

Groton Daily Independent

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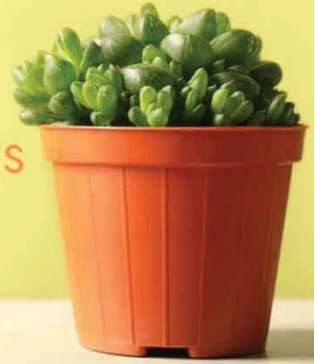
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"It's a funny thing about life,
once you begin to take note
of the things you are
grateful for, you
begin to lose
sight of the things
that you lack."

—Germany Kent



Chicken Soup
for the Soul.

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Monday, October 14, 2019

7:00pm: School Board Meeting at Groton Area High School

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Oral Interp at Florence High School
Cancelled: Volleyball: Girls 7th/8th Match at Tiospa Zina
6:00pm: Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match @ Tiospa Zina High School

Wednesday, October 16, 2019

LifeTouch Pictures Groton Area Elementary School
12:30pm- 2:50pm: MathCounts at Warner High School

Thursday, October 17, 2019

LifeTouch Pictures Groton Area High School
1:30am- 8:30pm: Parent/Teacher Conferences
GHS Gymnasium, Groton Area Elementary School
3:30pm: Cross Country: Varsity Regions @ Webster Golf Course
6:00pm Financial Aid Night at Groton Area High School Computer Lab

Friday, October 18, 2019

Faculty Inservice Groton Area Elementary School,
Groton Area High School
No School Groton Area Elementary School, Groton Area High School
7:00pm: Football: Boys Varsity Game @ Mobridge-Pollock High School

Saturday, October 19, 2019

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Groton Pumpkin Fest
Oral Interp at Florence High School
Robotics at GHS Gymnasium

Volleyball: Girls Varsity Tournament at Milbank High School
8 a.m.: Groton Area vs. Clark/Willow Lake at Milbank High School Armory (west court)
11 a.m.: Groton Area vs. Aberdeen Christian at Milbank High School Armory (west court)
Next match at 1:30 p.m. with the third place match at 3:30 p.m. and the championship match at 4:30 p.m.

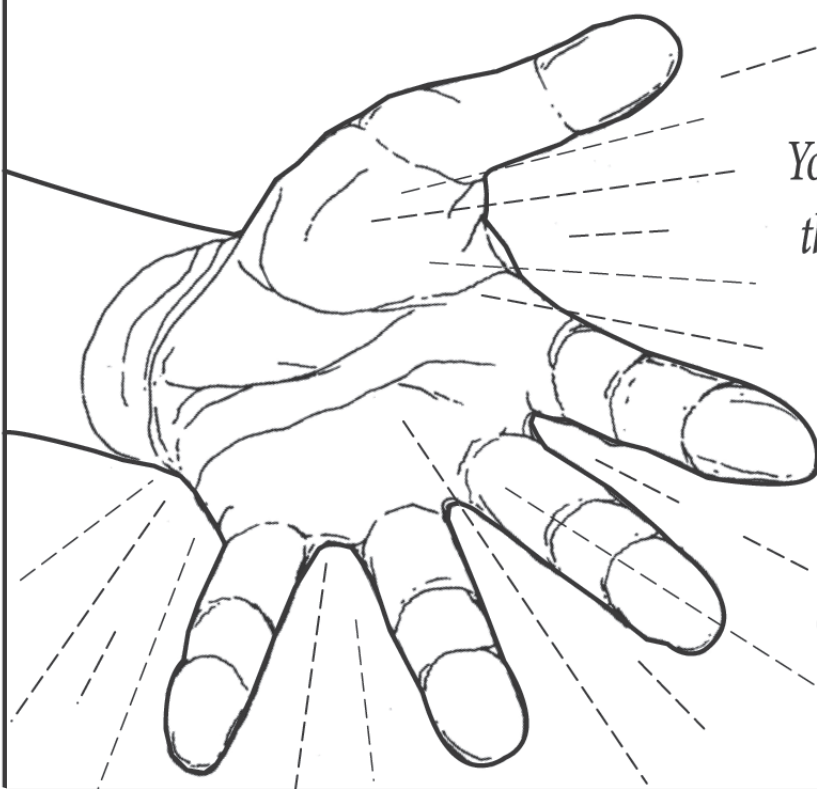
OPEN: Recycling Trailer in Groton
The recycling trailer is located at 10 East Railroad Ave. It takes cardboard, papers and aluminum cans.

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Sunday Extras



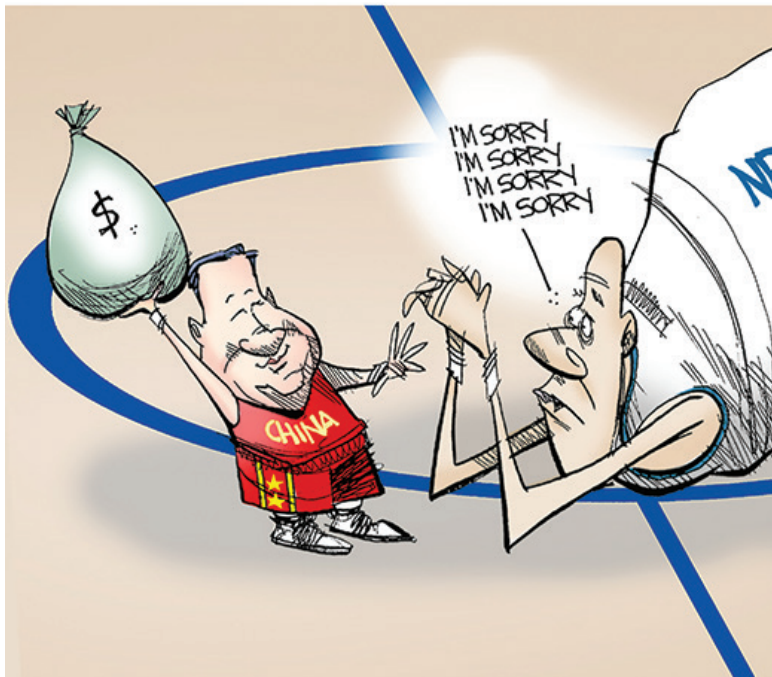
THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



*You open Your hand and satisfy
the desire of every living thing.*

*The Lord is righteous
in all His ways,
gracious
in all His works.*

PSALM 145: 16,17



BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Romans in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. What Moabit woman became ancestress of King David through her marriage to Boaz? *Sarah, Jezebel, Ruth, Leah*

3. From biblical times, what was a rough, coarse cloth worn as a mourning symbol? *Sackcloth, Shadrach, Shiloh, Sling*

4. Who was the father of the apostles James and John? *Zechariah, Zephaniah, Zebedee, Zebulun*

5. What was the site for Moses' burial place? *Paphos, Beth-peor, Petra, Beth-shan*

6. From 2 Samuel 12, who said, "Thou art the man"? *Boaz, Samson, Isaac, Nathan*

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Ruth; 3) Sackcloth; 4) Zebedee; 5) Beth-peor; 6) Nathan

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

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Comfort foods

Made fast and healthy



by Healthy Exchanges

Polish Pork Chops

Pork chops that you can do in the oven or the crockpot. This dish with barley and sauerkraut will fill the bill for a cool autumn day.

- 2 (14-ounce) cans sauerkraut, well-drained (low sodium, if available)
- 1½ cups water
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 1½ cup barley
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar substitute
- 2 tablespoons chicken bouillon granules
- 1 teaspoon caraway seeds
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 6 pork chops, about 3/4-inch thick
- 1/2 cup low-sodium ketchup
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce

1. Heat oven to 350 F. Spray a 9-by-13-inch baking dish with butter-flavored cooking spray.

2. In a large bowl, combine sauerkraut, water, onion, barley, brown sugar substitute, bouillon, caraway seeds and black pepper. Spread evenly into prepared baking dish. Trim excess fat from pork chops and arrange on sauerkraut mixture.

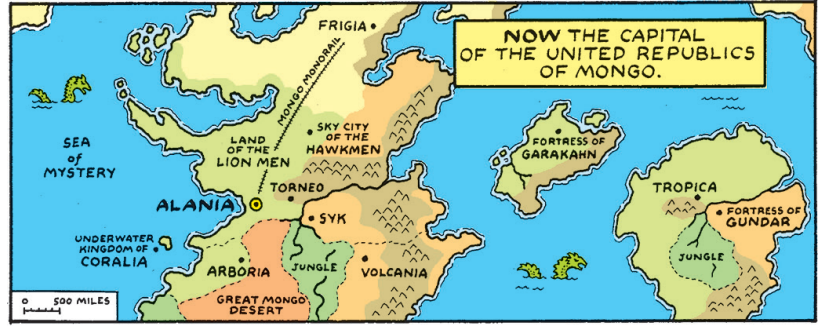
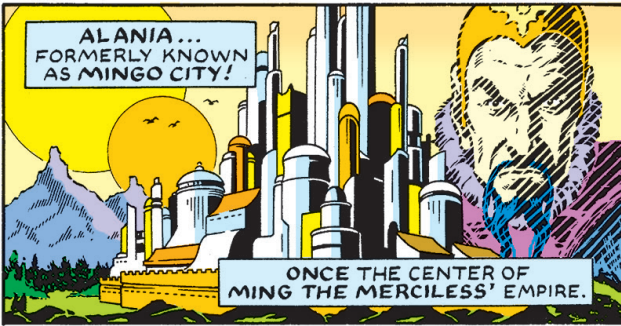
3. Mix ketchup and Worcestershire and spread on chops. Cover and bake for 1 1/2 to 2 hours or until pork is done. Serves 6.

• Each serving equals: 278 calories, 6g fat, 28g protein, 28g carbs, 474mg sodium, 53mg calcium, 6g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Starch, 1 Vegetable.

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FLASH GORDON

10-6

BY JIM KEEFE

FLASH RACES FROM THE THRONE ROOM WITH BLAZE HOT ON HIS HEELS!

YOU'RE A DEAD MAN, GORDON!

BRAC!

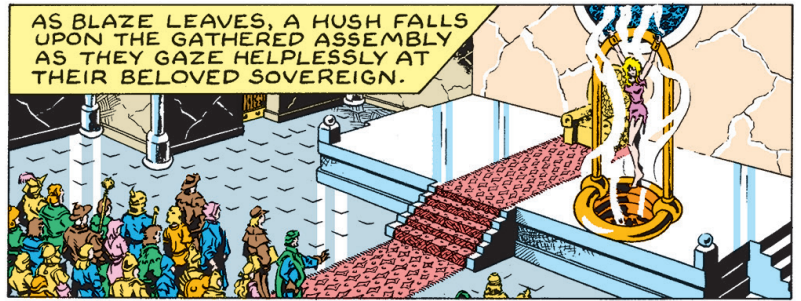


AND A WARNING TO ANYONE ELSE WITH DREAMS OF PLAYING THE HERO...

SO MUCH AS APPROACH YOUR QUEEN IN AN EFFORT TO SAVE HER AND THE FLAMES SHE IS SUSPENDED OVER WILL ENVELOP HER!

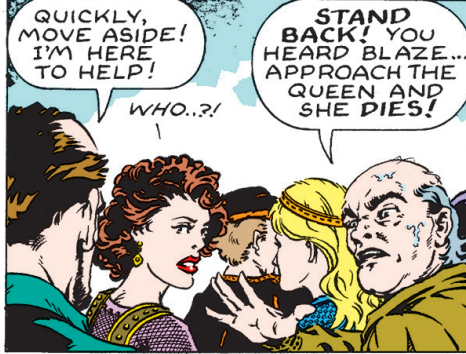


AS BLAZE LEAVES, A HUSH FALLS UPON THE GATHERED ASSEMBLY AS THEY GAZE HELPLESSLY AT THEIR BELOVED SOVEREIGN.



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QUICKLY, MOVE ASIDE! I'M HERE TO HELP!



STAND BACK! YOU HEARD BLAZE... APPROACH THE QUEEN AND SHE DIES!

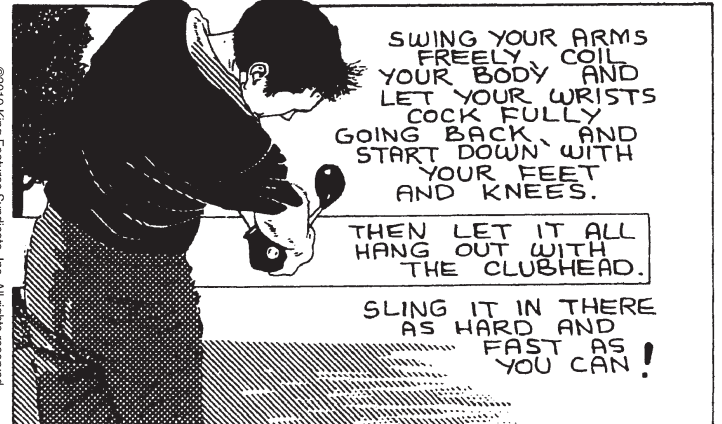
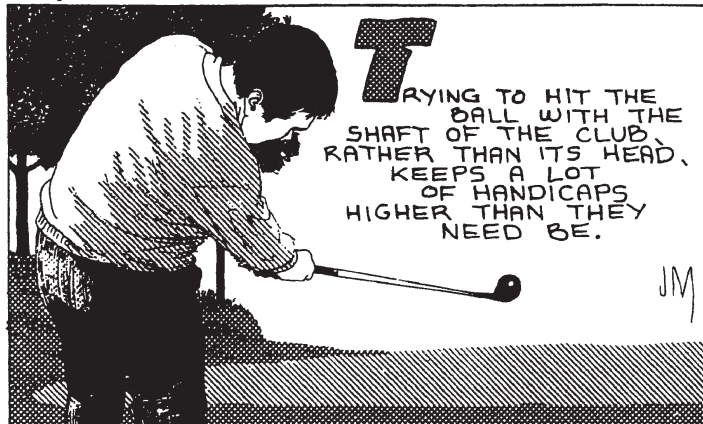
WHO..?!

BELIEVE ME, I DON'T INTEND TO TAKE ANOTHER STEP NEAR HER.



TO BE CONTINUED..!

Play Better Golf with JACK NICKLAUS





Kidney Stones, Some Supplements Don't Mix

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have been taking a multivitamin for years, and now one of my physicians wants me to take a vitamin that has NO vitamin D or calcium. He just removed kidney stones in two separate procedures. I can't find any vitamins like that. — D.A.S.

ANSWER: I completely agree that people with kidney stones should avoid calcium supplements. The transiently high levels of calcium after taking one cause the kidney to excrete a lot of that calcium, and that can cause a calcium crystal to grow, eventually forming a stone. Calcium that comes from the diet, on the other hand, does not induce such a spike in blood levels. Also, part of the calcium bonds with oxalate, preventing that chemical — a major part of many kidney stones — from being absorbed. High dietary calcium reduces the risk of stones.

The effect of vitamin D is not as clear. It seems that having low vitamin D is a risk for forming stones, so many experts will treat low vitamin D levels in people with kidney stones. I don't know your exact situation. It may be that your vitamin D level is normal or high, and you just don't need supplementation.

The most recent studies have consistently shown that most of the vitamins in a multivitamin tablet (with the exception of vitamin D) do not improve health or prevent illness, so I don't recommend multivitamins anymore. I would encourage a healthy diet with plenty of fresh fruits and

vegetables. Save your money on the vitamin tablets.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I have been on tramadol for 10 years. I am worried that it is or will affect my brain, as it works by changing the way my brain treats pain. I am 76 years old and take two or three a day. I take it for my arthritis. — M.K.

ANSWER: Tramadol is an opioid pain medication, similar to codeine and others. It may slow down breathing, especially in high doses. It works by blocking a pain receptor (the mu receptor) in the brain. The brain responds to this by inducing changes in the mu receptors, making them less sensitive, and in many cases reducing the effect of the dose over time, necessitating higher doses for the same effect. This is one of the reasons that opioids are not good long-term medication for pain, especially for chronic conditions like arthritis.

In addition to that fundamental change in the brain, long-term opiate use increases risk of motor vehicle accidents for drivers, actually can increase sensitivity to pain, is likely to cause constipation and puts people at risk for accidental overdose. These risks increase with higher doses and at older ages; the manufacturer warns to use high doses only with extreme caution for those over 75.

Tramadol comes in a 50-mg dose, but there are extended-release forms up to 300 mg, and I'm not sure what dose you are taking and how worried to be about it.

I suspect other medications may work better for you. The dose you took at age 65 may no longer be appropriate at age 75. I would at least consider an alternative. If so, work with your doctor to slowly reduce the tramadol dosage: Never suddenly discontinue.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu.

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1. Which singer was born Bobby Pedrick, Jr. in Brooklyn, N.Y.? Hint: He released "Sad Eyes" in 1979.

2. What color was the door in Jim Lowe's 1956 song? Hint: There was an "eyeball peepin' through a smoky cloud."

3. How did Grammy-nominated vocalist Tata Vega get her name?

4. Which Beatles/Paul McCartney song was originally titled "Seventeen"?

5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Rainy night and we worked all day, We both got jobs 'cause there's bills to pay."

Answers

1. Robert John. He had his first hit at age 12 with "White Bucks and Saddle Shoes" in 1958.

2. It was a green door, which was the entrance to a party.

3. She was born Carmen Rosa Vega, but her father called her Tata because that was her first word. She had her name legally changed at age 17.

4. "I Saw Her Standing There," released in 1963.

5. "Born to Be My Baby," by Bon Jovi in 1988, released as a single from their "New Jersey" album. The video, shot in a studio, was done in black and white, as were others on the album.

