a "formidable and necessary tool back to our prosecutors and our courts." Opponents of his bill include local chapters of the ACLU and Americans for Prosperity.

GOP Gov. Kristi Noem said last month that she hadn't decided if she would sign the measure into law. Noem said then that presumptive probation has been described to her as frustrating, but she doesn't want to be in the "business of building new prisons and jails."

## TRANSGENDER STUDENT ATHLETES

A House panel is set to hear a bill taking aim again at the South Dakota High School Activities Association's policy that lets transgender students play on the athletic team that matches their gender identity. A Senate panel killed a similar bill last month.

The measure before the House Health and Human Services Committee on Tuesday would require a student's sex to be determined by their birth certificate or an association physical exam form.

Association Executive Director Dan Swartos has said a "very small number" of transgender students participate with the exemption. Supporters in the Senate argued the bill was necessary to ensure fair competition. Critics contended it would harm transgender students.

## INTELLECTUAL DIVERSITY

House lawmakers are scheduled to debate a pared-down measure seeking to promote "intellectual diversity" on college campuses.

The bill set for floor discussion would designate publicly accessible outdoor areas of state universities as available for expressive activity, prohibit officials from discriminating against student organizations based on their expression, and require reporting to the governor, regents and legislators.

The public reports would require information including instances in which free expression is disrupted, attempts to block a speaker and investigations into students based on their speech.

Significant changes to the bill come after Noem said she met with the sponsor to discuss it. The new version doesn't contain previously proposed requirements for students, including U.S. history and government courses and scoring at least 85 percent on the U.S. citizenship test.

The Board of Regents, university presidents and student representatives opposed the bill in its earlier form.

## YANKTON GAMBLING

A measure to put a proposed casino complex in Yankton to a statewide vote is set to be debated on the Senate floor this week.

Kasi Haberman, Convention and Visitor's Bureau director in Yankton, told a Senate panel last week that the Port Yankton casino and entertainment project is an effort to drive tourism for the city and state.

But Native American tribes in Nebraska and South Dakota object to the plan. Yankton Sioux Tribe Vice Chairman Jason Cooke told the committee that the tribe's casino employs people and helps support programming including education.

Thelma Thomas is general manager of the Santee Sioux Nation's Ohiya Casino and Resort in Nebraska. She said the casino market in the area is already saturated with many casinos very close to Yankton.

If passed, the measure would direct revenues after expenses to helping South Dakota veterans and economic development and historic restoration in Yankton.

A similar measure failed in the chamber last year. Supporters could gather signatures to put the plan on the ballot.

## EARLY LEARNING

A new early learning advisory council would collect data from early childhood education programs in South Dakota under a bill scheduled for debate Wednesday in the House State Affairs Committee.

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The panel established by Democratic Rep. Erin Healy's bill would conduct a statewide assessment on the quality and availability of early childhood education and development programs, identify opportunities and barriers to collaboration and make recommendations to boost participation in early childhood education programs. The group would also identify potential new funding sources that could be used to expand the early learning opportunities available in South Dakota.

"This is something that we must focus on in our state. We haven't done enough in the state of South Dakota to make sure that all children have access to Pre-K," Healy said.

A priority for Democrats, such legislation has failed in past sessions.

## CAMPUS CARRY

The full Senate is to debate a bill this week that would bar public universities and technical schools from restricting people's ability to carry guns on campus. The measure faces opposition from student officials, the Board of Regents and the Board of Technical Education.

Jordan Mason, political director at South Dakota Gun Owners, recently told a Senate panel that the bill would give students a "fighting chance to defend themselves."

But University of South Dakota President Sheila Gestring said allowing guns at the university could make students, staff and faculty fearful of coming to campus and may result in injuries and deaths.

Regents' policy prohibits firearms on campus with some exceptions. Such legislation has failed previously at the Capitol.

## Jenkins 3 gives South Dakota St. 78-77 win over NDSU

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — David Jenkins went airborne at half-court to sink a 3-pointer at the buzzer, giving South Dakota State a 78-77 win over North Dakota State on Saturday.

The Jackrabbits (21-7, 11-2 Summit League) were down by two, 77-75, in the final seconds when NDSU's Rocky Kreuser missed the second of two free throws and South Dakota State's Tevin King snagged the rebound. He fed it to Jenkins on the run who took to the air just past half court to hit the game-winning 3 off the backboard as time expired.

Mike Daum scored 31 points with 12 rebounds to lead South Dakota State. Jenkins finished with 24 points and six assists.

After falling behind 39-30 at halftime, South Dakota State rallied late in the second half, closing to 76-75 on a pair of Jenkins free throws with four seconds left.

Vinnie Shahid had 19 points for the Bison (14-13, 8-5), whose five-game win streak came to an end. Tyson Ward added 14 points and six rebounds. Tyree Eady had 11 points.

The Jackrabbits improve to 2-0 against the Bison on the season. South Dakota State defeated North Dakota State 87-69 on Jan. 24. South Dakota State matches up against Purdue Fort Wayne at home on Thursday. North Dakota State plays Nebraska Omaha at home next Saturday.

For more AP college basketball coverage: <https://apnews.com/Collegebasketball> and [http://twitter.com/AP\\_Top25](http://twitter.com/AP_Top25)

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## No. 25 South Dakota women win 10th straight, top W Illinois

MACOMB, Ill. (AP) — Hannah Sjerven scored 20 points and No. 25 South Dakota celebrated its first appearance in the Top 25 on Saturday with an 83-61 win over Western Illinois for the Coyotes' second 10-game winning streak of the season.

Ciara Duffy and Chloe Lamb combined for 35 points, going 7 of 12 from 3-point range for South Dakota State (23-3, 11-1 Summit League).

Olivia Kaufmann and Annabel Graettinger had 15 points apiece for Western Illinois (12-14, 8-5), which



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entered the game having won four straight and 7 out of 8. The lone loss was 92-49 at South Dakota.

The Leathernecks took a 16-15 lead after one quarter on the strength of going 8 of 9 from the foul line. The Coyotes responded by making 4 of 7 3-pointers and shooting 74 percent in outscoring Western Illinois 24-12 to lead 39-28 at halftime. They closed the half on a 17-4 run with Duffy scoring eight points.

South Dakota State steadily pulled away in the second half, making 16 of 27 shots (59 percent) to finish the game at 53 percent.

Duffy finished 4 of 7 from 3-point range and scored 18 points; Lamb was 3 of 5 from distance and scored 17.

## **Burch-Manning carries South Dakota past W. Illinois 80-67**

MACOMB, Ill. (AP) — Trey Burch-Manning had 20 points as South Dakota beat Western Illinois 80-67 on Saturday.

Stanley Umude had 17 points and seven rebounds for South Dakota (10-15, 4-8 Summit League), which broke its four-game losing streak. Triston Simpson added 13 points. Tyler Peterson had 11 points and six rebounds for the visiting team.

Kobe Webster had 16 points and seven rebounds for the Leathernecks (8-17, 3-9), who have now lost four games in a row. C.J. Duff added 15 points. Brandon Gilbeck had 10 points and three blocks.

The Coyotes evened the season series against the Leathernecks with the win. Western Illinois defeated South Dakota 65-59 on Jan. 26. South Dakota plays Denver at home on Wednesday. Western Illinois matches up against Nebraska Omaha on the road on Wednesday.

For more AP college basketball coverage: <https://apnews.com/Collegebasketball> and [http://twitter.com/AP\\_Top25](http://twitter.com/AP_Top25)

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## **Sanford Health launches Child Life program in Bismarck**

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — Sanford Health in Bismarck has created a new program to help children in the hospital heal through music and entertainment.

The Dakotas-based health care provider launched the Child Life program in November with endowments from the Sanford Health Foundation's "Above and Beyond" campaign, the Bismarck Tribune reported.

The program also exists in Fargo and Sioux Falls.

Under the program, a child development professional and a music therapist work with children throughout the hospital, including in the pediatric intensive care unit and at children's clinics. The specialists can help the children to understand a diagnosis or prepare for an operation, and also spend time with the child and provide support for their families.

Bobbi Jo Vandal, a Bismarck native and music therapist who is part of the Child Life program at Sanford, plays music for anxious kids and sings lullabies to babies in the neonatal intensive care unit.

Premature babies "can be really fragile, so they have to be a certain gestational period for me to work with them; otherwise, it's too much stimulation," Vandal said. "But it's especially helpful for babies that are having withdrawal symptoms or need extra stimulation to help them get out into the world."

Vandal highlighted studies that prove music therapy is helpful to babies in the neonatal intensive care unit. Music therapy can improve a preemie's breathing, heart rate and feeding, according to a 2013 Journal of Pediatrics study.

The cost of the Child Life program services is free to families since it's financed by donations.

"I've been doing pediatrics (at Sanford) for 21 years, and I've honestly seen such a transformation of our Children's Hospital since the incorporation of Child Life and music therapy," said pediatric Dr. Todd

Twoood. "It's basically been one of the best things I've seen come to us in a long time."

Kristi Schmidt, the Sanford Health Foundation's lead major gifts officer, said the organization needs to raise \$1.5 million, which will then be matched by Sanford Health to create a \$3 million fund to sustain the Child Life Program.

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

## Rapid City council to vote on changing public behavior law

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — Rapid City officials have proposed changing a local law that regulates public behavior and safety after the city attorney said the current ordinance violates the constitutional right to free speech.

Ordinance violations include aggressive panhandling, asking for money after dark and near ATMs, at building entrances and other locations. The ordinance also prohibits people from asking for money while under the influence.

Darrell Shoemaker, spokesman for the city, said City Attorney Joel Landeen's disputes the existing statutes and their office hasn't enforced the ordinance in several years.

The city's Legal and Finance Committee on Wednesday voted unanimously to repeal the current "aggressive solicitation" ordinance and replace it with an "unlawful behavior" in public places ordinance, the Rapid City Journal reported.

The city council is expected to vote on the amendment next week.

The proposed measure would make it an infraction to create a "roadside distraction" that disrupts traffic or creates a public safety problem. It would also address illegal obstructions in public rights of way.

"We're looking at behaviors that are problematic in these public spaces, and it's something that's not going to be based on speech, it's just going to be based upon conduct," said Kinsley Groote, assistant city attorney.

Groote told the Journal that if someone is charged and found guilty, under the amended law they could be fined up to \$500 and be jailed for up to 30 days, the maximum penalties for violating any city ordinance.

Scott Sitts, a lieutenant officer who oversees the Rapid City Police Department's Quality of Life unit, noted citations and arrests will only occur in "rare circumstances when everything else fails." He estimated that over 90 percent of complaints will be taken care of without enforcement efforts.

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

## Man sentenced to 40 years for killing Sioux Falls teen

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) — A Sioux Falls man who fatally shot a teen in a city park has been sentenced to nearly 40 years in prison.

Nineteen-year-old Dylan Holler pleaded guilty in November to manslaughter. Police say he killed 17-year-old Riley Stonehouse in August 2017 following a dispute over drugs.

Holler was ordered to pay more than \$15,000 to the Stonehouse family for funeral and medical expenses. He will be eligible for parole after 20 years.

Holler pleaded guilty to shooting Stonehouse during the attempted robbery of a different teen. Holler hit the teen with the gun and it discharged, striking Stonehouse in the back.

## State Department: Nauert out as pick for UN ambassador

By MATTHEW LEE, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Heather Nauert, picked by President Donald Trump to be the next U.S. ambassador to the United Nations but never officially nominated, has withdrawn from consideration, the State Department said.

Nauert, a State Department spokeswoman, said in a department statement that "the past two months

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have been grueling for my family and therefore it is in the best interest of my family that I withdraw my name from consideration.”

Nauert’s impending nomination had been considered a tough sell in the Senate, where she would have faced tough questions about her relative lack of foreign policy experience, according to congressional aides.

A potential issue involving a nanny that she and her husband had employed may also have been a factor in her decision to withdraw, according to one aide. That issue, which was first reported by Bloomberg on Saturday, centered on a foreign nanny who was legally in the U.S. but did not have legal status to work, according to the aide, who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

The aide said some involved in the vetting process saw Nauert’s inexperience and questions about her ability to represent the U.S. at the U.N. as a larger issue.

Trump’s initial U.N. ambassador, Nikki Haley, served for nearly all the administration’s first two years. She announced her resignation in October with plans to step down by year’s end.

In December, Trump said he would nominate Nauert, calling her “very talented, very smart, very quick” and saying he thought she would be “respected by all.” After the November elections that strengthened Republican control of the Senate, her confirmation appeared likely, if not easy. Yet Trump never put Nauert’s name forward with the Senate and no confirmation hearing was scheduled.

The State Department in its statement that Trump would announce a nominee for the U.N. post “soon.”

Nauert was a Fox News Channel reporter when she joined the State Department as spokeswoman almost two years ago while Rex Tillerson was secretary of state. She rose to the upper echelons of the department’s hierarchy after Trump fired Tillerson in March 2018 and Mike Pompeo replaced him.

In the department’s statement, Pompeo said he respected Nauert’s decision on the U.N. job and that she performed her duties as a senior member of his team “with unequalled excellence.”

“Serving in the administration for the past two years has been one of the highest honors of my life and I will always be grateful to the President, the Secretary, and my colleagues at the State Department for their support,” Nauert said in the statement provided by the department.

Before coming to the State Department, Nauert was a breaking news anchor on Trump’s favorite television show, “Fox & Friends.” With a master’s degree from Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism, she had moved to Fox from ABC News, where she was a general assignment reporter.

Nauert, who did not have a good relationship with Tillerson and had considered leaving the department, was appointed acting undersecretary of state for public diplomacy and public affairs after his departure. The appointment ended in October.

Follow Matthew Lee on Twitter at @APDiploWriter

## Return to sender: High court to hear undeliverable mail case

By JESSICA GRESKO, Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mitch Hungerpiller thought he had a first-class solution for mail that gets returned as undeliverable, a common problem for businesses that send lots of letters.

But the process he helped develop and built his small Alabama technology company around has resulted in a more than decadelong fight with the U.S. Postal Service, which says his solution shouldn’t have been patentable. The David vs. Goliath dispute has now arrived at the Supreme Court. On Tuesday, the justices will hear Hungerpiller’s case, which involves parsing the meaning of a 2011 patent law.

“All I want is a fair shake,” said Hungerpiller, who lives in Birmingham and is a father of three.

Hungerpiller, 56, started thinking seriously about returned mail in 1999 when he was doing computer consulting work. While visiting clients he kept seeing huge trays of returned mail. He read that every year, billions pieces of mail are returned as undeliverable, costing companies and the Postal Service time and money.

So he decided to try to solve the problem. He developed a system that uses barcodes, scanning equip-



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ment and computer databases to process returned mail almost entirely automatically. His clients, from financial services companies to marketing companies, generally direct their returned mail to Hungerpiller's company, Return Mail Inc., for processing. Clients can get information about whether the mail was actually correctly addressed and whether there's a more current address.

Hungerpiller says developing Return Mail's system took several years. As part of the process, the company applied for a patent. In 2004, right before Thanksgiving, Hungerpiller got a call with good news. The company would be issued U.S. Patent No. 6,826,548.

"Oh I was so thankful. Best Thanksgiving of my life," he said, describing the phone call as "just a wow moment."

To celebrate he bought decorative copies of the patent for company leaders. His copy, a plaque about the size of a piece of paper, hangs in his office next to a painting of his late father.

Even early on, the Postal Service expressed interest in Return Mail's invention, Hungerpiller said. By 2006, the government and Return Mail were talking about licensing options and a formal pilot program. Partnering with the Postal Service, Hungerpiller said, would have "changed my life." But the Postal Service ultimately developed its own, similar system for processing returned and undeliverable mail, announcing its launch in 2006.

"I was crushed. I got a dagger in my back," Hungerpiller said.

And his business suffered.

"Bottom line is that we had to lay off employees," Hungerpiller said, adding that it "suffocated the business."

The Postal Service soon went further. It tried to get Return Mail's patent invalidated, but failed. Return Mail sued the Postal Service, arguing that the government should pay for using Return Mail's invention without permission.

A spokesman for the Postal Service declined to comment on the case because it is ongoing.

Just as Hungerpiller thought his company might be gaining the upper hand, the Postal Service switched tactics, successfully using a 2011 patent law overhaul law to invalidate Return Mail's patent.

Now, at the Supreme Court, Return Mail's lawyers are arguing that the Postal Service can't use that law, the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act, to challenge Return Mail's patent. The law says that a "person who is not the owner of a patent," can file a patent challenge using the law. The Postal Service doesn't count as a "person," Return Mail's lawyers say. The government disagrees. The Supreme Court will decide who is right.

Hungerpiller said he's pleased the Supreme Court wants to at least hear his case. He said what he has been through to get to this point hasn't made him lose faith in his government. Most days he wears an American flag pin, something he has done since 9/11. He calls himself a "proud American."

"This is just a process," he said. "I honestly believe that one day I'll get justice."

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

## In Brexit limbo, UK veers between high anxiety, grim humor

By JILL LAWLESS, Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — It's said that history often repeats itself — the first time as tragedy, the second as farce. Many Britons feel they are living through both at the same time as their country navigates its way out of the European Union.

The British government awarded a contract to ship in emergency supplies to a company with no ships. It pledged to replace citizens' burgundy European passports with proudly British blue ones — and gave the contract to a Franco-Dutch company. It promised to forge trade deals with 73 countries by the end of March, but two years later has only a handful in place (including one with the Faroe Islands).

Pretty much everyone in the U.K. agrees that the Conservative government's handling of Brexit has been disastrous. Unfortunately, that's about the only thing this divided nation can agree on.

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With Britain due to leave the EU in six weeks and still no deal in sight on the terms of its departure, both supporters and opponents of Brexit are in a state of high anxiety.

Pro-EU "remainers" lament the looming end of Britons' right to live and work in 27 other European nations and fear the U.K. is about to crash out of the bloc without even a divorce deal to cushion the blow.

Brexiters worry that their dream of leaving the EU will be dashed by bureaucratic shenanigans that will delay its departure or keep Britain bound to EU regulations forever.

"I still think they'll find a way to curtail it or extend it into infinity," said "leave" supporter Lucy Harris. "I have a horrible feeling that they're going to dress it up and label it as something we want, but it isn't."

It has been more than two and a half years since Britons voted 52 percent to 48 percent to leave the EU. Then came many months of tense negotiations to settle on Brexit departure terms and the outline of future relations. At last, the EU and Prime Minister Theresa May's government struck a deal — then saw it resoundingly rejected last month by Britain's Parliament, which like the rest of the country has split into pro-Brexit and pro-EU camps.

May is now seeking changes to the Brexit deal in hope of getting it through Parliament before March 29. EU leaders say they won't renegotiate, and accuse Britain of failing to offer a way out of the impasse.

May insists she won't ask the EU to delay Britain's departure, and has refused to rule out a cliff-edge no-deal Brexit.

Meanwhile, Brexit has clogged the gears of Britain's economic and political life. The economy has stalled, growing by only 0.2 percent in the fourth quarter as business investment registered a fourth straight quarterly decline.

Big political decisions have been postponed, as May's minority Conservative government struggles to get bills through a squabbling and divided Parliament. Major legislation needed to prepare for Brexit has yet to be approved.