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Just Like Cats & Dogs

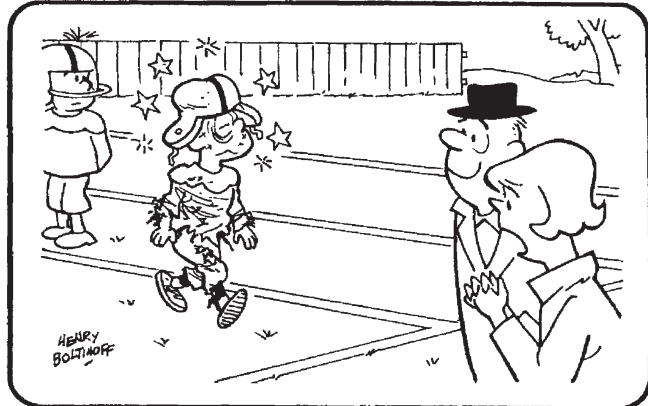
by Dave T. Phipps



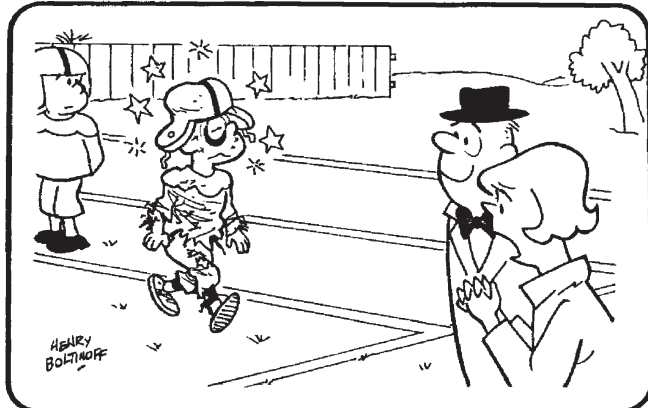
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



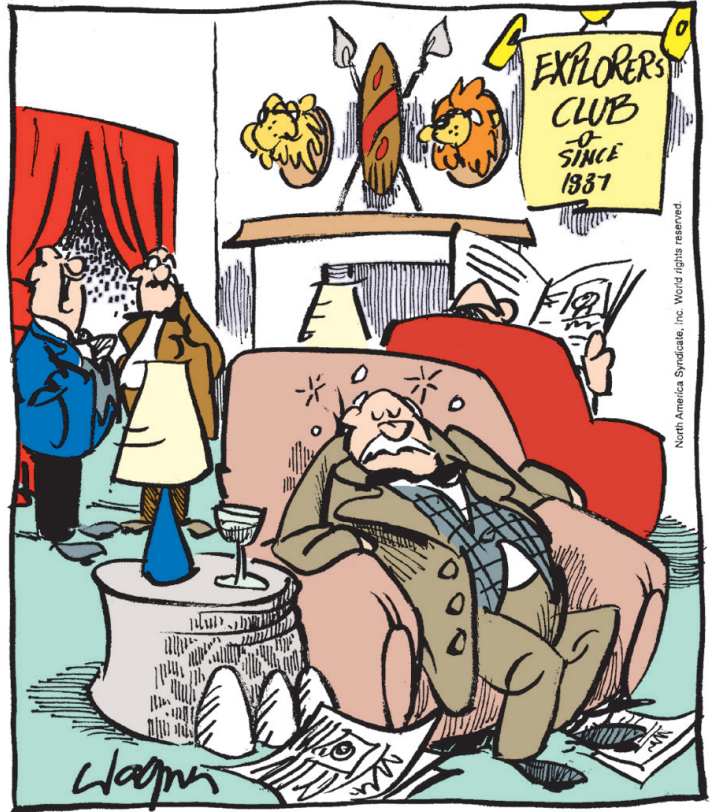
Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Shoes are black. 2. Man has a bowtie. 3. Tree is missing. 4. Face guard is missing. 5. Boy has black eye. 6. Fence is shorter.

GRIN and BEAR IT ^{by Wagner}



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"His biggest discovery was the club's wine cellar."



• “You set a curfew and a bedtime for your children because you know that kids need a good amount of sleep to keep those little bodies growing and their minds happy. Do you do the same for yourself? It’s tempting to stay up late zoning out after the kids are (finally) in bed, but make sure you get your rest, too. Set a bedtime and stick to it.” — *T. in Oklahoma*

• Love your pod coffee maker but hate the waste? Almost every brand has some sort of reusable filter that you can purchase. They are cost-efficient and much better for the environment. As a bonus, just add those used coffee grounds to your compost pile or sprinkle them in your garden.

• “My grandma came to visit and left behind a box of bunion pads. Since she didn’t want them back, I used them on the bottom of my kitchen chairs to keep them from scraping up the floor. They are self-stick, and they worked like a charm.” — *E.S. in Indiana*

• Self-care tip: Sometimes taking care of yourself means saying yes, and sometimes it means saying no. Turn off push notifications from smartphone apps and email when they aren’t absolutely necessary. You’ll find it easier to focus, and odds are good that you won’t really miss anything important. Schedule check-in times through the day if needed.

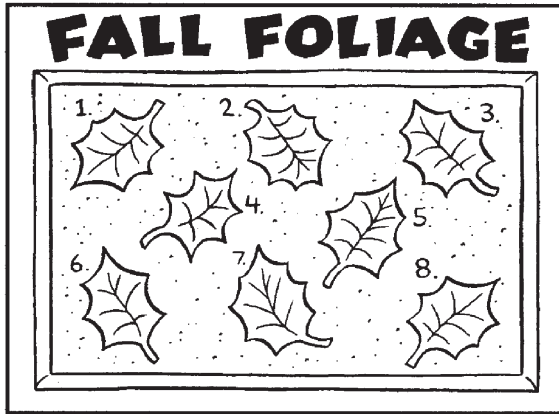
• “I have found a great second use for a coffee-can lid. Use it to catch paint drips when you’re painting a ceiling or the underside of anything. Just cut a slit in the lid and slip it over the brush handle. That way, the paint drips on the saucer, and saves you a sleeve.” — *O.J. in North Carolina*

Send your tips to Now Here’s a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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SEE IF YOU CAN "RAKE IN" the two leaves on the bulletin board above that are exactly alike.

Answer: Leaves 1 and 8.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

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LET'S FIND THE ANIMALS!

T	D	R	A	P	O	E	L	G	A	E	M	R	C
N	A	N	A	C	O	N	D	A	H	E	U	A	A
A	L	C	A	R	D	I	N	A	L	L	S	T	R
H	L	O	M	L	B	D	T	B	O	L	T	T	I
P	I	U	A	N	T	E	L	O	P	E	A	L	B
E	R	G	L	K	E	E	Z	A	P	Z	N	E	O
L	O	A	L	H	U	R	H	R	I	A	G	R	U
E	G	R	C	A	M	E	L	S	H	G	O	A	T

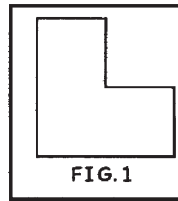


FIG. 1

A BETCHA PUZZLE! Place an L-shaped piece of paper on the table and challenge your friends to cut it into four equal pieces, all the same size and shape. The solution is shown in figure 2

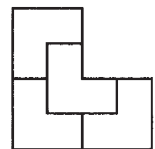


FIG. 2

Hidden in the above diagram are the names of 21 species of animals. They can be found by reading up or down, side to side, or diagonally. Letters can be used more than once. Listed below are the names you're looking for:

FIND-A-WORD! On the top line is our mystery word. You need to fill in the missing letters. Clue words (smaller words contained in letter-by-letter order within the mystery word) are defined below.

- 1. Weight of a container.
- 2. To be.
- 3. Outstanding performer.
- 4. A sailor.

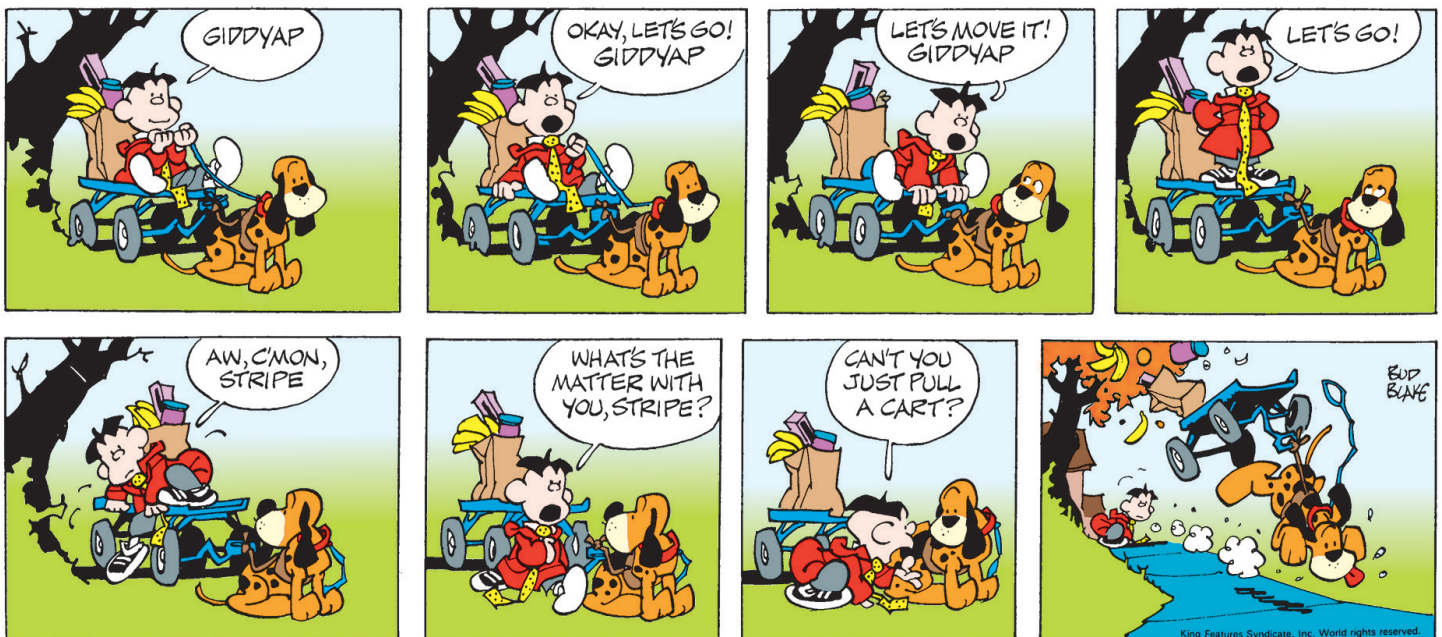
S				E
	1.			
		2.		
3.				
				4.

- Anaconda
- Antelope
- Boar
- Camel
- Cardinal
- Caribou
- Cheetah
- Cougar
- Deer
- Eagle
- Elephant
- Gazelle
- Goat
- Gorilla
- Hippo
- Leopard
- Llama
- Mustang
- Rattler
- Shetland
- Zebra

Answers: 1. Tare. 2. Are. 3. Star. 4. Tar. Mystery word: Stare.

TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "Lord of the Rings" actor Ian
- 5 Spigot
- 8 Jet forth
- 12 Cruising
- 13 Court
- 14 Baserunner's goal
- 15 Locale for a 1920s "sitting" fad
- 17 Settled down
- 18 Kingdom near Fiji
- 19 Creators
- 21 "Carmina Burana" composer
- 24 Directory data (Abbr.)

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15				16					17			
18							19	20				
			21		22	23		24				
25	26	27			28		29			30	31	32
33				34					35			
36				37					38			
		39	40			41		42				
43	44				45			46		47	48	49
50					51	52	53					
54					55				56			
57					58				59			

- 25 Humorous utterance
- 51 Worm holder
- 7 Verse
- China's history
- 54 Leftovers
- 8 Drum major's hat
- 34 Calendar quota
- 28 Temporary gift
- 55 To and —
- 9 Directing principle
- 38 Lullaby composer
- 30 Scot's hat
- 56 Writer Angelou
- 10 Eastern potentate
- 40 Smartly dressed
- 33 Illustrations
- 57 Wan
- 11 Drenches
- 42 Biblical verb suffix
- 34 Flower of New Mexico
- 58 Evergreen type
- 16 Standard
- 43 Antitoxins
- 35 "I — Camera"
- 59 Horse-drawn carriage
- 20 Pavlova or Paquin
- 44 Iowa city
- 36 Lingerie item
- 22 Change
- 45 Dubious
- 37 Physical
- 1 Sword handle
- 23 Central
- 47 Ark builder
- 38 Vivacity, in music
- 2 Norway's capital
- 25 Poke
- 48 "The Naked Maja" artist
- 39 Genetic letters
- 3 Slender
- 26 Blunder
- 49 Suitable
- 41 Ogler's look
- 4 Housefly larva
- 27 Beachcomber's find
- 52 Anger
- 43 Jungle expedition
- 5 Pair
- 29 Top
- 53 Piglet's mom
- 46 Romantic dance
- 6 "You've got mail" co.
- 31 Parisian pal
- 57 Send out
- 32 Name in

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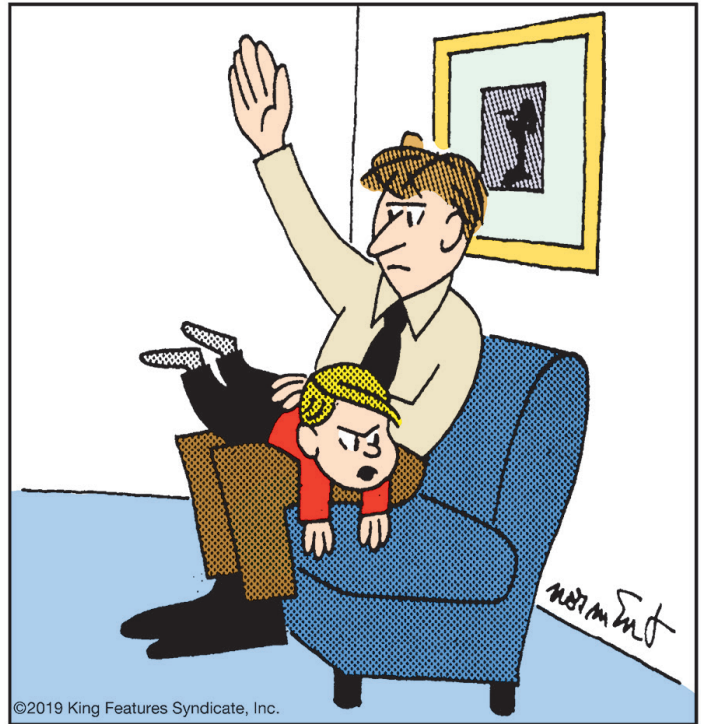
— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

H	O	L	M		T	A	P		S	P	E	W
A	S	E	A		W	O	O		H	O	M	E
F	L	A	G	P	O	L	E		A	L	I	T
T	O	N	G	A			M	A	K	E	R	S
			O	R	F	F		N	O	S		
J	E	S	T		L	O	A	N		T	A	M
A	R	T		Y	U	C	C	A		A	M	A
B	R	A		E	X	A	M		B	R	I	O
		R	N	A		L	E	E	R			
S	A	F	A	R	I			T	A	N	G	O
E	M	I	T		F	I	S	H	H	O	O	K
R	E	S	T		F	R	O		M	A	Y	A
A	S	H	Y		Y	E	W		S	H	A	Y

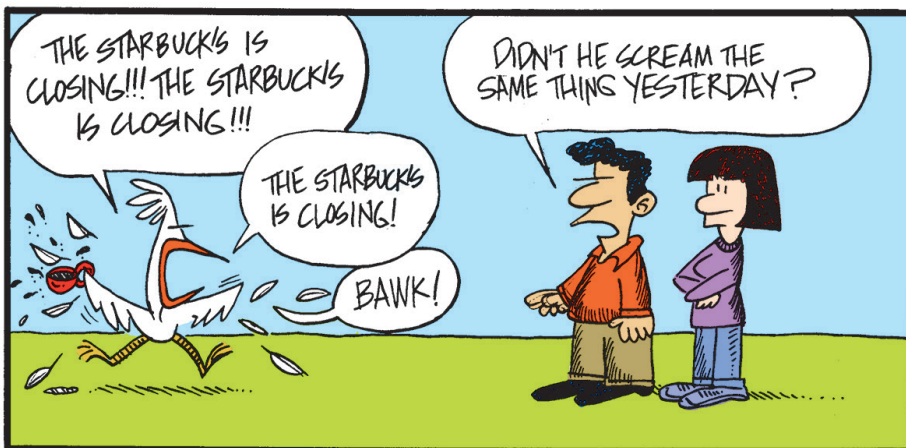
LAFF - A - DAY



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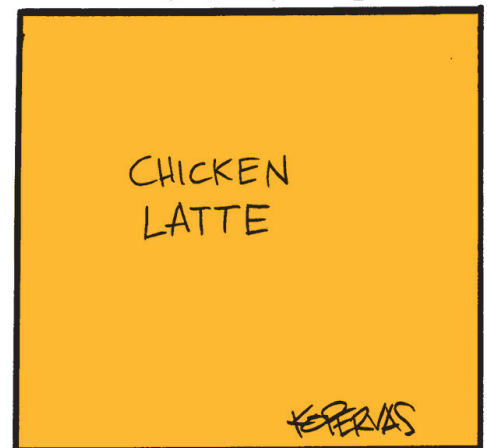
"This doesn't contribute much to my memories of a happy childhood."

Out on a Limb



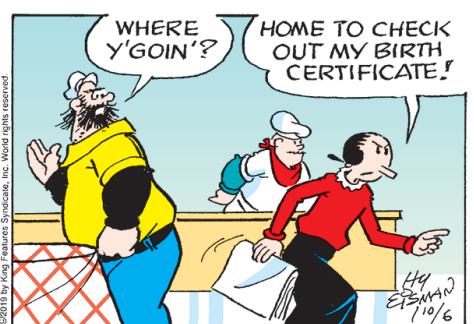
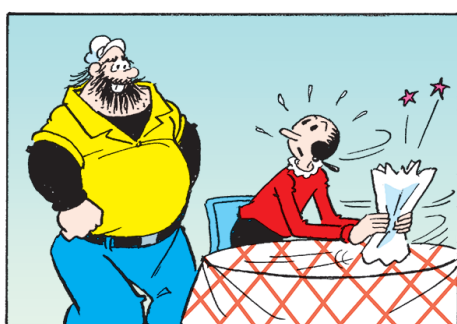
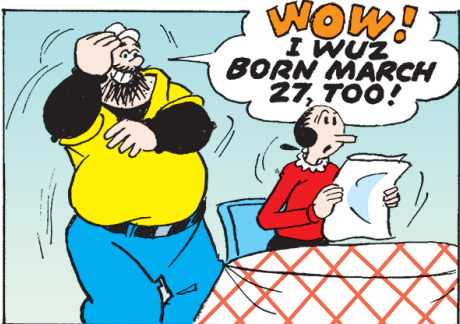
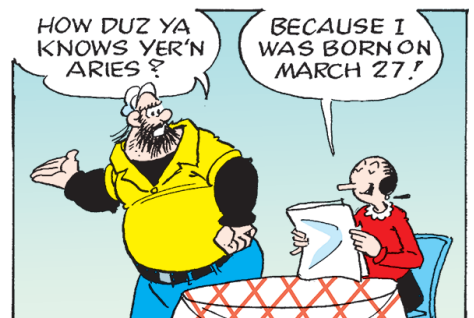
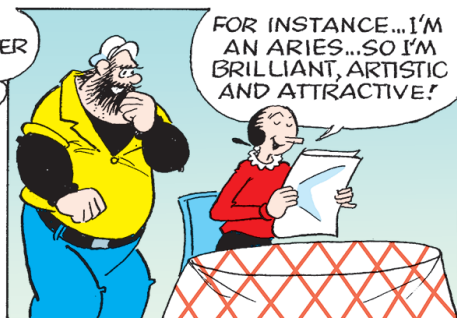
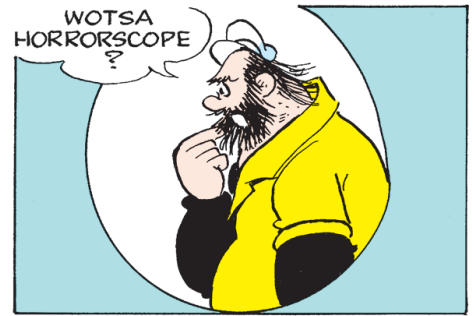
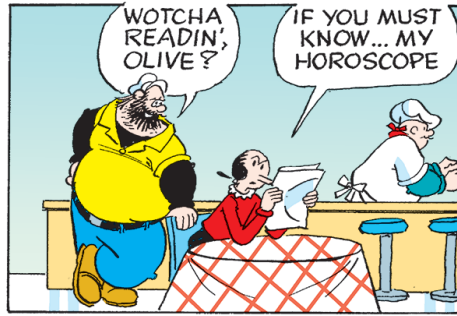
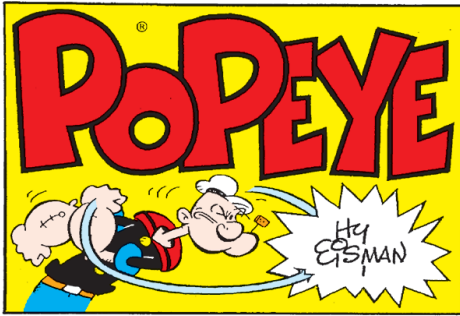
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by Gary Kopervas



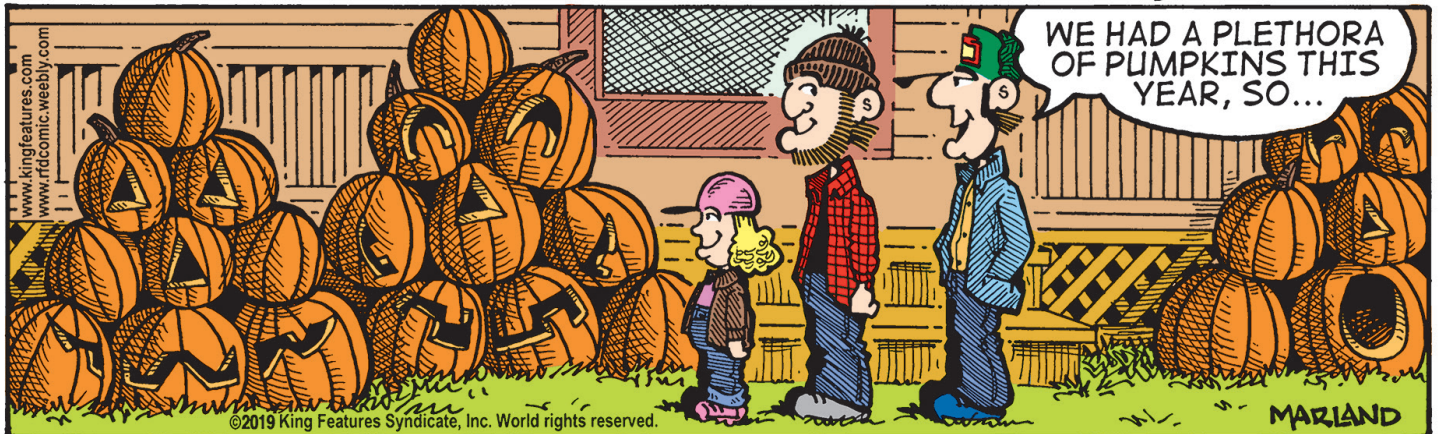
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R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



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Hal Foster BY GIANNI AND SCHULTZ
Prince Valiant



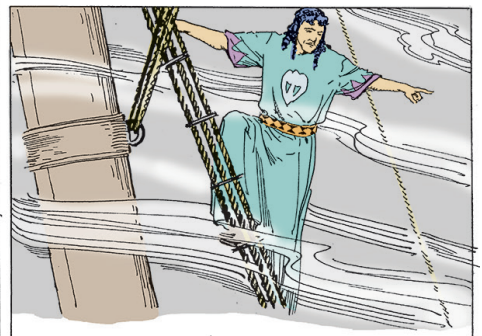
Our Story:

VAL AND COMPANY HAVE BEEN STORM-DRIVEN TO A MISTY NOTHINGNESS...

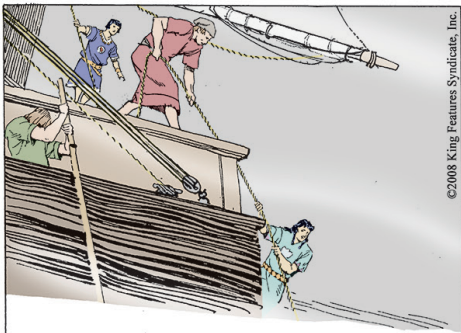
... WHICH DISSIPATES TO REVEAL SOMETHING EVEN STRANGER - AN ENDLESS TANGLE OF SEAWEED!



"TO WHERE HAVE WE BEEN DELIVERED?" THE AWED PRINCE MURMURS. "THE MISTY ISLES HAVE LEGENDS," RESPONDS ALETA...

"... OF A PLACE, FAR INTO THE GREAT WESTERN SEA, WHERE CURRENTS CONVERGE, AND A STRANGE MASS OF WEED HAS..." A CRY FROM GAWAIN CUTS THE QUEEN SHORT. "I SEE SOLID LAND!"



THE CREW IMPROVISES WITH OARS, PULLING THE SHIP THROUGH THE CHOKING WEED TO THE ALGAE-COVERED MOUND. GAWAIN RASHLY TAKES IT UPON HIMSELF TO CLAIM THIS NEW PROPERTY...

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...WHICH REACTS TO HIS FOOTFALLS IN A MOST UNWELCOMING MANNER. THE KNIGHT HAS DISCOVERED A WEIRD NEW WORLD OF FEROCIOUS HORROR!

NEXT:
When Crustaceans Attack



3731

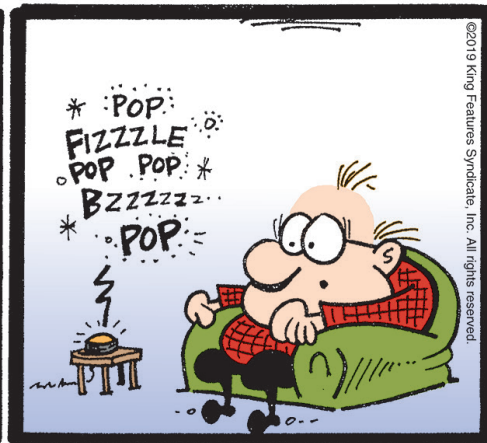
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



ALEXA

* POP *
 FIZZLE
 POP POP *
 BZZZZZ
 * POP *



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I SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN HER A BATH.



PICKERING

SENIOR NEWS LINE

by Matilda Charles

Staying Safe and Warm

Like it or not, here it comes again: winter, along with snow and ice in many parts of the country. As seniors we need to take extra steps to stay safe, warm and healthy during cold weather.

Investigate now whether your grocery store delivers. Groceries brought to your door can be a wonderful help when you can't get out. Also keep on hand a few days' worth of extra canned goods such as beans, fruits and vegetables, as well as cereals.

Start now to find indoor walking locations, especially if you get lots of snow and ice. Enclosed malls often open early to allow walkers. Look for local indoor tracks, perhaps as part of the parks and rec department. As incentive to keep to a routine, corral a few friends who also want to walk on a regular basis. If nothing else, use the aisles of the big box stores or ask about senior fees at the YMCA.

Remember to get out among people. It's healthier for us to have social connections so we don't feel isolated, which can lead to depression. Look for an interesting weekly group to join. Call others to check in on days you can't get out.

can't get out.

Check your supply of warm winter clothing. A hat, coat and gloves are a good place to start, followed by socks and a scarf. Remember to dress in loose layers that trap body heat. Hypothermia and frostbite can affect us faster than when we were younger. Put a thermometer outside your door or window so you know what to expect.

Be sure you have enough batteries and flashlights in case of a power outage.

Contact the National Energy Assistance Referral service at 1-866-674-6327 if you have trouble paying your heating bill, or think you will. Call them sooner rather than later, as many organizations have a set budget amount each year.

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1. Who broke Hideki Matsui's major-league record for most career home runs by an Asian-born player (176)?

2. Ted Kluszewski hit 40 or more home runs three times during his 15-year major-league career. How many times did he have a batting average of .300 or better?

3. When was the last time the UCLA football team won a conference championship?

4. Who is the all-time leader in career points scored for the Philadelphia 76ers franchise?

5. Name the last player before Jaden Schwartz of the St. Louis Blues in 2019 to have two hat tricks in one NHL playoff year.

6. Who was the first player to score a goal in five different Women's World Cups?

7. In 2019, Egan Bernal of Colombia became the third-youngest cyclist (22) to win the Tour de France. Who was the youngest?

Answers

1. The Texas Rangers' Shin-Soo Choo did it in 2018.

2. Seven times.

3. It was 1998.

4. Hal Greer, with 21,586 points.

5. Detroit's Johan Franzen, in 2008.

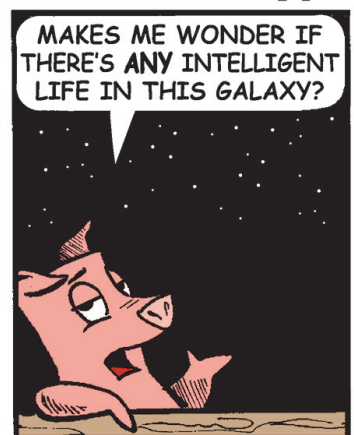
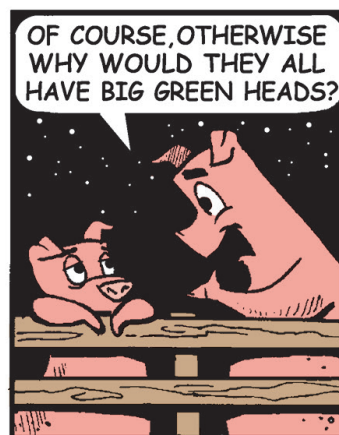
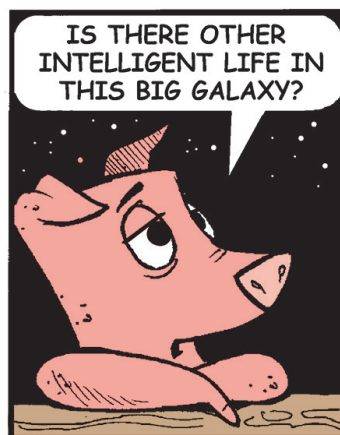
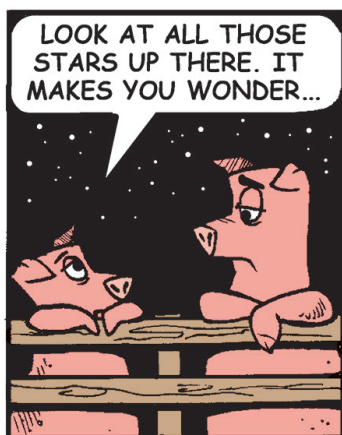
6. Brazil's Marta (2003-2019).

7. Henri Cornet, who was 19 years, 350 days old when he won it in 1904.

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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps





CONGRESSMAN
DUSTY JOHNSON
Representing **SOUTH DAKOTA** at large



"I have CMT, but CMT Doesn't Have Me"

Every year, thousands of advocates from across the country travel to Washington, D.C., to meet with their representatives. On any given week when Congress is in session, I hear from a number of groups from South Dakota—the topics can vary from tribal issues to health care or community banks and tax issues.

I appreciate every South Dakotan who has made the trip to Washington since I was sworn in this January. Coming to Capitol Hill to advocate for your cause is a worthy mission. These meetings help elected officials, including myself, make many tough decisions. In fact, several of the meetings I've taken have also resulted in a bill introduction later on.



However, I also recognize making the trip to Washington isn't easy for most. It's a long flight and there's no denying how expensive it is to fly across the country, stay in a hotel, and take days off work. That's why when I saw Serena's story in the Vermillion Plain Talk, I knew I should go to her.

Serena Clarkson moved to Vermillion to be closer to her doctors. She suffers from Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease (CMT), a neuromuscular disease where the body creates too much protein, causing chronic pain for nearly one in every 2,500 individuals. Serena has

undergone 79 surgeries since 2010, but unfortunately there is no cure for CMT – yet.

Despite her diagnosis, Serena wants to advocate for others, in hopes that one day there will be a cure for diseases like CMT. That's why she started raising funds to travel to Washington with the Muscular Dystrophy Association to advocate for newborn screenings and accessible travel for people with disabilities.

When I heard that Serena hadn't yet raised enough funds to go on the trip to D.C., it was important for me to meet her in person. I had the opportunity to sit down with her this week at the Bean in Vermillion. For people with CMT, every step can feel like a stabbing knife. But Serena said it best, "I have CMT, but CMT doesn't have me." Despite her own pain and obstacles, she's focused on helping others. Serena understands there may not be a cure in her lifetime, but she wants to see one for future generations.

Serena has risen above many trials – she endured abuse at home as a child, overcame addiction to drugs and alcohol, and lives every day with CMT. She's been knocked down a lot in life, but she's gotten up every single time. She's the kind of advocate that inspires change and action – her story is one that inspires and motivates. It's the kind of story that should remind Congress why we need to do our jobs.

I'm grateful Serena was willing to share her story, and I hope next year she can spread the word about neuromuscular diseases in our nation's capital.

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SOUTH DAKOTA GOVERNOR
KRISTI NOEM



Recognizing Native Americans' Day

Each October, we celebrate Native Americans' Day – an opportunity to honor South Dakota's nine Native American tribes, as well as their heritage, culture, and tradition.

This day is particularly meaningful for me. Ever since I began my career in public service, I've worked with tribal chairmen and presidents to create a stronger future for Native American communities. On a few occasions, tribes have presented me with a Star Quilt – a Native American symbol of honor and protection. This is an incredible encouragement, and it motivates me to continue tackling the challenges that confront tribal communities.

We all know that education equips kids with the tools they need for success. But what happens when that isn't available? Right now, the Oglala Lakota County School District serves 22 communities within 2,000 square miles but operates only from virtual locations.

This fall, I announced a partnership with the Oglala Lakota County school district to build the first physical, public high school on the Pine Ridge Reservation and the first Career and Technical Education (CTE) high school on a reservation in South Dakota. This will have a profound impact on the economic growth of Oglala Lakota County, bolstering the area's workforce and empowering students with real-life skills that will help them succeed long after graduation.

We're also confronting the safety challenges Native American women face. More than four in five Native American women experience sexual violence in their lifetimes and are murdered 10 times more often than the national average.

On July 1, a bill became law that will allow us to further raise awareness, collect data, and implement laws to protect indigenous women from trafficking and kidnapping. It paves avenues for us to partner with other states, tribal governments, and law enforcement agencies to bring these women home.

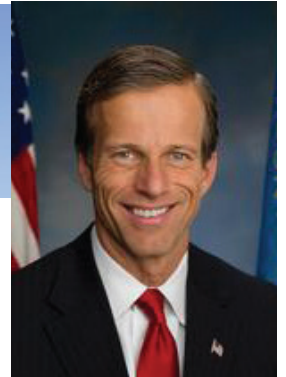
Additionally, I've worked extensively with tribal and community leaders to address our statewide meth epidemic. This spring, I held South Dakota's first State-Tribal Meth Summit that brought together state, federal, and tribal leaders to discuss meth prevention, enforcement, and treatment. At the conference, Chairman Boyd Gourneau of the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe said that "meth is literally killing our people. It's important we talk about it, but it's more important that we do something about it."

And we're doing something about it.

A few weeks after the summit, I hosted 10 tribal leaders at the Governor's Residence to discuss the action steps we can take to combat meth on reservations. In the days since, one tribe has been awarded a federal grant for \$100,000 per year for five years to assist with a component of their Child Protection Program. Two tribal K-9 units are registering to become state-certified – a benefit to both the tribe and state. My team will also be kicking off the most extensive meth awareness campaign South Dakota has ever seen in the coming weeks. We are committed to doing more to continue this open dialogue and keep our communities safe.

I'm proud of the rich tribal heritage that's woven into South Dakota, and I'm grateful that we set aside a day to recognize that legacy. Take some time this fall to learn more about our State's rich cultural history and tribal heritage. By learning more about each other and working together to address critical problems, we can truly embrace the meaning of the word Dakota – or ally.

John Thune
U.S. SENATOR - SOUTH DAKOTA



A Tradition Unlike Any Other

There's nothing quite like autumn – cooler temperatures, the sound of crisp leaves under your feet (or snow as may be the case), and students settled back in school. After a warm summer, this time of year is usually highly-anticipated in South Dakota, but not just because of the relief from hotter temperatures and football season being back in full swing. Fall and October are synonymous with one thing for South Dakotans: pheasant hunting season.

The third Saturday in October could be considered an unofficial holiday in our state. Friends and family have an excuse to get together, spend the day pursuing roosters, and usually end it celebrating bagging their limits by making some type of pheasant dish and enjoying in community with one another. I've been partaking in this tradition since I was 12 years old, and now I get to share this weekend with my daughters and sons-in-laws and hopefully one day with my grandkids, as well.

Although South Dakota is probably the only state that hunts its state bird, it's not just South Dakotans that like to participate in this tradition. Nearly 100,000 out-of-state hunters flood to our state to pheasant hunt each year, adding over \$200 million to the state's economy by shopping at our stores, eating at our restaurants, and staying in local hotels. Many of South Dakota's small businesses depend on the pheasant season's positive economic impacts each year.

Every weekend that I'm able to share with family and friends and enjoy the beautiful outdoor landscapes of South Dakota is considered a win to me, but it's even more enjoyable when the ringnecks are plentiful. Something that contributes to a successful pheasant hunt and wildlife habitat in general is good conservation practices.

The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is widely credited for creating an environment where pheasants can nest and raise their brood. I've been a champion of the program during my time in Congress, and I've continued to fight to ensure we strengthen CRP by raising the acreage cap in the 2018 farm bill so additional acres can be enrolled. Good conservation practices contribute mightily to pheasant numbers and therefore our state's economy.

The use of our land not only produces food and fiber for us to eat and feed the world, but it can also preserve the habitat areas that support wildlife. Nothing compares to the memories I've made with my family out in the fields, and I will continue to work to ensure these traditions are preserved for generations to come.

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Celebrating Native Americans' Day in South Dakota

For 29 years, South Dakotans have celebrated Native Americans' Day instead of Columbus Day. The late Governor George Mickelson, along with the editor of the Native Sun News, Tim Giago, and tribal leaders, worked together to proclaim 1990 the Year of Reconciliation. The decision to change Columbus Day to Native Americans' Day was made during the Year of Reconciliation by the state legislature as a way to honor the deep history of the tribal people who have long called this land their home.

Throughout the Year of Reconciliation, and every year since, we have worked to preserve the culture and history of Native American people, acknowledge our challenges and work together on the issues we face. Native Americans make up around 10 percent of our state's population, and South Dakota is home to nine tribal reservations. It is important for all South Dakotans to understand the history and hardships that Native Americans have gone through so we can have a better understanding of one another. During my time working as governor, we wanted to honor the 20th anniversary of the Year of Reconciliation. 2010 was declared the "Year of Unity," in recognition of the need to continue building upon the legacy and work of those who came before us. It was also an opportunity for us to celebrate our diversity.

Throughout my time working as governor, and now as a senator, forging strong relationships with tribal leaders and members has been a priority. While tribal governments are sovereign, we often work together on different issues. For example, I introduced legislation in the Senate to require an assessment of the Indian Health Service's (IHS) management, healthcare delivery processes and finances so it can better serve its patients. Before I introduced that bill, I consulted with tribal leaders to make sure we're on the same page since the problems at the IHS are directly impacting tribal members.

This summer, the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General released a report on the Indian Health Service's management of the closure and reopening of the Rosebud Hospital Emergency Department. The report reaffirmed the need for an assessment of the troubled agency. It showed that IHS hasn't made significant efforts to improve its facilities or the care it delivers to tribal members. It is unacceptable, and I'll continue fighting to clean up IHS.