Britain still does not have a deal on future trade with the EU, and it's unclear what tariffs or other barriers British firms that do business with Europe will face after March 29.

That has left businesses and citizens in an agonizing limbo.

Rod McKenzie, director of policy at the Road Haulage Association, a truckers' lobby group, feels "pure anger" at a government he says has failed to plan, leaving haulers uncertain whether they will be able to travel to EU countries after March 29.

McKenzie says truckers were told they will need Europe-issued permits to drive through EU countries if Britain leaves the bloc without a deal. Of more than 11,000 who applied, only 984 — less than 10 percent — have been granted the papers.

"It will put people out of business," McKenzie said. "It's been an absolutely disastrous process for our industry, which keeps Britain supplied with, essentially, everything."

He's not alone in raising the specter of shortages; both the government and British businesses have been stockpiling key goods in case of a no-deal Brexit.

Still, some Brexit-backers, such as former Daily Telegraph editor Charles Moore, relish the prospect of a clean break even if it brings short-term pain.

"Perhaps it is time for a Brexit recipe book, like those comforting wartime rationing ones full of bright ideas for dull things," Moore wrote in *The Spectator*, a conservative magazine. He added that he and his neighbors were willing to "set out in our little ships to Dunkirk or wherever and bring back luscious black-market lettuces and French beans, oranges and lemons."

Brexit supporters often turn to nostalgic evocations of World War II and Britain's "finest hour," to the annoyance of pro-Europeans.

The imagery reached a peak of absurdity during a recent BBC news report on Brexit, when the anchor announced that "Theresa May says she intends to go back to Brussels to renegotiate her Brexit deal," as the screen cut to black-and-white footage of World War II British Spitfires going into battle.

The BBC quickly said the startling juxtaposition was a mistake: The footage was intended for an item about a new Battle of Britain museum. Skeptics saw it as evidence of the broadcaster's bias, though they

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disagreed on whether the BBC was biased in favor of Brexit or against it.

Some pro-Europeans have hit back against Brexit with despairing humor.

Four friends have started plastering billboards in London with 20-foot-by-10-foot (6-meter-by-3-meter) images of pro-Brexit politicians' past tweets, to expose what the group sees as their hypocrisy.

Highlights included former U.K. Independence Party leader Nigel Farage's vow that "if Brexit is a disaster, I will go and live abroad," and ex-Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson's pledge to "make a titanic success" of Brexit.

The friends dubbed the campaign "Led by Donkeys," after the description of British soldiers in World War I as "lions led by donkeys." The billboards are now going nationwide, after a crowdfunding campaign raised almost 150,000 pounds (\$193,000).

"It was a cry of pain, genuine pain, at the chaos in this country and the lies that brought us here," said a member of the group, a London charity worker who spoke on condition of anonymity because their initial guerrilla posters could be considered illegal.

A similar feeling of alienation reigns across the Brexit divide in the "leave" camp.

After the referendum, Harris, a 28-year-old classically trained singer, founded a group called Leavers of London so Brexiteers could socialize without facing opprobrium from neighbors and colleagues who don't share their views. It has grown into Leavers of Britain, with branches across the country.

Harris said members "feel like in their workplaces or their personal lives, they're not accepted for their democratic vote. They're seen as bad people."

"I'm really surprised I still have to do this," she said. But she thinks Britain's EU divide is as wide as it ever was.

"There can't be reconciliation until Brexit is done," she said.

Whenever that is.

Follow Jill Lawless on Twitter at <http://Twitter.com/JillLawless> . Follow AP's full coverage of Brexit at: <https://www.apnews.com/Brexit>

## Aurora attacker took gun to work he shouldn't have owned

By DON BABWIN and CARYN ROUSSEAU, Associated Press

AURORA, Ill. (AP) — The man who opened fire and killed five co-workers including the plant manager, human resources manager and an intern working his first day at a suburban Chicago manufacturing warehouse, took a gun he wasn't supposed to have to a job he was about to lose.

Right after learning Friday that he was being fired from his job of 15 years at the Henry Pratt Co. in Aurora, Gary Martin pulled out a gun and began shooting, killing the three people in the room with him and two others just outside and wounding a sixth employee, police said Saturday.

Martin shot and wounded five of the first officers to get to the scene, including one who didn't even make it inside the sprawling warehouse in Aurora, Illinois, a city of 200,000 about 40 miles (65 kilometers) west of Chicago.

After that flurry of shots and with officers from throughout the region streaming in to help, he ran off and hid in the back of the building, where officers found him about an hour later and killed him during an exchange of gunfire, police said.

"He was probably waiting for us to get to him there," Aurora police Lt. Rick Robertson said. "It was just a very short gunfight and it was over, so he was basically in the back waiting for us and fired upon us and our officers fired."

Like in many of the country's mass shootings, Friday's attack was carried out by a man with a violent criminal history who was armed with a gun he wasn't supposed to have.

Martin, 45, had six arrests over the years in Aurora, for what police Chief Kristen Ziman described as "traffic and domestic battery-related issues" and for violating an order of protection. He also had a 1995 felony conviction for aggravated assault in Mississippi that should have prevented him from buying his



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gun, Ziman said.

He was able to buy the Smith and Wesson .40-caliber handgun on March 11, 2014, because he was issued a firearm owner's identification card two months earlier after passing an initial background check. It wasn't until he applied for a concealed carry permit five days after buying the gun and went through a more rigorous background check using digital fingerprinting that his Mississippi conviction was flagged and his firearm owner's ID card was revoked, Ziman said. Once his card was revoked, he could no longer legally have a gun.

"Absolutely, he was not supposed to be in possession of a firearm," she said.

But he was, and on Friday he took it and several magazines of ammunition to work.

Scott Hall, president and CEO of Mueller Water Products Inc., which owns Henry Pratt, said that Martin came to work for his normal shift Friday and was being fired when he started shooting.

"We can confirm that the individual was being terminated Friday for a culmination of a various workplace rules violations," he told a news conference Saturday. He gave no details of the violations by Martin at the plant that makes valves for industrial purposes.

A company background check of Martin when he joined Henry Pratt 15 years ago did not turn up a 1995 felony conviction for aggravated assault in Mississippi, Hall said.

The employee who survived being shot is recovering at a hospital, Ziman said Saturday. None of the officers who were shot received life-threatening wounds, she said.

Police identified the slain workers as human resources manager Clayton Parks of Elgin; plant manager Josh Pinkard of Oswego; mold operator Russell Beyer of Yorkville; stock room attendant and fork lift operator Vicente Juarez of Oswego; and human resources intern and Northern Illinois University student Trevor Wehner, who lived in DeKalb and grew up in Sheridan.

It was Wehner's first day on the job, his uncle Jay Wehner told The Associated Press. Trevor Wehner, 21, was on the dean's list at NIU's business college and was on track to graduate in May with a degree in human resource management.

"He always, always was happy. I have no bad words for him. He was a wonderful person. You can't say anything but nice things about him," Jay Wehner said of his nephew.

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Associated Press writers Carrie Antfinger and Amanda Seitz contributed to this report. Babwin and Rousseau reported from Chicago.

## US-backed Syria force says IS holding 1,000 civilians

By SARAH EL DEEB, Associated Press

AL-OMAR OIL FIELD BASE, Syria (AP) — Islamic State militants are preventing more than 1,000 civilians from leaving a tiny area still held by the extremist group in a village in eastern Syria, a spokesman for the U.S.-backed Syrian militia fighting the group said Sunday.

"Regrettably, Daesh have closed all the roads," Mustafa Bali, a spokesman for the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces, told The Associated Press, referring to IS by its Arabic acronym.

SDF officials have said the extremists are hiding among civilians in a tented village and using a network of caves and tunnels. IS, which once ruled a proto-state in large parts of Syria and Iraq, is clinging to an area less than a square kilometer (square mile) in the village of Baghouz, in eastern Syria.

The extremists may include high-level commanders, and could be holding hostages among those trapped inside.

Occasional coalition airstrikes and clashes continue inside the village of Baghouz. Artillery rounds were meant to clear land mines for the SDF fighters to advance. SDF commanders say the end of IS' self-declared caliphate is near.

"We will very soon bring good news to the whole world," Ciya Furat, an SDF commander, said Saturday at a news conference at the al-Omar Oil Field Base, miles away from Baghouz in the Deir el-Zour province.

The capture of the last pocket of territory held by IS in either Syria or Iraq would mark the end of a

devastating four-year global campaign to end the extremist group's so-called caliphate. At the height of their power in 2014, the extremists controlled nearly a third of both countries.

But experts and U.S. defense officials warn that the group still poses a major threat and could regroup within six months if pressure is not kept up.

## From Bogart to millennials: Italian hat maker tries new look

By COLLEEN BARRY, AP Business Writer

SPINETTA MARENGO, Italy (AP) — Hats off, Bogie.

The traditional Italian hat maker Borsalino, whose fedora has defined the rough-and-tumble images of Robert Redford, Frank Sinatra and Humphrey Bogart, has a plan to appeal more to women and millennials by pushing into high-end fashion, streetwear and even sportswear.

The recent troubles of the company, which has been rescued financially by a private equity fund, underline the difficulties facing Italian companies — not only fashion brands — seeking scale to stay competitive and grow in the age of globalization.

Entering new markets, targeting new demographics and expanding retail presence all require cash. And even the best-laid business plan can be complicated by a company's bad baggage, and Borsalino came with plenty of that.

The 162-year-old hat maker, arguably Italy's oldest fashion brand, was founded in the northwestern Italian city of Alessandria by Giuseppe Borsalino, whose family sold control decades ago. By the time the Swiss-Italian private equity firm Haeres Equita was approached about investing in 2015, the company had been mismanaged and bled dry by the previous owner.