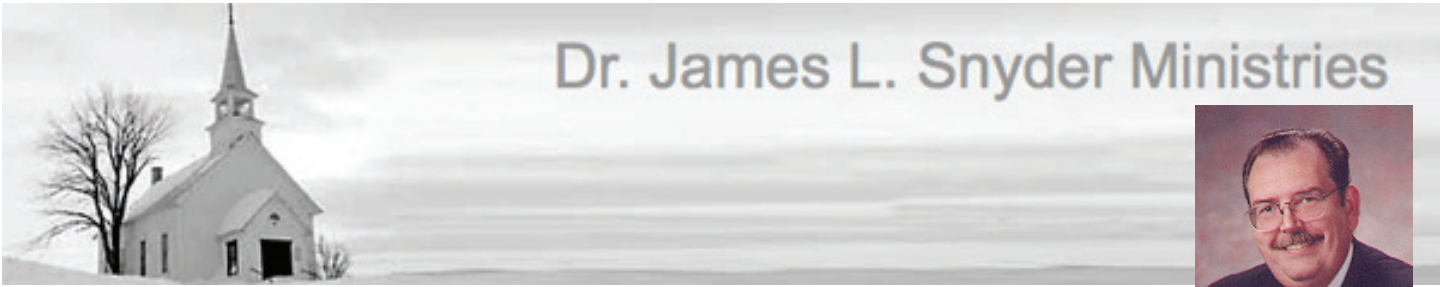
I've also prioritized making improvements to tribal veterans' health care. Earlier this year, I joined Sen. John Thune to re-introduce a bill that would improve tribal veterans' access to health care. Our goal is to streamline care for eligible Native American veterans who receive care at both the IHS and the VA to make it simpler and more convenient for the veterans who have sacrificed so much for our country.

We've re-introduced the RESPECT Act this Congress, which would repeal outdated, offensive laws against Native Americans. Once again, we worked on this legislation in consultation with tribal leaders. It passed out of the Senate last Congress, but wasn't able to get out of the House. We are optimistic it will move forward this Congress, since it has strong bipartisan, bicameral support, including from Rep. Dusty Johnson who was one of the original sponsors.

This Native Americans' Day, I honor and celebrate all tribal members, whose culture and traditions are woven into the fabric of our society. I will continue working closely with tribal leaders to find solutions to the problems we face so we can leave behind a brighter future for the next generation.

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I Didn't Know How Young I Really Was

I have heard it said that confession is good for the soul. I want to take that a step further and say confession is good for the body as well.

I don't often think about how old I am, I'm too busy with other thoughts. Occasionally, something happens that reminds me I am not quite as old as I think I am. Do not get me wrong, it is a good experience for soul and body.

When I get up in the morning, I feel achy, not to mention grouchy because the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage mentions that. I get up feeling old and dreary. I wallow in despair, thinking how old I really am and not knowing what to do with it.

Oh, poor me, woe is me.

Something happened this past week that gave me a completely different view of how old I really am.

I had an appointment to go to the doctor to have my annual blood work done. Every year this doctor wants a sample of my blood for who knows why. He is obsessed with my blood and tries to get it every time he can. Being the good patient I am, I concede to his request.

I had an appointment across town to get the blood work done and got there well before my appointment. Therefore, I had to sit in the waiting room until my appointment time.

I usually take a book with me to read because I know that doctors, as educated as they are, do not seem to know how to tell time. So, instead of wasting that time, I take a book and get caught up on some reading I have to do. You cannot read too many books.

While I was quietly reading my book, all of a sudden, I heard a bang and the door flew open and in came a woman with a walker. I will not say she was an old woman, but youth was in her past as far back as you possibly could go.

When she came in, the whole atmosphere of that room changed and not in the positive. As soon as her head got through the door, you could see a grimace on her face to beat all grimaces. It scared me at first. I have never seen such a mean looking face.

Then she begins snarling. "Get out of my way. Where's my doctor? I want to see him now."

I was not in her way, but I certainly got further from her way as I possibly could. I am not sure how old she was but she had grouchy down to a fine-tuned art. I think all of us in the room were praying that the doctor would take her in right away.

Thankfully, our prayers were answered. She was escorted out and you could hear a deep sigh in that room. I do not think I would have wanted to be her doctor that day, at least.

I was finally settling down and back to my book when the door opened again. In walked an older gentleman, and I use the word gentleman very carefully, with a cane.

He rumbled up to the window to sign in and the lady politely asked who he was.

Looking at her with eyes that would have scared a tiger he said, "Who do you think I am?"

That is not all he said, but some words I would not want to repeat even in the dark. Obviously, he was old enough to know all the curse words in the dictionary. He mentioned some words that I had never heard before and I am quite sure they are not in the English dictionary.

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He signed his name and then hobbled over to take a seat and then glanced at me and said, "What are you staring at?" Again, I cannot use all the words he used.

Believe me, when I say I was tempted to tell him what I was looking at. Then I noticed the cane in his right hand and decided to look the other way.

Until the nurse came to take him in to see the doctor, he was muttering under his breath and I did not want to hear what he was muttering. The meanness on his face gave me pause to think a little bit.

Casually, I looked around the room and saw most of the people were old and nobody looked very happy. When they walked up to sign in, they limped. When the nurse got him to take them back to see their doctor, they staggered and limped.

At the time, I did not know what to do. Then a smile began creeping across my face. I had to be careful that I did not laugh aloud. A wonderful thought danced in my mind.

Looking around very carefully I noticed one stunning fact. That fact was, I am not as old as I thought I was. When I got up that morning, I felt old and decrepit. Now I was around people that were really old. Compared to them, I was a babe in swaddling clothes.

I then remembered what David said. "They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing" (Psalm 92:14).

I am at the place now where I can begin to enjoy the fruit of my old age.

Severe dental diseases persist in S.D. due to chronic poverty and lack of access to dentists

By: Bart Pfankuch

Tooth decay, gum disease and many other oral-health illnesses are considered to be 100% preventable, yet many children and adults across South Dakota continue to suffer severe dental problems.

A lack of access to proper dental care in South Dakota is driven both by geography and income. With a relatively small population spread out across a large area, many South Dakota residents do not have ready access to a dentist. Meanwhile, a high level of poverty in rural, urban and reservation communities also inhibits the ability of both adults and children to obtain proper dental care.

The look of rotting or missing teeth and deep red gums can lead to isolation and ostracism, a lack of employment and educational opportunities and even increased likelihood of generational poverty for those who suffer from severe dental problems.

Increasingly, moreover, poor dental health is known to cause or be connected to numerous other serious health issues, including some that are life-threatening. The Mayo Clinic recently published a report called "Oral health: A window to your overall health," which links bacteria associated with tooth decay and gum disease to heart illnesses, including clogged arteries, stroke and endocarditis, an infection of the inner linings of the heart.

Links have also been established between poor oral health and premature birth and low birth weight, diabetes and pneumonia.

State and dental-association officials have long focused on educating people on the benefits of maintaining good oral health, and report that some progress has been made in terms of getting more adults and children to see a dentist at least once a year. Programs have been enacted to encourage dentists to practice in underserved areas, and charitable efforts to provide oral care to poor people in South Dakota have expanded.

And yet, many in the dental field are disappointed that improvement in dental health in general and particularly among low-income people has stagnated.

"I don't know that we're seeing oral health overall improving," said Paul Knecht, director of the South Dakota Dental Association. "You'd think that after hammering away at this thing for a couple of decades you would see light at the end of the tunnel, but the rates of decay haven't changed significantly in the last ten years or so."

The sprawling nature of South Dakota and a shortage of dentists overall is certainly one factor. In South Dakota, 40% of counties — 26 of 66 — are considered by the state to have a shortage of dental-health services either because of geography or residents' low income.

Poverty is a major inhibitor of proper dental care in a state where 12.8% of residents, about 110,000 people, live below the federal poverty line, and nearly a third of residents fall within the federal definition



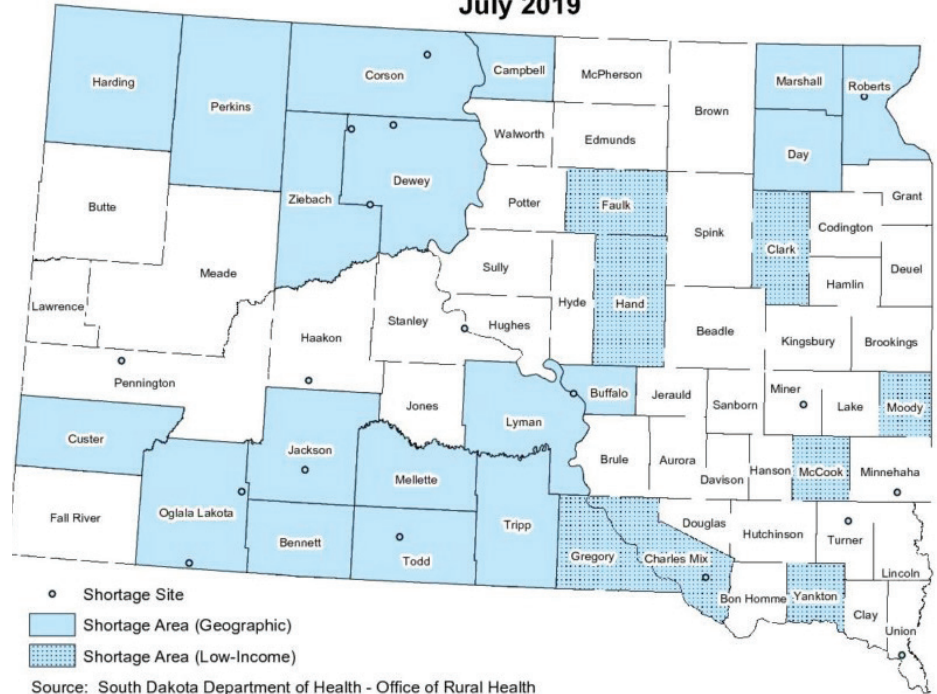
of "low income."

Poor dental health is a significant and vexing issue on the state's Native American reservations, where limited access to dental care is exacerbated by high levels of poverty.

Problems also exist in the few metro areas of South Dakota, where many low-income residents find it hard to afford dental care or find subsidized care.

"The stories related to poor oral health exist in every corner of the state," said Mike Mueller, communications manager for Delta Dental of South Dakota, a major dental insurer and provider of charitable care. "It's everywhere; issues with access to good oral-health care exist across South Dakota."

SOUTH DAKOTA HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS DENTAL HEALTHCARE July 2019



This map from the Office of Rural Health within the South Dakota Department of Health shows counties, in blue or blue shade, that have a shortage of dental care either due to low population, low income levels or both.

Reservations are 'ground zero' for S.D. dental issues

Marty Jones is the office manager and a dental hygienist at the St. Francis Mission Dental Clinic in Todd County on the Rosebud Indian Reservation. Jones calls her clientele "ground zero" for the dental-health problems that afflict many people living in poverty in South Dakota.

The south-central South Dakota reservation has about 12,000 tribal residents and thousands more non-Natives, yet very few dentists or dental services. Native residents can obtain care at Indian Health Services facilities, but access can be difficult and IHS dentists are quick to extract rather than treat teeth with cavities, due to expediency, said Jones, who worked for 13 years at an IHS dental clinic.

Both Native and non-Native residents often rely on the mission clinic to obtain subsidized dental services that range the gamut from prevention to extractions to surgery, Jones said. The clinic does not have a full-time dentist, and receives no state or federal funding, but rather relies on donations and grants for operating costs and relies almost exclusively on volunteer dentists from South Dakota and across the country to go beyond the basic care and education that Jones and one other clinic employee can provide.

Jones said the rate of serious dental problems among her clientele is severe.

"It's dire straits down here; there's epidemic proportions of dental caries or dental disease here," Jones said. "It's really sad. You cannot even fathom some of the things that we see come through this door, just gross."

The clinic in 2013 had a registered clientele of about 2,000 people, of which 90% had significant dental problems, Jones said. The situation has only worsened since then. In just the first nine months of this year, the clinic logged 300,000 dental treatment needs that had not been met. Several patients suffer from rotten teeth, gum disease and more serious bone issues all at once, Jones said.

She said the Native and non-Native populations on and around the reservation have difficulty obtaining dental care due to a shortage of providers and several factors related to high rates of poverty and unemployment, including inability to pay, a lack of insurance, transportation challenges and sometimes a multi-generational failure to understand the importance of dental care and the potential health consequences when it is neglected.

Food deserts and a lack of money for healthful food leads to consumption of high-carb diets that create sugars that quickly erode tooth enamel, she said.

Children on the reservation sometimes suffer severe decay and almost complete tooth loss before they are old enough for school, Jones said.

"These kids are losing their teeth at a very young age; from age two to five they're extracting teeth," she said.

"These kids go weeks or months with toothaches before they can be seen someplace."

Individual stories of severe dental decay are heartbreaking, Jones said. She tells of one beautiful young Native girl who excelled in school and had a college scholarship but faced the daunting challenge of having almost no healthy teeth. Jones refers to some patient's mouths as being "bombed out" by severe decay and showing only an "apple's core," Jones' term for a mouth left with no front teeth and only diseased gums showing.

"She was a smart, beautiful girl, but how can she go to a university setting beyond here and have any confidence when the rest of that population does not have that level of decay in their mouth?" Jones said.

Jones arranged for the girl to get help and a dentist was able to bring her mouth back to relative normalcy. Jones said she frequently sees mission clients break down in tears when they get dental care and begin to smile again or even feel comfortable going out in public. Jones said some people see Natives with rotten teeth and mistakenly assume they are addicted to methamphetamine, which can severely damage teeth.

The St. Francis Mission Dental Clinic is hosting volunteer dentists from Connecticut and Rhode Island in the coming weeks, but after that will not have a dentist on site from November until March, Jones said.

Some progress, but challenges remain

Despite these problems, state health and dental-association officials say there has been some improvement in access to dental care in the state.

Department of Health Epidemiologist Josh Clayton said recent statewide surveys have shown an increase in the number of adults and children who have had a dentist visit in a 12-month period, and that South Dakota has an overall dental-visit rate that is higher than the national average.

In 2016, phone surveys done as part of the biennial Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System showed that 70.3% of adults had visited a dentist in the past year, compared to the national average of 66.4%.



This image shows the damage suffered by a 21-year-old woman who had limited access to dental health care in Todd County. The woman received received significant subsidized dental treatment from a visiting dentist at the St. Francis Mission Dental Clinic, including two root canals and a temporary partial that restored much her smile. Photo Submitted

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For children ages 1-17 in South Dakota, 88% reported visiting a dentist in the past year, up from 85% in 2011.

Clayton added that the survey showed that state-wide in 2015-17, about 85% of children were covered by some type of public or private dental insurance, compared with only 76% covered in 2011-13. The rate of emergency-room visits for dental or oral-health issues has also dropped in recent years, Clayton said.

"I think we're doing better than the national average overall, but I think we still have room for improvement because of the importance of oral health, not just on whether a person will have dental caries or cavities, but because the mouth does play an important role in overall health," Clayton said.

Multiple research studies and anecdotal information from those on the front lines of dentistry in South Dakota have shown a strong correlation between income and access to dental care.

Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program, or CHIP, are the two main avenues for low-income residents to obtain subsidized health care, including dental services. Native Americans can receive subsidized dental treatment at Indian Health Service hospitals.

The American Dental Association Health Policy Institute said in a 2016 study that only half of American children on Medicaid or CHIP had a dental visit in the past year, compared to 67% of children on private insurance. That study, "Main Barriers to Getting Needed Dental All Relate to Affordability," revealed that, in all, 15.2% of Americans, roughly 48 million people, said they needed dental care but did not get it during the past year.

The top reasons cited for not obtaining dental care were "could not afford the cost," "insurance did not cover procedures," and "did not want to spend the money." The study said that more than a quarter of all working adults in America do not receive dental benefits.

Another ADA study showed that cost barriers were the most likely factor inhibiting someone's ability to get dental care, as compared with obtaining any other type of health care, including prescription drugs, medical care, eye care and even mental health services.

Knecht, of the state dental association, which has about 410 active members, said that about 70% of dentists statewide accept Medicaid, among the highest acceptance rates in the nation.

Knecht said that although South Dakota dentists generally do a good job of treating low-income people, challenges remain. Despite efforts to expand access, he said, many low-income adults and children may still face significant hurdles in getting good oral-health care, either owing to wide-open geography or low Medicaid payment rates to dentists.

Medicaid payment rates are set and shared by federal and state governments, including in South Dakota, which has among the lowest Medicaid-provider reimbursement rate in the nation.

This situation can lead some Medicaid patients to struggle to get care, he said, especially in rural regions where there are few if any dentists to begin with.

"For the folks in the greatest need, our experience is that things are actually improving, but that we are basically swimming upstream," Knecht said. "We are challenged because we're in a very conservative, low-tax environment where the program itself does not pay very well, so we have a lot of dentists who



A young girl and a dental assistant walk away after receiving treatment at one of two mobile dental health clinics operated by Delta Dental of South Dakota. The mobile clinics have provided about \$21 million worth of subsidized dental care to roughly 40,000 patients in more than 80 communities over the past 15 years. Photo: Submitted

will limit the number of patients they will see, or maybe they won't take Medicaid patients at all."

Research by the Health Policy Institute within the American Dental Association highlights the difficulty of getting subsidized dental care in rural areas of South Dakota.

In South Dakota, a third of children under public insurance plans do not live within 15 minutes of a dentist who accepts Medicaid. South Dakota is tied with North Dakota for worst in the Great Plains region at 32% of children in that category, compared with 21% of children in Montana isolated from Medicaid dental services, 16% in Wyoming, 7% in Iowa and Minnesota and only 6% in Nebraska.

Charitable efforts chip away at access issues

Multiple efforts are underway in South Dakota to help improve access to dental care.

For the past 15 years, the Delta Dental Mobile Program and its two dental offices on wheels have provided more than \$21 million worth of dental care to about 40,000 patients in more than 80 communities, including tribal reservations.

The trucks and dentists that provide preventive, diagnostic and restorative care travel about 40 weeks out of the year. No patient is denied care because he or she cannot pay.

The mobile dentistry program is perhaps the most visible effort to aid low-income South Dakotans with their dental care by the foundation that is the charitable arm of the nonprofit Delta Dental Insurance Company.

The foundation also supports a loan-repayment program for dentists who agree to treat a certain number of patients on Medicaid, and a program that trains other medical professionals to identify dental issues that may require treatment. The state has a tuition reimbursement program for dentists who agree to practice in underserved areas for three years; since 2012, that program has placed dentists in 10 rural communities.

Delta also teams up with the South Dakota Dental Association to fund the Donated Dental Services Program that provides free dental care to children, adults and senior citizens who cannot afford it. Last year, the program provided \$675,000 in care to about 158 patients. Due to the extensive need for services, the program typically has a long waiting list in some locations, Knecht said. The SDADA also provides scholarships and supports dental-health educational programs.



A University of Missouri dental student poses with a woman to whom he provided dental care during a recent volunteering visit to the St. Francis Mission Dental Clinic on the Rosebud Indian Reservation. The clinic is one part of a larger charitable effort to help improve access to dental care for all South Dakotans. Photo: Submitted

Income no barrier to one Sioux Falls dentist

Some dentists in South Dakota are highly attuned to the challenges facing some parents and children in their desire to obtain adequate dental care.

Jaclyn Schuler is a dentist at the Dakota Dental practice on West 37th Street in Sioux Falls who has accepted patients on Medicaid for more than a dozen years.

Schuler said the great need for subsidized dental care in Sioux Falls is evidenced by the fact that her office receives about five to seven calls per day from people who want to know if the practice takes Medicaid. As one of only three dentists in the office, Schuler said she never turns away a child or a disabled

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person who is on Medicaid, but must limit the number of adults on Medicaid she treats because the program pays only about 60% of the typical cost of dental care.

Providing subsidized care is somewhat of a calling for Schuler, who said many people are unable to understand the challenges and stresses faced by people in poverty.

"It's different than the stress we think of, which is work stress or homework stress or whatever," Schuler said. "These people have real stress; the stress of not knowing where they're going to get their next meal from, let alone how they can get to their child to the dentist."

Schuler recalled one mother whose 3-year-old daughter had "a mouthful of decay" and needed dental surgery, but she relied on buses that didn't run early enough in the day to make her appointments. In response, Schuler said her office paid for a car service to get the mother and child to their doctor's office.

As for why such a young girl had rotten teeth, Schuler said some families become trapped in a generational cycle of poverty that reduces their ability to properly prioritize dental care.

"A lot of these patients are growing up in a family where their grandma had her teeth removed when she was very, very young, and the mother had her teeth removed when she was very, very young, so it's just not something that they've learned," Schuler said. "So, to make that active effort to seek out information and care is a bigger challenge than we realize. Their stress is unique to poverty, and we as human beings have the ability to only cope with so many things, so they don't have the ability or the energy to put their child's dental care or dental health as a priority."

Schuler said she understands why some dentists do not accept Medicaid patients, but she added that for her and others in her office, the reduced payment rates are worth the positive outcomes they see for patients who have few or no other options for care.

"You get paid less, but in some ways, you get paid more," she said.



Jaclyn Schuler is a Sioux Falls dentist who accepts patients on Medicaid and believes that helping lower-income people with their dental care is part of her commitment to improving patient health as well as their ability to thrive in society. Photo:

Submitted

ABOUT BART PFANKUCH



Bart Pfankuch, Rapid City, S.D., is the content director for South Dakota News Watch. A Wisconsin native, he is a former editor of the Rapid City Journal and also worked at newspapers in Florida. Bart has spent more than 30 years as a reporter, editor and writing coach.

Wolves Football Falls to No. 3 Minnesota State

Aberdeen, S.D. – On a wintery day from Swisher Field, the Northern State University football team fell to No. 3 Minnesota State in the 105th Gypsy Days game.

THE QUICK DETAILS

Final Score: NSU 7, MSU 39

Records: NSU 3-3, MSU 6-0

Attendance: 1644

HOW IT HAPPENED

- The two teams were scoreless through the first quarter, however the Mavericks broke through just nine seconds into the second on a 26-yard touchdown reception
- Minnesota State extended their lead with two more touchdowns in the half, sitting on top 22-0
- The Mavericks opened the half with their first rushing touchdown with the scoreboard reading 29-0
- Northern answered back mid-way through the third with a 30-yard touchdown reception by Dakota Larson
- MSU added two more touchdowns in the quarter and both teams went scoreless again in the fourth
- Northern tallied 77 yards rushing, 49 yards passing, and 126 yards of total offense
- The Wolves defense held Maverick leading rusher, Nate Gunn to just 69 yards in the contest
- In addition, the Mavericks were only able to convert on 5-of-15 third downs

NORTHERN STATE STATISTICAL STANDOUTS

- Hunter Trautman: 49 yards passing, 34 yards rushing, 1 passing touchdown
- Dakota Larson: 43 yards receiving, 1 touchdown, 50 kick return yards
- Chance Olson: 9 tackles
- Jacob Rader: 8 tackles, 2.5 tackles for a loss of 6 yards, 1 interception
- Preston Droessler: 6 solo tackles, 1.0 tackle for a loss, 1 forced fumble
- Jacob Howard: 2 tackles, 1.0 sack for a loss of 7 yards

UP NEXT

Northern travels to Wayne State next Saturday. Kick-off is set for 1 p.m. between the Wolves and Wildcats.

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Today



Mostly Cloudy

High: 35 °F

Tonight



Mostly Cloudy

Low: 20 °F

Columbus Day



Partly Sunny

High: 40 °F

Monday Night



Mostly Cloudy

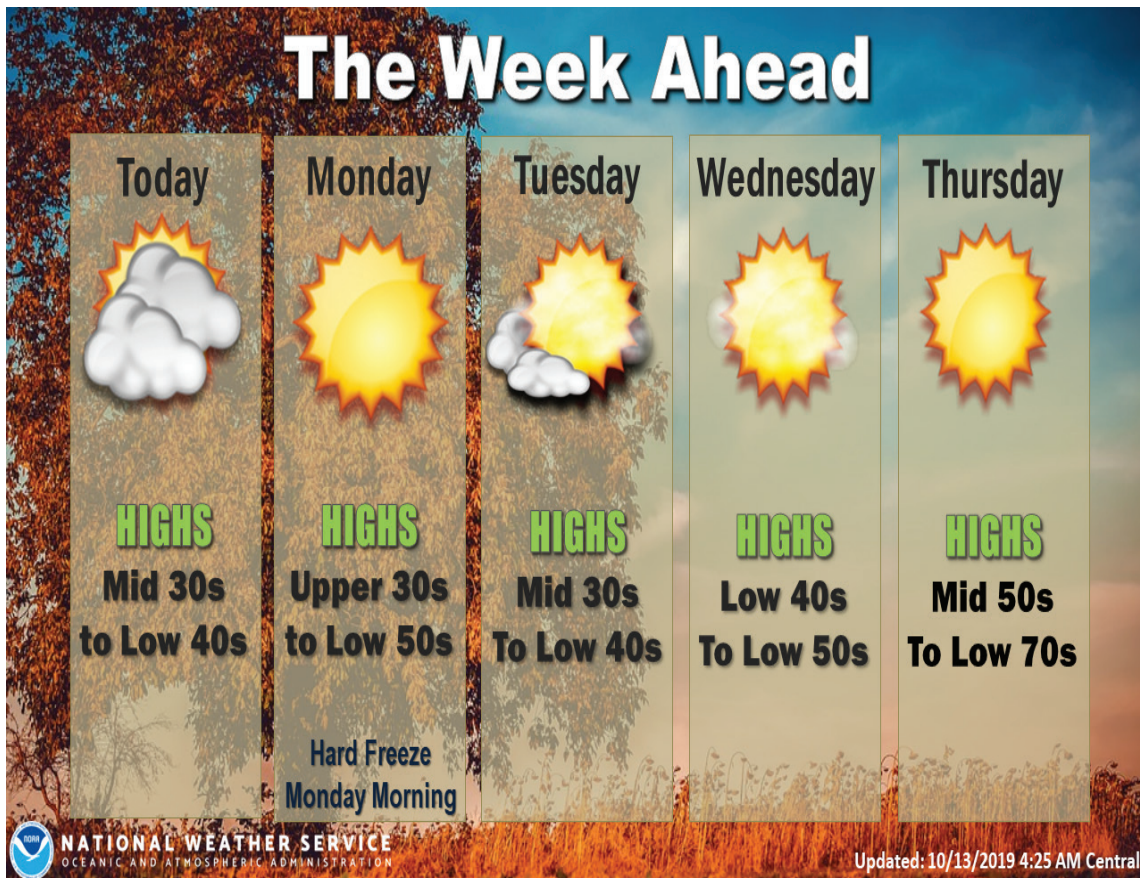
Low: 28 °F

Tuesday



Mostly Cloudy
then Mostly
Cloudy and
Breezy

High: 38 °F



Published on: 10/13/2019 at 12:29AM

It will take a few days, but the good news is that warmer temperatures are coming. Conditions also look to be dry through the upcoming week.

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Today in Weather History

October 13, 1966: Late season thunderstorms brought hail and high winds to southeast South Dakota causing extensive damage to some soybean fields. The greatest damage was in the Garretson area. The strong winds also damaged many utility lines along with many farm structures. Lightning struck a church at Lake Andes, and the resulting fire destroyed it. The storms occurred from late on the 13th to the morning of the 14th.

1846 - A great hurricane tracked across Cuba, Florida, Georgia, the Carolinas, Virginia and Pennsylvania. The hurricane inflicted major damage along its entire path, which was similar to the path of Hurricane Hazel 108 years later. The hurricane caused great damage at Key West FL, and at Philadelphia PA it was the most destructive storm in thirty years. (David Ludlum) (The Weather Channel)

1983: Severe weather in Falls Church, VA, produced 2-3 tornadoes and caused \$1 million in damages.

1986 - Four tornadoes struck southeastern Virginia late in the night causing three million dollars damage. Tornadoes at Falls Church VA caused a million dollars damage. (Sandra and TI Richard Sanders)

1987 - Fifteen cities in the eastern U.S. reported record low temperatures for the date. Record lows included 34 degrees at Meridian MS, 28 degrees at Paducah KY, and 26 degrees at Beckley WV. Another surge of arctic air entered the north central U.S. bringing snow to parts of Wyoming and Colorado. (The National Weather Summary)

1988 - A total of forty-three cities in the eastern U.S. and the Upper Midwest reported record low temperatures for the date, including Elkins WV and Marquette MI where the mercury dipped to 18 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

1989 - Sixteen cities reported record high temperatures for the date as readings warmed into the 80s and low 90s from the Southern and Central Plains to the Southern and Middle Atlantic Coast. Evansville IND and North Platte NE reported record highs of 91 degrees. (The National Weather Summary)

2006: The October 2006 Buffalo storm was an unusual early-season lake effect snow storm that hit the Buffalo, New York area and other surrounding areas of the United States and Canada on this day. Downtown Buffalo reported 15 inches from this event. Depew and Alden record 24 inches, the most from this lake effect storm.

2011: Three tornadoes hit central and Eastern Virginia on this day. One of the EF1 tornadoes caused damage to the Sylvania Plantation home that was built in 1746. The storm peeled the roof off the house.

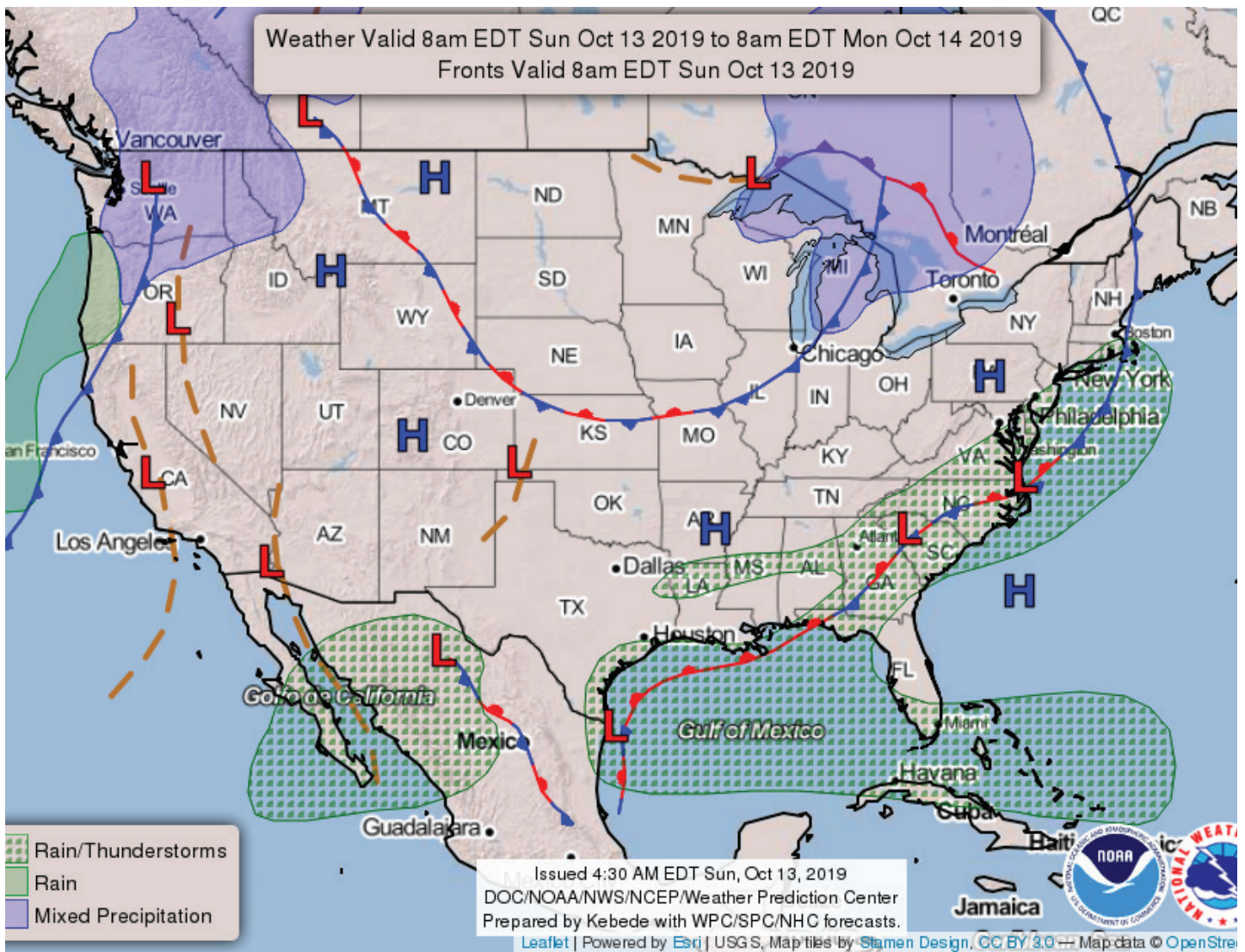
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Yesterday's Groton Weather Today's Info

High Temp: 34 °F at 1:07 PM
Low Temp: 32 °F at 4:58 AM
Wind: 26 mph at 10:03 AM
Day Rain: 0.00

Record High: 87° in 1958
Record Low: 10° in 1909
Average High: 59°F
Average Low: 34°F
Average Precip in Oct.: 0.87
Precip to date in Oct.: 1.27
Average Precip to date: 19.35
Precip Year to Date: 26.29
Sunset Tonight: 6:52 p.m.
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:48 a.m.



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HUMILITY MATTERS

It was his first day as a general. For years his one goal was to pin a star on his shoulder. Sitting behind his desk for the first time, with his personal flag behind him, he felt as though he had finally "arrived." He was anxious to impress his staff with his accomplishment.

There was a knock on his door, and he shouted, "Enter." He reached for his phone, and wanting to impress the men who were quietly walking into his office, said, "Thank you, Mr. President, for calling. It was good to speak with you. Yes, sir. Goodbye." He then hung up the phone.

Turning to the men before him, he asked, "And now, men, what can I do for you?"

"Yes, sir, thank you, sir. I'm your aide, and these men have come to connect your phone."

There is nothing wrong with wanting to succeed. But there is something wrong with wanting to succeed for selfish, self-seeking, self-centered reasons. Pride brings with it the idea that we deserve whatever we can get. It creates a greedy appetite within us and leads us to believe that we should have whatever we can get or should have whatever we want in life. It makes us want far more than we need and leaves us unsatisfied with what we have. Sometimes God has to humiliate us to teach us humility. "Pride comes before a fall!"

Prayer: Help us, Lord, to trust You for our needs, to be satisfied with what we have, and to be thankful for Your love. May we be covered with humility and grace. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Scripture For Today: James 4:6 And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

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2019 Groton SD Community Events

- 09/07/2019 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 09/08/2019 Sunflower Classic at Olive Grove Golf Course
- 09/12/2019 St. John's Lutheran Luncheon
- 09/20/2019 Presbyterian Luncheon
- 09/28/2019 Granary Living History Fall Festival
- 10/11/2019 Lake Region Marching Band Festival (2nd Friday in October)
- 10/12/2019 Pumpkin Fest (Saturday before Columbus Day)
- 10/31/2019 Trunk or Treat/Halloween on Main (Halloween)
- 11/09/2019 Legion Post #39 Turkey Shoot (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)
- 12/07/2019 Olive Grove Golf Course Holiday Party
- 12/07/2019 Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services
- Bingo: every Wednesday at the Legion Post #39

2020 Groton SD Community Events

- 01/26/2020 Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)
- 04/04/2020 Groton Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. Sharp (Saturday a week before Easter Weekend)
- 04/25/2020 Fireman's Stag (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 05/02/2020 Spring City-Wide Rummage Sales, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (1st Saturday in May)
- 05/25/2020 Groton American Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Services (Memorial Day)
- 06/8-10/2020 St. John's VBS
- 07/04/2020 Firecracker Golf Tourney (4th of July)
Groton Hosting State B American Legion Baseball Tournament
- 07/12/2020 Summer Fest/Car Show
- 09/12/2020 Fall City-Wide Rummage Sales, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. (1st Sat. after Labor Day)
- 10/10/2020 Pumpkin Fest
- 10/31/2020 Groton United Methodist Trunk or Treat (Halloween)
- 11/14/2020 Groton American Legion Post #39 Annual Turkey Party (Saturday closest to Veteran's Day)

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News from the Associated Press

SD Lottery

By The Associated Press

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

Dakota Cash

03-12-15-30-33

(three, twelve, fifteen, thirty, thirty-three)

Estimated jackpot: \$194,000

Lotto America

01-17-20-25-44, Star Ball: 9, ASB: 2

(one, seventeen, twenty, twenty-five, forty-four; Star Ball: nine; ASB: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$3.51 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$65 million

Powerball

12-29-34-53-65, Powerball: 23, Power Play: 2

(twelve, twenty-nine, thirty-four, fifty-three, sixty-five; Powerball: twenty-three; Power Play: two)

Estimated jackpot: \$90 million

Saturday's Scores

By The Associated Press

Volleyball

Pine Ridge def. Custer, 25-21, 25-21, 25-23

Platte-Geddes def. Gregory, 25-22, 25-13, 22-25, 25-17

Chester Challenge

Elkton-Lake Benton def. Deubrook, 25-20, 25-14, 25-13

Sioux Valley def. Arlington, 21-25, 25-20, 11-25, 25-22, 15-12

Cody-Kilgore Triangular

Cody-Kilgore, Neb. def. Little Wound, 25-19, 17-25, 25-16

Hay Springs, Neb. def. Little Wound, 25-21, 25-16

Gayville-Volin Tournament

First Round

Gayville-Volin def. Marty Indian, 25-13, 25-7

Menno def. Centerville, 20-25, 25-17, 25-11

Mitchell Christian def. Omaha Nation, Neb., 25-15, 25-21

Consolation Semifinal

Omaha Nation, Neb. def. Marty Indian, 25-23, 15-25, 25-23

Semifinal

Gayville-Volin def. Mitchell Christian, 25-7, 25-19

Fifth Place

Canistota def. Omaha Nation, Neb., 25-16, 25-14

Scotland def. Menno, 25-11, 25-3

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Third Place

Menno def. Mitchell Christian, 20-25, 25-12, 25-14

Championship

Gayville-Volin def. Scotland, 25-20, 25-12

Lakeville North Tournament

Semifinals

Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Lakeville South, Minn., 25-22, 18-25, 15-9

Pool Play

Pool 1

Jackson County Central, Minn. def. Sioux Falls Roosevelt, 14-25, 25-17, 15-13

Ninth Place

Sioux Falls Roosevelt def. Rochester Century, Minn., 29-27, 24-26, 15-9

Saint Michael-Albertville Tournament

Quarterfinal

Miller def. Hutchinson, Minn., 26-24, 20-25, 15-12

Sioux Falls O'Gorman def. Champlin Park, Minn., 25-23, 25-23

Semifinal

Miller def. Chanhassen, Minn., 26-24, 23-25, 16-14

North Branch, Minn. def. Sioux Falls O'Gorman, 25-19, 25-22

Ninth Place

Miller def. Elk River, Minn., 26-24, 25-21

Seventh Place

Waconia, Minn. def. Sioux Falls O'Gorman, 25-18, 23-25, 15-12

Gibbs, South Dakota State beat Youngstown State 38-28

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio (AP) — J'Bore Gibbs threw for a touchdown and ran for two more and South Dakota State beat Youngstown State 38-28 on Saturday night in a battle between two of the top teams in the Football Championship Subdivision.