"What surprised me at the time is that Borsalino was profitable," said Philippe Camperio, Haeres Equita's principal. "It was very small. I thought there would be a much bigger company in terms of revenues, given the power of the brand."

The company was making 12 million euros (\$13.5 million) in revenues, with profits of between 600,000 euros and 800,000 euros. But it had fallen out of many of the world's big-name department stores, supplying mostly hat-making shops and not keeping pace with fashion trends.

Camperio's first step was to take over the historic factory and submit a business plan to bankruptcy court. In his first year, 2016, revenues increased 20 percent and profits doubled.

Still, the business plan was rejected more than once as the courts sought better deals for creditors. The last time it was rejected, in December 2017, the judge put Borsalino into bankruptcy, and false reports spread around the world that the maker of the Bogart fedora was no more.

"Eventually we settled," said Camperio. "We have the intention of relaunching this brand."

Haeres Equity, which also owns the Fogal brand of Swiss hosiery, is looking for other investments in Italian fashion, if possible another "sleeping beauty like Borsalino," Camperio said.

In recent months, several fashion companies have turned to outside investors to expand. Versace has been bought by Michael Kors' Capri Holdings Limited as the cornerstone of a new fashion group, while Missoni, Cavalli and Trussardi all recently did deals with private equity investors to get cash infusions.

Camperio expects a few possible targets to be up for sale soon as the owners who founded them in Italy's postwar boom look to secure the companies' future. That can include handing the companies over to the family's next generation or selling them to foreigners, as Versace did.

The marketing power for many of these brands is the Made in Italy tag, viewed as a guarantee of quality in the fashion world.

Borsalino's hats are handmade by 80 workers, many of whom have worked at the factory for decades. Giuseppe Borsalino's original machinery uses hot water and steam to transform rabbit fur into highly prized felt that is then dyed and molded. A felt fedora can take weeks to finish.

To relaunch Borsalino, Camperio has brought in a team of fashion experts, including former Gucci CEO Giacomo Santucci. The expansion plan foresees selling more in the United States and Asia and developing new collections to appeal to younger generations and to women, two key growth markets.

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Borsalino's new looks include corduroy baseball caps with the Borsalino logo prominently displayed, or felt travel hats that roll up neatly.

The goal is to increase annual production from 150,000 hats to 500,000 in five years — still far from the 2 million Borsalino churned out every year during its postwar heyday, when men regularly wore hats.

"Borsalino should be the leader of the hat business," Santucci said. "The power of the brand is going to stay forever."

## At All-Star Game, Anthony Davis finds himself in spotlight

By TIM REYNOLDS, AP Basketball Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Anthony Davis isn't completely sure if he's going to play in Sunday's All-Star game. He doesn't know how much the New Orleans Pelicans will have him play the rest of this season. Or where he'll play next season. Or where he'll play the season after that, either.

So Davis, obviously, has a lot of questions.

At All-Star media day, he also had some answers.

Yes, Davis wants to keep playing through the end of the season with New Orleans. No, he didn't eliminate Boston from the list of cities where he would consider playing. Yes, he will test the free agent market in the summer of 2020. And above all else, big market or small market, he insists that having a chance to win is all that matters going forward.

"It's time to go play ball," Davis said. "That's what I'm trying to do."

Davis — provided a shoulder strain doesn't keep him out — will finally be LeBron James' teammate Sunday night, when Team LeBron takes on Giannis Antetokounmpo's Team Giannis in the All-Star Game. The league's annual showcase exhibition always comes with subplots, and this year, the one where Davis just asked for a trade that didn't come seemed to generate more All-Star weekend buzz than anything else.

"I'm just keeping it real, to be honest," Davis said while talking with reporters. "I knew that's all you guys wanted to talk about. I just stated how I feel, I stated my intentions and I go on from there."

Davis confirmed that there was a list of teams on his preferred get-traded-to list — James' Los Angeles Lakers, along with the New York Knicks, the Los Angeles Clippers and the Milwaukee Bucks.

He also denied that the Celtics were not on his list, news sure to delight fans in Boston and not the rest of the Eastern Conference.

"They are on my list," Davis said.

The Lakers unsuccessfully tried to acquire Davis, and the Pelicans aren't exactly sure what happens now. They fired general manager Dell Demps on Friday and replaced him on an interim basis with Danny Ferry, a move that Davis said caught him by surprise but also doesn't change his thinking that a change of scenery is needed. It's been argued that the Pelicans might be best served not playing Davis, though the NBA — which has already fined the 2017 All-Star MVP for saying he wanted a trade — would surely come down hard if they sat him for no reason.

"It's about the best situation for me, the best fit for me," Davis said. "When the time comes, obviously, I have to re-evaluate my situation and see what market best fits me and go from there."

Here's some more of what to know about the All-Star game:

### DIRK AND DWYANE

Neither Dallas' Dirk Nowitzki nor Miami's Dwyane Wade expects to play a lot in the game, which they got invited to by Commissioner Adam Silver to commemorate their NBA careers. Nowitzki is in his 21st season, all with the Mavericks, and hasn't officially said he's retiring. Wade is retiring after 16 seasons, most of them with the Heat.

"I'm getting old," Nowitzki said. "This doesn't get old. This is great to be here. Just enjoying the stage one more time."

Wade had his son Zaire on the floor for some of practice on Saturday, as father-and-son were throwing lobbs to each other.

"He has the same dream," Wade said, "to one day be sitting up on this podium."



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## CLOSE GAME?

LeBron James is hoping for a close game Sunday.

James was one of the players who decided enough was enough when it came to All-Star teams flirting with scoring 200 points, and wanted to find ways to make the game more competitive. It still doesn't — and won't — have playoff intensity, but last year's game was played at a higher level than any All-Star Game had in years, a 148-145 final, and James wants that to continue.

"I know we all saw the way the game was last year, and we're going to try to top it," James said. "Hopefully, it can come down to the wire, like it did last year, but we'll see. We'll see what happens."

## NEW CAPTAIN

Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo is relishing his first time as an All-Star captain.

"I'm comfortable on this stage," Antetokounmpo said during media day.

That doesn't mean he's taking this lightly.

Antetokounmpo, who has led the Bucks to the NBA's best record so far this season and is an MVP front-runner, says the captaincy — and the mere mention of a team being called Team Giannis — is humbling.

"If you told me that six years ago ... I would have never, never, never thought I would be in this position right now," Antetokounmpo said.

## MVP PUSH

Charlotte's Kemba Walker will have the home crowd on his side Sunday night. And while Walker says he hasn't given much thought to making an All-Star Game MVP push, many of his fellow All-Stars wouldn't be surprised to see the Hornets' guard take a swing at winning that award.

"Kemba is different," said Houston's James Harden, the NBA scoring leader and last season's MVP. "The way he's so crafty, his ball-handling, his shot-making ability. He's been playing at a high level. One of the top players, definitely, as far as playing for the first half of the season, and he's been doing it for some years now. Definitely one of those guys that gets overlooked."

Team Giannis coach Mike Budenholzer, who will have Walker on his team Sunday, said he has a simple gameplan for the Hornets' star.

"Turn him loose," Budenholzer said.

## BACK AGAIN

The All-Star MVPs from nine of the past 13 games will play Sunday. LeBron James, Dwyane Wade, Kevin Durant, Kyrie Irving, Russell Westbrook and Anthony Davis have all won it at least once. James won the award last year.

More AP NBA: <https://apnews.com/NBA> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/AP_Sports)

## New-look Daytona 500 has a certain throwback feel

By JENNA FRYER, AP Auto Racing Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Among those trying to win the Daytona 500 this year are a Florida watermelon farmer, a short-track champion from New England, a television analyst and a 22-year-old whose career nearly was derailed by a brain tumor.

The front row is the youngest in Daytona 500 history and it will be William Byron, a Liberty University student who had his wisdom teeth removed in the offseason, leading the field to green in Sunday's showcase race to kick off the NASCAR season.

The overall look of the nation's top racing series has undergone a transformation the last few seasons and proof is plastered on the hood of Corey LaJoie's car. His full facial-haired face adorns his Ford Mustang, which easily makes him the most recognizable driver among the eight Daytona 500 rookies in the field.

"He looks like he's going to eat you every lap," quipped Clint Bowyer.

LaJoie's paint scheme for his low-budget team is courtesy of sponsor Old Spice, which chose "The Great American Race" to promote its dry shampoo. Manscaped.com bought the space on the back of Landon Cassill's car, Bubba Wallace signed Aftershokz headphones for the race. After Casey Mears made the field

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— his first race in two years — skateboard rim maker Rim Ryderz joined his program.

This Daytona 500 is unlike any in recent memory and truly highlights the dramatic loss of star power from just four years ago. The 2015 race featured Jeff Gordon, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Tony Stewart, Matt Kenseth, Carl Edwards, Bobby Labonte, Michael Waltrip and Danica Patrick. All are now retired.

Some of the big-money sponsors in that race included Lowe's, Target, Dollar General, GoDaddy and 5-Hour Energy. All have since pulled out of NASCAR.

What remains is a new-look NASCAR that nonetheless has a throwback feel.

NASCAR was built on the premise that if a budding driver or team owner could scrape together the funds to field a car, they could bring it down to the beach and try to make the big show. As the sport exploded past its Southern origins, it became nearly impossible for a new driver to claw his way into a ride.

But change has created opportunity — even second and third chances for a guy like Ross Chastain. The eighth-generation watermelon farmer impressed a sponsor with his work ethic and landed a career-changing ride with unexpected funding. Federal agents raided the sponsor right before Christmas, but Chastain still managed to land a seat for his first Daytona 500.

Ryan Preece bounced back and forth between NASCAR and New England short tracks before finally gambling on his future. He settled for a part-time job with a competitive team because he believed he could show his true talent if given the right equipment. Now he's also a Daytona 500 rookie.

Same with Matt Tifft, who learned he had a brain tumor four races into his 2016 season. Or Daniel Hemric of Kannapolis, North Carolina, who followed hero Dale Earnhardt Sr. from the old mill town into a ride with Richard Childress Racing.

Parker Kligerman, a part-time racer and full-time television personality, raced his way into his second Daytona 500.

"Watching this race last year, I literally thought I'd never drive a Cup car again, never have another chance in the Daytona 500," Kligerman said. "I'm doing TV full-time. It just didn't seem like I was really getting anyone's attention. For whatever reason, I just couldn't find the right opportunity, couldn't find a sponsor."

"I went off and did the TV thing. You've seen drivers do that before, where they do something to up their profile, then they get back in a ride. It kind of feels like it's finally all starting to work."

Kligerman works for NBC Sports and so does Earnhardt Jr., his broadcast partner who will drive the first pickup truck to pace the race. It is an unexpectedly heavy NBC Sports promotion in a race broadcast by rival Fox.

Despite all the hardscrabble hopefuls who at various times figured they'd never make it to NASCAR's biggest stage, the super teams still exist and the stars are the favorites.

Hendrick Motorsports and its four fast Chevrolets at the start of Speedweeks went 1-2-3-4 in time trials. Byron, who is 21, and 25-year-old teammate Alex Bowman swept the front row for qualifying and gave Chevrolet an early boost in its effort to defend last year's Daytona 500 victory with Austin Dillon.

Still, Ford drivers swept both podiums in the pair of 150-mile qualifying races to load rows two, three and four with the brand new Mustang. Ford competed last year with the Fusion, winning 19 of 36 races and its first Cup title in 14 seasons, and is eager to make an immediate statement with its sportier new race car.

Kevin Harvick and Joey Logano, previous Daytona 500 winners, led the Ford charge. Logano and Team Penske teammate Brad Keselowski are listed as 8/1 favorites in betting lines.

Jimmie Johnson ended a 19-month losing streak with a victory in a Speedweeks exhibition race, but he triggered a 16-car accident while making his race-winning pass. Then contact with Kyle Busch in a qualifying race increased the scrutiny around Johnson, who has a new sponsor Ally Financial and a new crew chief for the first time since his 2001 debut.

The Toyota bunch has yet to stand out from the crowd, which doesn't bother Martin Truex Jr. His 0-for-14 skid in the in the Daytona 500 is longest among active drivers, but he knows he's got a chance Sunday.

"Out of the 40 cars, how many have a legit shot at winning? Probably 25," he said.

More AP auto racing: <https://apnews.com/apf-AutoRacing> and [https://twitter.com/AP\\_Sports](https://twitter.com/AP_Sports)

## Potential privacy lapse found in Americans' 2010 census data

BY SETH BORENSTEIN, AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — An internal team at the Census Bureau found that basic personal information collected from more than 100 million Americans during the 2010 head count could be reconstructed from obscured data, but with lots of mistakes, a top agency official disclosed Saturday.

The age, gender, location, race and ethnicity for 138 million people were potentially vulnerable. So far, however, only internal hacking teams have discovered such details at possible risk, and no outside groups are known to have grabbed data intended to remain private for 72 years, chief scientist John Abowd told a scientific conference.

The Census Bureau is now scrapping its old data shielding technique for a state-of-the-art method that Abowd claimed is far better than Google's or Apple's.

Some former agency chiefs fear the potential privacy problem will add to the worries that people will avoid answering or lie on the once-every-10-year survey because of the Trump administration's attempt to add a much-debated citizenship question.

The Supreme Court on Friday announced that it would rule on that proposed question, which has been criticized for being political and not properly tested in the field. The census count is hugely important, helping with the allocation of seats in the House of Representatives and distribution of billions of dollars in federal money.

The 8 billion pieces of statistics in census data are supposed to be jumbled in a way so what is released publicly for research cannot identify individuals for more than seven decades. In 2010, the Census Bureau did this by swapping similar household information from one city to another, according to Duke University statistics professor Jerome Reiter.

In the internal tests, Abowd said, officials were able to match 45 percent of the people who answered the 2010 census with information from public and commercial data sets such as Facebook. But errors in this technique meant that only data for 52 million people would be completely correct — little more than 1-in-6 of the U.S. population.

He said the 2010 census used the best possible privacy protection available, but hackers since then have become more skilled in reconstructing data. To counter their growing abilities, the agency has completely changed the system for 2020 and will offer the "gold standard" of privacy regardless of the fate of the citizenship question, Abowd said.

People "want to know that statistical tables aren't going to come back and haunt them," Abowd said at the American Association for the Advancement of Science's annual meeting. "I promise the American people they will have the privacy that they deserve."

Georgetown University provost Robert Groves, who headed the 2010 census, said the count had the proper privacy and that every census improves. He lauded the new steps.

Former agency chief Kenneth Prewitt, a professor of policy at Columbia University, said the basic information such as age and ethnicity, even if publicly revealed, isn't as big a deal as other data breaches.

"There is a widespread privacy anxiety out there that is very much related to Facebook and Google and so forth," Prewitt said. "I'm much more worried about the fact that my iPhone follows me around every day."

In a statement, Apple's Fred Sainz took issue with such privacy concerns: "The iPhone doesn't follow you around all day long — Apple has no idea where you are nor do we care. And Apple does not sell information to companies." He noted, however, that consumers can choose apps that know their location.

Abowd said "the 2020 census will be the safest and best protected ever. And this is not as easy as it sounds."

The new system involves complex mathematical algorithms that inject "noise" into the data, making it harder to get accurate information and providing "a very strong guarantee" of privacy, said Duke University computer sciences professor Ashwin Machanavajjhala.

This increases privacy while lowering the accuracy for researchers who use the statistics. Think of it as one set of knobs being dialed up while a second is dialed down at the same time.

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The decision on the official privacy/accuracy setting for 2020 hasn't been set. Abowd said policy officials, not engineers or scientists, will make that call.

The Census Bureau tried this system in a 2018 survey using an ultra-strict privacy setting that, while not directly comparable to Google or Apple, is hundreds if not thousands of times more secure for privacy than what's now being used on data from searches using Google Chrome or Apple's iPhone, Duke's Reiter said.

Prewitt suggested the public might not understand the extra efforts underway for the 2020 count but would be spooked by the disclosure about the privacy vulnerability, making people more reluctant to comply with the next census.

If the administration succeeds in adding the citizenship question, "there will be a huge evasion of it (the census) and some selective misuse of it," Prewitt said.

Whether some avoid the survey because of it or lie, neither is a good outcome, making the data less usable, Prewitt said.

Groves said technical experts have serious problems with the citizenship question because it hasn't been tested in the field, as all census questions usually are. He compared it to putting a new drug on the market before the necessary testing.

"Very subtle wording and positional changes in a thing like the Census can have enormous impact way beyond what we as humans can predict," Groves said

Follow Seth Borenstein on Twitter: @borenbears

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## Dem presidential candidates introducing themselves to voters

By ELANA SCHOR, Associated Press

Five Democratic senators vying for their party's nomination to challenge President Donald Trump in 2020 fanned out across the country Saturday to campaign and meet voters.

Kamala Harris of California spent her second straight day in the pivotal early-voting state of South Carolina, holding a town hall meeting in Columbia, the capital. Also visiting the state was Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, who met with an estimated 800 voters in Greenville before heading to Georgia — an unusual early stop for a White House hopeful but one that signals Democratic hopes to make inroads in the South.

Cory Booker of New Jersey and Kirsten Gillibrand of New York both focused on New Hampshire. Booker made his first visit to there since joining the race earlier this month, holding a question-and-answer session with more than 400 voters in Portsmouth.

Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, meanwhile, made her own uncommon choice for early campaigning by visiting Wisconsin before heading to Iowa, home to the nation's first caucus.

And a Democratic heavyweight who's yet to address his 2020 plans, former Vice President Joe Biden, made his own high-profile appearance at the Munich Security Conference.

The Democratic senators stepped up their campaigning during the long holiday weekend at the start of Congress' first recess this year. Their outreach to voters came in the wake of Trump's controversial decision to declare a national emergency in order to unilaterally redirect federal money for his promised wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Some highlights from the trail:

CORY BOOKER

The New Jersey senator plans to spend three days in New Hampshire, which casts the first votes in the 2020 primary, and he kicked off the swing with a freewheeling "conversation" that drew questions on health care, the environment and foreign relations.

Booker is one of several Democratic presidential contenders who back legislation that would transition



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the United States to universal health insurance coverage, but he acknowledged Saturday that compromise may be necessary to get major health care legislation through the Senate.

Booker told voters in New Hampshire there are a "lot of pathways" to achieving universal health coverage, noting that just lowering Medicare eligibility to age 55 would be "a step in the right direction." He said supporters of so-called Medicare for All are "going to have to find ways to advance the ball given the Congress that we have."

Booker brought a personal touch to his first official visit to New Hampshire as a presidential candidate, sharing his African-American family's story of struggling to buy a home in a majority-white neighborhood in the late 1960s as he urged the crowd to "put that indivisible back in this one nation under God." The famously social media-savvy senator stayed long after the event concluded to snap selfies and record videos with supporters.

## KAMALA HARRIS

The California senator visited a handful of female-owned businesses in Columbia, South Carolina, on the second day of a swing through the early-voting state.

Harris walked along Lady Street and stopped in Styled by Naida, a black-owned business, and made several purchases, including a wide-brimmed teal hat. The candidate also met with a group of women leaders at a restaurant a block away.

Her visit was organized by Jennifer Clyburn Reed, whose father is Rep. Jim Clyburn, D-S.C., the third-ranking Democratic leader in the U.S. House.

A prominent Democratic activist in the state, Clyburn Reed hasn't yet backed any of the Democrats running for president, and she's organized similar trips for other candidates.