Gibbs completed 14 of 26 passes for 210 yards and had 12 carries for 75 yards for South Dakota State, which went into the game ranked No. 3 in the FCS Coaches poll.

Nathan Mays hit Joe Alessi for a 45-yard touchdown to give No. 17 Youngstown State (4-2, 0-2 Missouri Valley Conference) a 21-9 lead midway through the third quarter but the Jackrabbits answered with a 13-play, 75-yard drive capped by Gibbs' 2-yard TD run. South Dakota State forced the Penguins to punt on their next possession then Gibbs connected with Cade Johnson on an 81-yard touchdown catch-and-run. Johnson, on a reverse-pass, found Blake Kunz in the end zone for the 2-point conversion to give the Jackrabbits (5-1, 2-0) their first lead at 24-21 early in the fourth quarter.

About a minute later, DyShawn Gales picked off a pass from Mays at the Youngstown State 44 and C.J. Wilson's 13-yard scoring run made it 31-21 with 6:13 to play.

Joe Craycraft replaced Mays, who was limping after taking several hits, including back-to-back sacks. Craycraft hit Miles Joiner for a 17-yard touchdown to trim YSU's deficit to three with 2:54 left but Gibbs responded with a 63-yard TD run to seal it.

Mays was 14-of-24 passing for 176 yards and a touchdown with two interceptions — including a 42-yard pick-6 by Don Gardner early in the second half — and added 13 carries for 58 yards and two scores for Youngstown State.

South Dakota State linebacker Seven Wilson, who collided head-to-head with teammate Christian Rozeboom in the final seconds, was down on the field for several minutes before walking off the field under his own power.

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Simmons' 4 TD passes leads South Dakota past Missouri State

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP) — Austin Simmons threw four touchdown passes, two of them to Caleb Vander Esch, and South Dakota breezed to a 45-10 victory over Missouri State on Saturday.

Missouri State took a 7-0 lead when Tyler Lovelace recovered a Kai Henry fumble at the South Dakota 32-yard line. The Bears found the end zone in seven plays from there, scoring on Peyton Huslig's 4-yard TD toss to Jordan Murray. But South Dakota (3-3, 2-0 Missouri Valley Football Conference) pulled even 88 seconds later on a Simmons-to-Vander Esch 56-yard TD strike.

Mason Lorber's 38-yard field goal 10 seconds into the second quarter gave the Coyotes the lead for good and ignited a 38-0 scoring run. Simmons had TD tosses of 8 yards to Drew Greenhaw, 29 yards to Vander Esch and a 14-yarder to Ben Klett. Kai Henry and Canaan Brooks each ran for a score in the second half.

Simmons finished 15-of-21 passing for 228 yards and he added 34 yards on seven carries. Vander Esch hauled in four passes for 96 yards. Ben Klett had 69 of South Dakota's 220 yards on the ground.

Huslig connected on 21 of 40 passes for 184 yards with two interceptions. The Bears (1-4, 1-1) managed just 64 yards on the ground on 30 carries.

Highways reopen in North Dakota, officials urge caution

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — North Dakota's Transportation Department has reopened hundreds of miles of highways but warned that travel remained hazardous due to severe winter conditions.

Interstate 29 from Fargo to the Canadian border was reopened Saturday morning, while U.S. Highway 2 and Interstate 94 were reopened late Saturday afternoon.

Authorities say secondary highways and roads in north-central North Dakota were impassable and blocked after more than 2 feet of snow fell in some areas.

The National Weather Service issued a blizzard warning Friday for northern North Dakota and winter storm warnings and watches elsewhere in the state and into parts of South Dakota and Minnesota through Saturday afternoon.

Forecasters say conditions are expected to gradually improve.

Former UW president wants to join case involving demotion

LARAMIE, Wyo. (AP) — Former University of Wyoming President Laurie Nichols is hoping to weigh in on whether the school will be required to provide news reporters with a number of records related to her demotion.

The Laramie Boomerang reports Nichols' attorney, Megan Overmann Goetz, is expected to file a formal motion Tuesday to join a case in which several news organizations contend the university unlawfully withheld documents following the decision to demote Nichols to a faculty position.

No reason was given for the March decision, and members of the Board of Trustees have declined to answer questions on the matter.

Goetz sent an email to Judge Tori Kricken on Wednesday saying she must intervene to protect Nichols' privacy.

Nichols is currently the interim president of Black Hills State University in South Dakota.

Information from: Laramie Boomerang, <http://www.laramieboomerang.com>

IS supporters escape as Turkish troops near key Syrian town

By LETERIS PITRAKIS Associated Press

AKCAKALE, Turkey (AP) — Turkish forces approached a key Kurdish-held town in northern Syria on Sunday, setting off clashes that allowed hundreds of Islamic State supporters to escape from a camp for displaced people near a U.S.-led coalition base.

The United Nations meanwhile said more than 130,000 Syrians have fled since the operation began

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five days ago. The fighting reached the main highway that runs between Hassakeh, a major town and logistical hub, and Ain Eissa, the administrative center of the Kurdish-held areas.

The camp in Ain Eissa, some 35 kilometers (20 miles) south of the border, is home to some 12,000 people, including 1,000 wives and widows of Islamic State fighters and their children. The Kurdish-led administration in northern Syria said in a statement that 950 IS supporters escaped after attacking guards and storming the gates. It was not immediately possible to confirm that figure.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Turkish warplanes struck villages near the camp on Sunday. It said camp residents fled as clashes broke out between Turkey-backed Syrian fighters and Kurdish forces, without providing an exact number.

The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces were a key U.S. ally in the war against the Islamic State group and drove the extremists from most of the territory they once held in northeastern Syria. The force swept up thousands of Islamic State fighters and their family members in the campaign, and has warned it may not be able to maintain its various detention centers as it struggles to repel the Turkish advance.

Turkey views the Kurdish fighters as terrorists because of their links to the insurgency in its southeast and has vowed to carve out a "safe zone" along the border. It launched the operation earlier this week after President Donald Trump moved U.S. forces aside, saying he was committed to getting out of America's "endless" wars.

Heavy fighting was also underway Sunday in the town of Suluk, northeast of Ain Eissa. Turkey's official news agency said Syrian fighters allied with Ankara had captured the town, while Kurdish officials said they were still battling to hold onto it.

The Anadolu news agency said Turkey-backed forces had cleared the town center of Suluk, which is located at a strategic crossroads about 10 kilometers (six miles) south of the border. A Kurdish official, who was not authorized to brief media and so spoke on condition of anonymity, said the clashes in Suluk were still ongoing.

Turkish troops and their Syrian allies have made steady gains since launching the operation, capturing several northern villages in fighting and bombardment that has killed and wounded dozens of people. The military said it captured the center of the sizable town of Ras al-Ayn Saturday. Turkey continued shelling around the town and sporadic clashes could be heard.

Turkey's Defense Ministry tweeted that 480 Kurdish fighters were "neutralized" since Wednesday. The number could not be independently verified.

The clashes have spilled across the border, with shells fired from Syria hitting the Turkish border towns of Akcakale and Suruc. Anadolu says one person was wounded in Suruc on Sunday.

Heavy outgoing shelling could be heard in Akcakale early Sunday and at least one incoming projectile



In this Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019 photo, Turkey-backed Syrian fighter stand in Ras al-Yan, Syria. Turkey's military says it has captured a key Syrian border town Ras al-Ayn under heavy bombardment in its most significant gain as its offensive against Kurdish fighters presses into its fourth day. (AP Photo)

hit a house, leaving a gaping hole in the exterior wall and rubble inside. It was not immediately clear if anyone was wounded. Police collected evidence as a crowd gathered outside.

The U.N. meanwhile said a pumping station in the town of Hassakeh was damaged by shelling, affecting the water supply for 400,000 people, including 82,000 residents of camps for displaced people.

Associated Press writers Sarah El Deeb in Beirut and Zeynep Bilginsoy in Istanbul contributed.

Typhoon leaves 19 dead as Japan launches major rescue

By YURI KAGEYAMA Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Helicopters, boats and thousands of troops were deployed across Japan Sunday to rescue people stranded in flooded homes Sunday as the death toll from a ferocious typhoon climbed to at least 19 with more than a dozen missing. One woman fell to her death from a rescue helicopter.

Public broadcaster NHK said 14 rivers across the nation had flooded, some spilling out in more than one spot.

The Tokyo Fire Department said a woman in her 70s was accidentally dropped 40 meters (131 feet) to the ground while being transported into a rescue helicopter in Iwaki city in Fukushima prefecture, a northern area devastated by the typhoon.

She was rushed to a hospital but died, a department official said.

The casualty toll was compiled by Kyodo News service and was higher than one given by the government spokesman earlier Sunday, a day after Typhoon Hagibis made landfall south of Tokyo and battered central and northern Japan with torrents of rain and powerful gusts of wind. The typhoon was downgraded to a tropical storm Sunday.

"The major typhoon has caused immense damage far and wide in eastern Japan," government spokesman Yoshihide Suga told reporters, adding that 27,000 military troops and other rescue crews were taking part in the operation.

News footage showed a rescue helicopter hovering in a flooded area in Nagano prefecture where an embankment of the Chikuma River broke, and streams of water were continuing to spread over residential areas. The chopper plucked those stranded on the second floor of a home submerged in muddy waters.

Aerial footage showed tractors at work trying to control the flooding and several people on a rooftop, with one waving white cloth to get the attention of a helicopter. Nearby was a child's school bag. In another part, rows of Japan's prized bullet trains, parked in a facility, were sitting in a pool of water.

A stretch of Fukushima, in the city of Date, was also flooded with only rooftops of residential homes visible in some areas, and rescuers paddled in boats to get people out. Parts of nearby Miyagi prefecture were also under water.



Vehicles are seen in mud water as Typhoon Hagibis hit the city in Sano, Tochigi prefecture, Sunday, Oct. 13, 2019. Rescue efforts for people stranded in flooded areas are in full force after a powerful typhoon dashed heavy rainfall and winds through a widespread area of Japan, including Tokyo.(Kyodo News via AP)

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The Tama River, which runs by Tokyo, overflowed its banks, flooding homes and other buildings in the area.

Authorities warned of a risk of mudslides. Among the reported deaths were those whose homes were buried in landslides. Other fatalities included people who got swept away by raging rivers.

Suga said recovery was on its way. Some 376,000 homes were without electricity, and 14,000 homes lacked running water, he said.

Boats as well as helicopters were sent to the flooded areas, while rescue crew dug through dirt elsewhere to try to get people out from homes buried by landslides.

Several train service in the Tokyo area resumed early morning, although others were undergoing safety checks and were expected to restart later Sunday.

Ruling party politician Fumio Kishida said the government will do its utmost in rescue operations, including making sure that those who moved to shelters were taken care of.

He acknowledged Japan's power grids need to be strengthened so people in disaster areas can rely on timely information.

"So many risks remain, and it is a reality we must stay on guard," Kishida said on an NHK TV news talk show. "We must do our utmost. In these times, a disaster can hit anytime."

The Rugby World Cup match between Namibia and Canada, scheduled for Sunday in Kamaishi, northern Japan, was canceled as a precautionary measure, but organizers announced Japan will play Scotland as scheduled Sunday evening. Matches on Saturday had been canceled. Stores and amusement parks had also closed.

As the typhoon bore down on Saturday with heavy rains and strong winds, the usually crowded train stations and streets of Tokyo were deserted with people advised to stay indoors. But life was quickly returning to normal under crisp clear skies Sunday.

Evacuation centers had been set up in coastal towns with tens of thousands seeking shelter. Kyodo News service said evacuation warnings had been issued to more than 6 million people.

The typhoon disrupted a three-day weekend in Japan that includes Sports Day on Monday. Qualifying for a Formula One auto race in Suzuka was pushed from Saturday to Sunday.

The authorities had repeatedly warned Hagibis was on par with a typhoon that hit the Tokyo region in 1958. But the safety infrastructure that Japan's modernization had brought was apparent. The typhoon six decades ago had left more than 1,200 people dead and half a million houses flooded.

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Trump says he's an 'island of one' on Syria

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Saturday that he is an "island of one" for removing U.S. forces from northeastern Syria.

But he remained steadfast and defended a move that drew widespread bipartisan criticism that he has endangered stability in the Middle East and risked the lives of Syrian Kurdish allies who helped the U.S. bring down the Islamic State group in Syria.

Turkey, however, regards those Kurdish fighters as a terrorist threat and has launched a military operation against them.

Trump said the U.S. cannot fight "endless wars."

"We have to bring our great heroes, our great soldiers, we have to bring them home. It's time. It's time," Trump said in a lengthy and wide-ranging address to the Values Voter Summit, an annual gathering of social conservative activists.

He portrayed the Middle East as a hopeless cause, despite years of American military involvement and financial investment.

"It's less safe now. It's less secure, less stable and they fight," he said. "That's what they do. They fight."

Trump announced that he had directed \$50 million in emergency aid for Syria to support Christians and other religious minorities there.

Before the speech, Trump was joined on stage by Andrew Brunson, an American pastor who was released by Turkey in October 2018 after nearly two years of confinement. The case had roiled relations with Turkey and prompted an outcry from U.S. evangelical groups.

Brunson led Saturday's audience in a prayer for the president.



President Donald Trump speaks at the Values Voter Summit in Washington, Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce

Ceneta)

Trump backs Giuliani, but some aides wish he would cut ties

By **DARLENE SUPERVILLE, JONATHAN LEMIRE and ZEKE MILLER** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Saturday stood behind personal attorney Rudy Giuliani, one of his highest-profile and most vocal defenders, amid reports that federal prosecutors in the city Giuliani led as mayor are eyeing him for possible lobbying violations.

Behind the scenes, however, many of Trump's closest aides and advisers, inside and outside the White House, quietly wish the president would cut ties with Giuliani, whose leadership of New York after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks earned him worldwide admiration and the moniker of "America's mayor."

Giuliani was a force in Trump's defense during the lengthy Russia investigation by the special counsel. Yet the effort to undermine special counsel Robert Mueller led Giuliani to Ukraine, which now entangles the former federal prosecutor and mayor in legal jeopardy and is central to the danger threatening the presidency he labored to protect.

The New York Times reported Friday, citing a pair of anonymous sources familiar with the matter, that the investigation is linked to Giuliani's efforts to undermine Marie Yovanovitch, formerly the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine. The U.S. attorney's office in Manhattan has declined to comment on the Times report.

Two Florida businessmen with ties to Giuliani were charged Thursday with federal campaign finance violations. Both played key roles in Giuliani's efforts to get Ukraine to launch a corruption investigation into Democratic presidential contender Joe Biden and his son Hunter, who sat on the board of a gas company there.

On Saturday, Trump deployed in Giuliani's defense the same two-word phrase — "Witch Hunt!" — he repeatedly used to attack the legitimacy of the special counsel investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election and now the House impeachment inquiry against him.

"So now they are after the legendary 'crime buster' and greatest Mayor in the history of NYC, Rudy Giuliani," Trump tweeted while on the way to his northern Virginia golf club. "He may seem a little rough around the edges sometimes, but he is also a great guy and wonderful lawyer."

Later Saturday, he told Jeanine Pirro during a telephone interview broadcast on her Fox News Channel

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program that Giuliani continues as his lawyer.

"He's a great gentleman. He was a great mayor, one of the greatest, maybe the greatest mayor in the history of New York," the president said. "He was a fantastic prosecutor. I know nothing about him being under investigation ... I can't imagine it."

"He's a man that looks for corruption and whatever he does I really believe he's a totally, I mean, I know he's an honorable man," Trump added.

A whistleblower complaint about Trump's dealings with Ukraine led Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to open an impeachment inquiry into the president.

Three House committees taking depositions in the impeachment probe heard Friday from Yovanovitch.

The former ambassador has said she was fired from her post in May after insisting that Giuliani's requests to Ukrainian officials for investigations be relayed through official channels, according to a former diplomat who has spoken with her. The former diplomat spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the private conversation.

Trump seemed to try to create space between himself and Giuliani on Friday when reporters asked if Giuliani was still representing him.

"Well, I don't know. I haven't spoken to Rudy," Trump said as he left the White House for a trip to Louisiana, adding that the two spoke briefly on Thursday. "He's a very good attorney, and he has been my attorney. Yeah, sure."

Asked if he still represented Trump, Giuliani replied to The Associated Press with a one-word text message: "Yes."

White House officials have been flabbergasted by Giuliani's performance on Trump's behalf, particularly his habit of revealing embarrassing information without so much as a heads-up to the president's full-time aides.

Aides have come to view Giuliani's behavior much as they have their boss' — with resignation that they will rarely be consulted beforehand to develop a strategic plan, and that any plan will be ignored.

One White House aide said there was frustration among aides that they have borne the brunt of criticism from some in Trump's orbit for not having a more coordinated response to the impeachment probe, saying they were operating without visibility into what Giuliani has been doing. The aide and others who spoke on this subject did so on the condition of anonymity.

White House lawyers rarely deal with Giuliani directly, preferring to coordinate when necessary with Jay Sekulow, viewed as the more even-keeled lawyer on the president's outside team.

Aides who spoke on this subject said the general feeling among them is that Trump has yet to fully grasp the extent of Giuliani's side-dealings and hope Trump will eventually sour on his fellow New Yorker.



FILE - In this Aug. 1, 2018, file photo, Rudy Giuliani, an attorney for President Donald Trump, speaks in Portsmouth, N.H. President Donald Trump on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019, stood behind personal attorney Giuliani, one of his highest-profile and most vocal defenders, amid reports that federal prosecutors in the city Giuliani led as mayor are eyeing him for possible lobbying violations.

(AP Photo/Charles Krupa, File)

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Giuliani was first brought on as the public face of Trump's defense of the Russia investigation, with Trump valuing his pugnacious style from the 2016 campaign and his reputation as "America's mayor."

Giuliani wanted to be secretary of state, but ended up withdrawing from consideration for a Cabinet post.

But Giuliani successfully pressed Trump's case on cable TV, even though some of the scattershot interviews seemed to do more harm than good. Even then, Giuliani at times let slip seemingly damaging information as a way to get ahead of a story, to normalize something while also lacing into the special counsel's credibility and undermining his investigation.

He also was part of a key decision to block Trump from conducting an in-person interview with Mueller.

Many in the administration — including in the West Wing and at the State Department — have tried to distance themselves from Giuliani's dealings in Ukraine, eagerly leaking to reporters unflattering stories about the former mayor's clumsy investigative efforts.