At a town hall in West Columbia, a voter told Harris that most Democrats are looking for someone who will defeat Trump in 2020. The woman became emotional and said she feared the world she was leaving behind for her children and grandchildren, and asked Harris what sets her apart from other Democrats running.

Harris said she believes this moment is a time "that we need fighters on stage who know how to fight - I do - and who have a proven desire to lead."

## KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND

Gillibrand, in her second day of campaigning in New Hampshire, issued a rebuke of what she called President Donald Trump's divisive language.

The New York senator and Democratic presidential candidate told a crowd of about 450 people Saturday at Dartmouth College — her alma mater — that the president's worst offense since he was elected has been to "dehumanize people" and create a climate of fear and hatred, especially toward immigrants.

Gillibrand said Trump wants Americans "to be afraid of one another." She insisted "that's not who we are."

Gillibrand, who took questions from the audience, said she favors a single-payer health care system modeled on Medicare and would take on climate change by incentivizing the creation of renewable energy. She added that she was optimistic that "common sense" gun laws would pass now that young voters are calling for change.

## JOE BIDEN

The former vice president isn't officially part of the 2020 presidential race, but he bolstered his case for a potential candidacy by speaking to an international audience about the need to restore America's ability to claim leadership in the world.

Without saying President Donald Trump's name, Biden said in a speech at the Munich Security Conference that current policies do not reflect the country as he perceives it.

"The America I see values basic human decency, not snatching children from their parents or turning our backs on refugees at our border. Americans know that's not right," Biden said.

He said the U.S. doesn't want to turn its back on its closest allies and cherishes democracy, the rule

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of law and a free press, telling the conference that the America he sees “stands up to the aggression of dictators and against strongmen who rule by coercion, corruption and violence.”

A former chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Biden is likely to lean on his international-relations credentials should he choose to join the increasingly crowded field of Democrats running for their party’s presidential nomination.

While he has yet to disclose any timetable for deciding whether to enter the race, Biden has two public events slated for later this month, the first at the University of Pennsylvania and the second in Delaware, his home state.

And he isn’t the only well-known politician on the fence about the Democratic primary. Among the others are Beto O’Rourke, a former Texas congressman, and Sherrod Brown, an Ohio senator.

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Associated Press writer Juana Summers in Columbia, South Carolina, contributed to this report.

## **Storm-lashed South Carolina reassesses global warming’s role**

**By JEFFREY COLLINS, Associated Press**

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — When he took the job 15 years ago, Horry County Emergency Manager Randy Webster figured his biggest disasters would be wind and surge rolling over his county’s beaches, South Carolina’s top tourist destination.

Instead, his worries have shifted inland, where rivers overflowing their banks have caused two massive floods in three years.

“We’re getting into this sort of unknown territory,” Webster said. “We typically in emergency management have some point of reference to work with. Two floods like this — it’s unheard of.”

Scientists say the Earth’s warming climate means more heavy rainfall over short periods of time, and that translates to larger, more ferocious storms on the scale of 2017’s Hurricane Harvey in Texas or 2018’s Hurricane Florence in the Carolinas. Florence dumped six months’ worth of rain on the Carolinas in the course of just a few days.

The growing realization that such events are going to become more common as the result of global warming is forcing Webster and other state officials to revisit how they prepare for and respond to natural disasters.

Late last year, Republican Gov. Henry McMaster created the South Carolina Floodwater Commission to figure out how to better combat flooding unleashed by hurricanes, rising ocean levels and other rain systems upstream that send rivers and creeks over their banks on the way to the Atlantic Ocean.

One thing that local governments must do is use forecast tools that predict several different scenarios based on possible temperature rise, rather than relying on flood maps of the past, when severe inundations were rare, said Larry Larson, a former director and senior policy adviser for the Association of State Floodplain Managers.

They also should be prepared to alter landscapes, divert runoff, and to buy up houses and other private properties that frequently end up under water, and to elevate those buildings if necessary, Larson said.

“These owners won’t sell after the first flood; they think they have another 99 years to go,” he said. “But they will sell after the second flood.”

Property owners are resistant because of the cues they get from weather forecasters and government officials, who still employ such terminology as “100-year” floods. Despite its name, a 100-year flood doesn’t mean once-in-a-lifetime. Instead, it means a level of flooding that has a 1 percent chance of happening in any particular year, said Susan L. Cutter, director of the Hazards and Vulnerability Research Institute at the University of South Carolina.

“People are not really good at understanding probability,” Cutter said.

Dealing with the consequences of natural disasters is daunting even when residents receive advance notice. Emergency officials in Conway, a city of 23,000 about 15 miles (24 kilometers) from the beach, took the map of Hurricane Matthew’s flooding in 2016 and — based on forecasts — drew the lines out a

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little farther, accurately predicting nearly to a home which ones would flood during Hurricane Florence in September. That gave residents a week or more to get whatever they could out their homes.

Kevin Tovornik was one of them. Tovornik lost his air conditioner and duct work in the 2016 flood. In 2018, he saved his furniture, but still ended up losing the house. For a while, he paid two mortgages: this one and one on a townhome he had to move into 30 miles (48 kilometers) away. To save money, he now lives in an RV in his yard in Conway. He hasn't been able to start repairs on the house because too much rain has fallen over the past few months for anything to dry out.

Tovornik and his wife don't want to rebuild. He said he would now have to elevate the house with no guarantee there isn't another record flood to come on the Waccamaw River, which crested 3.5 feet (1 meter) above the level it reached during Matthew. But at the moment, he can only get back 75 percent of the appraised value of the house through the federal government's buyback program.

"Where else in South Carolina right now is your house losing that kind of value?" Tovornik said. "It's hard to get your feet back on the ground. You have so many strikes against you. You have a mortgage on a house that is uninhabitable."

As they consider how to plan for and react to future weather events, the governor and fellow politically conservative members of the South Carolina Floodwater Commission aren't quite ready to accept the general consensus among scientists that pollution and other manmade factors are largely to blame for climate change.

The commission's leader, attorney and environmental professor Tom Mullikin said solving the problem can't be derailed by what he described as politically charged debates over the cause.

"We are going to deal with the real-time impacts of a climate that has changed throughout all of time," Mullikin said. "We — the governor — is not entertaining a political conversation."

Whatever the causes of the extreme weather, meteorologists say it will strike again as it did last year, when more than 100 reporting stations, mostly east of the Mississippi River, recorded more rainfall than at any other time, according to the Southeast Regional Climate Center. Weather experts are also investigating potentially record rainfall in South Carolina and North Carolina last year.

Pickens County Emergency Management Director Denise Kwiatek first got a sign the weather world was changing five years ago.

In the summer of 2013, Kwiatek knew a heavy storm was hitting a section of Pickens County in the northern part of the state, but conditions didn't seem too bad in the middle of the county where she was. And yet, just 15 miles (24 kilometers) away, thousands of plant species collected over decades at Clemson University's South Carolina Botanical Gardens were being swept away as 8 inches (20 centimeters) of rain fell in a few hours.

"More of those little events are happening. We are learning to be more vigilant," Kwiatek said.

## Vatican defrocks former US cardinal McCarrick for sex abuse

By FRANCES D'EMILIO, NICOLE WINFIELD and TRISHA THOMAS, Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Former Cardinal Theodore McCarrick has been found guilty by the Vatican of sex abuse and defrocked, as calls rose Saturday for Pope Francis to reveal what he knew about the once-powerful American prelate's apparently decades-long predatory sexual behavior.

The announcement Saturday, delivered in uncharacteristically blunt language for the Vatican, meant that the 88-year-old McCarrick, the former archbishop of Washington, D.C., becomes the highest-ranking churchman and the first cardinal to be punished by dismissal from the clerical state, or laicization.

He was notified Friday of the decision, which was upheld upon his appeal and approved by Pope Francis.

The pontiff next week leads a summit of bishops from around the world who have been summoned to Rome help him grapple with the entrenched problems of clerical sex abuse and the systematic cover-ups by the Catholic church's hierarchy.

Decades of revelations about priests who have sexually preyed on minors and their bosses who shuffled

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abusive clergy from parish to parish instead of removing them from access to children have shaken the faith of many Catholics. They also threaten the moral authority of Francis and even the survival of his papacy.

McCarrick, who in his prestigious red cardinal robes hobnobbed with presidents, other VIP politicians and pontiffs, is now barred from celebrating Mass or other sacraments including confession and from wearing clerical garb. He is to be referred to as Mr. McCarrick.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Holy See's guardian of doctrinal purity, issued a decree on Jan. 11 finding McCarrick guilty of "solicitation in the sacrament of confession, and sins against the Sixth Commandment with minors and adults, with the aggravating factor of the abuse of power," the Vatican said. That commandment forbids adultery.

On Wednesday, Congregation officials considered his appeal and upheld the decree.

The pope "recognized the definitive nature of this decision made in accordance with (church) law, rendering it as 'res iudicata,'" the Vatican said, using the Latin phrase for admitting no further recourse.

The McCarrick scandal was particularly damning to the church's reputation because it apparently was an open secret in some ecclesial circles that he slept with adult seminarians. Francis yanked McCarrick's rank as a cardinal in July after a U.S. church investigation found credible an allegation he fondled a teenage altar boy in the 1970s.

McCarrick's civil lawyer, Barry Coburn, said Saturday that his client had no comment on the defrocking.

Coburn declined to say if McCarrick would stay at the residence in Kansas where he moved after Francis ordered him to live in penance and prayer while the investigation into his actions continued.

But the Salina, Kansas, diocese, said "Mr. McCarrick will continue to reside at the St. Fidelis Friary in Victoria until a decision of permanent residence is finalized."

Besides bishops arriving for the sex abuse summit, victims' rights advocates are also converging on Rome. They are demanding that Francis, other Vatican officials and bishops elsewhere come clean about how McCarrick managed such a meteoric rise through church ranks despite reports about his sexual life.

"The pope has known from the earliest days of his papacy, or he should have known, that ex-cardinal McCarrick was a sexual predator," said Anne Barrett Doyle, an advocate at BishopAccountability.org.

"He has a resistance to removing bishops and he also has a tolerance for bishops who are sexual wrongdoers," Doyle told The Associated Press on Saturday near St. Peter's Square.

Of the defrocking, Doyle said: "Let McCarrick be the first of many. I can think of 10 other bishops who are substantively, credibly accused of sexual abuse with minor and sexual misconduct with adults, who should be laicized."

A conservative lay group, The Catholic Association, said in a statement that much more must be done to hold accountable "those in the church hierarchy who looked the other way as McCarrick rose through their ranks" and to ensure that priestly celibacy is restored and youths are safeguarded from sexual abuse.

Walking with Doyle was Phil Saviano, a board member of BishopAccountability.org, and a survivor of sexual abuse by a priest. While calling McCarrick's defrocking "ultimately a good thing," he said the punishment should have been meted out long ago.

He said he hoped Francis isn't "throwing a bone to his dissenters in an attempt to quiet everybody down. And then McCarrick will be the one and only, because there are certainly many others who have allegations against them who should face some accountability."

His account of being abused helped the Boston Globe produce a Pulitzer-winning investigation into church cover-ups, which was chronicled in the movie "Spotlight."

When ordained a priest in his native New York City in 1958, McCarrick embraced a vocation that required celibacy. Later on in his career, McCarrick carried cachet at the Vatican as a stellar fundraiser. A globe-trotting powerbroker, McCarrick liked to be called "Uncle Ted" by the young seminarians he courted.

Despite apparent common knowledge in church circles of his sexual behavior, McCarrick rose up through the ranks, even serving as the spokesman for fellow U.S. bishops when they enacted a "zero tolerance" policy against sexually abusive priests in 2002.

One of his accusers, James Grein, the son of a family friend of McCarrick's, testified to church officials that, among other abuses, McCarrick had repeatedly groped him during confession. He said the abuse,



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which went on for decades, began when he was 11.

"Today I am happy that the pope believed me," Grein said in a statement issued through his lawyer. He expressed hope that McCarrick "will no longer be able to use the power of Jesus' church to manipulate families and sexually abuse children."

Grein said pressure must be put on U.S. state attorney generals and senators to change the statute of limitations for abuse cases.

"Hundreds of priests, bishops and cardinals are hiding behind man-made law," he said.

The current archdiocese of Washington, D.C., where McCarrick was posted at the pinnacle of his career from 2001-2006, said it hoped that the Vatican decision "serves to help the healing process for survivors of abuse, as well as those who have experienced disappointment or disillusionment because of what former Archbishop McCarrick has done."

Complaints were also made about McCarrick's conduct in the New Jersey dioceses of Newark and Metuchen, where he previously served.

Francis himself became implicated in the decades-long McCarrick cover-up after a former Vatican ambassador to Washington accused the pope of rehabilitating the cardinal from sanctions imposed by Pope Benedict XVI despite being told of his penchant for young men.

Francis hasn't responded to those claims but he ordered a limited Vatican investigation. The Vatican has acknowledged the outcome may produce evidence that mistakes were made and said Francis would "follow the path of truth, wherever it may lead."

Sexual abuse scandals have threatened to taint the legacy of past papacies, including that of John Paul II, who has since been made a saint.

The Rev. Marcial Maciel, a pedophile, enjoyed John Paul II's admiration for his success in spurring vocations and for inspiring generous financial donations.

Maciel's predatory crimes against children were ignored for decades by the Vatican bureaucracy.

Frances D'Emilio is on twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/fdemilio>

## Gone in a New York minute: How the Amazon deal fell apart

By JOSEPH PISANI, AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — In early November, word began to leak that Amazon was serious about choosing New York to build a giant new campus. The city was eager to lure the company and its thousands of high-paying tech jobs, offering billions in tax incentives and lighting the Empire State Building in Amazon orange.

Even Governor Andrew Cuomo got in on the action: "I'll change my name to Amazon Cuomo if that's what it takes," he joked at the time.

Then Amazon made it official: It chose the Long Island City neighborhood of Queens to build a \$2.5 billion campus that could house 25,000 workers, in addition to new offices planned for northern Virginia. Cuomo and New York Mayor Bill de Blasio, Democrats who have been political adversaries for years, trumpeted the decision as a major coup after edging out more than 230 other proposals.

But what they didn't expect was the protests, the hostile public hearings and the disparaging tweets that would come in the next three months, eventually leading to Amazon's dramatic Valentine's Day breakup with New York.

Immediately after Amazon's Nov. 12 announcement, criticism started to pour in. The deal included \$1.5 billion in special tax breaks and grants for the company, but a closer look at the total package revealed it to be worth at least \$2.8 billion. Some of the same politicians who had signed a letter to woo Amazon were now balking at the tax incentives.

"Offering massive corporate welfare from scarce public resources to one of the wealthiest corporations in the world at a time of great need in our state is just wrong," said New York State Sen. Michael Gianaris and New York City Councilman Jimmy Van Bramer, Democrats who represent the Long Island City area, in a joint statement.

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The next day, CEO Jeff Bezos was on the cover of The New York Post in a cartoon-like illustration, hanging out of a helicopter, holding money bags in each hand, with cash billowing above the skyline. "QUEENS RANSOM," the headline screamed. The New York Times editorial board, meanwhile, called the deal a "bad bargain" for the city: "We won't know for 10 years whether the promised 25,000 jobs will materialize," it said.

Anti-Amazon rallies were planned for the next week. Protesters stormed a New York Amazon bookstore on the day after Thanksgiving and then went to a rally on the steps of a courthouse near the site of the new headquarters in the pouring rain. Some held cardboard boxes with Amazon's smile logo turned upside down.

They had a long list of grievances: the deal was done secretly; Amazon, one of the world's most valuable companies, didn't need nearly \$3 billion in tax incentives; rising rents could push people out of the neighborhood; and the company was opposed to unionization.

The helipad kept coming up, too: Amazon, in its deal with the city, was promised it could build a spot to land a helicopter on or near the new offices.

At the first public hearing in December, which turned into a hostile, three-hour interrogation of two Amazon executives by city lawmakers, the helipad was mentioned more than a dozen times. The image of high-paid executives buzzing by a nearby low-income housing project became a symbol of corporate greed.

Queens residents soon found postcards from Amazon in their mailboxes, trumpeting the benefits of the project. Gianaris sent his own version, calling the company "Scamazon" and urging people to call Bezos and tell him to stay in Seattle.

At a second city council hearing in January, Amazon's vice president for public policy, Brian Huseman, subtly suggested that perhaps the company's decision to come to New York could be reversed.

"We want to invest in a community that wants us," he said.

Then came a sign that Amazon's opponents might actually succeed in derailing the deal: In early February, Gianaris was tapped for a seat on a little-known state panel that often has to approve state funding for big economic development projects. That meant if Amazon's deal went before the board, Gianaris could kill it.

"I'm not looking to negotiate a better deal," Gianaris said at the time. "I am against the deal that has been proposed."

Cuomo had the power to block Gianaris' appointment, but he didn't indicate whether he would take that step.

Meanwhile, Amazon's own doubts about the project started to show. On Feb. 8, The Washington Post reported that the company was having second thoughts about the Queens location.

On Wednesday, Cuomo brokered a meeting with four top Amazon executives and the leaders of three unions critical of the deal. The union leaders walked away with the impression that the parties had an agreed upon framework for further negotiations, said Stuart Appelbaum, president of the Retail Wholesale and Department Store Union.

"We had a good conversation. We talked about next steps. We shook hands," Appelbaum said.

An Amazon representative did not respond to a request for comment for this story.

The final blow landed Thursday, when Amazon announced on a blog post that it was backing out, surprising the mayor, who had spoken to an Amazon executive Monday night and received "no indication" that the company would bail.

Amazon still expected the deal to be approved, according to a source familiar with Amazon's thinking, but that the constant criticism from politicians didn't make sense for the company to grow there.

"I was flabbergasted," De Blasio said. "Why on earth after all of the effort we all put in would you simply walk away?"

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Associated Press Writers Alexandra Olson and Karen Matthews in New York, and David Klepper in Albany, New York, contributed to this report.

## Nigeria's candidates blame each other in surprise vote delay

By HILARY UGURU, CARA ANNA and RODNEY MUHUMUZA, Associated Press

KANO, Nigeria (AP) — Nigeria's top candidates on Saturday condemned the surprise last-minute decision to delay the presidential election for a week until Feb. 23, blaming each other but appealing to Africa's largest democracy for calm.

The decision, announced five hours before polls were to open, is a costly one, with analysts at SBM Intelligence estimating an economic hit of \$2 billion, plus a blow to the country's reputation. Authorities now must decide what to do with already delivered voting materials in a tense atmosphere where some electoral facilities in recent days have been torched.

Electoral commission chairman Mahmood Yakubu told observers, diplomats and others that the delay had nothing to do with insecurity or political influence. He blamed "very trying circumstances" including bad weather affecting flights and the fires at three commission offices in an apparent "attempt to sabotage our preparations."

If the vote had continued as planned, polling units could not have opened at the same time nationwide. "This is very important to public perceptions of elections as free, fair and credible," Yakubu said, adding that as late as 2 a.m. they were still confident the election could go ahead.

The new Feb. 23 election date is "without equivocation" final, he said.