And while there is a grudging respect among some Trump allies and in the reelection campaign at Giuliani's willingness to defend the president on TV, something few others in the White House have done of late, many believe his interviews have become too hyperbolic and his undisciplined manner of speaking could put Trump at risk.

But though Trump himself has at time grown frustrated with Giuliani, he has defended the former mayor to people around him. Trump has spoken admiringly of Giuliani's no-nonsense style and willingness to go all-out to defend the administration and attack the president's Democratic foes and the news media, according to three White House officials and Republicans close to the White House. The officials insisted on condition of anonymity to discuss private conversations.

This story has been corrected to reflect that Giuliani withdrew his name from consideration for a Cabinet post and was not passed over by Trump.

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Louisiana's Democratic governor forced into runoff

By MELINDA DESLATTE Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards' quest for a second term as the Deep South's only Democratic governor will stretch over another month, as voters denied him an outright primary win Saturday and sent him to a runoff election.

The incumbent's inability to top 50% of the vote in the six-candidate field raised questions about his reelection chances against a national Republican offensive that includes President Donald Trump. Trump made a last-minute appeal to Louisiana's voters to reject Edwards.

Edwards will compete in the Nov. 16 runoff against Eddie Rispone, a Baton Rouge businessman and long-time GOP political donor making his first bid for public office. Rispone largely self-financed his campaign, capturing second place after outspending fellow Republican contender U.S. Rep. Ralph Abraham 5-to-1.

"We've got a little more work to do," Edwards told supporters Saturday night. He added: "My fellow Louisianans, we are not going backward. That is exactly what Eddie Rispone would have us do. He wants to put us right back on the path that led us into the ditch."

Rispone said Abraham called to congratulate him and offer his support.

"With your prayers, we're going to win. This is just the first step," Rispone told cheering supporters. "We're going to turn this state around."

Five Republican statewide elected officials on the ballot won reelection: Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser, Attorney General Jeff Landry, Treasurer John Schroder, Agriculture Commissioner Mike Strain and Insurance Commissioner Jim Donelon. Republican Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin was forced into a runoff.

Trump took credit for keeping Edwards from an outright victory, saying in a tweet that Edwards "has done

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a poor job. NOW HE IS IN A RUNOFF WITH A GREAT REPUBLICAN, @EddieRisponse. Thank you Louisiana!" He claimed Edwards' support fell "after I explained what a bad job the Governor was doing."

National Republicans bombarded Louisiana with advertising and get-out-the-vote events to keep Edwards below 50%, with Trump making a last-minute, in-person appeal to Louisiana's voters. Three other lesser-known contenders also ran.

The Republican anti-Edwards onslaught is expected to intensify.

"Prepare yourselves," Edwards told his supporters. "Over the next five weeks, the partisan forces in Washington, D.C., are going to pull out all the stops."

Republicans are seeking to prove that Edwards' longshot victory in 2015 was a fluke, aided by a flawed GOP opponent, David Vitter, who was hobbled by a prostitution scandal.

Democrats want an Edwards reelection win to show they can compete in a state Trump won by 20 points.

But the 53-year-old Edwards isn't exactly a Democrat in the national mold.

The West Point graduate and former Army Ranger opposes gun restrictions, talks of working well with the Trump administration and calls the U.S. House Democrats' impeachment inquiry a distraction to governing in Washington. He signed one of the nation's strictest abortion bans.

Edwards sought to make the election a referendum on his performance.

He contrasted three recent years of budget surpluses with the deficit-riddled terms of his predecessor, Republican Bobby Jindal. Edwards and the majority-GOP state Legislature passed a tax deal that stabilized state finances and allowed for new investments in public colleges and the first statewide teacher raise in a decade.

He expanded Medicaid, adding nearly a half-million new people to government-financed health care and lowering the state's uninsured rate below the national average. A bipartisan criminal sentencing law rewrite he championed ended Louisiana's tenure as the nation's top jailer.

Barbara Bacot, a retired state employee, said she voted for Edwards.

"He has done a very good job in the teeth of opposition from people who should know better. You can't lower taxes and run a good state," she said at her Baton Rouge polling place.

Republicans said Edwards raised taxes too high, stifling economic development and chasing people from Louisiana. The GOP contenders said the Medicaid expansion was rife with abuse, wasting millions of taxpayer dollars, and they sought to tie Edwards to national Democratic leaders.

Risponse, 70, founder of a Baton Rouge industrial contracting company, presented himself in the mold of Trump, describing himself as a conservative outsider who would upend the traditional political system of Baton Rouge.

"We need a CEO, someone with serious business experience," Risponse told supporters. "Both sides of the aisle have failed you. It's time to do something different."

He pledged to hold a state constitutional convention to rewrite provisions dealing with the budget and taxes, state employee protections and education, though he provided few specifics. He promised to cut taxes, though it was unclear how he would balance the budget with less money even as he talked of new



Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards speaks at his election night watch party in Baton Rouge, La., Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019. (AP Photo/Brett Duke)

spending on early childhood education and roadwork.

Voter Barbie Edwards said she supported Rispone because "he's a good businessman. He'd be a good businessman for the state like Trump is for the country."

Rispone ran a nontraditional campaign, with less parade-going and handshaking. The multimillionaire instead focused on digital and TV advertising, pouring \$11 million of his own money into the race.

The effort successfully drowned out advertising by Abraham, a doctor and farmer in his third term in Congress.

Follow Melinda Deslatte on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/melindadeslatte>

Hotel collapse in New Orleans leaves 2 dead, 1 missing

By CHEVEL JOHNSON and KEVIN MCGILL Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A large section of a Hard Rock Hotel under construction beside New Orleans' historic French Quarter collapsed Saturday amid blinding dust and flying debris, killing two people and injuring more than 20. Rescue workers searched the largely unstable building for one person still unaccounted for.

Nearby buildings were evacuated. A 270-foot (82-meter) construction crane — one of two still looming over the multistory building — also was dangerously unstable, fire officials said. The hunt for the missing was suspended at nightfall over safety concerns. A statement from the project contractor said its representatives would work "throughout the night" with emergency officials on a plan to stabilize the building.

"I heard a huge noise and thought it was a plane crashing," said Sue Hurley, a 68-year-old guest at a hostel across the street that shuddered with the force of the collapse. Hurley said she was reminded of news accounts of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

WWL-TV aired and tweeted a viewer's dramatic video of upper floors falling on top of each other before one side of the building crashed to the street.

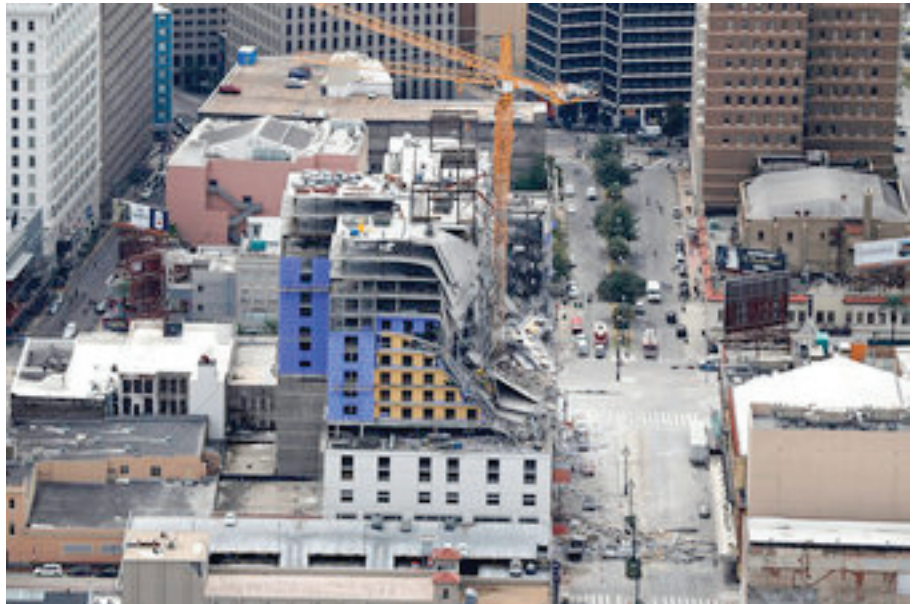
Another video on social media showed what looked like a metal structure — part of the building or a piece of construction equipment — tumbling to the ground and people running from the scene as clouds of dust billowed up, obscuring the view like a thick fog.

"I'm not sure what happened, but they told us to get out of here," said Michael Arbeiter, 30, from Munich, Germany, a hostel guest who said he was just getting out of the shower when his room shook. "Thank God it was not another 9/11."

Officials said 18 people were taken to the hospital and several others went to the hospital on their own. They said none of their injuries was believed to be life threatening.

Urban search and rescue teams entered a section of the building Saturday in hopes of finding two missing people alive, said Fire Chief Tim McConnell. Authorities later said one of the missing was dead.

Meanwhile, authorities were keeping a wary eye on the unstable crane looming over the building.



This aerial photo shows the Hard Rock Hotel, which was under construction, after a fatal partial collapse in New Orleans, Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

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"There is a very strong possibility of further collapse of this crane right now," McConnell said.

Citadel Builders LLC, the contractor on the project, said more than 100 workers were on site at the time of the collapse. An email from spokesman Brian Trascher said company officials were working with emergency workers on a plan to stabilize the building.

Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards visited the site and took part in news briefings soon after the collapse. The Democrat was defending his seat in a primary election Saturday that forced him into a runoff next month.

The new Hard Rock Hotel was under construction at the corner of Rampart Street and Canal Street, a broad boulevard just outside the Quarter that is lined with restaurants hotels and retailers. Canal, which carries six lanes of traffic divided by a wide median where streetcars roll, separates the Quarter from the city's main business district.

As search and rescue efforts unfolded, police stood sentry around a group of people on the Canal Street median believed to be loved ones of the missing. A woman nearby said she was trying to find out the status of her brother, a worker at the site. She declined to give her name, wiping tears from her eyes as she walked away.

Removal of the damaged crane and cleanup of massive piles of debris promised to be an enormous undertaking in the days ahead, expected to tie up traffic and commerce. Among area buildings evacuated was the Saenger Theatre, where traveling companies perform Broadway Shows regularly.

Hard Rock International issued a statement expressing sympathy for victims and their families. The statement said the company had a licensing agreement with the building's owner, Kailas Companies, and Hard Rock had no involvement in the construction. It identified the contractor on the project as Citadel Builders LLC.

Citadel issued a statement expressing its condolences for the death and injuries but did not comment on a possible cause of the collapse.

A public relations firm issued a statement on behalf of 1031 Canal, a corporate entity identified as the developer of the project that lists the Kailas Companies' Chandra Kailas as a principal. The statement said the developer would work with authorities and the contractor to determine what caused the collapse.

Associated Press reporter Rebecca Santana contributed to this report.

Florida timber farmers face tough choices year after Michael

By **BOBBY CAINA CALVAN** Associated Press

BLOUNTSTOWN, Fla. (AP) — The sunsets are a sight to behold in Joe Leonard's neck of the woods these days. A year ago, lush stands of towering pines obscured the horizon, he said as he drove his pickup along a dusty Florida Panhandle road. Now, fields of thick grass mask row after row of stumps decaying into the soil that has sustained his family for five generations.

Up the road, heaps of rotting logs lay bare the scars that Hurricane Michael left last October when it ploughed through the region.

"It's hard to describe how sick I felt when I came out here," Leonard said as he surveyed a stand of snapped 30-year-old slash pine, their trunks big enough for a full bear hug.

The massive storm crashed ashore as a Category 5 hurricane with winds exceeding 160 mph (255 kph), the strongest ever recorded to hit Florida's northern Gulf Coast. The storm killed more than two dozen people in the region, destroyed or damaged tens of thousands of homes and wrought catastrophic damage on the region's timber industry.

It's been an excruciating year for the Leonards and other Panhandle families who make their living off the land. A year after Michael, they face wrenching decisions about how to carry on.

Less than a fifth of the 2.8 million acres (1.1 million hectares) of timberland destroyed by Hurricane Michael have been salvaged. Tons of timber will most likely be left to rot. There are so many fallen logs that they'd fill more than 2.6 million logging trucks, which would circle the equator 1.5 times if parked

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end on end.

Trees once towered over much of Calhoun County, an inland expanse of tiny communities surrounded by forests that suffered the most catastrophic damage to the region's timberland.

Stands of pines, once just steps from Leonard's front door, are now mostly gone.

"One of the benefits is that now we see sunrises and sunsets in a way we've never seen before," he said.

Without financial help, some timber farmers are looking for buyers.

Federal relief hasn't come fast enough, even though the government authorized a \$19 billion relief package — held in limbo until this past summer because of political clashes in Washington — to assist communities across the country hit by wildfires, flooding, tornadoes and hurricanes. Florida officials estimate that the timber industry sustained nearly \$1.3 billion in losses.

Across the road from the Leonards, Michael Eldridge isn't expecting any help soon as he continues to grapple with the devastation Michael wrought across his 360 acres (145 hectares).

"There was nothing standing," he said. "Pitiful. Unbelievable. All these 33-year-old trees down like pick-up sticks, all laying atop one another."

He sold his entire herd of cattle — 113 cows, bulls and calves — instead of spending the money to rebuild fences that went down with his trees.

"My wife and I planted them as a supplement to our retirement, and it didn't work out that way," said Eldridge, who has lived in Calhoun County all of his 72 years. "I thought it was a good investment."

For now, there are no plans to sell. Where else would he go; what else would he do?

"I might as well stay here fighting," Eldridge said. "That's what I'm going to do until the day I die."

Like Eldridge, many of the region's timber growers operate mom-and-pop farms, some a couple dozen acres and others in the thousands. Unlike corporate landowners, few of these small-time tree growers can withstand upheavals like Michael.

Unlike cotton and oranges, timber isn't usually insurable for loss. And unlike row crops that can bounce back more quickly, trees require generations to recover. A tree needs a dozen years before being harvested for pulp — and at least twice that time to harden into more lucrative lumber.

For some farmers, the new math doesn't add up, according to Alan Shelby, the executive vice president of the Florida Forestry Association.

"There are many who simply don't have the money to clean it up. They may try and sell the property. Or they may just leave it and let Mother Nature take its course," Shelby said.

By some estimates, an acre of 30-year-old trees might fetch about \$2,500. Clearing an acre of downed trees and replanting costs about \$1,300 up front.

"It takes more than a broom and it takes more than your typical farm equipment," he said.

It requires an army of loggers and equipment operators with chain saws and timber loaders to hoist



In this Oct. 5, 2019 photo, Daniel Leonard and his father Joe, right, stand near a heap of lumber on their family's property. The massive storm killed more than two dozen people in northern Florida, destroyed hundreds of homes and brought catastrophic damage to the region's timber industry. (AP Photo/Bobby Caina Calvan)

fallen logs onto trucks.

All that requires loads of money, as well as a strong will to carry on, said Leonard, 59, whose family arrived in northern Florida from the Carolinas in the early 1900s.

"My mother doesn't want to sell. My brother and I aren't going to sell. But what happens after we're gone?" Leonard asked.

His son Daniel, 28, expresses some of the uncertainty.

"To be honest with you, I'm not advocating that we go totally back to the timber. I would rather see us do something else. Let's diversify a little bit," he said.

His cousin Will Leonard, 29, a forester, also wonders how timber communities across the Panhandle will fare in the years to come, with the possibility that some mills could fall silent and jobs dwindle because of the catastrophic losses.

"This is a story that is going to have a much broader impact. It's not just about the growers," he said.

At the family farm, Daniel Leonard spoke of the fallen pines' rings, each representing a year in the tree's life but also recording the years his father, grandfather and those before them spent nurturing a livelihood they hoped would span generations.

"These trees have lots of stories to tell, but I'm sure they hadn't seen anything like this," he said. "Hurricane Michael was a once-in-a-generation kind of thing. Will we have another one in 20 years? I'm not so comfortable taking that risk."

Follow Bobby Caina Calvan at <http://twitter.com/bobbycalvan>

Authorities: 3 deaths tied to Southern California wildfires

By CHRISTOPHER WEBER and MICHAEL R. BLOOD Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Three people have died at the scene of Southern California wildfires this week, authorities said Saturday, as firefighters aided by diminishing winds beat back a blaze on the edge of Los Angeles that damaged or destroyed more than 30 structures and sent a blanket of smoke across a swath of neighborhoods.

Los Angeles officials said the fire in the city's San Fernando Valley area hadn't grown significantly since Friday, and ground crews were tamping down lingering hotspots. Evacuation orders were lifted in all of Los Angeles County and in parts of Riverside County, where a second blaze was burning.

Shortly before 5 p.m., the Los Angeles Police Department said in a tweet: "We thank members of the community for promptly heeding the evacuation orders and their patience as we worked to contain the fire."

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti told residents to be cautious returning home to neighborhoods where



Loretta Reel picks up a doily that managed to survive a fire that destroyed her in-laws home in the Porter Ranch area of Los Angeles on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019. (Mindy Schauer/The Orange County Register via AP)

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fire crews could still be operating.

In Los Angeles, one man who tried to fight the blaze died of a heart attack, and one firefighter reported a minor eye injury.

The fire's cause is under investigation, and authorities warned that the threat of flare-ups remained.

At the site of the second blaze east of Los Angeles, the Riverside County Sheriff's Department said a second body was found at a mobile home park where 74 structures were destroyed Thursday in Calimesa. Officials previously reported one death at the community east of Los Angeles.

The department said one of the Calimesa victims has been identified as 89-year-old Lois Arvikson. Her son Don Turner said she had called him to say she was evacuating, but he never heard from her again. Authorities are working to identify the other victim.

Los Angeles Fire Department spokesman Brian Humphrey said the bulk of the fire at the city's edge had moved away from homes and into rugged hillsides and canyons where firefighters were making steady progress slowing its advance. Television footage showed plumes of smoke rising from the area but no walls of towering flame, as a water-dropping helicopter moved in to dump another cascade on the blaze.

"The bulk of the fire has moved toward wildland," Humphrey said.

Firefighters worked under sunny skies, but air quality was poor as smoke dispersed over much of greater Los Angeles. Air quality officials urged people to limit outdoor activities.

The forecast called for low humidity — in the 10% range — with light wind and an occasional gust up to 15 mph (24 kph).

East of Los Angeles, firefighters were also gaining ground on a blaze that ripped through a Riverside County mobile home park, destroying dozens of residences.

On Saturday night, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection said the 1.5-square-mile wildfire is now 68% contained. Cal Fire announced in a tweet that firefighters are continuing to battle the blaze and that the evacuation order remains for the Villa Calimesa Mobile Home Park, where 74 structures were destroyed.

In Northern California, the lights are back on for virtually all customers who lost power when Pacific Gas & Electric switched it off in an effort to prevent wildfires.

About 100,000 residents were ordered out of their homes because of the wind-driven wildfire that broke out Thursday evening in the San Fernando Valley, though authorities began lifting evacuation orders in many areas Saturday. It spread westward through tinder-dry brush in hilly subdivisions on the outskirts of the nation's second-largest city.

Interstate 5, the main north-to-south corridor in the state, was shut down for much of the day Friday, choking traffic until finally reopening.

The smoky scent spreading through much of Los Angeles was a reminder of the threat of a fire season just beginning.