Bitter voters in the capital, Abuja, and elsewhere who traveled home to cast their ballots, including from Nigeria's vast diaspora, said they could not afford to wait another seven days, and warned that election apathy could follow. Some anguished over rescheduling weddings, exams and other milestones.

If the electoral commission knew about complications, why wait until the final moment to announce a delay, asked Godspower Egbenekama, spokesman for the Gbaramatu kingdom in Delta state in the restive south. "This shows that someone is pulling the strings from somewhere."

The party backing top opposition challenger Atiku Abubakar accused President Muhammadu Buhari's administration of "instigating this postponement" with the aim of ensuring a low turnout. It urged Nigerians to turn out in greater numbers a week from now.

"You can postpone an election, but you cannot postpone destiny," Abubakar tweeted.

Buhari said he was "deeply disappointed" after the electoral commission had "given assurances, day after day and almost hour after hour that they are in complete readiness for the elections." His statement appealed for calm and asserted that his administration does not interfere in the commission's work.

A spokesman for the president's campaign committee, Festus Keyamo, accused Abubakar's party of causing the delay to try to slow Buhari's momentum.

But a ruling party campaign director in Delta state, Goodnews Agbi, said it was better to give the commission time to conduct a credible vote instead of rushing into a sham one "that the whole world will criticize later."

A civic group monitoring the election, the Situation Room, blasted the "needless tension and confusion" and called on political parties to avoid incitement and misinformation.

Nigeria's more than 190 million people anticipate a close race between Buhari and Abubakar, a billionaire former vice president. Both have pledged to work for a peaceful election even as supporters, including high-level officials, have caused alarm with warnings against foreign interference and allegations of rigging.

When Buhari came to power in 2015 — after a six-week election delay blamed on extremist insecurity — he made Nigerian history with the first defeat of an incumbent president. The vote was hailed as one of the most transparent and untroubled ever in Africa's most populous country, which has seen deadly post-election violence in the past.

Now Buhari could become the second incumbent to be unseated. This election is a referendum on his record on insecurity, the economy and corruption, all of which he has been criticized by some Nigerians for doing too little too slowly.

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Uguru reported from Ughelli, Nigeria, and Muhumuza reported from Yola, Nigeria. Associated Press photographer Jerome Delay in Kaduna, Nigeria, contributed.

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## Academy reverses plans, will air all awards live at Oscars

By JAKE COYLE, AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Bowing to a backlash that had threatened to engulf an already blunder-plagued Academy Awards, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences on Friday reversed its decision to present four awards during the commercial breaks of this year's Oscar broadcast.

All 24 categories will be shown live, after all, at the 91st Academy Awards on February 24, the academy announced in a statement. On Monday, the academy had said that the winning speeches for cinematography, film editing, makeup and hairstyling and live-action short would be aired in a shortened, taped segment during the broadcast.

"Nine days until the showtime, still tweaking the script" the Academy tweeted Friday.

The academy did not address whether the change meant extending the show's length, which organizers have said would be reduced to three hours.

The academy's move to strike awards from the live broadcast was fiercely contested by many of this year's Oscar nominees, including "Roma" director Alfonso Cuarón and "BlacKkKlansman" filmmaker Spike Lee. The American Society of Cinematographers on Wednesday issued an open-letter to the academy, signed by Martin Scorsese, Brad Pitt and others, calling the plans an insult to the cinematic arts.

"When the recognition of those responsible for the creation of outstanding cinema is being diminished by the very institution whose purpose it is to protect it, then we are no longer upholding the spirit of the academy's promise to celebrate film as a collaborative art form," the letter read.

The academy on Wednesday defended the decision and blamed "a chain of misinformation" on the backlash. Following record-low ratings to last year's broadcast, the academy has made a swifter, three-hour telecast a priority. ABC, which airs the Oscars, is planning to premiere a sneak-peak of a new drama series after the Oscar telecast, which regularly ranks as the most-watched non-NFL broadcast of the year.

This is just the latest flip-flop by the academy in its attempts to tweak the Oscars.

The academy's headaches began after it last summer trotted out the induction of a "popular film Oscar." The plan sparked such outrage (Rob Lowe pronounced the film industry dead, "survived by sequels, tent-poles and vertical integration") that the new award was scuttled within a month.

Kevin Hart was announced as this year's Oscar host only to withdraw days later when many took issue with his old homophobic tweets and the comedian initially "chose to pass on the apology." Hart finally apologized as he resigned, leaving the Oscars host-less for only the fifth time in its 91-year history.

And after first planning to limit the best song nominee performances, the academy confirmed that all songs will indeed be performed.

AP Entertainment Writer Ryan Pearson in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

## Swiss actor Bruno Ganz, star of 'Downfall,' dies at 77

BERLIN (AP) — Swiss actor Bruno Ganz, who played Adolf Hitler cooped up in his Berlin bunker in "Downfall" and an angel in Wim Wenders' "Wings of Desire," has died. He was 77.

German news agency dpa reported that Ganz's management said Saturday he died in Zurich.

Ganz, a prominent figure in the German-language theater world, shifted into movies in the 1970s, appearing in Werner Herzog's "Nosferatu" and Wenders' "The American Friend" among others. In one of his more recent appearances, he starred as Sigmund Freud in "The Tobacconist," released last year.

Berlin Mayor Michael Mueller said Ganz was "one of the greats" of the screen and stage. He said that "the death of Bruno Ganz is a great loss for the German-speaking theater and film world."



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## Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Feb. 17, the 48th day of 2019. There are 317 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 17, 1864, during the Civil War, the Union ship USS Housatonic was rammed and sunk in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina, by the Confederate hand-cranked submarine HL Hunley in the first naval attack of its kind; the Hunley also sank.

On this date:

In 1801, the U.S. House of Representatives broke an electoral tie between Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr, electing Jefferson president; Burr became vice president.

In 1815, the United States and Britain exchanged the instruments of ratification for the Treaty of Ghent, ending the War of 1812.

In 1865, during the Civil War, Columbia, South Carolina, burned as the Confederates evacuated and Union forces moved in.

In 1897, the forerunner of the National PTA, the National Congress of Mothers, convened its first meeting in Washington.

In 1933, Newsweek magazine was first published under the title "News-Week."

In 1944, during World War II, U.S. forces invaded Eniwetok Atoll, encountering little initial resistance from Imperial Japanese troops. (The Americans secured the atoll less than a week later.)

In 1947, the Voice of America began broadcasting to the Soviet Union.

In 1968, the original Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, located on the campus of Springfield College in Massachusetts, was opened to the public.

In 1972, President Richard M. Nixon departed the White House with his wife, Pat, on a historic trip to China.

In 1986, Johnson & Johnson announced it would no longer sell over-the-counter medications in capsule form, following the death of a woman who had taken a cyanide-laced Tylenol capsule.

In 1988, Lt. Col. William Higgins, a Marine Corps officer serving with a United Nations truce monitoring group, was kidnapped in southern Lebanon by Iranian-backed terrorists (he was later slain by his captors).

In 1996, world chess champion Garry Kasparov beat IBM supercomputer "Deep Blue," winning a six-game match in Philadelphia (however, Kasparov lost to Deep Blue in a rematch in 1997).

Ten years ago: President Barack Obama signed a mammoth, \$787 billion economic stimulus package into law in Denver; he also approved adding some 17,000 U.S. troops for the war in Afghanistan.

Five years ago: The co-pilot of an Italian-bound Ethiopian Airlines Boeing 767 locked his captain out of the cockpit, commandeered the plane, then headed to Geneva, where he was arrested upon landing by Swiss authorities (no one was injured). Meryl Davis and Charlie White won the gold medal in ice dance at Sochi, the first Olympic title in the event for the United States. (Davis and White finished 4.53 points ahead of Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir of Canada, the 2010 champions.) Jimmy Fallon made his debut as host of NBC's "Tonight Show."

One year ago: President Donald Trump's national security adviser, H.R. McMaster, told a conference in Germany that there was now "incontrovertible" evidence of a Russian plot to disrupt the 2016 U.S. election; the statement stood in stark contrast to Trump's claim that Russian interference in his election victory was a hoax. Japan's Yuzuru Hanyu made Olympic figure skating history in the men's free skate event in South Korea, becoming the first man to repeat as Olympic champion since Dick Button in 1952 after also winning in Sochi in 2014; his gold medal was the 1,000th to be awarded in Winter Games history.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Hal Holbrook is 94. Actor-comedian Barry Humphries (aka "Dame Edna") is 85. Country singer-songwriter Johnny Bush is 84. Actress Christina Pickles is 84. Football Hall of Famer Jim Brown is 83. Actress Brenda Fricker is 74. Actress Becky Ann Baker is 66. Actress Rene Russo is 65. Actor Richard Karn is 63. Actor Lou Diamond Phillips is 57. Basketball Hall of Famer Michael Jordan is 56.

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Actor-comedian Larry, the Cable Guy is 56. TV personality Rene Syler is 56. Movie director Michael Bay is 55. Singer Chante Moore is 52. Rock musician Timothy J. Mahoney (311) is 49. Actor Dominic Purcell is 49. Olympic gold and silver medal skier Tommy Moe is 49. Actress Denise Richards is 48. Rock singer-musician Billie Joe Armstrong (Green Day) is 47. Rock musician Taylor Hawkins (Foo Fighters) is 47. Actor Jerry O'Connell is 45. Country singer Bryan White is 45. Actress Kelly Carlson is 43. Actor Ashton Holmes is 41. Actor Conrad Ricamora is 40. Actor Jason Ritter is 39. TV personality Paris Hilton is 38. Actor Joseph Gordon-Levitt is 38. TV host Daphne Oz is 33. Actor Chord Overstreet is 30. Singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran is 28. Actress Meaghan Martin is 27. Actress Sasha Pieterse is 23.

Thought for Today: "People show their character by what they laugh at." — German proverb.

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