The region has been on high alert as notoriously powerful Santa Ana winds brought dry desert air to a desiccated landscape that only needed a spark to erupt. Fire officials have warned that they expect more intense and devastating California wildfires due, in part, to climate change.

Fire danger remained high for much of Southern California, with warnings in place for large swaths of Ventura and Santa Barbara counties west of Los Angeles.

The cause of the Los Angeles blaze wasn't immediately known, though arson investigators said a witness reported seeing sparks or flames coming from a power line near where the fire is believed to have started, said Peter Sanders, a spokesman for the Los Angeles Fire Department.

Jonathan Stahl was driving home to Valencia when he saw the smoke and immediately diverted to a mobile home park in Sylmar where his grandmother and aunt live together.

The park had been nearly wiped out in 2008 when one of the city's most destructive fires leveled 500 homes.

Stahl helped his grandmother, Beverly Stahl, 91, who was in her pajamas, and his aunt to pack clothing, medication and take their two dogs. They saw flames in the distance as they drove away.

"We just packed up what we could as fast as we could," Stahl said at an evacuation center at the Sylmar Recreation Center, massaging his grandmother's shoulders as she sat in a wheelchair with a Red Cross blanket on her lap. "If we'd stuck around, we would have been in trouble. Real big trouble."

Associated Press writers Stefanie Dazio and Brian Melley contributed to this report.

Turkish forces say they've captured key Syrian border town

By MEHMET GUZEL Associated Press

CEYLANPINAR, Turkey (AP) — Turkey's military said it captured a key Syrian border town under heavy bombardment Saturday in its most significant gain since an offensive against Kurdish fighters began four days ago, with no sign of relenting despite mounting international criticism.

Turkish troops entered central Ras al-Ayn, according to Turkey's Defense Ministry and a war monitor group. The ministry tweeted: "Ras al-Ayn's residential center has been taken under control through the successful operations in the east of Euphrates" River. It marked the biggest gain made by Turkey since the invasion began Wednesday.

The continued push by Turkey into Syria comes days after President Donald Trump pulled U.S. forces out of the area, making Turkey's air and ground offensive possible, and said he wanted to stop getting involved with "endless wars." Trump's decision drew swift bipartisan criticism that he was endangering regional stability and risking the lives of Syrian Kurdish allies who brought down the Islamic State group in Syria. The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces was the main U.S. ally in the fight and lost 11,000 fighters in the nearly five-year battle against IS.

Turkish troops and allied Syrian opposition fighters have made gains recently capturing several northern villages in fighting and bombardment that left dozens of people killed or wounded. The invasion also has forced nearly 100,000 people to flee their homes amid concerns that IS might take advantage of the chaos and try to rise again after its defeat in Syria earlier this year.

The Syrian Democratic Forces, or SDF, said the United States should carry out its "moral responsibilities" and close northern Syrian airspace to Turkish warplanes, but that it didn't want the U.S. to send its soldiers "to the front lines and put their lives in danger."

During a meeting Saturday in Cairo, the 22-member Arab League condemned what it described as "Turkey's aggression against Syria" and warned that Ankara will be responsible for the spread of terrorism



Relatives of Halil Yagmur, 64, who was killed Friday during mortar shelling from Syria, mourn over his grave at the cemetery in the town of Suruc, southeastern Turkey, at the border with Syria, Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019. Turkish forces entered Saturday the center of the Syrian border town of Ras Al-Ayn under heavy bombardment, the Turkish military and a Syrian war monitor said, as Turkey's offensive against Syrian Kurdish fighters pressed into its fourth day with little sign of relenting despite mounting international criticism. (AP Photo/Emrah Gurel)

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following its invasion. The league said Arab states might take some measures against Ankara. It called on the U.N. Security Council to force Turkey to stop the offensive.

The Turkish offensive was widely criticized by Syria and some Western countries, which called on Turkey to cease its military operations.

France's defense and foreign ministries said Saturday that the country was halting exports of any arms to Turkey that could be used in its offensive.

Foreign Minister Heiko Maas also announced that Germany would curtail its arms exports to Turkey. Maas told the weekly Bild am Sonntag that "against the background of the Turkish military offensive in northeastern Syria, the government will not issue any new permissions for any weapons that can be used by Turkey in Syria."

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Friday that Turkey won't stop until the Syrian Kurdish forces withdraw at least 32 kilometers (20 miles) from the border.

During the capture of Ras al-Ayn's residential center, an Associated Press journalist across the border heard sporadic clashes as Turkish howitzers struck the town and Turkish jets screeched overhead. Syrian Kurdish forces appeared to be holding out in some areas of the town.

The SDF released two videos said to be from inside Ras al-Ayn, showing fighters saying that it was Saturday and they were still there.

The fighting was ongoing as the Kurdish fighters sought to reverse the Turkish advance into the city, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a British-based war monitor.

Ras al-Ayn is one of the biggest towns along the border and is in the middle of the area where Turkey plans to set up its safe zone. The ethnically and religiously mixed town with a population of Arabs, Kurds, Armenians and Syriac Christians had been under the control of Kurdish fighters since 2013. IS members tried to enter Ras al-Ayn following their rise in Syria and Iraq in 2014 but failed.

Most of the town's residents have fled in recent days for fear of the invasion.

Earlier Saturday, Turkish troops moved to seize control of key highways in northeastern Syria, the Turkish military and the Syrian Observatory said. Turkey's state-run Anadolu news agency said that Turkey-backed Syrian opposition forces had taken control of the M-4 highway that connects the towns of Manbij and Qamishli. The SDF said that Turkish troops and their Syrian allies reached the highway briefly before being pushed back again.

Kurdish news agencies including Hawar and Rudaw said that Hevreen Khalaf, secretary general of the Future Syria Party, was killed Saturday as she was driving on the M-4 highway. Rudaw's correspondent blamed Turkish forces for targeting Khalaf's car, and Hawar blamed "Turkey's mercenaries."

The Observatory said six people, including Khalaf, were killed by Turkey-backed opposition fighters on the road that they briefly cut before withdrawing.

The Turkish military aims to clear Syrian border towns of Kurdish fighters' presence, saying they are a national security threat. Since Wednesday, Turkish troops and Syrian opposition fighters backed by Ankara have been advancing under the cover of airstrikes and artillery shelling.

The U.N. estimated the number of displaced at 100,000 since Wednesday, saying that markets, schools and clinics also were closed. Aid agencies have warned of a humanitarian crisis, with nearly a half-million people at risk in northeastern Syria.

A civilian wounded in a mortar strike from Syria on Friday in the Turkish border town of Suruc died, Anadolu news agency reported Saturday, bringing the civilian death toll to 18 in Turkey. Turkey's interior minister said hundreds of mortars, fired from Syria, have landed in Turkish border towns.

The Observatory said 74 Kurdish-led SDF fighters have been killed since Wednesday as well as 49 Syrian opposition fighters backed by Turkey. That's in addition to 38 civilians on the Syrian side. It added that Turkish troops now control 23 villages in northeastern Syria.

Turkey's defense ministry said it "neutralized" 459 Syrian Kurdish fighters. The number could not be independently verified. Four Turkish soldiers have been killed since the beginning of the offensive, including two who were killed in Syria's northwest.

France's leader warned Trump in a phone call that Turkey's military action in northern Syria could lead

to a resurgence of IS activity. President Emmanuel Macron “reiterated the need to make the Turkish offensive stop immediately,” his office said in a statement Saturday.

A Kurdish police force in northern Syria said a car bomb exploded early Saturday outside a prison where IS members are being held in the northeastern city of Hassakeh. It was not immediately clear if there were any serious injuries or deaths.

Kurdish fighters are holding about 10,000 IS fighters, including some 2,000 foreigners.

Associated Press writers Zeynep Bilginsoy in Istanbul and Bassem Mroue in Beirut contributed.

AP Top 25 Takeaways: Georgia becomes 1st major upset victim

By RALPH D. RUSSO AP College Football Writer

A college football season truly starts with the first big upset.

Game on.

No. 3 Georgia became the highest-ranked team to lose to an unranked team this season. The Bulldogs were popped 20-17 in double overtime by 24-point underdog South Carolina, which had to play its backup quarterback after halftime — on the road.

This season had felt especially stagnant for the first six weeks, with the same six teams — Alabama, Clemson, Georgia, Ohio State, LSU and Oklahoma — sitting at the top of the AP college football poll since preseason. Only one top-10 team had lost to an unranked team until this weekend and that was then-No. 10 Utah falling at USC. Not exactly a season-changer.

Clemson’s one-point escape against North Carolina a couple weeks ago was the closest thing to a real stunner, but an ugly win is still a win. All it cost the Tigers was the No. 1 ranking. If anything it might have been a needed wake-up call for Clemson. The defending champions certainly responded that way on Saturday against Florida State.

The Bulldogs were not so lucky. Georgia has had problems opening up its passing game this season and that turned into a major issue against the Gamecocks. South Carolina’s run defense has been stingy, anchored by star tackle Javon Kinlaw, but the Gamecocks had been susceptible to the pass. No. 1 Alabama couldn’t run it against South Carolina, either, but it didn’t matter because Tua Tagovailoa dominated.

This needed to be a Jake Fromm game. Instead, the Georgia junior and three-year starter threw three interceptions, including a pick-six, and averaged 5.8 yards per attempt on 51 passes. First-year offensive coordinator James Coley, promoted after Jim Chaney left for Tennessee after last season, will most certainly be a topic of conversation around Georgia this week.

This was also another close game that got away from coach Kirby Smart, who made at least one odd decision late in the game, passing on a 57-yard field goal try by kicker Rodrigo Blankenship at the end



Georgia placekicker Rodrigo Blankenship (98) looks on as his field goal kick goes wide left during the second overtime against South Carolina in an NCAA college football game in Athens, Ga., on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019. South Carolina won 20-17 in double overtime. (Joshua L. Jones/Athens Banner-Herald via AP)

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of regulation. Then again, it was Blankenship's miss from 42 yards that ended it in overtime. Even All-Americans have bad days.

"We've got to look ourselves in the mirror as coaches, as staff and do a better job. We've got to help our kids out," Smart said.

What does this all mean?

First, Georgia still has the talent to make a playoff run and Fromm has been a great quarterback, but how can you not wonder if the Bulldogs would have been better off if Justin Fields did not transfer to Ohio State? The final verdict on that will probably come in January.

Second, the upset undercuts the possibility of the Southeastern Conference getting multiple teams in the playoff. The chances of that happening were probably not that good anyway. The SEC contenders look poised to pick each other off for the next couple months. No. 5 LSU handed No. 7 Florida its first loss, leaving no unbeaten teams in the SEC East. Throw in an unexpected loss by Georgia, which had its 15-game winning streak against the East snapped, and the odds of having two SEC playoffs representatives becomes remote.

Lastly, because this seems to be a topic: How does this affect No. 9 Notre Dame (6-1)? The Fighting Irish held off USC and need to run the table to stay in the conversation. The idea that somehow Georgia, which beat the Irish last month, losing to South Carolina is the thing that could keep Notre Dame out of the playoff is kind of silly.

RED RIVER DEFENSE

The Texas game got the Oklahoma defensive coordinator fired last year. This year, under first-year coordinator Alex Grinch, the No. 6 Sooners tied a school record with nine sacks among its 15 tackles for loss in a victory against the 11th-ranked Longhorns.

For the first time in forever, the Sooners might have enough defense to win a playoff game — or two.

Linebacker Kenneth Murray was everywhere and Texas managed just 310 yards and 4.24 yard per play. In two games against Texas last season, Oklahoma allowed 938 yards and 6.51 yards per play. Texas won the first meeting in 2018 at State Fair, and the day after coach Lincoln Riley fired Mike Stoops.

Dumping Stoops did not make much of a difference, but Oklahoma's offense was good enough to win another Big 12 championship and get the Sooners into the playoff, where they got rolled by Alabama to fall to 0-3 in the CFP.

Riley hired Grinch away from Ohio State in the offseason to try to come up with a solution. Even a passable defense to combine with Riley's almost unstoppable offenses could make Oklahoma a real threat to Alabama and Clemson.

The 39-year-old Grinch traces his roots to Division III powerhouse Mount Union. He really made a name for himself two seasons ago at Washington State. He got lost in the shuffle at Ohio State last season as co-coordinator of a defense that struggled. It's all his show now and the Sooners finally look like a team that can win when its offense has an off day — like Saturday, when Jalen Hurts had a couple of turnovers in the red zone that kept Texas close.

"They did a really good job swarming the football," Texas quarterback Sam Ehlinger said.

AROUND THE COUNTRY: Who had Oklahoma-Texas with more defense than Florida-LSU? ... At the halfway mark, who is your Heisman Trophy front-runner? Tagovailoa threw his first interception of the season — and four more touchdown passes against Texas A&M to give him a 27-to-1 ratio. Joe Burrow threw three TD passes against the Gators and is at 25-to-3 TDs to INTs. LSU is at Alabama Nov. 9. ... USC is 3-3 after a difficult opening six games. The Trojans still do not have an athletic director so there is no reason to expect a move soon on embattled coach Clay Helton, but nothing has happened to stop the march toward the inevitable. ... Do not pencil in another Big 12 championship game rematch between Oklahoma and Texas. No. 22 Baylor, which improved to 6-0, and Iowa State, which has won two straight since losing on a last-second field goal to Baylor, look like legitimate contenders. At least for the second spot opposite Oklahoma ... No team in the country is a better bet to play a close game than No. 17 Arizona State. The Sun Devils' latest fantastic finish came against Washington State, with freshman quarterback Jayden Daniels

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leading a late game-winning touchdown drive. In two seasons under coach Herm Edwards, Arizona State is 6-2 in games decided by four points or fewer. The Sun Devils have played 14 games against Power Five teams the last two seasons and all but two of them have been decided by seven points or less. ... No. 8 Wisconsin now has four shutouts after blanking Michigan State. The Badgers' defense has scored as many touchdowns (four) as it has allowed. Badgers and Buckeyes in Columbus in two weeks. ... At the other end of the Big Ten, Rutgers was shut out for the third time this season and has scored just seven points in four Big Ten games. Wisconsin does not play Rutgers so we will not see if it is possible for a team to score less than zero ... Louisville has doubled its win total from last season under first-year coach Scott Satterfield after dropping 62 with a freshman quarterback on previously unbeaten No. 19 Wake Forest ... The biggest upset you probably didn't notice: Bowling Green, a 26½-point underdog, beat perennial MAC contender Toledo 20-7. ... The type of loss that gets a coach fired: Vanderbilt was wiped out at home by UNLV. Commodores coach Derek Mason is in trouble with his team at 1-5.

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

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Today in History By The Associated Press

Today in History

Today is Sunday, Oct. 13, the 286th day of 2019. There are 79 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Oct. 13, 1775, the United States Navy had its origins as the Continental Congress ordered the construction of a naval fleet.

On this date:

In 1792, the cornerstone of the executive mansion, later known as the White House, was laid by President George Washington during a ceremony in the District of Columbia.

In 1845, Texas voters ratified a state constitution.

In 1943, Italy declared war on Germany, its one-time Axis partner.

In 1944, during World War II, American troops entered Aachen (AH'-kehrn), Germany.

In 1960, John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon held the third televised debate of their presidential campaign (Nixon was in Los Angeles, Kennedy in New York).

In 1962, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?", by Edward Albee, opened on Broadway.

In 1972, a Uruguayan chartered flight carrying 45 people crashed in the Andes; survivors resorted to feeding off the remains of some of the dead in order to stay alive until they were rescued more than two months later.

In 1974, longtime television host Ed Sullivan died in New York City at age 73.

In 1981, voters in Egypt participated in a referendum to elect Vice President Hosni Mubarak (HAHS'-nee moo-BAH'-rahk) the new president, one week after the assassination of Anwar Sadat.

In 1999, the Senate rejected the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, with 48 senators voting in favor and 51 against, far short of the 67 needed for ratification.

In 2003, The U.N. Security Council approved a resolution expanding the NATO-led peacekeeping force in Afghanistan.

In 2010, rescuers in Chile using a missile-like escape capsule pulled 33 men one by one to fresh air and freedom 69 days after they were trapped in a collapsed mine a half-mile underground.

Ten years ago: The United Nations Security Council voted unanimously to extend the U.N. peacekeeping

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mission in Haiti for a year. Singer Al Martino, who'd played crooner Johnny Fontane in "The Godfather" and "The Godfather: Part III," died in Springfield, Pennsylvania, six days after turning 82.

Five years ago: President Barack Obama huddled with some of his senior national security aides and with top administration health officials for the latest assessment on the government's response to Ebola in the aftermath of a Dallas nurse's contracting the disease. Frenchman Jean Tirole (zhahn tee-ROHL') was announced as the winner of the Nobel Prize in economics for showing how to encourage better products and competitive prices in industries dominated by a few companies.

One year ago: President Donald Trump welcomed American pastor Andrew Brunson to the Oval Office, celebrating his release from nearly two years of confinement in Turkey. Crews with dogs went door-to-door in the ruins of Mexico Beach, Florida, looking for additional victims or survivors of Hurricane Michael. A Turkish newspaper reported that Turkish officials had an audio recording of the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi (jah-MAHL' khahr-SHOHK'-jee) inside the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul.

Today's Birthdays: Gospel singer Shirley Caesar is 82. Actress Melinda Dillon is 80. Singer-musician Paul Simon is 78. Actress Pamela Tiffin is 77. Musician Robert Lamm (Chicago) is 75. Country singer Lacy J. Dalton is 73. Actor Demond Wilson is 73. Singer-musician Sammy Hagar is 72. Pop singer John Ford Coley is 71. Actor John Lone is 67. Model Beverly Johnson is 67. Producer-writer Chris Carter is 63. Actor Reggie Theus (THEE'-us) is 62. Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., is 61. R&B singer Cherelle is 60. Singer/TV personality Marie Osmond is 60. Rock singer Joey Belladonna is 59. Former White House press secretary Ari Fleischer is 59. NBA coach Doc Rivers is 58. Actress T'Keyah Crystal Keymah (tuh-KEE'-ah KRYSS'-tal kee-MAH') is 57. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Jerry Rice is 57. Actress Kelly Preston is 57. Country singer John Wiggins is 57. Actor Christopher Judge is 55. Actor Matt Walsh is 55. Actor Reginald Ballard is 54. Actress Kate Walsh is 52. Rhythm-and-blues musician Jeff Allen (Mint Condition) is 51. Actress Tisha Campbell-Martin is 51. Classical singer Carlos Marin (Il Divo) is 51. Olympic silver medal figure skater Nancy Kerrigan is 50. Country singer Rhett Akins is 50. Classical crossover singer Paul Potts is 49. TV personality Billy Bush is 48. Actor Sacha Baron Cohen is 48. Rock musician Jan Van Sichem Jr. (K's Choice) is 47. Rhythm-and-blues singers Brandon and Brian Casey (Jagged Edge) are 44. Actress Kiele Sanchez is 43. Former NBA All-Star Paul Pierce is 42. DJ Vice is 41. Singer Ashanti (ah-SHAHN'-tee) is 39. R&B singer Lumidee is 39. Christian rock singer Jon Micah Sumrall (Kutless) is 39. Olympic gold medal swimmer Ian Thorpe is 37. Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., is 30. Actor Caleb McLaughlin (TV: "Stranger Things") is 18.

Thought for Today: "A hero is a man who is afraid to run away." — English proverb.

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